



**The Association**  
OF FORMER STUDENTS®  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY®

*Traveling Aggies*

**NOVEMBER 3-8, 2016**

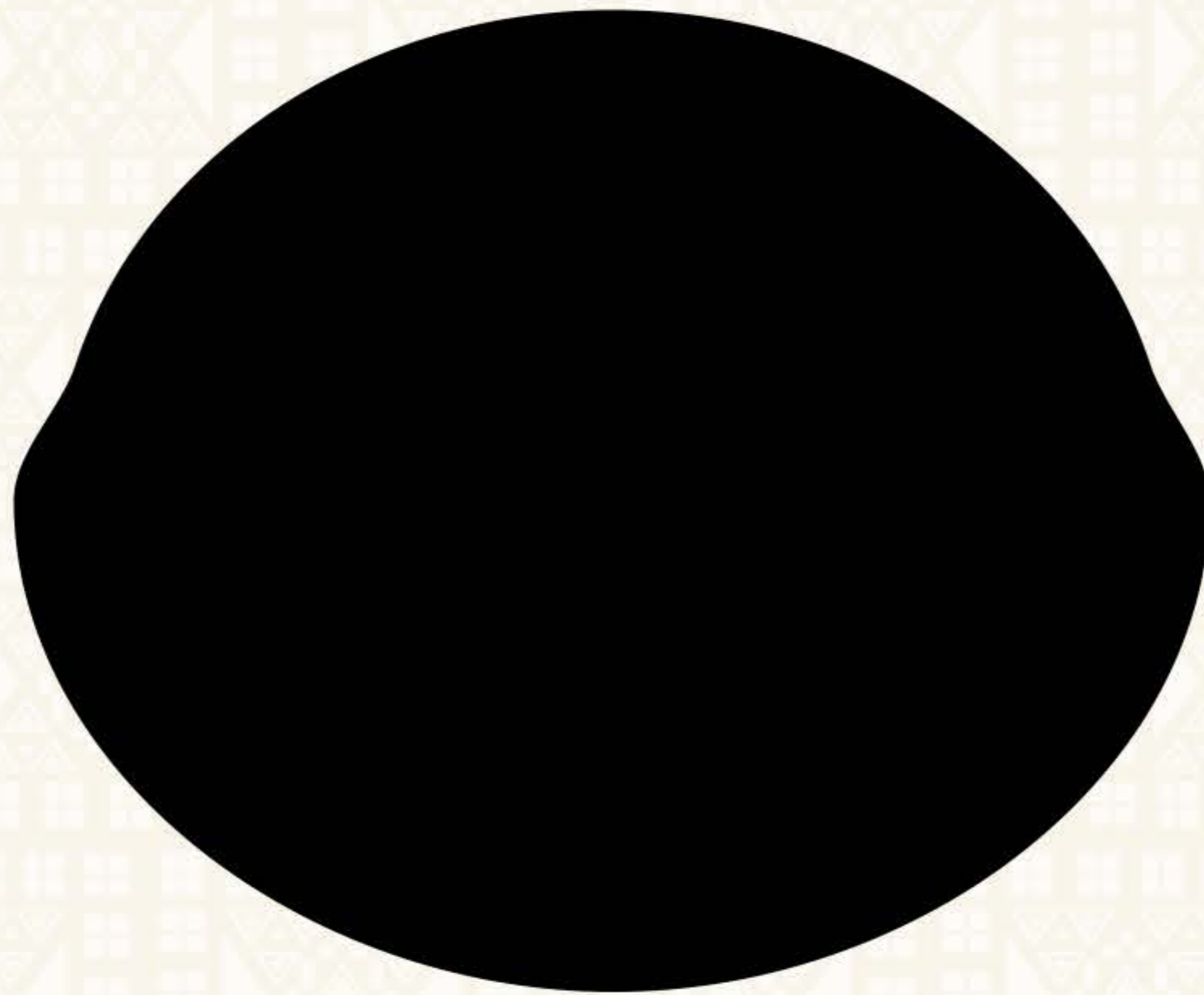
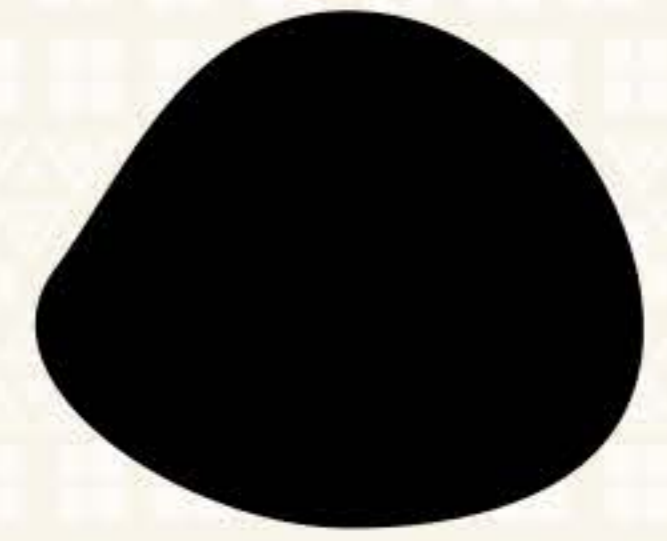
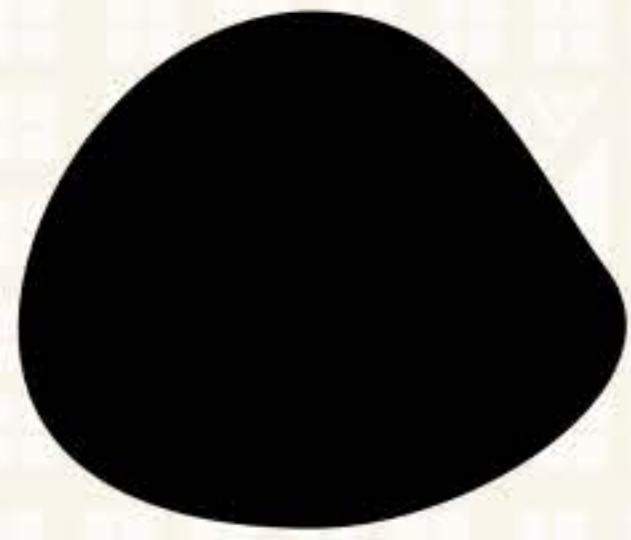
Special Former Student Rate

