

Countless explorers have come to the Arctic regions, many attracted by the rich and unusual web of life that makes life in the Far North so unique. From thousands of beluga whales to giant herds of caribou, tundra wildflowers to the great boreal forest, the fascinating mix of cultures in a small northern town and the traditions and heritage of indigenous cultures of the region, this workshop offers you the opportunity to become an Arctic explorer as you discover the incredible diversity of this remote region. Journeying by train, boat, van and on foot, you learn about what makes the Arctic so special and important to protect.



The International Experience

Our adventure to the Arctic tundra begins with an overnight train journey from Winnipeg to Churchill which transports us from vast open plains through boreal forest to the northern tundra. This unusual and exciting way to approach the workshop site provides an opportunity to absorb the vastness of the rare ecosystems of the North.

Known as the “Polar Bear Capital of the World” in the winter, Churchill’s summer is home to a wide variety of arctic wildlife including caribou, the occasional polar bear, arctic fox, nesting seabirds and shorebirds and the famous white whales of the North – beluga whales. We have many opportunities to observe much of the resident wildlife.

Based at the Churchill Northern Studies Centre, we learn directly from some of the world’s top scientists as we conduct field research with them and enjoy evening presentations about cutting-edge research initiatives.

In addition to hands on science activities, students explore the rich cultures of the region. We work hand-in-hand with local students on a service project. In the process, we learn from them what life in the northern regions is like. We also try our hand at craft making and prepare a traditional local meal together.

Please check our website for sample day-by-day itineraries and photos!



The Curriculum

Our Discover Classroom Earth Curriculum helps prepare students for their international experience *before they travel* with a series of ten hands-on, age-appropriate and user-friendly lessons. The two-hour lessons explore everything from ecology and conservation to culture and language to travel tips and leadership skills. Your workshop fee includes this curriculum as well as staff support in implementing it with participants. The focus of the Arctic curriculum is the cultures of northern Manitoba and the remarkable biodiversity of three very different northern biomes: the tundra, the taiga and the Arctic waters of the Hudson Bay.



The Service Leadership Project

Following the international workshop, we work with students in their home communities to develop student-designed service projects that bring personal and community meaning to their international experience. Some students focus their energy on making a difference in their home community with projects such as: starting a school recycling program, helping with a stream clean-up project, supporting disadvantaged members of the community, or educating others about local conservation issues. Other students focus their attention on the region they visited with projects such as: raising funds to support Arctic schools, educating others at home about Arctic conservation or supporting conservation organizations working in the region visited.



Arctic Exploration

Recommended Age and Maturity Level

This program is specifically designed for middle-school and high school students. However workshop activities can be modified for college or adult participants. Maturity level should be considered when determining whether students are appropriate candidates for this program.

Group Sponsors and Group Size

Global Explorers includes one complimentary spot for every 12 full-paying participants. The complimentary spots are generally reserved for the educators who organize the group locally with Global Explorers' support; they are referred to as Group Sponsors. Our minimum group size is 12 paying participants. Please contact us to discuss possibilities if you have a smaller group.

Included

All travel expenses within Canada, all meals (unless specified), all lodging, all ground transfers, airport departure taxes, basic level of tips for guides and other services, a program t-shirt, workshop journal, textbook(s), curriculum and service project materials (for Group Sponsor), travel insurance, year-long support, guidance and mentoring for local Group Sponsor, and an on-site Global Explorers Representative during workshop.

Not Included

Airfare between your home city and Winnipeg, Manitoba, passport and any personal items.

Accommodations

Accommodations at the Churchill Northern Studies Centre are dormitory-style, simple and comfortable. Rooms are equipped with bunk beds, linens, and electricity. Bathroom facilities are communal with separate facilities for boys/men and girls/women. Accommodations in Winnipeg will be at a full-service hotel and accommodations on the overnight train will be in private cabins.

Flexibility

We do everything we can to ensure a positive workshop experience. Because we can not control all aspects of our workshops (like when an Arctic fox will choose to cross our path), we may need to slightly alter the workshop itinerary on-site. We reserve the right to make these changes in the interest of enjoyment, education, logistics or safety. In order to make these changes smooth, we rely on your cooperation and flexibility.

Safety

We take this topic seriously and ask that all workshop participants do the same. We take an enormous amount of care in preparing our workshops to minimize safety risks and we have created rules and regulations accordingly. It is very important that all travelers obey the rules and regulations set forth by Group Sponsors, on-site Global Explorers staff, guides and lodge managers.

Physical Fitness Level

All of our workshops are designed for adventurous participants! We suggest participants prepare both physically and mentally for their workshops in order to get the most out of the experience. While the hikes and excursions included in this workshop are not strenuous, the conditions may be taxing for some travelers. Please call us for more details and discuss any concerns with your physician.

Cancellation and Refund Policy

We are able to refund a portion of your payments if cancellation becomes necessary. A withdrawal schedule will be made available with a payment schedule so you will know the details before you begin payment. We sincerely regret having to strictly adhere to this schedule but we begin sending non-refundable payments for lodging and transportation and incur other costs long before the workshop.

12-18 paying participants = \$2,135

19-25 paying participants = \$2,060

More than 26 participants = \$1,960

★ Teacher travels free for every 12 ★
paying participants!