



# **Northern Lights & Arctic Exploration**

A Winter Adventure in Churchill, Manitoba—The Best Place on Earth to See the Aurora!



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#### **Trip Details:**

**Days** 7 Days / Jan–Mar

Price From \$8495 (+Air)

# **Northern Lights & Arctic Exploration**

A Winter Adventure in Churchill, Manitoba—The Best Place on Earth to See the Aurora!

In the same land that hosts the beluga whales of summer and polar bears in autumn comes an amazing phenomenon that illumines the dark winter skies. The northern lights—also called the aurora borealis—brighten the night in an ethereal display of color. Churchill has some of the most intense auroral activity on Earth, with oftenclear skies that make it the ideal viewing destination. Look for the lights from a selection of six heated vantage points exclusively for our guests. Your visit may include a cabin in the boreal forest that we access via private snowcoach over a frozen creek, or our custom-built Aurora Pod®, with a **360° view** of the night sky through its glass top and sides—and several other optimal vantage points. On this exciting Arctic adventure, our days are filled with distinctly northern activities like dog sledding, while nights offer potential for the best aurora viewing on the planet.

### **Trip Highlights**

Watch in comfort from a selection of six private viewing locations, each with heated interiors and comfortable seating and located well outside town in total darkness

Aboard our custom snowcoach, venture deep into the North Woods as we travel atop a frozen creek, keeping an eye out for moose, fox and Arctic hare

Learn about local lifestyles of Indigenous peoples on an array of winter activities, including snowshoeing and a traditional dog sled ride





#### **Itinerary At A Glance**

**Day 1** Winnipeg, Manitoba

**Day 2** Winnipeg / Fly to Churchill—Town Tour & Northern Lights Watch

**Days 3 - 5** Aurora Viewing by Night, Arctic Exploration by Day

**Day 6** Churchill / Winnipeg

**Day 7** Winnipeg / Depart

# **Northern Lights & Arctic Exploration Itinerary**

A Winter Adventure in Churchill, Manitoba—The Best Place on Earth to See the Aurora!

#### Day 1: Winnipeg, Manitoba

Our northern lights tour begins in Winnipeg. Once a furtrading hub and later a Canadian Pacific Railway boomtown, today Manitoba's capital is a vibrant cultural and commercial center on the eastern edge of Canada's vast prairies. On arrival, you are met and transferred to the distinguished Fort Garry Hotel, one of the city's most prestigious landmarks. Built in 1913 by the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway in the style of a French chateau, it remains the grande dame of Winnipeg hospitality.



Click here to see why Churchill is the best place on the planet to view the Northern Lights

This afternoon, head to the "gear room" at our hotel to get equipped with all the coldweather clothing you'll need for our Arctic adventure. We provide heavy parkas, insulated snow boots, snow pants, fleece jacket, mittens, fleece hat, fleece neck gaiter, and hand and toe warmers. No need to buy and haul your own! This evening, enjoy a welcome dinner with your Expedition Leader and fellow adventurers.



#### Day 2: Winnipeg / Fly to Churchill—Town Tour & Northern Lights Watch

Board our chartered flight to Churchill this morning. On arrival, transfer to our hotel, followed by a brief tour of this historic settlement that grew up around the site of a major Hudson's Bay Company fur-trading post established in the early 18th century. As night falls, we head out for our first quest in search of the northern lights. Also called the aurora borealis, meaning "north wind of the dawn," the display often begins as a pale glow low in the northern sky, which slowly begins to shift and undulate, frequently emerging as shimmering curtains of green. Sometimes pink, red or even violet colors appear. For centuries, the phenomenon of the northern lights was a mystery, inspiring a host of mythical explanations. While we know now that the aurora is caused by the interaction of the solar wind with Earth's magnetic field, more poetic stories of their origin linger, including the Hudson Bay Inuit's belief that the lights are the mystical display of their ancestors' souls dancing in the sky.