**SAVE MORE THAN \$1,000**

per couple

# Polar Bears of Churchill

A 6-Day Expedition to the Polar Bear Capital of the World



Howdy, Ags!

We are thrilled to present you with a special opportunity to witness one of the largest confluences of polar bears in the world.

During this six-day journey to remote Churchill, Manitoba, it is possible to observe polar bears interacting and playing from a custom-designed Arctic Crawler. The quality guidance of a naturalist Orbridge Expedition Leader and exclusive educational experiences distinguish this program, including expert presentations from Assiniboine Park Zoo and Churchill's Northern Studies Centre.

Our rate for Traveling Aggies guests on this departure represents a significant savings (more than \$1,000 per couple) over that of non-affiliated guests, so be certain to reserve your spot today—and share this brochure with friends and family who may be interested in traveling with you! Please reserve your space online at <http://texas-am.orbridge.com>, by calling (800) 633-7514 or by returning the enclosed reservation form.

Gig 'em,

*Jennifer Bohac*

Jennifer Bohac '87 Ph.D.  
Director of Travel

## **Free Expedition Library**

AN EARLY RESERVATION BONUS

Reserve your space by **April 15, 2016**, and receive the **FREE** Orbridge Expedition Library we've assembled for this program.

*This exclusive gift is to thank you for joining us early. Guests who reserve after the specified date may purchase libraries. Call for details.*



# An Expedition to "the Polar Bear Capital of the World"



Much like the bears themselves, visitors make their way to Churchill each fall when temperatures drop, brimming with anticipation. The reward: experiences of a lifetime.

As polar bears await the formation of the arctic sea ice, they descend upon the tiny seaport town of Churchill, forming a *celebration*—a polar bear gathering—and in this case, the largest congregation of polar bears in the world. As they wait for the Hudson Bay to freeze so they can begin their hunt for ringed and fur seal, it is possible to observe, photograph, and learn about the "Kings of the North."

On this wildlife expedition, surrounded by experts and featuring up-close experiences, be part of an extraordinary natural phenomenon and unforgettable adventure.



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*"This was absolutely the experience of a lifetime! And as this was on my bucket list, my expectations were quite high, yet greatly exceeded."*

— Deborah M., Fairfax, VA



## Your 6-Day Itinerary\*

- Day 1:** Arrive in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada / Assiniboine Park Zoo (R,D)  
Welcome reception and dinner, presentation  
Overnight: Grand Winnipeg Airport Hotel
- Day 2:** Winnipeg / Churchill / Northern Studies Centre / Parks Canada Interpretive Centre (B,L)  
Flight to Churchill, current research and interactive presentation, exhibit exploration  
Overnight: Lazy Bear Lodge
- Day 3:** Churchill / Arctic Crawler Experience (B,L,D)  
Grab your camera, board the Arctic Crawler, and head out onto stark and beautiful landscapes, stopping to enjoy the scenery and search for wildlife.  
Overnight: Lazy Bear Lodge
- Day 4:** Churchill / Cultural and Heritage Tour / Eskimo Museum / Dog Sledding (B,D)  
Panoramic site visits: Miss Piggy Plane Crash site, Polar Bear "Jail," and Cape Merry; museum tour; dog sled ride  
Overnight: Lazy Bear Lodge
- Day 5:** Churchill / Arctic Crawler Experience / Winnipeg (B,L,D)  
Another opportunity to observe and photograph polar bears aboard the Arctic Crawler; flight to Winnipeg  
Overnight: Grand Winnipeg Airport Hotel
- Day 6:** Depart Winnipeg (B)

**Activity Level:** Guests should be prepared for cold temperatures, as well as able to walk on frozen or snow-covered ground and manage stairs without assistance.

