

Travel Manitoba Media Kit 2007

Find it all in Manitoba – outdoor adventure, wildlife, romance, culture, family fun, action and learning travel. Make memories that persist and instill a longing to return. Get eye-to-eye swimming with a playful beluga whale. Learn the traditional art of caribou hair tufting from an Aboriginal woman. Unearth 80 million-year-old mosasaur fossils at an excavation site. Cook bannock over an open fire while brilliantly coloured Northern Lights dance overhead. Share secrets with your closest girlfriends through the steam in an authentic Turkish hamam. Battle a Herculean northern pike amid a sweeping blue-sky expanse that stretches forever.

Come create memories. Unforgettable Manitoba.

For more: www.travelmanitoba.com

What's New for 2007

2007 Women's World Hockey Championships

Share the excitement as the top nine countries in women's hockey battle in the 2007 World Women's Championships at the MTS Centre in Winnipeg from April 3-20, 2007. Cheer on Canada's winning team, which has taken first place in eight of nine world tournaments since 1990. Tickets available at www.ticketmaster.ca.

David Thompson Bicentennials

Follow the historic route – in spirit, if not in body – of celebrated explorer, naturalist, fur trader and cartographer David Thompson on his tireless travels covering 90,000 km of northwestern North America. A symbol of inter-cultural cooperation, his accomplishments helped define the land geographically and imaginatively. Starting in 2007, events will highlight life 200 years ago and how it helped to shape us today. The Canadian River Heritage Conference, taking place in Winnipeg June 10-14, 2007, will pay special attention to the Red River, including its close association with David Thompson's travels in Manitoba. Stay tuned for details on potential activities such as historical re-enactments, itineraries to retrace Thompson's footsteps in Manitoba, and a reproduction of Thompson's "great map". For more information on the North American David Thompson Bicentennials Initiative, see www.davidthompson200.ca.

Unforgettable Manitoba. Bears.

Polar Bears on the Beach

Ogle the 'King of the Tundra' up close at Nanuk Polar Bear Lodge located within Cape Tatnum Wildlife Management Area on the southern tip of Manitoba's Wapusk National Park. With the naked eye or from a viewing tower, observe and photograph the summer behaviour of polar bears, which gather in this staging area to wallow in the cool beach sand before moving on to Churchill in the fall. Learn about the wildlife and geology of the sub-arctic environment along with traditional lifestyles in Canada's north through interpretive walks plus evening slide shows and presentations. On a clear night, lay your head back to watch the Northern Lights (Aurora Borealis) perform their colourful dance against the black sky. Contact 1-306-296-4403 or www.nanukpolarbearlodge.com.

Great Ice Bear Adventure

Journey deep into isolated, northern wilderness to the eco-conscious Dymond Lake Lodge where polar bears are seen and photographed on foot or from the lodge. Built amidst the polar bear's migration route, the lodge provides great viewing for an array of wildlife including caribou, wolves, moose and Arctic fox. Finish your awe-inspiring experience in Churchill on a chartered Tundra Buggy® that provides a private, uncrowded view of one of the most beautiful animals in the world just outside the window. Contact 1-866-846-9453 or www.churchillwild.com.

Wat'chee – Our Polar Bears

Travel into the heart of the world's largest polar bear denning area for an incredible experience at Wat'chee Lodge, adjacent to Manitoba's Wapusk National Park. Spend your days seeking out the local wildlife in the company of a guide indigenous to the Arctic. Sample traditional

Aboriginal food including caribou, ptarmigan and bannock. Learn about Aboriginal culture with evening presentations along with slide shows and videos about the Churchill area. Share in this closely guarded secret of naturalists and wildlife photographers from around the world. Contact 1-204-675-2114 or www.watchee.com.

More spectacular polar bear tours, including a Black and White Bear Adventure, are available from Frontiers North (www.frontiersnorth.com), The Great Canadian Travel Company (www.greatcanadiantravel.com) and Churchill Nature Tours (www.churchillnaturetours.com).

Unforgettable Manitoba. Belugas.

