

24 Hours in Riding Mountain National Park



We've been to Clear Lake many times.

We've breathed that sprucey boreal air, marveled at the craftsmanship of the log building and consumed more cream-cheese covered cinnamon buns from Whitehouse Bakery than any family should. But it wasn't until our most

recent trip that we discovered something new — Riding Mountain National Park is huge and there are wow moments around every curve.

Breathtaking vistas, up close and personal encounters, pleasurable indulgences — RMNP has it all!

The locals at the gas station told us that fishing was great at Lake Audy right about now. So off we went, heading northwest from Clear Lake. On the way noticed some signs that talked about a herd of plains bison that make their home in the park. We came around a bend and there they were — shaggy, horned and huge!

We stepped out of the truck to get a closer look and take some pictures. We could hear them munching on the grass — we could almost feel their heavy footfalls. It was like we had stepped back 200 years. How wonderful to see these creatures ambling across the grassy prairies.

After many, many photographs, we tore ourselves away from the bison and rounded the corner for Lake Audy. While a day of fishing had been the plan, we were perfectly content to park

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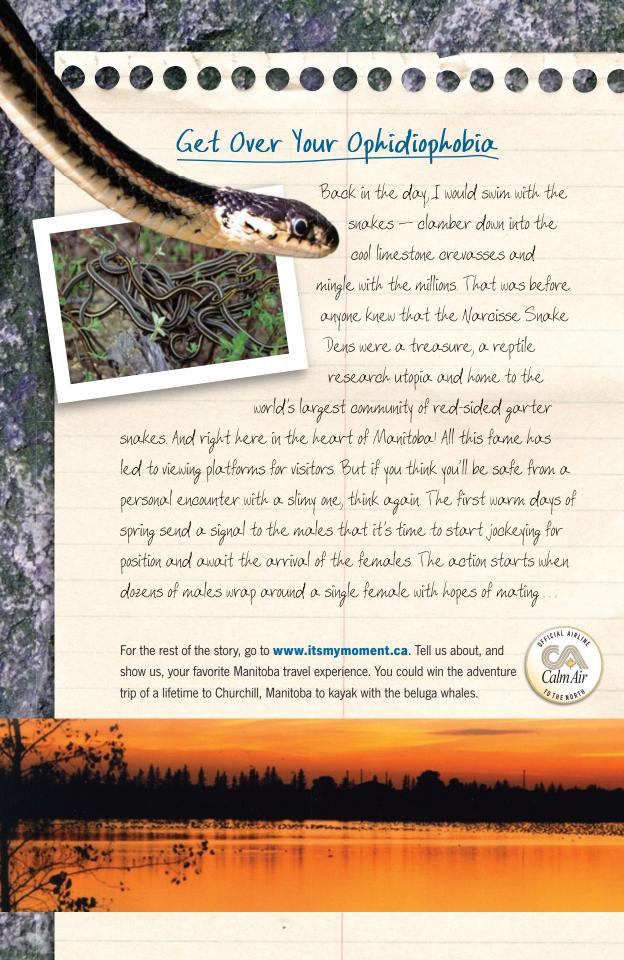
Calm Air

ourselves in lawn chairs at the lakeshore, light a campfire and wait for one of those famous Manitoba sunsets to put on yet another spectacular show.

For the full story, go to www.itsmymoment.ca. Tell us about, and show us, your favorite Manitoba travel experience. You could win the adventure trip of a lifetime to Churchill, Manitoba to kayak with the beluga whales.

The Park's herd of bison is one of the last remnants of the vast herds that once roamed the prairies in centuries past.





Yes, We're Still in Winnipeg!

It's hard to believe that a 10-minute drive can get us from a zooming city street to a breathtaking wildlife scene. Under a stand of poplars just a few metres away, a pair of white-tailed deer gingerly poke through the last of the snow looking for those first tender grass shoots. Believe it or not, we're still inside the city limits. This is Fort Whyte Alive, so close and yet, as they say, worlds away. It's March and spring is anxious to show off. The ice on the ponds has turned blue gray. In fact, there's the shimmer of water at the far end and that must be the destination for the honkers overhead. At first there was a single honk. Now it might not seem like a big deal, but in these parts, the first Canada goose of the season means only one thing. Spring has arrived! Soon there are dozens of geese

From slithery snakes to cute fawns, the unforgettable wildlife watching opportunities abound in Manitoba.

dropping their landing gear and skittering across the wet ice, looking very much like a clown troupe in the middle of a performance ...