#### Days 3 - 5: Aurora Viewing by Night, Arctic Exploration by Day

On these dark, icy nights in the Canadian North, we travel outside town where views of the aurora are best, away from artificial light. Yet you won't stand in the cold as we wait for the lights to appear—we have a collection of six private vantage points from which to witness the phenomenon in warmth and comfort. During your trip, you will visit a selection of the following: Nat Hab's new Aurora Tower is a two-story structure with a curved clear top, offering vantage points on the sky from multiple levels. Our custom-designed Aurora Pod® features a **360° view** on the night sky through a glass ceiling and half-walls. Our private Aurora Sphere is a geodesic dome tent with clear panels and a wood stove-heated interior that provides cozy lounge space throughout the evening. Aurora Domes with Plexiglass roofs offer another angle on the heavens—climb the ladder to the upper level for a view in the round, or head outside for a totally clear vista of the sky, then come in and warm up on the ground level with comfortable sofas, snacks and hot drinks. At a local dog musher's camp, stay warm by a fire in a traditional tepee as we wait for the lights to appear. Farther afield, view the lights above our isolated cabin deep in the boreal forest, which we reach via an overland snowcoach expedition atop a frozen creek. Regardless of which locations you'll watch from, your comfort is our top priority as we position ourselves for prime observation of the dark winter skies.

While our nights are devoted to the aurora, daytime excursions focus on distinctly northern adventures, local cultures, and the austere beauty of our subarctic environs. A highlight is a journey aboard our custom-built snowcoach deep into the North Woods. This vehicle, designed exclusively for our use, allows passage over wild, roadless terrain, offering a true wilderness experience outside Churchill. We'll also track hardy northern wildlife on a snowshoeing outing, looking for signs of Arctic hare, Arctic and red fox, ptarmigan and more. The historic town of Churchill offers encounters with local people and roving sled dogs. While the Hudson's Bay Company established a fort near here in 1717 as part of its fur-trading network across the Canadian North, Indigenous cultures had already been flourishing in these challenging environs for thousands of years. Explore their heritage on a dog sled ride through the boreal forest, during a visit to the Itsanitaq Museum, and via cultural programs featuring the arts and traditions of the Inuit, Dene and Metis peoples.



#### Day 6: Churchill / Winnipeg

The morning is free to wander Churchill's main street, where several shops sell authentic local handicrafts, from traditional mukluks to sculptures made of caribou hair. We then transfer to the airport for our chartered flight back to Winnipeg. Gather for a farewell dinner this evening to celebrate our aurora adventures.

#### Day 7: Winnipeg / Depart

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for flights home.

**Important Note:** Scheduling for all activities in Churchill is flexible in order to accommodate varying weather conditions and other contingencies. Your itinerary may vary slightly and activities may happen at different times from what is listed here, but inclusions are the same. Please also be aware that each group will visit a sampler of aurora-viewing sites but not all of them, and we do not know in advance which locations will be included on which departure—but be assured that every spot offers an excellent viewing opportunity, away from any light pollution from town, and all are enhanced with heat for your comfort. For safety's sake and to ensure your chance to sleep, we return to town after each night's activities, and we are unable to stay out all night. When conditions allow and energy levels permit, we may extend viewing time for particularly enthusiastic groups. However, as our aurora viewing happens in a group context, we strive to balance the needs and energy of all participants across the four-night experience.





#### **Accommodation Details:**

#### Winnipeg & Churchill Hotels

For detailed descriptions, visit nathab.com/alaska-northernadventures/northern-lightstour/accommodations

# Northern Lights & Arctic Exploration Accommodations

A Winter Adventure in Churchill, Manitoba—The Best Place on Earth to See the Aurora!



#### **Winnipeg & Churchill Hotels**

In Winnipeg, stay at the historic Fort Garry Hotel, an elegant landmark built by the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway in 1913. In remote Churchill, our simple hotels are clean, comfortable and centrally located.