Birds, Bears and Belugas

Combine the best of the north with belugas and bears together in their natural habitat on this summer extravaganza. Prepare to be awestruck as bears come within eyesight of the Seal River Heritage Lodge. Thrill at the exclusive opportunity to see beluga whales in the river's estuary. Or jump in the water to swim and snorkel among these friendly marine mammals. Anticipate seeing over 100 bird species, including ptarmigan, Ross's and Bonaparte gulls, Smith's Longspur and jaegers. Contact 1-866-846-9453 or www.churchillwild.com.

Sea Canaries of the North

Relax in your private berth and watch the changing landscape on the train to Churchill, Manitoba. Discover the area's colourful history and culture with local guides. Listen to the vocalizations of pods of playful beluga whales on a three-hour boat tour that includes an interpretive stop at the historic Prince of Wales Fort. Can't get enough of these lovable and intelligent creatures? Get up close with the 'Sea Canaries of the North' on a one-hour zodiac trip on this Churchill Beluga Whale Tour. Contact 1-800-661-3830 or www.greatcanadiantravel.com.

Whale Watchers Dream Tour

While away your day watching thousands of beluga whales that converge off the coast of Churchill. Using the comfort of Lazy Bear Lodge as your home base, spend the rest of your weekend getting to know the culture and heritage of the Churchill area. Learn about the natural history and wildlife of the north with a must-stop at the polar bear jail. Add a beluga snorkeling or kayaking adventure package to make your trip even more memorable. Taste the north with a caribou pepper steak or pan fried arctic char dinner. Contact 1-866-OUR-BEAR or www.lazybearlodge.com.

Belugas, Birds and Blooms

Join thousands of belugas as they summer and feed in the warmer waters of the Churchill River. Make eye contact with the snowy white whales that congregate here. Build an itinerary that includes snorkeling, kayaking, hiking and tours of the Churchill area. Shop for hand-made Inuit wall hangings and stone carvings – a distinctive reminder of a spectacular adventure. Contact 1-204-949-2050 or www.frontiersnorth.com.

Unforgettable Manitoba. Birds.

‘Call of the Loon’ Wildlife Safari

Share in the natural treasures and wildlife adventures that abound in Riding Mountain National Park. Take a soft-adventure wildlife holiday through the Riding Mountain Guest Ranch that offers you an opportunity to see, photograph and learn about several of North America’s wildlife species, such as black bear, moose, elk and marten among many, many more... plus 260 species of birds. Combine your wildlife safaris with mountain biking, hiking or skiing on 400 km of trails in the national park. Contact 1-866-517-9501 or www.ridingmountain.ca.

Arctic Birding Off the Beaten Path

Be part of the migration following birds off the beaten path, away from the road system and into the diverse and changing habitats of the Churchill region. Leisurely walk through the pristine boreal forest, taiga, tundra and marine ecosystems that surround Churchill with local naturalists and guides. Learn about the wildlife, history, culture and geology/fossils. Possible sightings of wildlife include polar bear, caribou, ringed and bearded seals, red and Arctic fox, and Arctic hare. Take only pictures. Leave only footprints. Contact 1-204-675-2147 or www.nature1sttours.ca.

Unforgettable Manitoba. Paddling.

Paddle Back in Time on the Hayes

Time-travel back to Canada’s fur trade days paddling the historic Hayes River. Witness the changing personality of the Hayes – from a spirited river with pool-and-drop rapids to a great northern river, characterized by steep gravel banks and long, continuous Class I-II rapids. End your journey with a visit to York Factory, the oldest trading post in Western Canada. Glimpse life as it was during the height of the fur trade era when the Hudson's Bay Company was at its most powerful. Contact 1-866-284-4072 or www.northernsoul.ca.

Sea Kayak Bays and Islands

Find a birder’s paradise sea kayaking Lake Winnipegosis and Lake Manitoba, the summer nesting sites for the American pelican and bald eagle plus numerous shorebirds, warblers and ducks. A sense of expansive wilderness prevails on these large lakes with relatively small areas of human habitation. Bring your fishing gear for walleye, pike and perch. Bring your camera for great photos every time you turn. Contact 1-204-638-0494 or www.whitepelicankayaktours.ca.

