Polar Bears & Beluga Whales

Animals of the Arctic | Summer Expedition

SAVE MORE THAN $1,000 per couple

JUL. 31 - AUG. 6, 2018
Dear Alumni and Friends,

Join fellow travelers for a special opportunity to witness the diverse wildlife and pioneer spirit of the Canadian Arctic in summer.

During this seven-day journey to remote Churchill, Manitoba, you may have the opportunity to observe polar bears interact and play along the shore of the Hudson Bay. During outings in Zodiac boats, watch as beluga whales, seals, and a multitude of other wildlife enjoy the brief arctic summer. Back on land, explore the plants and animals who live in this vast arctic wilderness. Meet and greet sled dogs and their experienced handler, then enjoy the thrill of a dog mushing ride along local trails.

The expert guidance of an Orbridge Expedition Leader and a local guide, as well as exclusive educational experiences—including presentations from Assiniboine Park Zoo and Churchill’s Northern Studies Centre—distinguish this program.

Space is limited. With significant savings of more than $1,000 per couple, we anticipate this tour will fill quickly, so be certain to reserve your spot today and share this brochure with family and friends who may be interested in traveling with you.

Please reserve online at http://wisc.orbridge.com, by calling (866) 639-0079 or by returning the enclosed reservation form.

Sincerely,

Sarah Schutt
Chief Alumni Officer and Executive Director
Wisconsin Alumni Association

Free Expedition Library
AN EARLY RESERVATION BONUS

Reserve your space by TBD, 2017 to receive the FREE Orbridge Expedition Library we’ve assembled for this program.

This exclusive gift is to thank you for joining us early. Guests who reserve after the specified date may purchase libraries. Call for details.
Discover the beauty and wildness of Churchill, Manitoba—a small town on the banks of the Hudson Bay known for hosting polar bears in the fall. During summer, visitors have the opportunity to spot for polar bears along the local shores as well as view some of the 60,000 beluga whales who come to feed, mate, and give birth in the shallow waters. See this annual spectacle of wildlife that can only be found here in the Canadian north, and meet the local people who call it home.
Program Highlights

- Join fellow travelers for a warm welcome, then step out for a special evening reception in Assiniboine Park Zoo’s underwater viewing tunnels. Observe the polar bears and seals as they swim in the crystal clear pools above you. A three-course meal with wine is served under the dancing Northern Lights, in the Aurora Borealis Theatre. Following dinner, enjoy a presentation on the magnificent polar bears.

- Embark upon two separate water tours of Hudson Bay and learn more about the 60,000 beluga whales that inhabit the area, plus keep an eye out for polar bears, caribou, seals, and a multitude of bird species found along the shore.

- Aboard the Arctic Crawler, venture out onto stark and beautiful landscapes, stopping to enjoy the scenery as you search for arctic hare, snowy owl, ptarmigan, or arctic fox.

- Choose between two optional guided excursion activities (additional fee): a 3-hour kayaking tour or a 3-hour snorkeling tour.

- Visit Churchill’s Itsanitaq Museum for an exploration of indigenous ways of life while viewing remarkable examples of Inuit craftsmanship.

- Meet an energetic team of huskies and their experienced handler, then climb into a dog cart for your own exciting ride.

- What’s included: 6 nights hotel and lodge accommodations; 6 breakfasts, 4 lunches, and 3 dinners including a special welcome reception and dinner, and a farewell reception; full guiding services of an Orbridge Expedition Leader and a local guide; excursion transportation and entry fees; and all gratuities.

Activity Level: Guests should be sure-footed on stairs, ramps, and small vessels and able to walk on uneven ground without assistance. Skiffs provide the mode for much of the exploration on this program and guests should be sure-footed to enter/exit the vessel.

Your 7-Day Itinerary

NOTE: Daily activities will be determined by weather, opportunities to view wildlife, and other various elements that make up the diverse arctic summer. Guests will receive a daily itinerary, which will be flexible and updated frequently. The itinerary below is a general listing of activities and excursions that may happen during any part of the program.