# The Best Way to Witness the Wonder of the Aurora

If you're planning a trip to see the northern lights, why not go where they are most often on view? Churchill, Manitoba, is arguably And this Arctic winter adventure includes so much more. Check out the many features that set our northern lights tour above the rest:

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#### The Best Place on the Planet to See the Northern Lights

We maximize your chance to see the northern lights in Churchill, because it is located directly beneath the Van Allen Belt, a layer of energy-charged particles that wraps the earth's polar regions. Originating in solar flares, these particles are carried by solar wind, becoming trapped in Earth's magnetic field to create the phenomenon of the aurora. Winter skies are also clearer in Churchill than in other popular aurora-viewing destinations like Iceland and Lapland, upping your odds of seeing the lights. Our trips run in midwinter when nights are long and skies are dark, enhancing your chances for the best views.



#### Churchill is the "Accessible Arctic"

While Churchill is technically subarctic, lying below the Arctic Circle, its location on the edge of the frozen expanse of Hudson Bay gives it a distinctly Arctic climate and cultural identity. Yet unlike getting to the top of Norway or Siberia or into the interior of the Yukon to see the northern lights, Churchill is easy to reach by air from Winnipeg, Manitoba's capital and largest city, which is served by many direct flights from the U.S.



#### **Private Chartered Flights to and from Churchill**

We charter roundtrip flights to Churchill from Winnipeg, ensuring you get more time in Arctic nature and less time navigating security lines and waiting around airports.

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#### Unique Private Settings for Aurora Viewing & Photography

Each of our six private aurora-viewing locations is situated well away from the lights of town, and guests will visit a selection of settings (though not all) during their tour. Your mix of heated viewing destinations may include our Aurora Tower, a two-story structure with a clear curved top and multi-level viewing spots; our **Aurora Pod**® with a clear glass roof and halfsides; the intimate **Aurora Sphere**, a furnished geodesic dome with clear panels that's heated by a wood stove; Plexiglass-topped Aurora Domes offering a circular view on the night sky; a cabin tucked deep within the boreal forest; and in the photogenic setting of a dog musher's camp where an illuminated tepee and campfire provide an evocative foreground for photos. **See 3-D views of our aurora-viewing locations** 



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#### A Wilderness Snowcoach Expedition—for Our Guests Alone

Exclusively for Nat Hab travelers! Ride on a new custom-built snowcoach into the boreal forest, crossing a frozen creek to reach our isolated private cabin. No one else has this access to roadless wilderness! As we head deep into the North Woods, look for moose and wolf tracks and sightings of elusive winter wildlife. Gather at our cabin, tucked within the forest and warmed by a wood stove, to spend an evening spent searching for the northern lights.

#### Explore Our Arctic Environs on an Exclusive Slate of Adventures

The aurora may be top draw, but you'll enjoy a whole host of northern activities for a comprehensive Arctic adventure. From an authentic dog sled ride to local museums and cultural encounters with First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples whose presence in the region extends back centuries, you'll gain wide-ranging insight into the history and traditions of the Canadian North. Through our 35+ years in Churchill, we've built relationships that provide experiences other travelers simply won't get.

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#### No Need to Buy Heavy Winter Gear—We Provide It All!

Don't worry about shelling out for a heavy parka, cumbersome Arctic snowboots and insulated mittens you may only wear once—we supply this cold-weather expedition gear to use during your time in Churchill, along with snow pants, fleece jacket, fleece hat, fleece neck gaiter, and hand and toe warmers. We've got you covered (literally!).

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#### See the Northern Lights with a Stellar Guide

While it's possible to travel on your own to Churchill to view the aurora, there is no way to get the quality experience you'll have with our naturalist guide by your side. Our Expedition Leader is an expert on the Canadian North, offering in-depth interpretation of the region's geology, biology, history, cultures, and, of course, the aurora. We take pride in hiring the best guides in the industry—Nat Hab Expedition Leaders average 15 years' experience, and with additional training and resources provided by WWF's top scientists, your trip is sure to be a learning adventure. **See Expedition Leader bios** with traveler comments regarding the quality of our expert guides.