## Program Highlights

- Join with fellow travelers for a warm welcome, then step out for a special evening reception in Assiniboine Park Zoo's underwater viewing tunnels. Observe the polar bears and seals as they swim in the crystal clear pools above you. A three-course meal with wine is served under the dancing Northern Lights, in the Aurora Borealis Theatre. Following dinner, enjoy a presentation on the magnificent polar bears.
- Head out for two expeditions aboard the Arctic Crawler—custom designed to allow for up-close encounters with polar bears. Explore the area's unique landscape and its variety of wildlife, including arctic hare, snowy owl, ptarmigan, arctic fox, and of course, polar bears.
- Visit Churchill's Eskimo Museum for an exploration of indigenous ways of life while viewing remarkable examples of Inuit craftsmanship.
- Meet an energetic team of huskies and their experienced handler, then bundle up for an exciting dog sled experience.
- **What's included:** 5 nights hotel and lodge accommodations; 5 breakfasts, 3 lunches, and 4 dinners including a special welcome reception and dinner; full guiding services and specialized presentations by an Orbridge Expedition Leader; excursion transportation and entry fees; luggage portage; and all gratuities.

*\*Subject to change.*



## Your Accommodations\*

### GRAND WINNIPEG AIRPORT HOTEL

Located across from the Winnipeg airport terminal, this boutique property provides beautifully-appointed accommodations and thoughtful amenities. The hotel's restaurant, Blue Marble, uses locally produced ingredients to create an unforgettable dining experience.



### LAZY BEAR LODGE

This remarkable, handcrafted log lodge plus its friendly staff and scenic surroundings make this property supremely memorable. Cozy up in the comfortable lounge and feast on homemade northern cuisine at the Lazy Bear Cafe.



## Lazy Bear Lodge—A Pioneer's Dream

The best accommodations in Churchill.

A log builder in a previous career, Wally Daudrich built the Lazy Bear Lodge himself, literally. Drawn to the area by its sense of freedom, Wally and a partner dragged fire-killed logs from the forest by snowmobile, crafting them first into a small café, then a small lodge, and finally the two-story, 15,000-square-foot, modern Lazy Bear Lodge of today.



Experience the warm hospitality of Wally and his staff, and dine on fabulous northern cuisine, all in the stunning property he has built. You can see the gnarled and knotted log timbers from the northern Boreal forest used to make both the lodge and the furniture. It's the perfect combination of remote northern living with all the cozy comforts and conveniences travelers want.

Wally estimates he has helped more than 20,000 people see their first polar bear in his 35 years of guiding. In addition to the fall polar bears tours, Wally also provides guided treks by both land and sea to observe polar bears and beluga whales (plus a vast multitude of other wildlife) during the brief arctic summer when the ice melts. His custom-designed Arctic Crawlers and his water vessel, the Sam Hearne, all help visitors interact with the diverse array of wildlife the area supports.





## The Arctic Crawler

A rugged all-terrain vehicle.

Get up-close access to the wildlife of the tundra aboard this specially-designed trekking vehicle. The Arctic Crawler features a propane heater, comfortable seating, on-board facilities with flush toilet, large windows that lower for better viewing, plus a spacious, fully-grated outside rear deck for optimal photography opportunities—including nose to nose visits with the locals. It really is the perfect way to view Churchill's magnificent creatures in person.

And with the expertise of the driver and your Orbridge Expedition Leader, you will see all the stunning natural beauty and diverse wildlife the tundra of the Churchill Wildlife Management Area has to offer.

Your two Arctic Crawler Experiences include a hot lunch with beverages, snacks and expert in-depth commentary from your Orbridge Expedition Leader and Lazy Bear Lodge expert guide.



## Your Orbridge Expedition Leader

Whether Marylou, Kent, or another experienced naturalist, your Expedition Leader will add exceptional depth of expertise and warm hospitality to each day's adventures.



In addition to her practice as experienced guide, naturalist, and summertime park ranger in Alaska's Glacier Bay National Park, Marylou lectures worldwide on a number of topics from the bears and wolves of the Arctic to the leopard seals and whales of the Antarctic. Together, watch and learn about the drama and beauty of Churchill and its wild inhabitants.



Kent has led national park tours as a park ranger since 1984. Having worked with the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the Colorado Division of Wildlife, he brings to our expedition a lifetime's wealth of knowledge about North America's parks, preserves, and wildlife.

