

GoMedia **Canada 2020**

Manitoba

Colours & Lights Arctic Adventure – Lazy Bear Expeditions

September 13–18, 2020

Theme

Experience fabulous fall colours, get up close and personal with Arctic wildlife and engage with the locals as they tell their stories of the vibrant culture of Manitoba's North. This brand new tour by Lazy Bear Expeditions offers a unique perspective into life in Churchill in the pristine (though rarely visited!) autumn season.

Description

During your adventure to historic Churchill, Manitoba, your days will be packed with colourful adventure, and an immersion into the culture of Churchill.

You will have an opportunity to view the Northern Lights each evening weather depending. Each day, you'll return home to our wood-fire heated log lodge, sumptuous local cuisine at our Lazy Bear Café, and your private room with all the modern amenities.

Soar over the vast tundra in a helicopter while enjoying bird's eye views of the magnificent coastline of Hudson Bay. See Polar Bears, and likely moose. Hop on a Tundra Tour to the Churchill Wildlife Management Area aboard our brand new, custom-built, state of the art Arctic Crawler™ with a chance to view various wildlife including Arctic Fox, Ptarmigan, Arctic Hare and perhaps a Polar Bear or two at ground level. Take a cruise down the Churchill River, to meet and greet our "Ambassadors of the North", the gentle and curious Beluga Whales. Meet a real-life dog musher where you will be regaled with entertaining stories and learn about the history of dog mushing while enjoying local treats. Afterwards, take a short but exhilarating ride, pulled by the dogs on a summer cart.

You will have a Cultural and Heritage Tour of the town plus a Parks Canada presentation. Experience the beautiful fall colours in Churchill on a boreal forest walking tour with an interpretive talk. The Churchill Northern Studies Centre will provide an interpretive guided hike to the Rocket Range as well as a walking tour of their facility. Visit the Itsanitaq Museum and learn about customs, traditions and history of the Indigenous people. The museum boasts an exceptional collection of Inuit carvings created from whale bone, soapstone, and antler.

Considerations

- Travel and wildlife adventures in the remote north are at the mercy of Mother Nature. Travel delays may happen. Wildlife activities may be cancelled. All water related activities are weather dependent and may need to be cancelled in the event of heavy rain or high winds. Participants must be of a flexible nature and disposition.
- Wildlife can be unpredictable and sightings of animals are never guaranteed. While there is an abundance of wildlife in the Churchill area at this time of year and our guides make every effort to seek them out, there is always the possibility that they won't be seen.
- There is limited cell phone service in Churchill – check with your service provider. There are landline phones in the guest rooms at Lazy Bear Lodge. Long distance charges apply.
- There is complimentary wireless internet access at Lazy Bear Lodge in Churchill.
- Participants must be able to endure outdoor conditions whether hot and buggy or rainy and cold.
- Participants should advise in advance if they have any dietary restrictions or food allergies.

Itinerary

Day 1 – Sunday, September 13

	Morning flight to Winnipeg to arrive before 5 pm
9:10 am	Depart Victoria on WS3157 / WS482 via Vancouver to Winnipeg
5:13 pm	Arrive in Winnipeg
6:00 pm	Check-in at downtown Winnipeg hotel
7:30 pm	Welcome Dinner (TBA)
Overnight	Winnipeg (downtown hotel TBA)

Day 2 – Monday, September 14

****Please Note:** *Lazy Bear Expeditions itineraries are purposely left flexible because tours are based on weather, tides and other conditions beyond our control. A suggested itinerary will be provided upon check-in at the lodge. Tours will be confirmed each morning by the staff of Lazy Bear Lodge. The schedule may change depending on the weather but will include the activities listed below.*