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#### An Expedition Leader Plus Local Guide Equals Flexibility & Personalized Attention

In addition to your naturalist Expedition Leader, we also have the services of a local staff member dedicated exclusively to our group. This arrangement allows us to finesse our schedule and activities so that, for instance, guests who wish to stay out longer for snowshoeing can do so, or we can bring guests who wish back to the hotel earlier and allow others to stay out later in search of the northern lights, etc. When we have two guides available, we can offer service well "above and beyond" what you'll find elsewhere.



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#### Our Quality-Value Guarantee Ensures Your Outstanding Aurora Adventure

Natural Habitat Adventures offers you our exclusive guarantee that clearly states that we will meet the high expectations we set forth in our promotional materials. To our knowledge, this is the most ambitious guarantee made by any adventure travel company.

#### Feel Good About Your Carbon-Neutral Journey

We care deeply about our planet, as we know you do. When you travel with us, the carbon emissions from your trip are 100% offset—including your round-trip flights from home. Natural Habitat Adventures has been the world's first carbon-neutral travel company since 2007.



#### Natural Habitat Adventures Is World Wildlife Fund's Travel Partner

Because of our commitment to environmentally friendly travel, as well as the exceptional quality of our small-group nature adventures, World Wildlife Fund, the world's leading environmental conservation organization, has named Natural Habitat Adventures its worldwide travel partner—a designation that makes us exceedingly proud!





### Dates & Pricing Summary:

**Prices:** From \$8495 (+Air)

**Group Size:** Limited to 15 Travelers

Physical Requirements:

# Northern Lights & Arctic Exploration Dates, Pricing & Info

A Winter Adventure in Churchill, Manitoba—The Best Place on Earth to See the Aurora!

#### 2026 Departures

Departure	Return	Notes
Jan 15, 2026	Jan 21, 2026	
Jan 19, 2026	Jan 25, 2026	
Jan 23, 2026	Jan 29, 2026	Women's Journey
Jan 23, 2026	Jan 29, 2026	
Jan 27, 2026	Feb 2, 2026	
Jan 27, 2026	Feb 2, 2026	
Jan 31, 2026	Feb 6, 2026	
Jan 31, 2026	Feb 6, 2026	Women's Journey
Feb 2, 2026	Feb 8, 2026	



### Dates & Pricing Summary:

**Prices:** From \$8495 (+Air)

**Group Size:** Limited to 15 Travelers

Physical Requirements:

Departure	Return	Notes
Feb 4, 2026	Feb 10, 2026	
Feb 4, 2026	Feb 10, 2026	Photo Expedition
Feb 6, 2026	Feb 12, 2026	
Feb 6, 2026	Feb 12, 2026	Women's Journey
Feb 8, 2026	Feb 14, 2026	
Feb 8, 2026	Feb 14, 2026	Photo Expedition
Feb 10, 2026	Feb 16, 2026	
Feb 12, 2026	Feb 18, 2026	
Feb 12, 2026	Feb 18, 2026	Photo Expedition
Feb 14, 2026	Feb 20, 2026	Women's Journey
Feb 14, 2026	Feb 20, 2026	
Feb 16, 2026	Feb 22, 2026	
Feb 16, 2026	Feb 22, 2026	Photo Expedition
Feb 18, 2026	Feb 24, 2026	
Feb 20, 2026	Feb 26, 2026	
Feb 20, 2026	Feb 26, 2026	Photo Expedition
Feb 22, 2026	Feb 28, 2026	Women's Journey
Feb 22, 2026	Feb 28, 2026	
Feb 24, 2026	Mar 2, 2026	
Feb 24, 2026	Mar 2, 2026	Photo Expedition
Feb 28, 2026	Mar 6, 2026	Women's Journey
Feb 28, 2026	Mar 6, 2026	
Feb 28, 2026	Mar 6, 2026	Photo Expedition
Mar 4, 2026	Mar 10, 2026	



### Dates & Pricing Summary:

**Prices:** From \$8495 (+Air)

**Group Size:** Limited to 15 Travelers

Physical Requirements:

