

Great Drives to Great Places

Manitoba

Unforgettable Arctic Experiences

With stunning landscapes, dancing Northern Lights, rural fairs and festivals, warm hospitality and majestic wildlife, any trip to Manitoba will create memories that will last a lifetime.

North American Highways

Imaginative itineraries for individual travellers

Duration

11 nights

Driving distance (approx)

736 miles

Cost per person from (accommodation only)

£880 May-October

Highlights

Winnipeg

The Forks, 56 acre historic site, shops, restaurants, boating. Assiniboine Park, zoo, sculpture garden, conservatory. Manitoba Museum, amazing exhibits!

Riding Mountain NP

Guided or independent viewing of elk, bison, moose and black bear, water fowl and beaver lodges. Enjoy the comfort of Elkhorn Resort & Spa with many on-site facilities.

Great Drives

Parks Route

Follow sections of this route on Highway 5 through Duck Mtn Park and Spruce Woods Park.

Northern Woods & Water Route

Highways 68 and 20 between Gimli and Swan River form part of this scenic route which stretches all the way to British Columbia.





Southern Explorer

This drive begins and ends in Winnipeg, a vibrant city with a wealth of attractions on offer for international visitors. Enjoy city parks, museums and historic sites, riverside walks, excellent restaurants and an eclectic mix of shops.

Leaving the city travel to Gimli on the eastern shore of Lake Winnipeg, cross the Interlakes region to Lake Manitoba Narrows and on to Dauphin. Relax for a day here, visit the Art Centre and Fort Dauphin Museum where you will find authentic buildings such as a trading post and trappers cabin. Continue on a loop north to Swan River and back to Riding Mountain National Park, rich in wildlife. Brandon is the next stop, with a day to explore further south, perhaps to Boissevian with its murals, or the International Peace Garden near the US Border. Spruce Woods Provincial Park and the Spirit Sands 'desert' may be visited today, or next day enroute to Winnipeg at the end of the drive.







Arrive Winnipeg 2 nts Fairmont Winnipeg Hotel 56 miles to Gimli

1 nt Post & Pelican B&B

185 miles to **Dauphin** 2 nts Prairie Mountain Inn Motel

136 miles to **Swan River** (via Roblin) 1 nt New Country Motel

163 miles to **Onanole** (via Camperville) 2 nts Elkhorn Resort & Spa

62 miles to **Brandon** 2 nts Royal Oak Inn & Suites

134 miles to **Winnipeg** 1 nt Fairmont Winnipeg Hotel



Duration

7 nights

Departure dates 2012

7 departures between 16 July and 15 August

Cost per person from

£5185

Included

- Return airfare from Winnipeg to Churchill and to Seal River Lodge
- 1 night in Churchill
- 5 nights at Lodge
- 1 night in Winnipeg
- Meals: 6 breakfasts, 6 dinners, 5 lunches
- Guiding services and activities at Lodge

Not included

- Transatlantic flights
- Hotel in Winnipeg pre-tour
- Any additional meals

Summer Adventure Birds, Bears and Belugas

This must truly be one of the most diverse and exciting wildlife viewing programmes in Canada, and begins with a flight from Winnipeg to the Arctic community of Churchill. Next day fly over the spectacular Arctic tundra to the remote Seal River Lodge, on the shores of Hudson Bay, your base for the next five nights. Meals are cooked using many local ingredients to produce delicious and hearty recipes.

Take a walk among the brilliantly coloured wild flowers to view magnificent polar bears. Highly experienced guides will ensure the maximum safety and enjoyment of participants and minimum disruption to the animals. Bears can often be seen right outside the Lodge, so cameras should be close at hand, even during dinner! Other wildlife that may be seen includes caribou, fox, wolves and moose. Birdlife also abounds here with hundreds of species visiting the tundra during the summer months to breed, filling the air with their calls.









Hudson Bay provides a safe calving ground for the enchanting white Beluga whale which can be seen clearly in the calm waters of the Bay and nearby Seal River Estuary. Guests of Seal River Lodge have the opportunity to listen to the whales chatter through a hydrophone and to swim alongside them – dry suit provided. At the end of the tour return to Churchill with time to explore before taking the flight back to Winnipeg for your final night.

Gimli

Duration

5 nights

Departure dates 2012

18 departures between 2 October and 14 November

Cost per person from

£3499

Included

- Return flights between Winnipeg and Churchill
- 2 nights hotel Winnipeg
- 3 nights hotel Churchill
- All meals in Churchill
- 2 Tundra Buggy day trips
- Activities as described

Not included

- Transatlantic flights
- Meals in Winnipeg
- Any additional excursions

Winter Adventure Churchill Town & Tundra Experience

After a night in Winnipeg, fly north over the vast tundra to the small Arctic community of Churchill. You will not find big, luxury resorts here, but you will find a warm welcome and clean, comfortable hotels with all the necessary amenities for an enjoyable three night stay.

