Indigenous
CANADIAN SIGNATURE
EXPERIENCES COLLECTION
Indigenous tourism can preserve culture, language and community and provide our relatives with a platform to be the leading voice in reclaiming our space in history — both ancient and modern. Our ancestors have been sharing with and welcoming visitors to our traditional territories since time immemorial. Our communities are guided by values of respect, honour and integrity. Indigenous tourism experiences demonstrate how Indigenous communities, both urban and rural, welcome visitors to learn, share and celebrate together.

Through a unified industry voice, the Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada focuses on creating partnerships between associations, organizations, government departments and industry leaders to support the growth of Indigenous tourism across Canada.

IndigenousTourism.ca
Sébastien Desnoyers-Picard
Acting Director of Marketing,
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Sébastien Desnoyers-Picard is the Acting Director of Marketing for ITAC. Born and raised in Wendake, Quebec, on the Huron-Wendat traditional territory; The Nionwentsio. Sébastien is a proud French speaking Indigenous person and he’s very involved in defending Indigenous rights and promoting his culture with the rest of the world.

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Signature Experiences

EXPERIENCE INDIGENOUS CULTURE AND STORIES FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY. CONNECT WITH LOCALS AS THEY SHARE THEIR KNOWLEDGE, LEGENDS AND HISTORY.

1. Tundra North Tours
   INUVIK, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

2. Spirit Bear Lodge
   KLEMTU, BRITISH COLUMBIA

3. Knight Inlet Lodge
   KNIGHT INLET, BRITISH COLUMBIA

4. Sea Wolf Adventures
   PORT MCNEILL, BRITISH COLUMBIA

5. Squamish Lil’wat Cultural Centre
   WHISTLER, BRITISH COLUMBIA
Once-in-a-lifetime Travel Experiences

This collection of authentic Indigenous tourism businesses are included as members of the Canadian Signature Experiences program, these once-in-a-lifetime travel experiences are found only in Canada.

Experiences are the new ‘currency’ that differentiates tourism businesses and destinations around the world. These Indigenous businesses are expanding the ways travellers can engage with people, places and cultures.

Tundra North Tours
INUVIK, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Canadian Arctic Reindeer Signature Package
Travel north of the Arctic Circle where a highway of ice awaits; the route to Aklavik, home to welcoming people and rich Indigenous culture. Ride a snowmobile into the wilderness to help herd a migrating herd of 3,000 reindeer. Retire to a rustic base camp on the tundra for storytelling and a feast of traditional foods. Then travel on to Tuktoyaktuk, a town at the edge of the continent.

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Knight Inlet Lodge
KNIGHT INLET, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Grizzly Bear Viewing
Explore the wild and remote Pacific Northwest. Soar above the Coast Mountains in a floatplane to the world renowned Knight Inlet Lodge. Head out by kayak to watch grizzly bears and black bears feeding on sedge grass, mussels and barnacles. Watch grizzlies in the river feasting on pink salmon. View stunning scenery of glaciers, waterfalls, sheer rock faces and orca whales breaching in the water. Dine on Northwest cuisine, followed by interpretive talks about First Nations, local ecology and wildlife.

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Spirit Bear Lodge
KLEMTU, BRITISH COLUMBIA

In search of the Spirit Bear with the Kitasoo/Xai’xais First Nations
Venture into a towering cathedral of ancient forests in search of the elusive and revered Spirit Bear with a local Indigenous guide from the Kitasoo/Xai’xais First Nation in the community of Klemtu. Stay in a community-owned lodge and explore the Great Bear Rainforest, the largest intact rainforest in the world. Learn about the wildlife and local Indigenous culture from guides who have an intrinsic understanding and respect for the environment.

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Sea Wolf Adventures
PORT McNEILL, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Grizzly Bears of the Wild
The Great Bear Rainforest is one of British Columbia’s most breathtaking natural areas. Explore by boat, alongside a Musgamakw Dzawada’enuxw guide whose ancestors have occupied this land for 15,000 years. View whales and grizzly bears while you learn the profound connection between these wild creatures and the local First Nations people. Further delve into Indigenous traditions at Gwayasdams, Canada’s oldest Big House. Spend a rich day exploring deep wilderness and coastal cultures in one of Canada’s largest protected areas.

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Squamish Lil’wat Cultural Centre
WHISTLER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Ambassador Guided Tour
Let your guide, a First Nations ambassador from the Squamish Nation or Lil’wat Nation, walk you through a fascinating world where ancient ways meet modern life. Feel your heart beat in time to the tribal rhythms and stories which have been handed down through generations. Learn the significance of the mountains, sea and rivers to the Squamish and Lil’wat people.

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Torngat Mountains Base Camp
NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

Adventures and Mysteries in the Torngat Mountains
Join international researchers at an Inuit base camp in Labrador’s far north. Gain a deep understanding of the Inuit lifestyle and get an in-depth look at the fascinating and pristine eco-system of Torngat Mountains National Park. Helicopter into a dramatic fjord to observe polar bears and caribou. Listen to Inuit elders’ stories around a beach campfire. Leave with a new appreciation of what the land can give to people.

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Rapid Lake Lodge
NUNAVIK REGION, QUEBEC

Splendors of Arctic Quebec
It’s an incredible nature adventure. From the Lodge, journey on a float-plane safari within Nunavik Quebec’s wide-open spaces of absolute nature. Get a front-row seat as you watch the annual migration of thousands of caribou crossing the Labrador Plateau. Get a rare opportunity to view wolves on the hunt and see black and polar bears in their natural habitat. Encounter one of the most imposing fjords in North America: explore impressive waterfalls, rocky chimneys, glaciers and archaeological sites.

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Hotel-Musée Premières Nations
WENDAKE, QUEBEC

Huron-Wendat Heritage on the Edge of Quebec City
Celebrate one of Canada’s oldest and most storied First Nations cultures. Immerse yourself in the land and culture of the Huron-Wendat People at the Hotel-Musée Premières Nations. Share in traditions going back thousands of years by interacting with locals, exploring the land and visiting the esteemed Huron-Wendat Museum.

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Tourism Manawan
MANAWAN, QUEBEC

Atikamekw First Nations Cultural Immersion
Fully immerse in Atikamekw culture. The traditions of the Atikamekw people are still practiced today by the descendants of those long-ago inhabitants. Engage with local guides on canoe and hiking trips. Learn how to make maple syrup, traditional crafts and hear the Atikamekw legends. Enjoy Indigenous cuisine and sleep at the Manawan Inn or in a teepee.

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Aboriginal Experiences
OTTAWA, ONTARIO

Aboriginal Voyageur on the Ottawa River
Visit the Canadian Museum of History before you paddle a canoe along a traditional trading route to visit a sacred Algonquin meeting place and learn about native ways of life. Victoria Island was used for thousands of years by the Algonquin nation for gatherings, trading and celebrations. Be greeted with a traditional welcome and enjoy a guided tour of the village. Watch vibrant First Nation dance performances and join in the “friendship dance”.

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Great Spirit Circle Trail
MANITOULIN ISLAND, ONTARIO

Canoe Heritage Tours
Embark on a profound, authentic Indigenous cultural experience. Gain an innate understanding of the Anishinaabe culture and traditions of Manitoulin Island, from local Indigenous people proud to share the history of the island’s original inhabitants – the Ojibwe, Odawa and Pottawatomi peoples. Paddle your way through the heart of Manitoulin Island to learn about local legends, island history, and survival techniques. See and hear how life is lived in perfect harmony with nature while honouring ancestral traditions.

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