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FALL IN CANADA: FROM COASTAL PEAKS TO POLAR BEAR COUNTRY

VANCOUVER - VICTORIA - TOFINO - WHISTLER - WINNIPEG - CHURCHCHILL

From the Pacific to the Arctic, this fall journey through Canada invites you to discover a land of striking contrasts and unforgettable moments. Begin in vibrant Vancouver and the artistic charm of Victoria before crossing Vancouver Island's forests and coastlines toward the wild beauty of Tofino. Continue to alpine Whistler and the cosmopolitan energy of Winnipeg, where Indigenous history meets modern creativity. Then, journey north to the edge of the Arctic in Churchill—timed perfectly to witness the majestic polar bears in their natural habitat during their annual migration. Throughout the trip, you'll explore iconic cities, breathtaking parks, and deeply rooted cultures, all painted in the rich colors of fall. This is Canada in its most magical season—diverse, wild, and soul-stirring.

Region Northern Canada
Activity Nature - Adventure

O Duration 18 days

Code AUSBEARSVANPrice From €10,888

½ Level 2/5☐ Comfort 4/5

ITINERARY

♥ Day 1 Vancouver



Welcome to Vancouver, one of the most beautiful and cosmopolitan cities in North America. Known for its stunning natural landscapes and cultural diversity, it is also one of the most densely populated cities in Canada. Whether you're drawn to the city's vibrant neighborhoods or its breathtaking views, Vancouver promises a perfect blend of modernity and nature that will captivate you from the very first moment.

-Accommodation: Hotel

• Day 2 Vancouver



Today, dive into the best of Vancouver! Start with a stroll through Stanley Park, explore the vibrant streets of Chinatown, and visit cultural highlights like the Museum of Anthropology and the acclaimed Vancouver Aquarium. For a panoramic view of the city, take the elevator to the Vancouver Lookout and soak in breathtaking vistas of the skyline, harbor, and surrounding mountains.

-Accomodation: Hotel

• Day 3 Vancouver



Continue your exploration of Vancouver, diving into its diverse neighborhoods like trendy Kitsilano and historic Gastown. Savor the local culture by strolling through charming streets filled with unique shops, lively bars, and delicious restaurants. Then pick-up you rental car and visit the Capilano Suspension Bridge—offering breathtaking views high above the forested canyon.

Suggested activity (\$):

- Capilano suspended bridge

-Accommodation: Hotel

♥ Day 4 Vancouver / Victoria



Leave Vancouver early in the morning and take a scenic ferry ride to Victoria. Once you arrive, immerse yourself in the charm of this city, with its picturesque harbor and rich history just waiting to be explored.

- -Accommodation: Hotel
- -Transportation: 115km approx., 3h30 approx.

♥ Day 5 Victoria



Start your day in Victoria with a relaxing stroll along the scenic Inner Harbour, taking in the Parliament Buildings and Fairmont Empress Hotel. Visit the stunning Butchart Gardens, known for its vibrant floral displays and peaceful atmosphere. In the evening, explore Government Street's mix of Victorian charm, boutique shops, and dining options, then enjoy a delicious waterfront dinner with views of the harbor.

-Accommodation: Hotel

Day 6 Victoria / Tofino



Leave Victoria and head towards Tofino, enjoying a scenic drive through coastal towns and lush forests. Take in the stunning landscapes before arriving in Tofino, where a relaxed vibe and stunning ocean views await.

- -Accommodation: Hotel
- -Transportation: 317km approx., 4h30 approx.

Day 7 Tofino



Let yourself be charmed by the authentic atmosphere of Tofino and explore Pacific Rim National Park, an exceptional natural and cultural sanctuary. This park traces the fascinating history of the Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations and the European explorers who left their mark on this land. Follow in the footsteps of the past by exploring the archaeological sites and hiking trails that crisscross the park.

Suggested activity (\$):

-Wild Bears observation

-Accommodation: Hotel

Day 8 Tofino



Continue your Tofino adventure by witnessing the raw beauty of the Pacific coast as powerful waves crash against rugged shorelines, or explore quiet forest trails where ancient cedars stand tall amidst the mist. Embrace the wild, untamed spirit of Tofino while learning about the region's rich ecosystems and deep cultural connections to the land and sea.

Suggested activity (\$):

-Whale observation cruise

-Accommodation: Hotel

Day 9 Tofino / Whistler



Next, head to Whistler, a year-round alpine destination. In fall, the village is surrounded by vibrant autumn foliage and crisp mountain air, perfect for hiking, mountain biking, and scenic gondola rides. Enjoy peaceful walks through colorful trails and cozy up in the village's charming cafés and restaurants.

