

# POLAR BEAR PHOTOGRAPHY SAFARI

November 2 - 8, 2024

olivia™



## **The Polar Bear Photography Safari with Olivia – LIMITED FOR ONLY 16 WOMEN!**

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We have sold out within a few days every time we launch it, so don't wait!

Photo enthusiasts, or just Polar Bear enthusiasts, this trip is for you! For the 4th time, we are working with the only tour operator on the planet that specializes in ground level walking tours through the remote polar bear regions of the Canadian Arctic.

Wildly rugged and remote, this adventure provides the discerning photographer, or a happy onlooker, the ability to dedicate long days in the field getting up close and personal with Arctic wildlife. Ground level photo opportunities are offered for Arctic wildlife, including polar bears, in pristine wilderness setting in the heart of polar bear country. Polar bears, caribou, red and Arctic fox and white owls are in a backdrop of stunning sea and landscapes. The lodge's shoreline location is ideal for photographing bears on ice and snow. After a long day out in the field, you will return to the lodge for a delicious meal and a relaxing evening spent by the fire and observing the northern lights!

### **ITINERARY SUMMARY - 2024**

November 2 – Saturday – Arrive in Winnipeg, Canada, overnight at the Grand by Lakeview hotel (-/-/D)

November 3 – Sunday – Fly from Winnipeg to Churchill to Lodge (B/L/D)

November 4 – Monday – Morning and afternoon Photo Safari. Overnight at lodge (B/L/D)

November 5 – Tuesday – Morning and afternoon Photo Safari. Overnight at lodge (B/L/D)

November 6 – Wednesday – Morning and afternoon Photo Safari. Overnight at lodge (B/L/D)

November 7 – Thursday – Flight to Churchill. Flight to Winnipeg. Overnight Winnipeg (B/L/D)

November 8 – Friday – Depart Winnipeg at leisure (-/-/-)

B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner

### **PRICE PER PERSON:**

**\$15,499 pp** – Double Occupancy

**\$699 pp NDAs**

*7 Days, 6 Nights*

*\*Above pricing is based on double occupancy and includes 8.5% Canadian tax.*

*\*\* Because of the strict cancellation policy and the remote location of the lodge for emergencies, it is required that all guests purchase trip cancellation insurance, inclusive of emergency airlift.*

### **CANCELLATION AND PAYMENT POLICY**

- Non-refundable 25% of trip cost
- Cancellation Fee 365+ days prior to trip date: 50% of trip cost (*November 2, 2023*)
- Cancellation Fee 364-0 days prior to trip date: 100% of trip cost (*November 3, 2023 -November 2, 2024*)



### **WHAT'S INCLUDED?**

- Hotel accommodations in Winnipeg November 2 and 7, 2024 at the Grand at Lakeview at the Winnipeg Airport.
- Round-trip Air from Winnipeg to Churchill
- Round-trip Air on private planes from Churchill to Hudson Bay
- Four nights' accommodations at Seal River Lodge on November 3, 4, 5 and 6, 2024
- All meals beginning with dinner on November 2 at the hotel, and ending with Dinner on Day 6 (as indicated on itinerary above: B/L/D)
- Beer and wine with appetizers and dinner at the Seal River Lodge
- Winter gear of a down jacket, boots and pants to use. Fittings on the first day
- Three full days of guided photo expeditions
- Interpretive Polar Bear experts to lead tours
- All Churchill transfers
- Wireless Internet at hotel and lodge
- 8.5% Government and VAT taxes
- Full gratuities to the Lodge Staff, Interpretive Polar Bear Staff and gratuities for meals included outside of the lodge
- Olivia representative to accompany the group

### **WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED?**

Gratuities to interpretive guide/driver in Churchill upon arrival in Churchill from Winnipeg and on departure from Churchill to Winnipeg. Air transportation to/from Winnipeg, items such as laundry and other items of a personal nature.

### **ACTIVITY LEVEL**

These trips do require a high level of mobility, as the tours in Hudson Bay are all hikes on snow, ice and/or uneven terrain. Wheelchairs or scooters cannot be accommodated. If you do have limited mobility, you are required to travel with someone who can assist you. There are also plenty of sighting opportunities at the lodge while viewing from the comfort of the lodge through the windows, or while in the fenced-in area in the back of the lodge if you wish.

### **SEAL RIVER LODGE ACCOMODATIONS**

Award-winning, this lodge is one of National Geographic's Lodges of the World! All rooms are beautifully appointed with en-suite private bathrooms with showers. Our cozy lounge, complete with fireplace, is the perfect place to relax, share photos or talking with new friends. The dining room is in a separate wing and features the most amazing home-made specialties! You will probably enjoy the food first, and polar bears 2<sup>nd</sup>!

