

Northern Lights Odyssey

From Iqaluit to Blachford Lake — Aurora, Culture & Arctic
Adventure





Journey into the heart of Canada's North, where vast landscapes, rich culture, and the magic of the Aurora Borealis come together in an unforgettable adventure.

Begin in Iqaluit, where Inuit traditions, storytelling, and artistry offer deep cultural insight into life in the Arctic. Continue on to Yellowknife, one of the world's aurora capitals, where northern hospitality meets endless skies filled with dancing light. Then venture further into the wilderness at Blachford Lodge, a remote retreat surrounded by frozen lakes and snow-dusted forests.

Each evening brings the possibility of shimmering curtains of green, pink, and violet across the night sky, a breathtaking contrast to the silence of the Arctic landscape. Days are filled with cultural encounters, winter adventures, and moments of connection with the people and places of the North.

This is one of the world's most immersive aurora and cultural experiences, and only a select few will have the chance to live its story.

Dare to Compare

- Experience aurora viewing in both Iqaluit (Nunavut) and Yellowknife (NWT), two of Canada's most iconic Northern Lights destinations.
- Stay in cozy accommodations, enjoy gourmet cuisine, and relax in hot tubs in pristine wilderness settings.
- Engage deeply with local traditions, arts, and storytelling through expert-led workshops and cultural experiences.

Viewing Opportunities

Likely to Spot

Northern Lights

Possible

Arctic Fox

Red Fox

Ptarmigan

Snowshoe Hare

Caribou

Please note that we do not guarantee wildlife viewing.



Itinerary



Day 1 : Arrive in Iqaluit

Fly from Ottawa to Iqaluit and meet your Arctic Kingdom host. Visit a local fur clothier showcasing both traditional and modern styles, and tour the Legislative Assembly. Enjoy a catered dinner at Arctic Kingdom's Beach House before your first aurora photography workshop and evening Northern Lights viewing.

MEALS INCLUDED: Dinner



Day 2-3 : Explore Iqaluit Culture and Sylvia Grinnell Park

Explore Iqaluit with city and museum tours, a brewery lunch, artisan shopping, and outdoor adventures in Sylvia Grinnell Park. Enjoy Inuit cultural performances and sewing workshops, with nightly opportunities to view the aurora.

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 4 : Travel to Yellowknife

Enjoy breakfast in Iqaluit before your afternoon flight to Yellowknife. Gather with your group for a welcome dinner and briefing about your upcoming stay at Blachford Lodge.

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, Dinner

DEPART

Itinerary



Day 5-7 : Blachford Lodge

Fly by ski-plane into the wilderness and begin with a lodge orientation. Spend your days snowmobiling, quinzhee/igloo building, and skating. In the evenings, take part in guided aurora viewing and photography sessions. Optional flight-seeing tours to Twin Falls Gorge are also available.

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 8 : Departure

Take a scenic flight back to Yellowknife. Extend your adventure with time in the city or continue on your journey home.

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast

RETURN

Destinations



Iqaluit, Nunavut

The cultural and political heart of Nunavut, Iqaluit offers an authentic introduction to Inuit life in the Arctic. Here, you'll explore local museums, artisan shops, and historic landmarks while experiencing traditional performances and hands-on workshops. Outdoor adventures in Sylvia Grinnell Park showcase the beauty of the tundra just minutes from town. Evenings bring the chance to witness the aurora shimmering above this northern capital.



Yellowknife, Northwest Territories

Known as one of the world's top aurora-viewing capitals, Yellowknife combines vibrant northern hospitality with endless skies. Stroll through local shops and galleries, enjoy the warmth of Canada's northern culture, and prepare for the next stage of your journey. With clear skies and expansive horizons, this lively city is the perfect gateway to the wilderness beyond.



Blachford Lodge

Accessible only by ski-plane, Blachford Lodge offers a true wilderness escape. Nestled among frozen lakes and boreal forest, the lodge provides cozy accommodations, gourmet meals, and rustic charm. Here, you can snowmobile, skate, or even build an igloo by day, while evenings invite you to relax in a hot tub or by a bonfire under the brilliant Northern Lights.