Feast, Pictographs and Traditional Sweat on the Bloodvein

Experience unsurpassed diversity paddling the Bloodvein Canadian Heritage River. Combine cultural sites, views of moose and eagles, ancient granite cliffs, tranquil marshlands, and exciting rapids to create a favourite for river-runners, naturalists and photographers alike. For those who like to angle, northern pike and walleye await. Participate in a traditional native feast at the adventure’s end along with a sweat lodge ceremony provided by the people of the Bloodvein First Nation. All skill levels welcome. Contact 1-866-425-9430 or www.redriveroutfitters.ca.

Land of the Little Sticks

Twist and wind on the Deer River through the Land-of-the-Little-Sticks to ultimately paddle alongside beluga whales. Keep binoculars handy for sightings of caribou and moose not to mention thousands of birds. Watch the landscape shift from the furthest reaches of northern boreal forest to the namesake stunted trees or 'little sticks' found in the sub-arctic. Glide along the Deer all the way to Churchill, the summer home of thousands of belugas. Thrill at a unique wildlife encounter up close with these playful creatures. Contact 1-866-284-4072 or www.northernsoul.ca.

Seals, Caribou, Eskers and Eagles

Come face to face with vast, remote northern wilderness on the Canadian Heritage Seal River. Paddle breathtaking rapids, float past harbour seals, fish for Arctic grayling and unwind on beautiful sand beaches. Hike atop the seemingly endless glacial eskers and discover numerous prehistoric archeological sites. Take a beluga whale watching tour upon arriving in Churchill. Contact 1-866-287-1591 or www.wildernessspirit.com.

Unforgettable Manitoba. By Foot or By Pedal.

Spirits of '42 POW Camp Bike Trip

Peddle on mountain bike into the heart of elk and moose habitat in Riding Mountain National Park to discover mammal tracks and the remains of a German Prisoner of War (POW) Camp. Hear stories about the life of German POWs in this backcountry site far from the battle lines in North Africa. See the foundations of the camp and flowers planted by the German soldiers that still survive today. Contact 1-888-301-0030 or www.earthrhythms.ca.

Become a Prairie Pathfinder

Join like-minded trekkers in the Prairie Pathfinders Walking Club to explore trails in every nook and cranny of southern Manitoba. Choose from day hikes or weekend options, such as the Turtle Mountain Hiking Holiday, which harks back to a time when grass covered the western plains and early inhabitants hunted bison. Delve into the rich early history of the area on three interpretive day hikes that also include a visit to a birders' paradise at Whitewater Lake. Top off the weekend with an historic walking tour of the community of Souris, Manitoba. Contact 1-204-774-0190 or www.prairiepathfinders.mb.ca.

Paddle, Bike & Hike Riding Mountain

Spend four active days exploring Riding Mountain National Park by kayak, canoe, mountain bike and on foot. All wrapped up in one adventure package, this tour is designed for those who love the outdoors, but also appreciate the creature comforts of a home-base lodge at night. Contact 1-204-638-0494 or www.whitepelican kayaktours.ca.

Unforgettable Manitoba. Fishing.

Fly Fishing & Massage for Two

Combine fly fishing lessons for couples with romance and relaxation at North Knife Lake Lodge. Indulge in a massage and spa treatment between casting sessions while you revel in a luxurious lodge and exceptional cuisine. Contact 1-888-WEBBERS or www.webberslodges.com/northknife.

Recapture the Remote, Experience the Exclusive

Delve into remote, sub-arctic wilderness at the exclusive Big Sand Lake Lodge. Reel in northern pike, lake trout, walleye and Arctic grayling from the waters of Big Sand or fly in to other remote lakes for the day. Take a break with an ATV trip along the top of the glacial esker that borders the lakeshore or lounge in the Jacuzzi and sauna. Enjoy the privacy and exclusivity of a world class fishing lodge, sharing this remote lake only with other guests. Contact 1-800-348-5824 (U.S.) / 1-204-774-666 or www.bigsandlakelodge.com.