-Accommodation: Hotel

-Transportation: 364km approx., 6h30 approx.

♥ Day 10 Whistler



Immerse yourself in the beauty of nature as you explore a network of trails, each showcasing vibrant fall foliage, golden alpine meadows, and crisp, colorful forests. Every step reveals a new perspective of the breathtaking autumn landscape.

Suggested Activity (\$):

-Ziptrek tour

-Accommodation: Hotel

Day 11 Whistler



On your third day in Whistler, take it easy and enjoy the scenery. Start with a ride on the Peak 2 Peak Gondola for stunning mountain and valley views. Spend the afternoon hiking quiet forest trails or relaxing at a mountain spa. In the evening, enjoy a cozy dinner in the village, surrounded by alpine charm.

Day 12 Whistler / Vancouver



After exploring the wonders of Whistler, continue your journey back to Vancouver to get ready for the second part of your pure Canadian trip.

- -Accommodation: Hotel
- -Transportation: 120km approx., 1h40 approx.

♥ Day 13 Vancouver / Winnipeg



After flying to Winnipeg, a vibrant city in Canada's Manitonga province, you'll check into your accommodation. This portion of the trip is fully guided. Once settled, enjoy some free time to explore highlights like the colorful Exchange District, renowned for its architectural gems, and The Forks, a historic site with over 6,000 years of history. Take a walk across the impressive Esplanade Riel to St. Boniface, a charming neighborhood with a European flair and excellent dining options. Later, you'll meet your guide who will introduce you to the upcoming itinerary.

- -Accommodation: Hotel
- -Transportation: approx. 3h by plane

Day 14 Winnipeg/Churchill



Depart early in the morning for Churchill. Upon arrival, enjoy a guided tour of the city, visiting various local and historical landmarks surrounding the city. You'll visit Cape Merry, Churchill Harbour, and the International Polar Bear Conservation Center, among other attractions. By the end of the day, you'll be enriched with knowledge about the city of Churchill, the local flora and fauna, and gain a better understanding of the diverse impacts of climate change in this part of the world.

- -Accommodation: Hotel
- -Transportation: Approx. 2h30 by plane
 - Day 15 Churchill



Departure for the kingdom of the polar bears! Today, you will venture into the vast tundra where you will be able to observe the kings of the Arctic from your Tundra buggy (large all-terrain vehicle allowing you to observe the fauna and flora in complete safety). The phenomenal migration of the majestic polar bears takes place each year, when they prowl near the shores of Hudson Bay and wait for the ice floes to form. You will navigate the tundra in search of polar bears and other arctic fauna while your interpretive guide shares his knowledge about the lives of these incredible animals. After this first full day, you will return to Churchill where you will have free time to discover local specialties and popular places.

-Accommodation: Hotel

♥ Day 16 Churchill



This morning, you'll meet a local musher for an exciting activity: a dogsledding excursion! Dave, an expert in this discipline and a local resident, will teach you the history associated with this activity in Canada's Far North and share his personal stories about his wilderness adventures with his dogs. After preparations, you'll board the sled and enjoy an exhilarating ride of approximately 5 minutes behind a sturdy team of huskies. After lunch, you'll visit the Itsanitaq Museum, which displays numerous Indigenous artifacts and offers detailed explanations of the local culture.

-Accommodation: Hotel

Day 17 Winnipeg/Churchill



Depart early in the morning for another tundra buggy excursion. Enjoy this magical moment as you find yourself in the heart of nature. The beauty of the snowy landscapes unfolds before you, and this is the perfect opportunity to spot a polar bear once again. Lunch and refreshments will be served in the buggy while the driver searches for other incredible wildlife viewing spots. At the end of the day, you'll return to Churchill and catch a flight back to Winnipeg in the evening.

-Accommodation: Hotel

-Transportation: Approx. 2h30 by plane

Day 18 Winnipeg / Departure



Depart from Winnipeg according to your flight schedule. If time allows before travelling back to the land down under, take the opportunity to explore a bit more of the city—perhaps a visit to The Forks, a stroll through the Exchange District, or a final taste of local cuisine.

-Accommodation: Hotel

PERIOD & BUDGET

When to travel?

The best period for travelling is during the following months:

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

Price

From 16 250 \$C (based on double occupancy)

This budget is indicated per person, according to availability. Your local agent will send you a personalized quote with the exact price. Indeed, the latter can vary according to several elements (availability, service levels, period, number of participants, reservation time and many others).

The budget is an indication of the price per person, subject to availability. Your local agent will send you a customized quote with the exact price. The price can vary according to availability, level of services, period of travel, number of participants, booking time frame and other items.