### **FLIGHT INFORMATION**

All flights should arrive to Winnipeg, Manitoba (YWG) no later than 5:00 pm on Saturday, November 2, 2024, in time for a fitting of your gear, and a 7:00 pm dinner and briefing. Departures from Winnipeg, Manitoba (YWG) can be for any time on Friday, November 8, 2024. We will be passing out the equipment beginning at about 4:00pm at the hotel.

## **WINTER GEAR**

Included in the cost of your trip is a free rental of snow pants, down Jacket and winter boots. We will have the opportunity for you to rent winter gear, including Canadian Goose Down Parkas, snow pants and boots. More information on this will be provided.

## **ADDITIONAL HOTEL NIGHTS**

There is plenty to do on your own if you would like to spend some time exploring Winnipeg upon your return! We will be using the the beautiful Grand by Lakeview at the Winnipeg Airport for the first and last nights. There are many museums, including the world's only newly constructed Human Rights Museum, that opened in 2015. The Forks Market offers plenty of shopping and restaurants. If you can make some time, include a few days to explore this beautiful city on your own. Let us know if you are staying later and have made your own reservations directly with the [Grand Hotel by Lakeview at the Winnipeg Airport](#). We will make sure you can stay in the same hotel room (standard rooms) when the Olivia program starts or ends.

## **FULL 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. At 7:00 pm a dinner will be held at the hotel where you will meet your Olivia Staff member and fellow adventure women, and your adventure specialist! This is the day you will pick up winter gear if you have rented. You will need your rest for your early morning departure to Churchill.

### **DAY 2 – THE ADVENTURE BEGINS!**

Arrive in Churchill by air where one of our expert staff will meet you at the airport and will provide you with instructions of the morning transfer. You will then be transferred by fixed wing aircraft to our Seal River Heritage Lodge. This exciting flight takes you out over the historic Churchill River, and then northwest up the rugged Hudson Bay coast to Canada's most exclusive polar bear viewing properties. Keep a sharp eye enroute for caribou, seals, wolves and of course the 'Great Ice Bears.' Upon your 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 any outings. Then it's time to assemble all those priceless cameras, hard drives, and tripods and start burning some serious gigabytes!

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

The Seal River Heritage Lodge is a wildly rugged and remote location catering to the dedicated wildlife photographer willing to spend long hours in the field getting up close and personal with the arctic wildlife. Ground level photo opportunities are offered for arctic wildlife including polar bears in a pristine wilderness setting. We ARE in the heart of polar bear country! Your photos will have stunning backdrops with the sea and or landscapes surrounding the Lodge. Its shoreline location is ideal for photographing bears on snow and ice. Hopefully, we'll have an exceptional number of clear nights for northern lights photography. Our full-service mealtimes will be adjusted to accommodate photo opportunities which are the priority so expect many a meal to be interrupted. Generally, breakfast is served at 8:00 am, lunches are typically held at the Lodge at noon, with appetizers at 6:00 pm followed by a veritable feast for the palate at 7:00 pm. Evenings are spent near the fireplace downloading images, sharing the day's adventures, or taking in an informative lecture or slide show. Bedtime is at your leisure. The entire Lodge area is patrolled for Polar Bears all night by one of our night watchmen so be prepared to have your sleep cut short by a nocturnal visit by one of the Great Ice Bears (or by one of our dazzling displays of northern lights!).

### **DAY 6 - LAST MINUTE WILDLIFE VIEWING!**

After a hearty breakfast it's time to pack for the flight back to Churchill, say good-byes and snap a few more pictures. After another exciting aerial tour, you'll arrive in Churchill where your bags will be stored for you until your flight back to Winnipeg later in the day. You are then free to explore and wine & dine in this frontier community at your leisure. We recommend local places such as Cape Merry, the Port of Churchill, the Itsanitaq Museum, as well as the Parks Canada exhibit which are all of great interest. Optional tours for dog sledding and helicopter charters fit nicely into this afternoon if you're so inclined. After dinner you will be transferred to the airport in preparation for your flight back to Winnipeg. Upon arrival, collect your bags, head out of the arrivals doors and look to your right. The Grand Hotel is located across the way only a two-minute walk.

### **DAY 7 - HOMEWARD BOUND**

After a restful sleep you will pack your bags in preparation for your flight home. May the memories of this once-in-a-lifetime-trip fill your soul for years to come!