Sunsets & Fish Tales

Share your fish stories around the 26-foot stone fireplace at Grass River Lodge. Land that dream 20 lb northern pike or tell the story of how it got away over complimentary cocktails and hors d'oeuvres each evening in the glow of a northern Manitoba sunset. Cast your line in Reed Lake or fly into remote lakes for the day. Contact 1-204-358-7171 or www.grassriverlodge.com.

Catfish Country

Combine city life and catfish with a two-night stay at a downtown Winnipeg hotel and a half-day guided fishing trip to Selkirk, the Catfish Capital of North America. Try your luck at landing a monster in the Red River around Selkirk, known for producing some catfish weighing more than 50 pounds. Switch back to urban mode for an eclectic and exceptional dining experience at Mise. Be sure to save room for a luscious dessert. Contact 1-800-661-3830 or www.greatcanadiantravel.com.

Unforgettable Manitoba. Family Time.

All Aboard!

Embark on a train journey across the prairies aboard fully restored vintage rail coaches built between 1901-1913. During your journey on the Prairie Dog Central, enjoy a stop at the Country Markets of Grosse Isle and Warren, Manitoba. Craft and food vendors are on site or bring your own basket for a good old fashioned family picnic. Includes one night's accommodation at the Delta Winnipeg, train tickets for 2 adults and 2 children, and parking for one vehicle. Contact 1-877-814-7706 or www.deltahotels.com.

Festive Family Getaway – Winter Wonderland

Treat your family to a great stay with child's play and a drive-through light display. Stay in a Kid's Theme Room at a participating Canad Inns Hotel in Winnipeg (Fort Garry, Polo Park or Garden City locations) and enjoy two Winnipeg holiday traditions – Santa's Village at the Manitoba Children's Museum and Canad Inns Winter Wonderland at Red River Exhibition Park. Includes a one night stay in a Kid's Theme room, \$25 Canad Inns gift card for food & beverage,

a family pass to the Manitoba Children's Museum, and a family pass to Canad Inns Winter Wonderland. Contact 1-877-863-2952 or www.canadinns.com

Hey Ho! Le Festival du Voyageur

Experience the joie de vivre of Manitoba's francophone communities at the annual Festival du Voyageur, western Canada's largest winter festival, with fiddling, jigging, contemporary music, cultural cuisine, magnificent snow sculptures, historic fort, and much more. Includes two nights accommodation at The Fairmont Winnipeg, 10-day pass to the Festival du Voyageur, one breakfast and one dinner at the Festival du Voyageur, admission to the Saint-Boniface Museum and a souvenir gift. Contact 1-204-254-3170 or www.otours.net.

Dig for Fossils on the Manitoba Escarpment

Venture back to Cretaceous times when dinosaurs walked the earth and great sea reptiles ruled the oceans. Become a paleontologist as you join the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre's excavation team in Manitoba's scenic Pembina Hills. Begin your two-day fossil excursion with a tour of the Discovery Centre in Morden, Manitoba, followed by an exciting talk and identification session by a paleontologist and geologist. Work alongside Centre staff as they uncover 80-million-year-old mosasaur and fish fossils. Imagine being the first to lay eyes on a fossil you have just uncovered! Accommodations are provided at local bed & breakfasts. Half and one day digs are also available. Contact 1-204-822-3406 or www.discoverfossils.com.

Unforgettable Manitoba. Romance.

Aaaahhhh

Pamper yourself on this luxury escape for two with a relaxing Couples Massage at the Riverstone Spa. Receive a 60-minute Swedish massage followed by a bottle of sparkling wine and chocolate dipped strawberries delivered to your room. Spend a relaxing night at Inn at the Forks followed by hot breakfast or the delicious Sunday Brunch. Includes parking. Contact 1-877-377-4100 or www.innattheforks.com.

Limber on the Fairways

Fore! Play a round of golf at the challenging Winkler Golf Course then switch scenery for a second round at the Minnewasta Golf Club in Morden. Work out your sore muscles with a one-hour massage at the Heartland Resort and Conference Centre in Winkler, Manitoba. Includes a one night stay where you can continue to unwind in the therapeutic mineral pool, Jacuzzi tub and steam room. Contact 1-800-829-4920 or www.heartlandresort.net.

