WWF TRAVEL EXPERT SERIES:

Canada's Premier Polar Bear Adventure

October 21-27, 2028

DAY 1: OCTOBER 21, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

Our Churchill polar bear tour begins in Winnipeg, the capital of Manitoba. Once a center of fur trade and a Canadian Pacific Railway boomtown, Winnipeg today is a major cultural and commercial center on the eastern edge of the vast Canadian prairie.

Upon arrival, collect your luggage, proceed through Customs (if applicable), and make your way to the Arrivals Hall.

If you are arriving on an international flight, after collecting your luggage proceed through Customs, then follow the signs to the Arrivals Hall where you will be met by a Nat Hab representative. If your flight into Winnipeg originates in or connects through another Canadian city, you will claim your bags in the domestic arrivals area. Once you've collected your bags, look for a Nat Hab representative in the Arrivals Hall at the domestic baggage claim area.

Occasionally, there are multiple travelers arriving in Winnipeg at around the same time and the Nat Hab representative will be momentarily away assisting another traveler. If you do not see the representative, please wait 5–10 minutes at the designated meeting point (by the YWG sign in the domestic baggage claim area of the Arrivals Hall) for the representative to return shortly.

After checking in, you will be free to relax until we gather at 7 pm with our Expedition Leaders for an informal welcome dinner and orientation at the hotel. You'll also have a chance to visit our gear room to borrow a heavy parka and winter boots to use during your time on the tundra in Churchill. The gear room is generally open 9 am–12 pm and 1–5 pm daily.

Overnight The Fort Garry Hotel–Winnipeg

DAY 2: OCTOBER 22, WINNIPEG / PRIVATE CHARTERED FLIGHT TO CHURCHILL

Transfer to the airport to fly by chartered plane to Churchill this morning. This hospitable frontier town, originally a Hudson's Bay Company fur trading post, is our base for adventure. This evening, enjoy an evening presentation on polar bears and the northern environment by our professional naturalist staff.

Overnight Seaport Hotel–Churchill

DAYS 3 & 4: OCTOBER 23 & 24, POLAR BEAR VIEWING

Custom-built Polar Rovers are our mobile means for spending time among the bears. Though they can accommodate more than 30 passengers, we take a maximum of 16, ensuring everyone has a window seat and plenty of space to move about. Our Expedition Leaders know the best places to observe polar bears, which congregate here each fall as they wait for Hudson Bay to freeze, signaling the start of the winter seal-hunting season. As we watch them interact, we're delighted by their antics and rugged beauty. We may see mothers with cubs, young males play-fighting, or a lone bear ambling over the silent tundra. Our Expedition Leader interprets all we observe, explaining the bears' behavior and how they thrive in such a harsh environment. In the evenings, we gather for dinner and presentations on wildlife and local cultures.

Overnights Seaport Hotel–Churchill

DAY 5: OCTOBER 25, EXPLORING CHURCHILL / EVENING ON THE TUNDRA

Tour historic Churchill today, then head out to the tundra for evening bear viewing and dinner aboard the Polar Rover. During the day we follow the coastal road on a drive to Cape Merry, often spying Arctic fox and Arctic hare. Look closely for them, as their winter-white coats offer excellent camouflage later in the season when the ground is covered with snow. If the skies are clear, our nighttime tundra excursion might reveal one of nature's most exhilarating experiences—a chance to view the northern lights away from town. Though never predictable, the auroral display typically starts as a pale glow in the northern sky. The lights often begin to undulate in shimmering curtains of color, most typically green but occasionally red or violet.

Overnight Seaport Hotel–Churchill

DAY 6: OCTOBER 26, CHURCHILL—DOG SLEDDING / PRIVATE CHARTERED FLIGHT TO WINNIPEG

Our return flight to Winnipeg is scheduled to depart mid- to late afternoon, offering as much time as possible for exploring Churchill today. A highlight this morning is an authentic dog sled ride. We meet a local musher and his team, spending time with the lively and affectionate dogs before taking turns riding behind them on an exhilarating trot through the boreal forest. If time permits, you may be able to pick up some locally made handicrafts or take an optional helicopter tour over the tundra before we depart. We'll have a final lunch together before flying back to Winnipeg, where a farewell dinner concludes our adventure together.

Overnight The Fort Garry Hotel–Winnipeg

DAY 7: OCTOBER 27, WINNIPEG / DEPART

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for flights home.

Please note: Itineraries may vary slightly and activities may happen at times different from what is listed, but inclusions are the same. The nighttime tundra trip occasionally alternates between Day 4 and Day 5.

An important note on polar bear viewing: Since 1989, we have operated approximately 1,500 departures to Churchill to view polar bears, and we've missed seeing them on only a handful of occasions. Some of our sightings are up close while others are from afar, or even from a helicopter. It's important to remember that while there is no better opportunity to see polar bears in the wild than our Churchill trips offer, the experience is weather-dependent. That means viewing polar bears—and the distance at which we may see them—is unpredictable and not guaranteed.

Our goal is to provide you with an exceptional, life-enhancing adventure. In order to achieve that goal, our Expedition Leaders are empowered to make reasonable changes to itineraries while a trip is underway. These decisions might be made to more closely follow the movements of wildlife, to accommodate extreme weather, to take advantage of unexpected opportunities, or generally to improve overall guest experience. For this reason, the above itinerary should be considered a general outline of your trip, but it is subject to change. After all, the very definition of adventure is "an exciting or remarkable undertaking involving the unknown."