Departure	Return	Notes
Mar 4, 2026	Mar 10, 2026	Photo Expedition
Mar 8, 2026	Mar 14, 2026	
Mar 8, 2026	Mar 14, 2026	Photo Expedition
Mar 12, 2026	Mar 18, 2026	
Mar 12, 2026	Mar 18, 2026	Photo Expedition
Mar 16, 2026	Mar 22, 2026	
Mar 20, 2026	Mar 26, 2026	
	Mar 4, 2026 Mar 8, 2026 Mar 8, 2026 Mar 12, 2026 Mar 12, 2026 Mar 16, 2026	Mar 4, 2026 Mar 10, 2026   Mar 8, 2026 Mar 14, 2026   Mar 8, 2026 Mar 14, 2026   Mar 12, 2026 Mar 18, 2026   Mar 12, 2026 Mar 18, 2026   Mar 16, 2026 Mar 22, 2026

#### 2027 Departures

Departure	Return	Notes
Jan 14, 2027	Jan 20, 2027	
Jan 18, 2027	Jan 24, 2027	
Jan 22, 2027	Jan 28, 2027	Women's Journey
Jan 22, 2027	Jan 28, 2027	
Jan 26, 2027	Feb 1, 2027	
Jan 26, 2027	Feb 1, 2027	Photo Expedition
Jan 30, 2027	Feb 5, 2027	Women's Journey
Jan 30, 2027	Feb 5, 2027	
Feb 3, 2027	Feb 9, 2027	
Feb 3, 2027	Feb 9, 2027	Photo Expedition
Feb 5, 2027	Feb 11, 2027	Women's Journey
Feb 7, 2027	Feb 13, 2027	Women's Journey
Feb 7, 2027	Feb 13, 2027	Photo Expedition
Feb 11, 2027	Feb 17, 2027	
Feb 11, 2027	Feb 17, 2027	Photo Expedition



### Dates & Pricing Summary:

**Prices:** From \$8495 (+Air)

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Feb 15, 2027	Feb 21, 2027	
Feb 15, 2027	Feb 21, 2027	Photo Expedition
Feb 19, 2027	Feb 25, 2027	Women's Journey
Feb 19, 2027	Feb 25, 2027	
Feb 19, 2027	Feb 25, 2027	Photo Expedition
Feb 21, 2027	Feb 27, 2027	Women's Journey
Feb 23, 2027	Mar 1, 2027	
Feb 23, 2027	Mar 1, 2027	Photo Expedition
Feb 25, 2027	Mar 3, 2027	
Feb 27, 2027	Mar 5, 2027	
Feb 27, 2027	Mar 5, 2027	Women's Journey
Feb 27, 2027	Mar 5, 2027	Photo Expedition
Mar 3, 2027	Mar 9, 2027	
Mar 3, 2027	Mar 9, 2027	Photo Expedition
Mar 5, 2027	Mar 11, 2027	
Mar 7, 2027	Mar 13, 2027	
Mar 7, 2027	Mar 13, 2027	Photo Expedition
Mar 11, 2027	Mar 17, 2027	
Mar 11, 2027	Mar 17, 2027	
Mar 15, 2027	Mar 21, 2027	
Mar 19, 2027	Mar 25, 2027	



### Pricing

2026 Prices

Mouse over or tap dates above to view prices for specific departure dates.

Trip Price \$8495 to \$8695 (+internal air)



**Internal Air Cost:** \$1689 per person (this will be listed separately on our invoicing). **Single Occupancy:** For a single room add \$945. **Click here** to learn how you can avoid the single supplement.

Deposit: \$500 per person

**Make It Private: View pricing** to take this trip privately with just you and your select travel companions.

Trip prices are per person based on double occupancy and are given in U.S. dollars. **Please read our Payment & Refund Policy here.** 

#### 2027 Prices

We're still in the process of confirming 2027 pricing. Please contact an Adventure Specialist for more details: 800-543-8917.