Love Potion Number Nine

Unique and delicious recipes at The Fairmont Winnipeg extend beyond culinary excellence to create Love Potion Number Nine. This recipe combines several luxurious ingredients to create the ultimate romantic escape. Awaken your senses with a gourmet dinner for two in The Velvet Glove, Winnipeg's premiere fine dining experience, one nights accommodation for two, a bottle of Fairmont Select Alain Vesselle champagne and chocolate-covered strawberries in the privacy of your room, breakfast for two delivered to your door, complimentary valet parking, a late

checkout of 3:00 p.m. and a Do Not Disturb sign. Contact 1-204-957-1350 or www.fairmont.com/winnipeg.

Unbridled Passion

Fall in love with a guided romantic ride for two. Discover the freedom and wonder of horses as you mosey about and relax with the best of traditional ranch activities with modern outdoor fun in the idyllic setting of Whiteshell Provincial Park. Hang up your cowboy hat and delight in a two-night stay in your private log cabin. Snuggle in comfy bathrobes, enjoy the outdoor hot tub and sip champagne. Contact 1-877-949-2410 or www.falconbeachranch.com.

Chocolate Spa Romance

Satisfy your love for chocolate and each other at the Elkhorn Resort Spa & Conference Centre on the edge of Riding Mountain National Park. Indulge the senses with two Chocolate Spa Treatments and two spa lunches. Includes two nights accommodation in a deluxe fireplace room, a bottle of champagne and complimentary movies. Contact 1-866-ELKHORN or www.elkhornresort.mb.ca.

Hamam Retreat for Two

Surrender to the immense pleasure of hamam – a modern re-interpretation of the ancient hot air bathing ritual of the Turkish bath at Ten Spa. In the comfort of your own room, the pleasure continues with a rose oil massage, essential oil toning facial, spa lunch and champagne. Cleanse your soul and detoxify your body at Ten Spa, encompassing the entire tenth floor of Fort Garry Hotel in downtown Winnipeg. Contact 1-866-585-0772 or www.tenspa.ca.

Unforgettable Manitoba. Women Only.

Official Pajama Party

Throw an Official Pajama Party! Gather 4 to 8 friends in one of the hospitality suites at Inn at the Forks. Your gal-pals-only overnighiter includes use of custom monogrammed OPP spa robes, hot pink feather boas and pink slippers for you to keep, plus two disposable cameras. Personal estheticians will attend to your suite to provide individual manicures while you sip on signature Chocolate Kiss martinis for each person along with wine. Later, a fruit platter and chocolate dipped strawberries will arrive to tantalize your taste sensations. After your evening of fun, enjoy a hot breakfast or the delicious Sunday Brunch. Contact 1-877-377-4100 or www.innattheforks.com.

Decadent Diva

You don't need a reason to pamper yourself, but The Fairmont Winnipeg will give you two: Martinis & Chocolate. The Decadent Diva package entitles you and a girlfriend to a night of unrivalled comfort complete with decadent chocolate pralines and an elegant martini in The Lounge. Check in early and check out as late as 5 p.m., because if you're going to spoil yourself, you want to do it in style. Includes one night luxury accommodations, specialty chocolate pralines, one Signature martini per guest in The Lounge, and guaranteed late checkout of 5 p.m. Contact (204) 957-1350 or www.fairmont.com/winnipeg.

Women's Get-away Weekend

Because you're worth it! Treat yourself to two nights accommodation at the Clarion Hotel, a one-day pass for the Mineral Pool plus stay & play Casino vouchers (\$30 value per person), a bottle of blush wine, manicure and lotions. Contact 1-877-254-3170 or www.otours.net.

Gals Great Getaway

Spend some serious relaxation time with your favourite friends at Walkinshaw Place. Luxuriate in this 1907 Victorian bed and breakfast with its country setting on the edge of the Turtle Mountains. Hike or cross-country ski the private trail system, lounge in the outdoor hot tub or laze about on wicker furniture while soaking in the view from the two-story veranda. Enjoy a welcome gift for each gal and Victorian 'High Tea' brunch along with dinner out one evening in an area restaurant. Contact 1-888-739-2579 or www.mts.net/~walkinpl.