Accommodations



Frobisher Inn, Iqaluit

The Frobisher Inn is situated in the Astro Hill Complex in the heart of Iqaluit. It is walking distance or a short taxi ride away from most shops, restaurants and attractions.



Explorer Hotel, Yellowknife

The Explorer Hotel is located next to downtown Yellowknife. It is walking distance or a short taxi ride away from most major shops, restaurants and attractions.



Blachford Lodge, NWT

Blachford Lodge and its cabins embody the rustic charm and warmth of Canada's North, offering a cozy haven within a pristine and remote wilderness.

Arctic Kingdom reserves the right to make substitutions in accommodations due to circumstances beyond their control. Whenever possible, substitutions will be of equal or superior quality.

Getting Here

Travel arrangements between your point of origin and Ottawa International Airport (YOW) are the responsibility of each participant. From Ottawa, flights north to Iqaluit and onward connections are included in your package, along with a private charter ski-plane to Blachford Lodge. Please note that flights from Yellowknife (YZF) back to your point of origin are also the responsibility of the guest. Detailed flight itineraries and transfer information will be provided prior to departure.

Any deviation from a ticketed itinerary may result in penalties, regardless of the cause. To ensure a stress-free return, we encourage guests to allow buffer time in their travel plans to accommodate possible weather-related delays.



! Terms & Conditions Overview

To ensure a seamless experience, please review the following key points:

- **Booking & Agreement:** By reserving a trip, you confirm that you've read and agreed to our Terms & Conditions. This includes all participants in your group, even minors or those with disabilities.
- **Required Forms:** Completion of our Guest Information, Medical Profile, and Waiver forms is mandatory. The Guest Information Form is due at booking; the Medical Profile and Waiver must be submitted between 120 and 30 days before departure.
- **Payment Schedule:** A deposit is required at booking. Final payments are due no later than 120 days prior to departure. Specific payment schedules vary by trip type.
- **Pricing & Currency:** All amounts are in Canadian Dollars (CAD). Prices are subject to change due to factors like weather and logistics. To lock in your trip price, ensure final payment is made at least 120 days before departure.
- **Cancellation & Refunds:** Please note that cancellations may result in forfeiture of payments.

For a comprehensive understanding, please read our full Terms & Conditions: arctickingdom.com/terms-and-conditions.



Is This Adventure for You?

Aurora & Cultural Experiences

This adventure is ideal for travelers who want to witness the Northern Lights in some of the most stunning Arctic landscapes while immersing themselves in local Indigenous culture. Guests will have opportunities for photography, guided cultural experiences, and connecting with the natural environment in Yellowknife, Iqaluit, and Blachford Lodge.

Flexible Itinerary

The experience is shaped by weather and aurora activity. Some nights may deliver spectacular displays, while others may require patience as guides track optimal viewing conditions. Guests are encouraged to embrace the rhythm of the Arctic, enjoying both the quiet landscapes and awe-inspiring light shows.


Physical Requirements


This trip is not physically demanding, but very cold conditions should be expected. Guests should be comfortable walking short distances in snow and ice and getting in and out of small aircraft used for travel between locations.

Adventurous Spirit

No prior Arctic experience is necessary, but curiosity, flexibility, and an adventurous outlook are essential. Weather and aurora activity can be unpredictable, and an open-minded, patient approach ensures the best experience. Guests who embrace the Arctic's unique pace will fully enjoy both the natural wonders and cultural encounters.

Weather & Daylight

 **Temperature:** -26°C (-14.8°F) to -6°C (42.8°F)

 **Conditions:** Variable; sunny, windy, cloudy, snowy

 **Aurora:** Clear nights offer excellent Northern Lights viewing

 **Daylight:** 10–12 hours, perfect for photography and exploration



Optional: Polar Clothing Package

With almost two decades of Arctic experience, Arctic Kingdom has assembled a top-of-the-line clothing rental package designed to enhance your expedition and keep you comfortable, warm, and dry, no matter what Mother Nature brings.

All staff have relied on this same high-quality Arctic gear for years of adventures, so you can trust you are getting the best options available. This package is ideal for one-time visitors who may not want to purchase expensive Arctic equipment.