### Included

- Trip price includes: Accommodations, services of Nat Hab's professional Expedition Leader(s) and assistants, excursions to our exclusive Aurora Pod and Aurora domes, dog sledding excursion, all meals from dinner on Day 1 through breakfast on final day, some gratuities, airport transfers on Day 1 and final day, including a parka, fleece neck buff, fleece jacket, waterproof pants, mittens and Arctic boots for use during your trip, all activities and entrance fees, all taxes, permits and service fees.
- > Internal air cost includes: Round-trip private charter flights from Winnipeg to Churchill (this will be listed separately on our invoicing).

### **Not Included**

Travel to and from the start and end point of your trip, alcoholic beverages, some gratuities, passport and visa fees (if any), optional activities, items of a personal nature (phone calls, laundry and internet, etc.), airline baggage fees, airport and departure taxes (if any), optional travel protection and medical evacuation insurance.



### **Important Information About This Trip**

This adventure takes place during the prime time to experience one of nature's most wondrous sights—the northern lights. Our itinerary is a full one as we discover the nature and culture of the Canadian North by day, then, after dark, we head out to scan the skies for the aurora borealis. However, please join this trip knowing that while Churchill is a consistent spot for some of the planet's best aurora viewing, we are never guaranteed to see it, and on some departures, we may not. It's impossible to predict, though our odds are very good, given the frequency and intensity of auroral activity over Churchill and the unique geographic factors that minimize cloudy nights.

A note regarding the moon: We run this trip when there is a full moon, a new moon, and at all times in between. When the moon is full, the foreground is brighter, making for interesting photographic images. During a new moon, the sky is darker, so the lights may appear slightly brighter. However, since we are in a place where the aurora tends to be quite bright anyway, the phase of the moon generally has very little effect on the quality of viewing. Any time one witnesses the northern lights in Churchill, it is an experience to behold!

#### A note regarding our schedule:

Scheduling for all activities in Churchill is flexible in order to accommodate varying weather conditions and other contingencies. Your itinerary may vary slightly and activities may happen at different times from what is listed here, but inclusions are the same. Please also be aware that each group will visit a sampler of aurora-viewing sites but not all of them, and we do not know in advance which locations will be included on which departure—but be assured that every spot offers an excellent viewing opportunity, away from any light pollution from town, and all are enhanced with heat for your comfort. For safety's sake and to ensure your chance to sleep, we return to town after each night's activities, and we are unable to stay out all night. When conditions allow and energy levels permit, we may extend viewing time for particularly enthusiastic groups. However, as our aurora viewing happens in a group context, we strive to balance the needs and energy of all participants across the four-night experience.

*Click here* for more information on the difference between viewing versus photographing the northern lights.

### **Mandatory Insurance**

Since the areas we travel to are remote and wild (that's why we go there!), we require that all guests have, at minimum, medical evacuation insurance for this program. This is for the safety of all guests. We require that your chosen independent insurance plan includes at least \$250,000 in medical evacuation coverage.

To protect your investment and to provide peace of mind while you travel, we also strongly recommend purchasing comprehensive travel insurance. Plans may cover everything from medical treatment to trip cancellations and delays and lost luggage. Please contact our office if you would like more information about the medical evacuation and comprehensive travel insurance policies we offer by calling 800-543-8917.

### **Getting There & Getting Home**

In case of flight or weather delays, we recommend that you arrive a day early. Please schedule your flights to arrive by 5 pm in order to attend a 7 pm orientation dinner on Day 1 of your program. You are free to depart at any time on the final day.



Natural Habitat & WWF: Discovering Our Planet Together Natural Habitat Adventures • PO Box 3065 · Boulder, CO USA 80307 USA & Canada: 800-543-8917• International: 303-449-3711

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WWF's membership travel program is operated by Natural Habitat Adventures (Nat Hab). To date, Nat Hab has provided more than \$6 million in support of WWF's mission and will continue to give 1% of gross sales plus \$175,000 annually through 2028. WWF® and ©1986 Panda Symbol are owned by WWF. All rights reserved.