Hamam Warm Mud Party

Bring your best friends to Ten Spa in downtown Winnipeg for an exclusive, otherworldly experience. Start with an aromatic salt scrub followed by specially selected body and face muds and clays supplemented with soft steam on heated marble. Float out of this heavenly environment supple and relaxed. Make the mellowness last with an overnight stay, including a fabulous hot breakfast, at Fort Garry Hotel. Contact 1-866-585-0772 or www.tenspa.ca.

Canoe Diva Adventures

Discover the joy of paddling a remote wilderness river with other like-minded enthusiastic women. Share the wonder, simplicity and sense of independence of being on the water in a supportive environment. Take time out of your busy life to experience a women-only adventure designed in the best spirit of wilderness travel. Contact 1-866-284-4072 or www.northernsoul.ca.

Unforgettable Manitoba. Get Cultured.

Manitoba Historical Fur Trade Tour

Journey to Norway House along the northern shores of Lake Winnipeg to tour historic Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) buildings and learn about the York boat and its role in the fur trade. Feast on Arctic char or caribou in Churchill, Manitoba and board a zodiac to visit Sloop Cove and Prince of Wales Fort with a tour by Parks Canada experts. Travel to York Factory and learn about this site that was once considered the gateway between Europe and all of western and northern Canada for the HBC. Contact 1-866-890-3377 or www.heartlandtravel.ca.

First Nations Heart and Soul Tour

Visit the Circle of Life Thunderbird House in Winnipeg, a gathering place and focal point for learning, sharing and understanding as well as an important site for ceremonies and spiritual services. Paddle historic waterways on a canoe trip with guides from Northern Soul and finish up your weekend by exploring the Manitoba Museum. Includes two nights accommodation in a downtown Winnipeg hotel. Contact 1-800-661-3830 or www.greatcanadiantravel.com.

Saint-Boniface – Where it's Cool to Say Bonjour

Stroll through the Maison Gabrielle Roy House, childhood home of the celebrated Franco-Manitoban author, reflecting life in 1918. Continue through the French Quarter to Saint-Boniface Museum, located in Winnipeg's oldest building, a former Grey Nuns' convent. Share a romantic dinner for two aboard La Vieille Gare, featuring haute cuisine française in an historic railway station complete with train car. Includes a souvenir and two nights accommodation at the Norwood Hotel plus continental breakfast. Contact 1-204-254-3170 or www.otours.net.

Why Call it a Night?

Enjoy an escape for two for an evening with Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet...but why call it a night? Create your own *pas de deux* or retire for the evening to the Delta Hotel for a nightcap followed by a sumptuous sleep snuggled against a down pillow and duvet. Luxuriate in the amenities of this 4½-star hotel. Relax over a continental breakfast for two before you depart, well rested and entertained. Contact 1-888-311-4990 or www.deltawinnipeg.com.

See All Our Saints

Obtain your passport to Winnipeg's French Quarter with admission for the Saint-Boniface Museum, Mason Gabrielle Roy House and Riel House along with the Royal Canadian Mint and the Theatre in the Cemetery. Also receive discounts on a guided Saint-Boniface walking tour and a 20% discount at one of the area's fine restaurants including La Vieille Gare, Chez Cora, Aladdin Chez Sophie and Le Croissant. Includes one night at Delta Winnipeg and a souvenir key chain. Contact 1-888-311-4990 or www.deltawinnipeg.com.

Unforgettable Manitoba. Explore & Learn.

Wild Elk & Wolf Poop

Want to step into the shoes of researchers who are studying cool wildlife and wild systems? Combine outdoor adventure in Riding Mountain National Park and learning with Canadian Research Adventures©. Radio-track wild elk movements and learn how they move about or get the scoop on wolf poop and wolf hairs to investigate the genetics of wolves and wolf pack behaviour. Contact 1-888-301-0030 or www.earthrhythms.ca.

