

# 2023 POLAR BEAR PHOTO SAFARI



October - November



Seal River Heritage Lodge



## PACKAGE OVERVIEW

This safari is a must-do for professional and aspiring photographers. Photographic subjects include polar bears, Arctic fox and Arctic hare while stunning sea ice adds to the experience. The landscape changes daily as ice starts to form along the shoreline, and early morning light reflecting off the freshly fallen snow makes for beautiful images. Anticipating the northern lights adds to the adventure.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Daily, guided hikes across the tundra to view polar bears and other Arctic wildlife, up-close-and-personal, in their natural habitat.
- Indulging your taste buds with our tundra-inspired cuisine, complemented by select Canadian wines.
- Sky gazing! Our geographical location beneath the Aurora Oval offers the opportunity to enjoy the greatest light show on earth from within the lodge or out in our secure compound.
- Educational evening presentations by our lodge managers or naturalist guides about our Arctic ecosystems, landscape and lifestyle.
- Sunrises, sunsets and blue hour—our photo safaris give you ample opportunity to photograph the wildlife and landscapes of the Hudson Bay coast during the best light.

## ITINERARY

### DAY 1: ANTICIPATION BUILDS DURING YOUR OVERNIGHT STAY IN WINNIPEG

Arrive in Winnipeg where you will enjoy a relaxing stay at our choice hotel, The Grand by Lakeview at the Winnipeg Airport. Your winter gear fitting and collection will take place at 5 pm prior to meeting the rest of your group at an orientation dinner hosted by a Churchill Wild representative.

### DAY 2 - THE ADVENTURE BEGINS!

Arrive in Churchill by air where our expediter will meet you at the airport. You will then be transferred by fixed wing aircraft to Seal River Heritage Lodge. This exciting flight takes you out over the historic Churchill River, and then northwest up the rugged Hudson Bay coast. Keep a sharp eye en-route for wildlife including the 'Great Ice Bears'.

Upon arrival, your hosts will provide a tour of the Lodge and get you settled into your room. A thorough orientation on travelling in polar bear country will be provided prior to your first outings.

### DAY 3 TO 5 - NATURE TREKKING, POLAR BEARS AND MAGNIFICENT PHOTOGRAPHY

Each morning your guides will outline a plan for the day's excursion, and after a hearty breakfast, you'll head out, cameras in hand, in search of wildlife. This safari caters to the wildlife photographer dedicated to documenting Arctic wildlife, up-close-and-personal, so mealtimes will often be adjusted to take advantage of the encounter taking place. Your photos will have stunning backdrops with the sea and/or snowy landscapes surrounding the Lodge.

Scroll through the day's photos during appetizer hour before enjoying one of our signature dinners. Then, top up your wine glass and head to the lounge, cozy up in front of the fireplace and enjoy a presentation by one of our team members.

Bedtime is at your leisure and you can rest easy knowing you won't miss out on anything. Our staff monitor the compound and skies and will rouse you if the aurora or a nocturnal polar bear make an appearance.

### DAY 6 - BACK TO WINNIPEG

After another hearty Lodge breakfast, we will begin air transfers back to Churchill. Have your cameras ready for the return flight as it affords excellent opportunities for great aerial shots.

Back in Churchill, you'll spend the day with one of our tour guides exploring the town and surrounding, learning about its rich history as a seaport and ex-military base. Your tour will include stops such as the Parks Canada exhibit, the Itsanitaq Museum, and the Polar Bear Jail. Along the way, your guide will point out murals that were commissioned in 2016 as part of the SeaWalls mural festival. Before a group dinner, your guide will give you free time to shop for last-minute souvenirs at the unique gift stores in Churchill.

Your flight south to Winnipeg will take place this evening. Upon arrival, collect your bags, head out of the arrivals doors and back to The Grand Hotel.

### DAY 7 - HOMEWARD BOUND

After a restful sleep you will pack your bags in preparation for your flight home.



## ABOUT SEAL RIVER HERITAGE LODGE

Perched on the rugged coast of Hudson Bay lies Seal River Heritage Lodge, a veritable oasis on the tundra and one of the National Geographic Unique Lodges of the World. Located near the Seal River Estuary, this property is in a prime location for observing polar bears as they wander the coast during summer and fall, waiting for the Bay to freeze, and for viewing beluga whales in July and August.

The fenced-in compound, viewing platforms and tower lend themselves to unique photography opportunities for northern lights and the wildlife that approach to check out the sights, sounds and smells of the Lodge.

Seal River has eight, double guestrooms in a quiet guest wing, each with an en-suite bathroom.

Our cozy lounge, complete with fireplace and large picture windows overlooking the Bay, is the perfect place to relax with a glass of wine, sharing photos or talking with new friends.

**YOUR ADVENTURE INCLUDES:** Your safari includes all air and ground transfers between Winnipeg and our lodge, winter pants, boots and parka and accommodations.

- Day 1: Dinner
- Day 2 to 6: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Day 7: None

**2023 RATE:** \$15,195 CAD per person plus tax (based on double occupancy)

Prices are subject to taxes of 8.5%.

Single guests can sign up to share a room with another person of the same gender at the regular rate per person based on double occupancy.



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