For details or to reserve your clothing package, please email info@arctickingdom.com.



What to Expect

Aurora & Adventure

This trip focuses on experiencing the Northern Lights in some of the most spectacular Arctic locations. Guided excursions and small-group tours provide optimal opportunities for photography and observation. While the aurora is a natural phenomenon and sightings cannot be guaranteed, our guides track conditions to give guests the best chance of seeing the lights in all their glory.

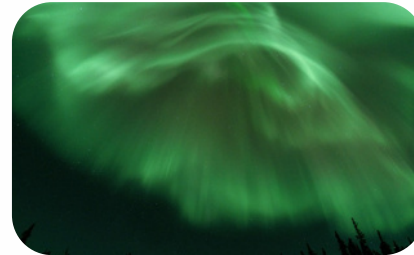
During the day, guests can explore winter landscapes, enjoy snowshoeing, ice fishing, and wildlife spotting, or participate in other seasonal Arctic activities. Evenings at the lodge or nearby accommodations offer cozy spaces to relax, enjoy hearty meals, and watch the aurora dance across the sky when weather conditions allow.

Culture & Community

The Northern Lights Odyssey includes opportunities to engage with local Indigenous communities. Guests can learn about traditional practices, local history, and the relationship between people and the Arctic environment. Participants are encouraged to approach cultural experiences with curiosity and respect, gaining insight into ways of life that have endured for generations.

Flexibility

Itineraries are guidelines and may shift depending on aurora activity, weather, or local conditions. Patience, adaptability, and an open mind enhance the experience, allowing guests to fully enjoy both the natural wonders and cultural immersion. Whether photographing the Northern Lights, exploring snowy landscapes, or learning from local guides, flexibility ensures the most rewarding Arctic adventure.



Why Arctic Kingdom?

Arctic Pioneers | 25+ Years Experience

For over 25 years, Arctic Kingdom has been the global leader in land-based travel, custom journeys, and getaways in the Canadian Arctic. We lead small group expeditions into Canada's North, creating journeys that few have experienced. Our success comes from a unique combination of expert Inuit guides, decades of regional knowledge, and a commitment to responsible tourism.

With unmatched access to remote wildlife habitats and carefully chosen locations, we provide safe and authentic encounters with the Arctic's most iconic animals. Small group sizes ensure comfort and space for photography, while our expedition team focuses on every detail of your experience.



Small Groups

We choose to operate small group size tours because it provides remarkable experiences for our guests and a reduced ecological footprint. This ensures that everyone has space at locations for photos and there is always space for you and your tripod to get into fantastic positions.

Solo Travel Options

We welcome solo travellers!

The whole tour is very inclusive and often accommodates solo travellers. Eat meals and travel with fellow like-minded people who are as excited as you are to be at this phenomenal location.

Fully Guided Tours

With a combination of experience and expertise, you get to experience a fully guided Northern Lights Odyssey experience. Our knowledgeable local guides and welcoming lodge staff ensure every detail—from wildlife encounters, Northern Light viewing experiences, transportation and hospitality—is seamlessly taken care of, so you enjoy the best possible experience.

Why Arctic Kingdom?

Responsible Tourism

Arctic Kingdom is committed to ensuring that our journeys create a positive impact for the communities and environments where we operate. Tourism and film production can provide meaningful opportunities in the Arctic, from generating income to fostering cultural exchange and highlighting the importance of conservation. We take a total approach to responsible tourism. Every trip is designed to maximize economic benefits for local communities by hiring Inuit guides, employing local drivers, sourcing regional foods when available, and using community-based services. This ensures that as much revenue as possible remains within the region. Our team continually reassesses our practices to make sure each expedition is socially, economically, and environmentally responsible, creating long-term value for both our guests and the Arctic communities we work with.