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The Beluga's Smile

The first time I saw the belugas was from directly overhead. I was lucky enough to hitch an afternoon ride with a biology team aboard a shaky old DeHavilland, outfitted with the equivalent of lawn chairs for seats. The team on board was used to seeing



the otherworldly sights of Churchill and didn't think much of the show in the Churchill River as we zoomed toward Hudson Bay.

"What is that!" I screamed over the headset. I couldn't figure out what I was seeing. Bat-shaped objects, glowing

floating in an inky green river. Hundreds of them, maybe thousands.

Unforgettable Manitoba Monen "That would be the belugas," one of the boys answered. He had seen them a million times. But I hadn't and vowed to one day get a

closer look. My day came many years later ...

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Footsteps of the Voyageurs

Join Wilderness Spirit on some of the most pristine, undisturbed, wilderness canoeing adventures in Canada.

To book this package visit www.itsmymoment.ca Visits to historic sites

Package Includes:

- Once in a lifetime sweat lodge experience
- Guided beluga whale watching

Starting at:

World Class Fishing

Enjoy your stay at the luxurious Inn at the Forks with fantastic fishing right at your front door. To book this package visit www.itsmymoment.ca

Package Includes:

- One night stay
- Four hour guided fishing trip for two

Package Price: \$44<u>900</u> \$29<u>900*</u>

Based on double occupancy and two anglers, standard room, taxes extra. *Single angler



The Royal Oak

The Ultimate Outdoor Experience

This is an experience for any armchair warrior, challenging but not extreme. All who have tried, have survived. To book this package visit www.itsmymoment.ca

Package Includes:

- 1 night in a junior or family suite
- 1 day use of GPS for Geocaching
- Disposable camera

Package Price:

\$169<u>99</u> Plus taxes March 15 – Dec. 30, 2008, subject to availability

Discover Winnipeg by Canoe

Paddle your way through the history of Winnipeg's fur-trade era. Explore the urban wilderness of Winnipeg from the rivers shores. No experience "Preferred".

To book this package visit www.itsmymoment.ca

We Offer:

- Group tours
- Yoga Canoe
- Custom family trips

Package Price: \$<u>8900</u>





Riding Mountain Adventure

Located in a spectacular parkland setting, choose Elkhorn Resort for an exciting family getaway or couples getaway.

To book this package visit www.itsmymoment.ca

Package Includes:

- 2 nights accommodation 2 one day park passes
- Geo Caching Quest

Package Price:

Per night plus taxes and gratuity. Package expires Dec 2008.

Northern Mush! ... Summer or Winter

Capture the Spirit of the North by dog team and stay at Bluesky Bed & Sled, renowned for delicious breakfasts.

To book this package visit www.itsmymoment.ca

Package Includes:

- 3 nights accommodation
- Breakfast
- Sled dog tours

Starting at:

\$350<u>00</u> Plus taxes March 1, 2008 – Feb 28, 2009 (excluding Oct/Nov, 2008)





Natural Escape

Explore the wooded trails of Hecla Island. Discover birds, bugs, flowers and fungi that make the island special.

To book this package visit www.itsmymoment.ca

Package Includes:

- One night at Hecla Resort
- Guided walking tour
- \$20/person lunch voucher

Package Price:

\$35000* \$46000**

*2 adults. **Family of 4. April 15 -Oct. 20, 2008, subject to availability.

Island Birding Adventure

Join naturalist, Dr. Heather Hinam exploring Hecla Island's bird watching highlights and take in what the island has to offer.

To book this package visit www.itsmymoment.ca

Package Includes:

- Two nights at Hecla Resort
- Birding tour with picnic lunch
- \$15/person breakfast voucher

2 adults. May 24 - Oct. 12, 2008, subject to availability





Price:



