



Manitoba

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Best Places to Eat

- » Tall Grass Prairie (p513)
- » Segovia (p514)
- » Reykjavik Bakery (p519)
- » Gypsy's Bakery (p526)

Best Places to Stay

- » Fort Garry Hotel (p512)
- » River Gate Inn (p512)
- » Solmundson Gesta Hus Bed & Breakfast (p519)

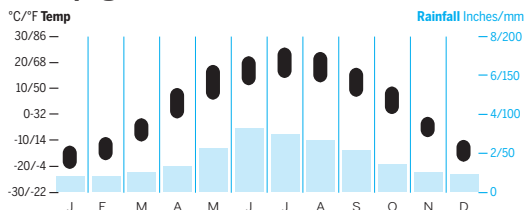
Why Go?

The two prominent stars of Manitoba are Winnipeg, with its big-city sophistication and Churchill, with its profusion of natural wonders. But it's what lies between that truly defines this often misunderstood province. Open spaces of this prairie province seem to stretch forever – gently rolling fields of grain and sunflowers and wildflowers reach all the way north to Arctic tundra.

It's a land without pretence that imbues the unpretentious spirit of the locals. Its magnitude only fully appreciated while standing on the edge of a vivid yellow canola field counting three different storms on the horizon, or on the edge of Hudson Bay's rugged coastline counting polar bears while belugas play in the distance. Wander its empty roads, stop in its evocative little towns, find the subtle dramas in the land and expect surprises, whether it's a moose mewing in a bog or a future pop legend performing on stage.

When to Go

Winnipeg



May Wildflowers line the roads and signal the end of a long winter.

June–August Days *can* be balmy but cool nights rule; at Churchill, 18°C is considered hot.

September Fall comes early and days are crisp; by October the north is under snow.



Manitoba Highlights

1 Revel in polar bears, beluga whales and even an ancient fort in **Churchill** (p524), the surprising sub-Arctic city that's difficult to get to

2 Hike and paddle Manitoba's best natural setting, **Riding Mountain National Park** (p521)

3 Enjoy big-city fun and world-class talent, prairie-style in **Winnipeg** (p505)

4 Discover small-town Manitoba in gems like charming **Neepawa** (p520), where time seems to stand still in some past idyllic era

5 Yeehaw with half the province at Canada's longest-

running **Country Fest** (p522), just north of Riding Mountain National Park

6 Contemplate nature virtually surrounded by Lake Winnipeg at **Hecla-Grindstone Provincial Park** (p519)

7 Drive, lonely roads and stop for natural wonders like **Pissew Falls** (p524)