Morning	Breakfast
	Check-out from Winnipeg hotel and transfer to airport for departure to Churchill
	Flight from Winnipeg to Churchill
	You are about to embark on the brand new Colours & Lights Arctic Adventure! We invite you to make yourself at home at Lazy Bear Lodge , Churchill's cozy and charming family built log cabin, where owners Walter and Dawn Daudrich will share with you their passion for northern adventure. Check in at Lazy Bear Lodge.
	Cultural and Heritage Tour of the Churchill area: Visit Cape Merry National Historic Site, the town beach and inukshuk, polar bear holding facility, and Miss Piggy.
	Dog Mushing Experience at Blue Sky Expeditions : Hosted by local residents, Gerald and Jenafor Azure, visit their dog yard and meet the team of friendly dogs. Hear stories, like that of Isobel, the blind sled dog, while nibbling on homemade bannock and fresh cloudberry jam. Learn about dog handling philosophy and the importance of dog sledding as a form of transportation in the north. Then hold on tight as you get behind the wheel on a mile-long dog sled ride through the northern boreal forest.
	Meals Included: Breakfast, lunch, and dinner
Overnight	Lazy Bear Lodge, Churchill

Day 3 – Tuesday, September 15

Morning	Breakfast
	Helicopter Tour (approx. 1.5 hours): Soar over the vast tundra in a helicopter while enjoying views of the magnificent coastline of Hudson Bay and the town of Churchill. The chance of seeing polar bears is extremely high. We often see moose while we fly over the boreal forest and may see caribou as well.
	Parks Canada Interpretive Presentation (approx. 1 hour): Learn about the rich Indigenous history in the Churchill area that has helped shape the community.
	Indigenous Craft Session (approx. 2 hours)

Meals Included: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Overnight Lazy Bear Lodge, Churchill

Day 4 – Wednesday, September 16

Morning Breakfast

Zodiac Excursion (weather dependent) (approx. 2 hours): Hop aboard to take a cruise through the Churchill River where thousands of beluga whales migrate in the summer months.

Boreal Forest Walk & Interpretive Talk: Churchill borders three distinct eco-zones: arctic marine, arctic tundra and boreal forest. Take a walk to see this unique boreal forest environment and learn about how it differs from the other zones in the surrounding area.

Arctic Crawler™ Excursion: Explore the Churchill Wildlife Management Area on-board the big, white, custom built Arctic Crawler tundra vehicle. Enjoy the vast and varied landscape, while keeping a close watch for birds, arctic fox, arctic hare and possibly even polar bears.

Meals Included: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Overnight Lazy Bear Lodge, Churchill

Day 5 – Thursday, September 17

Morning Breakfast

Churchill Northern Studies Centre walking tour (approx. 2 hours): This active research facility is located 23kms from Churchill and was designed for minimal environmental impact. It attracts scientists from around the world for research on the culture, sub-Arctic ecology and wildlife in the area. The facility also sits in the shadow of the Churchill Rocket Research Range, a deserted 1950s relic that has ties back to the Cold War era.

Check-out from Lazy Bear Lodge and transfer to airport to depart for Winnipeg

Flight from Churchill to Winnipeg

Transfer and check-in at Winnipeg hotel

7:00 pm Farewell Dinner at [Passero Restaurant](#): Located inside The Forks Market, the newest addition to the local food scene features modern Italian cuisine and was named to enRoute Magazine's long-list of the best new restaurants in Canada.

Meals Included: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Overnight Winnipeg

Day 6 – Friday, September 18

Morning Breakfast

Transfer from hotel to airport for homebound flight

Recommended items to bring

The weather in September can vary quite significantly. There can be warmer days and cooler days so it is important to layer your clothing. Warm clothing is recommended. We recommend packing the following:

- Loose fitting clothing, long socks, long-sleeved shirt and pants for cooler days (be sure to layer)
- A wind breaker/light rain jacket/sweatshirt/fleece jacket/warm fall jacket for cooler days
- Thermal under clothing, a toque (a close fitting hat covering your ears), mittens or gloves for the boat and walking tour
- Hiking shoes or runners with ankle support
- A good shade hat, sun glasses, binoculars, camera
- Spare batteries for each camera type you bring
- Charging cords for laptops, cell phones, tablets
- We also recommend bringing along a small carry-on bag with your absolute necessities just in case your luggage makes it to Churchill after you do