# Polar Bears of Churchill

NOVEMBER 3-8, 2016

**Option 1:** Reserve online now at <http://texas-am.orbridge.com> or call (800) 633-7514.

**Option 2:** Secure your reservation with a deposit charged to the credit card below, or with an enclosed check payable to: Orbridge, LLC.

| Standard Rate:   | Special Former Student Rate: |
|--|------------------------------|
| <del>\$5,499</del>                                     | <b>\$4,995</b>               |
| <del>\$7,499</del> Single                              | \$6,995 Single               |
| <i>Internal airfare additional at \$995 per person</i> |                              |

## Guest Information:

Guest #1 (as printed on passport): \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year \_\_\_\_\_

Guest #2 (as printed on passport): \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Category Preference (if applicable): 1st choice \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd choice \_\_\_\_\_

## Deposit:

(#) \_\_\_\_\_ guests joining program (\$850/person) = **Total deposit: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

## Deposit Payment:

Check enclosed  Online Check/ACH  MasterCard/Visa  American Express  Discover

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date: \_\_\_\_\_ CW: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (as printed on card): \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at <http://terms.orbridge.com> and detailed in program documents; and that Orbridge LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail or fax  
reservation form  
and deposit to:**

Traveling Aggies, The Association of Former Students  
505 George Bush Drive, College Station, TX 77840  
Fax: (979) 845-9263

No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by the tour supplier.

## Reserve by April 15, 2016, for an Early Reservation Bonus\*\*

**Registration, Deposits and Final Payment.** To confirm and secure your reservation, a deposit of \$850 per person per program, a deposit for any extension(s), and any non-refundable advanced payments, payable by check, online check/ACH, money order, wire transfer of same day U.S. funds, or major credit card, is due at the time of registration. Final payment, including any extension(s) and optional(s), is payable by check, online check/ACH, money order, or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds ONLY and due no later than 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date. If your reservation is made fewer than 90 days prior to departure, the entire cost of the program, including any extension(s) and optional(s), is due at the time of registration by check, money order, or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds ONLY. If final payment is not received by Orbridge at least 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date, Orbridge may, at any time and with or without notice, cancel your reservation in its sole discretion with no right of refund. All payments we receive from you are herein defined as "Payments." CST#2098750-40 WST#602828994

**Cancellations and Refunds.** All cancellations must be submitted to Orbridge in writing and will be subject to a cancellation fee ("Cancellation Fee") as follows: (a) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge 151 or more days prior to the scheduled departure date, the cancellation fee will be \$500 per person per program, \$300 per person per extension, and any non-refundable advance payment(s); (b) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 150 and 91 days prior to the scheduled departure date the cancellation fee will be forfeiture of the full deposit per person per program including any extension(s) and non-refundable payment(s); (c) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge 90 or fewer days prior to the scheduled departure date, the cancellation fee will be the full program price, including any extension(s) and non-refundable payments. Cancellation fees and terms for Optionals vary and are detailed separately. In addition to and not in lieu of the foregoing, a Cancellation Fee equal to 100% of the carrier charge applies to all non-refundable airfares due to your cancellation made at any time prior to the scheduled program departure date, as applicable. Refunds, if any, of any Payments in excess of the aggregate Cancellation Fee shall be processed within 30 calendar days of our receipt of your written notice.

For complete Terms & Conditions, visit <http://terms.orbridge.com> | Copyright © 2016 Orbridge, LLC | [www.orbridge.com](http://www.orbridge.com) | (866) 639-0079

\*Special group rate; limited offer. Rate is per person based on double occupancy except where noted as Single, in U.S. dollars. Airfare not included. Group airfare for the charter flight between Winnipeg and Churchill is charged additionally at \$995 per person. \*\*A complement to the educational component of this journey, Expedition Libraries are curated collections of reading and resources tailored to this program. Place your deposit on or before the specified date, and one Expedition Library per room will be sent upon receipt of final payment. Libraries may be purchased; please call for details.



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*Traveling Aggies*

# Polar Bears of Churchill

NOVEMBER 3-8, 2016

Special Former Student Rate: **Save more than \$1,000** per couple

**FREE ORBRIDGE**  
EXPEDITION LIBRARY

When you reserve  
by April 15, 2016\*\*



Traveling Aggies  
The Association of Former Students  
505 George Bush Drive  
College Station, TX 77840

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SAN DIEGO, CA

*"The whole trip far exceeded our expectations and we travel a lot! Seeing the polar bears, arctic fox and other wildlife in their native habitat was so gratifying. This was on my 'bucket list' and we are so happy that we were able to participate."*

*~Bill & Kay L., Manhattan, KS*

*"All in all, we can't imagine how this trip could have been any better—a most memorable experience!"*

*~Mary Sue and Herb W., Tulsa, OK*