Experience Mantonio Wilderness

Begin this hands-on trip with an exhilarating full day's paddle over 7 lakes and 6 portages, followed by three days at a rustic, isolated island cabin. Choose from expert-led educationally themed weeks offered by the Manitoba Naturalists Society such as photography, astronomy, botany, orienteering, tai chi and wildlife observation. Add to your enjoyment of wild Mantonio with hiking, exploring, fishing, refreshing swims and evenings spent in the wood-fired sauna. Learn canoeing techniques and basic wilderness skills from experienced instructors. Contact 1-204-943-9029 or www.manitobanature.ca.

First Nations Crafts: Soapstone Carving and Caribou Hair Tufting

Discover native traditions passed on from generation to generation and gain a greater appreciation of the culture of the First Nations peoples on this three-day getaway at Bakers Narrows Lodge. Experiment with soapstone carving under the helpful guidance of world class carver Irvin Head, create a wall hanging using the art of caribou hair tufting, learn about native

medicinal herbs, and make your own miniature teepee. Listen to the ancestral heartbeat of a traditional chant by a group of First Nations singers. Contact 1-866-603-6390 or www.bakersnarrowslodge.com.

Fire & Ice Adventure

Delight in a winter fantasyland of sculptured snow and ice brought to life under the brilliance of the Arctic sun and the dancing Aurora Borealis. A Northern Lights holiday for adventurous souls! Immerse yourself in Arctic culture – experience the challenge and excitement of travel by dog sled, build an igloo, cook bannock over an open fire. Explore the paths of ancient explorers, across the Churchill River to the historic Prince of Wales Fort. Embrace this wild and rugged land in comfort. Contact 1-866-UGO-WILD (846-9453) or www.churchillwild.com.

Sub-Arctic Survivor: Tradition and Culture of Winter Survival

Find out how the Cree, Dene, Inuit and European peoples of past centuries adapted and thrived on the coastline of Hudson Bay with this in-depth journey into the traditions of life in the Arctic offered by the Churchill Northern Studies Centre. Sleep outside (if you like...) in an igloo or quinzhee that you have built with your own hands. Learn about traditional clothing, skin preparation and sewing. Take a traditional dog sled ride through the taiga. Hike along the windswept, rugged coastline of Churchill. Explore life in a northern community and discover the challenges and rewards of Arctic living! Contact 1-204-675-2307 or www.churchillmb.net/~cnsc/.

Explore Brandon's Military Pride

Tour the Commonwealth Air Training Plane Museum with a World War II veteran as your guide. Ride in a military vehicle after a guided tour of the Royal Canadian Artillery Museum. Talk over lunch at the "Flatlands All Ranks Dining Hall" with some of today's finest artillery personnel. Includes coupons for \$10 discounts at the both museum gift shops and one night accommodation at Brandon's Super 8 Motel. Enjoy in-room chocolates, bottled water, a movie, and begin your day with two SuperStart Plus breakfasts. Contact 1-204-729-8024 or www.super8brandon.com.

Unforgettable Manitoba. Action.

Snowmobile the Wind-Swept Arctic

Imagine an open white landscape, softly lit by the Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights), the colours blending with the stars and landing on a gently undulating wind-swept architecture. Take an awe-inspiring snowmobile adventure from Churchill, Manitoba – the Polar Bear Capital of the World – to Nunavut, land of the Inuit. Journey alongside caribou, wolves, bears, seals and more, stopping at different lodges and motels along the way. Experience the joy, the wonder, the serene beauty of the Great North. Contact 1-888-497-2004 or www.gyrfalconexpedition.com.

Travel the Trapper's Train

Start your train adventure in Winnipeg's historic Union Station with a tour of the Winnipeg Railway Museum. Board VIA's Hudson Bay train and travel to The Pas, Manitoba overnight in a Northern Spirit sleeper car. Join the celebrations of the Trappers' Festival, Manitoba's oldest

winter festival that began in 1916. Explore the diverse cultural heritage of the northern pioneer and experience the skills and activities practiced by the early pioneers. Events include tree felling, woodcutting, wood splitting, canoe packing, flour packing, trap setting, moose calling and bannock baking. Visit the eclectic Sam Waller Museum and the historic Hudson Bay Railway Roundhouse. Cap off the tour with a reception in the Hudson Bay's dining car before returning to Winnipeg. Contact 1-866-704-3528 or www.railtraveltours.com.