Day 1: Arrive in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada / Assiniboine Park Zoo (R,D) Welcome reception and dinner; presentation Overnight: Hilton Winnipeg Airport Suites

Day 2: Winnipeg / Churchill / Cultural and Heritage Tour (B,L) Flight to Churchill; panoramic site visits: Miss Piggy Plane Crash site, Polar Bear “Jail,” and Cape Merry Overnight: Lazy Bear Lodge

Day 3: Churchill / Boat Tour / Prince of Wales Fort / Dog Mushing (B,D) Zodiac boat tour providing up-close whale watching and photography opportunities; dog cart ride Overnight: Lazy Bear Lodge

Day 4: Churchill / Hudson Bay Coastal Tour (B,L) Full-day bear- and whale-spotting excursion aboard a custom water vessel Overnight: Lazy Bear Lodge

Day 5: Churchill / Arctic Crawler Experience / Itsanitaq Museum (B,L,D) With cameras in-hand, board the Arctic Crawler to traverse the beautiful landscapes and search for wildlife; Itsanitaq Museum tour Overnight: Lazy Bear Lodge

Day 6: Churchill / Northern Studies Centre / Winnipeg (B,L,R) Interactive presentation and learn about current research; flight to Winnipeg; farewell reception Overnight: Hilton Winnipeg Airport Suites

Day 7: Depart Winnipeg (B)
Your Accommodations*

HILTON WINNIPEG AIRPORT SUITES
Located near Winnipeg’s airport terminal, this classic property provides well-appointed accommodations and thoughtful amenities. The hotel’s restaurant, Oak and Grain, features comfort food with a twist.

LAZY BEAR LODGE
This remarkable, handcrafted log lodge will provide cozy comfort during your stay. A log builder by trade, Wally Daudrich built the Lazy Bear Lodge himself, literally.

Drawn to the area by its sense of freedom, Wally and a partner dragged logs from the forest by snowmobile, crafting them first into a small café, then a small lodge, and finally the two-story, 15,000-square-foot, modern Lazy Bear Lodge of today.

Experience the warm hospitality of Wally and his staff, and dine on fabulous northern cuisine, all in the stunning property he has built.

*Subject to change.

Your Orbridge Expedition Leader
Whether Lynette, Kent or another experienced naturalist, your Expedition Leader will add exceptional depth of expertise and warm hospitality to each day’s adventures.

Lynette’s passion for the outdoors began at an early age on her family’s dairy farm. A move to Montana and a degree in Ecology enabled her to continue to nurture her love of exploration throughout the western U.S. Since then, she has had the good fortune to study grizzly and black bears, pine marten, coyotes, foxes and wolves in various research projects in some of the West’s most remote areas.

Kent has led national park tours as a park ranger since 1984. Having worked with the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the Colorado Division of Wildlife, he brings a lifetime’s wealth of knowledge about North America’s parks, preserves, and wildlife.
**The Sam Hearne**

An expedition vessel ideal for wildlife-spotting.

Designed after a WWII landing craft, this 23-passenger flat-bottomed water vessel is perfect for your day-long journey onto Hudson Bay and possible close encounters with polar bears along the rocky shorelines. This former landing craft has plenty of seating, on-board facilities with flush toilet, and the ability to get in very close to shore. Captained by Lazy Bear Lodge owner Wally Daudrich, it is the only licensed boat of its kind with this special access.

Cruise along the coast of the Hudson Bay to places such as Seal River and Button Bay, a favorite gathering spot for polar bears.

Come aboard and join your naturalist guide for an amazing day of discovery in this remote and fascinating place.

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**The Arctic Crawler**

A rugged all-terrain vehicle.