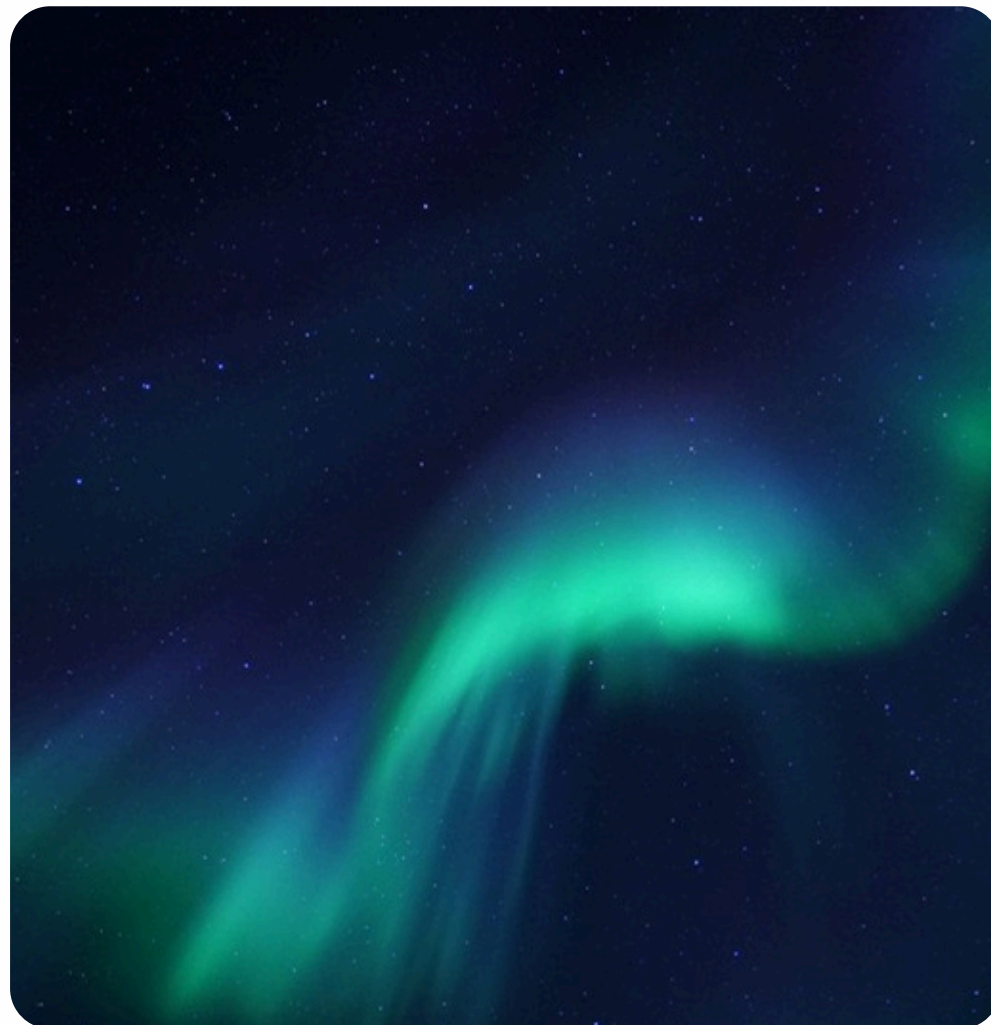
FAQs

We understand that many of our guests are traveling to the North for the first time. It is natural to have questions about what to expect, how to prepare, and how our safaris work.

To help you feel fully prepared and at ease before your journey, we have compiled answers to the most common questions.

Explore them here:

arctickingdom.com/questions-about-the-arctic



Plan Your Arctic Adventure

The Northern Lights Odyssey offers one of the most magical ways to experience the Aurora. With Arctic Kingdom, you'll enjoy expert guidance, cozy accommodations, and the peace of mind that every detail is taken care of.

Our Travel Advisors are ready to answer your questions and help you prepare for this unforgettable adventure. Whether you're traveling solo, as a couple, or with friends, we'll make sure your journey is seamless, safe, and full of wonder.

Contact Us

📞 1.888.737.6818

✉ adventures@arctickingdom.com

🌐 arctickingdom.com

Discover More Arctic Moments

Looking for more breathtaking photos and videos of the Arctic and its iconic wildlife? Explore our social media channels for inspiring stories, real guest photography, and behind-the-scenes glimpses from our expeditions.

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