Experience the North Summer Tour

See and do it all with this northern tour based at Bakers Narrows Lodge. Fly in to fish remote lakes, canoe the Mistik Creek and camp overnight in the wilderness with an interpretive guide, pan for gold on a geologist-guided tour of an old mine, learn the northern art form of caribou hair-tufting, take in a native traditions workshop and learn the use of native medicinal herbs for optimum health, and much more. Choose among a variety of options, such as an all-day sculpting class with world renowned master sculptor Irvin Head or spend a day at the Aseneskak Casino in The Pas, Manitoba. Contact 1-866-603-6390 or www.bakersnarrowslodge.com.

Ride the 'End of the Road' Cat Train

Travel into the past on an incredible winter adventure demonstrating a now obsolete mode of transportation. Cat Trains serviced the North from the mid-1920s to the mid-70s until they were replaced with today's modern equipment. Experience the incredible endurance of the Cat Train Skinners, our Northern Pioneers, as they show you the history of the area, the beautiful scenery and natural wildlife in a remote winter environment. Share in their enjoyment of the winter in Northern Manitoba at "the end of the Road" on a multi-day trip hauling freight or travelling the trails. Sleep in a caboose and enjoy Canadian Ice Wine with your supper meal. Under supervision and assistance, get hands-on with the equipment and opt to travel in the Bombardier. Contact 1-204-356-8845 or www.cattraintours.ca.

Soar Amongst the Clouds

Glide the skies above Winnipeg on this sightseeing flight tour of the city that includes a two night stay in a downtown Winnipeg hotel and admission to the Western Canadian Aviation Museum. A must-see for aviation buffs, the museum houses 23 vintage aircraft and stimulating interactive displays. Contact 1-800-661-3830 or www.greatcanadiantravel.com.

By Sea & Sky

See Winnipeg from the ground and the air with a sightseeing boat tour on the city's waterways and a hot air balloon ride. Get your feet on somewhat more solid ground with dinner at the Royal Crown Revolving Restaurant, a Winnipeg landmark that provides its own panoramic downtown view from the 30th floor of Fort Garry Place. Includes two nights accommodation in a downtown Winnipeg hotel. Contact 1-800-661-3830 or www.greatcanadiantravel.com.

Unforgettable Manitoba. Incentives.

Stars Shine Brighter at Aikens Lake

Deliver a well deserved reward to your corporate star performers or star clients in an atmosphere of fun and relaxation at Aikens Lake Wilderness Lodge. Exciting fishing is the catalyst for great

camaraderie and social interaction. Pro-Staff guides can teach the green horns the basics or dazzle the avid angler with great catches. Ensure continued effort and enhanced performance by your “stars” with a high level corporate retreat at Aikens Lake. Contact 1-800-565-2595 or www.aikenslake.com.

Hit the Links

Hit the links with your preferred clients or reward your staff with a round on one of Manitoba’s exceptional golf courses. Quarry Oaks corporate packages provide unrestricted golf passes on this spectacular 27-hole course that is reminiscent of the best Scottish designs. Enjoy all of the amenities of a private club with a clubhouse that is perfect for corporate golf outings and tournaments. Contact 1-866-948-4563 or www.golfquarry.com.

Build Your Team

Custom team-building experiences and corporate incentives are delivered by Earth Rhythms against the beautiful backdrop of Riding Mountain National Park. Features Appreciative Inquiry processes, outdoor adventures, creative cuisine and professional facilitation for those seeking innovative professional development and training solutions. Contact 1-888-301-0030 or www.earthrhythms.ca.

Meetings and Massages

De-stress with treatments at The Solstice Spa that will restore and rejuvenate your employees or clients after a day of meetings at Elkhorn Resort. Soak in the healing waters of the Equinox Mineral Pool to work out any stiffness after shooting a round of challenging golf at Clear Lake. Combine business with rewards and relaxation in a natural setting next to Riding Mountain National Park. Contact 1-866-ELKHORN or www.elkhornresort.mb.ca.

For more: www.travelmanitoba.com