The adventure will include two days of Tundra Buggy® excursions in the Churchill Wildlife Management Area to view majestic polar bears as they congregate near the shore of Hudson Bay, waiting for the sea ice to form. The Tundra Buggy® is a unique purpose-built vehicle specifically designed for safe, comfortable winter bear viewing. With capacity for 40 passengers, your group will be limited to 22 guests, ensuring excellent viewing and photo opportunities for everyone. The Buggy will meander through the area on established trails, pausing for you to enjoy the scenery, take pictures and look for wildlife. Picnic style lunches and refreshments are served during the trip, and at the end of the day you will be returned to your Churchill hotel.









The tour is led by an expert interpretive guide, and in addition to the polar bear viewing you will take a Churchill and area tour to learn of the local history and culture, visit the Eskimo Museum, enjoy a dog sledding adventure and an evening slide show presentation featuring the four seasons of Churchill. Your tour ends with a flight back to Winnipeg for the final night.

Unforgettable Manitoba

The famous polar bears of Churchill are without doubt the main tourist attraction in Manitoba – however, this vast Province has a great deal more to offer.

From the southern city of Winnipeg with its history and culture, to the vast wilderness of the northern tundra, small friendly communities and First Nations traditions, the variety is endless. You are never far from water here, with hundreds of rivers and lakes from enormous Lake Winnipeg to tiny pools, many with soft sand beaches for summer enjoyment. Fishing and kayaking are popular pastimes, and bird and wildlife viewing opportunities abound. Travel past fertile pastures, fields of wheat or sunflowers, through forests and woodland and beside glistening lakes as you explore. Away from the city, accommodation is generally simple but clean and comfortable, usually motel style with occasional B&Bs. We would suggest that if driving, you top up with fuel frequently as it may be some distance between services.

If you wish to visit Churchill but do not want to take one of the packages on offer we can arrange travel by VIA Rail. The 1,000 mile journey (one way) takes around 43 hours, including two nights on the train. The service operates twice a week in each direction.







Featured Lodges



Seal River Lodge

Strategically situated on the shores of Hudson Bay, near the Seal River Estuary, the Lodge offers just 8 comfortable guest rooms each with private bathroom.

Despite its remoteness guests will enjoy full service Arctic gourmet meals, 24 hour electricity, a cosy lounge area with wood-burning stove and large viewing windows.

Wildlife is frequently seen close to the Lodge, and a viewing tower enables guests to look out over the vast tundra landscape and its wild inhabitants.



Elkhorn Resort & Spa

Located in Onanole, just south of Riding Mountain National Park, the Resort offers a taste of luxury amidst beautiful natural surroundings.

Guest rooms are located in the main lodge building, and chalets are available for families. Choose either fine dining or casual fare in the Mountain Grill and Buffalo Bar

Facilities include the Solstice Spa & Equinox Mineral Pool, heated indoor swimming pool and hot tubs, bike rental, walking trails, golf course and riding stables.



Great Drives

Our driving tours are all individually tailored, so we can arrange a route of any duration to suit your schedule and budget. Independent travel in Manitoba is best completed between May and October.

Packages

The polar bear viewing packages described in this leaflet are only two examples. Additional winter options include Great Ice Bear, with nights at Dymond Lake Lodge, Northern Lights and Winter Nights in Churchill, showcasing the amazing spectacle of the Aurora Borealis, or a combination of Black Bears at Riding Mountain and Polar Bears in Churchill.

In summer visit Nanuk Polar Bear Lodge, in an area with a high concentration of mothers and cubs, or enjoy an Arctic Safari staying at Seal River Lodge.

Please contact us to request a brochure or to discuss these, or other adventures in the far North.



Holiday details

Costs shown are per person based on two adults sharing one room at the properties named. Alternative self-drive routes and properties can be planned to suit a range of budgets.

Not included:

Transatlantic Flights

Flights from UK to Winnipeg are via Toronto, prices available on request. Ask us about a Toronto City Stopover with day trip to Niagara Falls.

Vehicle Rental

Choose from the full range of vehicles including 4x4.

How to book North American Highways

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Holidays tailor made for individual travellers

North American Highways specialise in fly-drive tours throughout North America and throughout the year. Itineraries are tailored for individual travellers to allow time to relax and enjoy the journey not just the destination, taking the scenic route rather than the freeway. Experience the real culture and explore the landscape of this vast and diverse continent.

Besides driving holidays we offer cruises in worldwide destinations aboard a variety of vessels with capacity from 12 to 2,000+ passengers, quality escorted tours, spectacular railway journeys and wildlife viewing tours. From a city break to the holiday of a lifetime, we are here to arrange it for you.





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See our web site or contact us for a copy of our Booking Conditions.