Get up-close access to the wildlife of the tundra aboard this specially-designed trekking vehicle. The Arctic Crawler features comfortable seating, on-board facilities with flush toilet, large windows that lower for better viewing, plus a spacious, fully-grated outside rear deck for optimal photography opportunities. With the expertise of the driver and your Orbridge Expedition Leader, you will witness all the stunning natural beauty and diverse wildlife the tundra has to offer.
Polar Bears & Beluga Whales  JULY 31 - AUGUST 6, 2018

Option 1: Reserve online now at http://wisc.orbridge.com or call (866) 639-0079.

Option 2: Secure your reservation with a deposit charged to the credit card below, or with an enclosed check payable to: Orbridge, LLC.

Guest Information:

Guest #1 Name: ________________________________________ Class Year __________
Guest #2 Name: ________________________________________ Class Year __________
Address: ____________________________________________
City: __________________________________ State: ________ Zip: __________
Email: __________________________________ Phone: __________ Alt. Phone: ________

Category Preference (if applicable): 1st choice _____________________ 2nd choice_____________________

Deposit:
(#) ______ guests joining program ($850/person) = Total deposit: $ ______________________

Deposit Payment:
☐ Check enclosed ☐ Online Check/ACH ☐ MasterCard/Visa ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Card #: __________________ Exp. date: __________ CVV: __________

Billing address (if different from above): ______________________________________________________
City: __________________________________ State: ________ Zip: __________

I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at http://terms.orbridge.com and detailed in program documents; and that Orbridge LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.

Signature: __________________________________________ Date: __________________

Mail reservation form and deposit to: WAA Travel
650 N. Lake Street
Madison, WI 53706-1476

Registration, Deposits and Final Payment. To confirm and secure your reservation, a deposit of $1,700 per person for the Antarctica program and $850 per person for all other programs, a deposit for any extension(s), and any non-refundable advanced payments, payable by check, online check/ACH, money order, wire transfer of same day U.S. funds, or major credit card, is due at the time of registration. Final payment, including any extension(s) and optional(s), is payable by check, online check/ACH, money order, wire transfer of same day U.S. funds and due no later than 120 days prior to the Antarctica program and 90 days prior to all other scheduled program departure dates. If your reservation is made between the final payment due date and the date the program starts, the entire cost of the program, including any extension(s) and optional(s), is due at the time of registration by check, money order, or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds. Final payments made by credit card are subject to a 2% transaction fee. If final payment is not received by Orbridge by the final payment due date, Orbridge may, at any time and with or without notice, cancel your reservation in its sole discretion with no right of refund. All payments we receive from you are herein defined as “Payments.”

Cancellations and Refunds. All cancellations must be submitted to Orbridge in writing and will be subject to a cancellation fee (“Cancellation Fee”) as follows: (a) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge 275 or more calendar days prior to the scheduled departure date, all deposits will be fully refunded; (b) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 274 and 151 days prior to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be $500 per person per program and $300 per person per program for extensions; (c) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 150 days prior to the scheduled departure date and the day before the final payment due date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full deposit per person per program including any extension; (d) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge on the final payment due date or closer to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full program price. In addition to and not in lieu of the foregoing, a Cancellation Fee equal to 100% of the carrier charge applies to all non-refundable airfares due to your cancellation made at any time prior to the scheduled program departure date, as applicable. Refunds, if any, of any Payments in excess of the aggregate Cancellation Fee shall be processed within 30 calendar days of our receipt of your written notice.

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*Special group rate; limited offer. Rate is per person based on double occupancy except where noted as Single, in U.S. dollars. Airfare not included. Group airfare for the charter flight between Winnipeg and Churchill is charged additionally at $995 per person. **A complement to the educational component of this journey, Expedition Libraries are curated collections of reading and resources tailored to this program. Place your deposit on or before the specified date, and one Expedition Library per room will be sent upon receipt of final payment. Libraries may be purchased; please call for details.
Traveling with the Wisconsin Alumni Association® (WAA) is now a member benefit, so although anyone — UW–Madison graduate or not — is welcome to explore the world with Badger travelers, at least one person in your party must be a WAA member to participate in a WAA tour. Membership information is available at uwalumni.com/membership.