Included

- 17 nights' standard accommodation
- 10-day rental of a mid-size Hyundai Elentra or equivalent, unlimited mileage, LDW and ALI insurance, local taxes, airport fees, one tank of gas and an additional driver
- Roundtrip flight between Winnipeg and Churchill
- Round trip transfer between airport and hotel in Churchill
- Churchill town & area guided tour of 2h30
- Dog-sledding introduction and conference
- Visit of the Eskimo Museum
- Visit of the Parks Canada Interpretive Centre
- Services of an interpretive guide
- 2 full days tour in a «Tundra Buggy»
- 5 nights accommodation
- 12 meals (see abbreviations)
- Applicable taxes

Not included

- Air travel (except flight between Winnipeg and Churchill)
- Round trip transfer from hotel to airport in Winnipeg (day 13 and 18)
- Drinks (excluding coffee and tea with meals included)
- Personal expenses
- Tips for guide

International flights

On request, ask your advisor at canada@altaibasecamp.com

Terms and conditions

Booking conditions

By registering for one of our travel, the customer bindingly accepts the General Terms and Conditions of Sale. Each customer must complete a registration form. The booking is definitively recorded when the customer has settled the payment of a deposit of 35 % of the total travel price (subject to availability at the time of registration). In case of short term bookings – within 35 days prior to the travel departure – the full travel price is due immediately. Payments can be settled via bank transfer (SWIFT code/IBAN number) or online, directly from our website (soon available). You will receive an email with a booking confirmation as quickly as possible

Invoice procedure

Once your booking is registered, we send you an email with the invoice. Full payment is required at least 35 days before your

arrival. If the customer does not settle the payment of the travel price within the period agreed upon, Altaï Canada reserves the right to cancel the booking free of charge.

Cancellation policy

If, for any reason, you need to cancel your trip, any payments already made will be refunded subject to the following deductions:

If cancellation occurs:

- More than 31 days before departure: 20% of the total booking amount (excluding insurance and fixed fees)
- Between 30 and 21 days before departure: 35% of the total booking amount (excluding insurance and fixed fees)
- Between 20 and 14 days before departure: 50% of the total booking amount (excluding insurance and fixed fees)
- Between 13 and 7 days before departure: 75% of the total booking amount (excluding insurance and fixed fees)
- Less than 7 days before departure: 100% of the total booking amount (excluding insurance and fixed fees)

Special Cases:

Regardless of the cancellation or contract modification date, the following fees **are added** to the standard cancellation terms above:

- Airfare fees: If your flight ticket has to be issued well in advance—often to secure the best fare—100% of the non-refundable flight costs will be charged in case of cancellation or change. In this case, the standard cancellation terms apply only to the land portion of the trip.
- Land service fees: Any non-refundable fees incurred early for firm bookings will be charged in case of cancellation.
- Insurance: Whether you purchased multi-risk or cancellation insurance, the insurance premium is non-refundable under any circumstances

If you are forced to cancel your trip before departure, you must inform both **Altaï Canada** and your insurance provider as soon as possible, using **written communication that provides proof of receipt**.

The date the written notice is received will be considered the official cancellation date and will determine the applicable cancellation fees.

If Altaï Canada is required to cancel a group departure due to an insufficient number of participants, this decision will be made, and customers notified, no later than 21 days before departure.

Altaï Canada may also cancel a trip due to **exceptional circumstances** considered force majeure (e.g., volcanic eruptions, social unrest, strikes, severe weather) that could compromise the safety of participants. In such cases, **all amounts paid will be fully refunded**, but **no additional compensation** can be claimed.

Changes to travel contract

If a change to travel contract is made at the customer's request, any fee that might arise from this change shall be paid by the customer. In any cases, every request for changes shall be notified in writing. In case of external events that could not be foreseen, Altaï Canada might change some aspects of the travel contract. We will endeavour to advise you of any changes as quickly as possible.

Pricing

All group travel prices on our website have been calculated for the indicated number of participants for each trip. The price list is confirmed after the booking. If the number of participants is lower than expected, an additional payment charge might be applied. For each travel and program, we mention the price per person – valid for the minimum number of participants – and we provide you with detailed explanations about the services included or not. Any change in the exchange rates or in the price of travel services in particular regarding the cost of the fuel, might entail price revision.

Contract transfer

In case of transfer of the contract by the customer to an assignee, modification and cancellation conditions apply.

Insurance

We recommend that you get personal insurance before your departure to cover the activities undertaken by Altaï Canada. If you have not purchased your insurance directly with us, we ask that you email us your insurance contract information (company, policy name, policy number, phone number) and bring this information with you on your trip.

PRACTICAL INFO