



Welcome to your adventure! Get ready to relax, recharge, and reconnect with nature and your private group of friends and family.

## HOW IT WORKS

To make a tour private, you will buy out all the spaces on a particular tour. This means you will organize the maximum number of guests for the specific trip you've selected (ranging from 9-12 people depending on the tour). Each guest will receive a discount at time of final payment, based on the total number of reserved people. 10% for groups of 8 or more and 5% for groups of 5-7. Fewer than 5 people, no discount applies.

If you are unable to fill all the spaces on the tour as of your final payment due date, the remaining spaces will be sold to the general public. In this case, your group will no longer be considered 'private' but will still be treated as a group booking. If your party wishes to keep your group entirely private but hasn't reserved the maximum number of guests, the remaining members of your group have the option to cover the cost of the unfilled spaces on the tour.



## YOUR TO-DO LIST

❑ **Contact us:** Choose the tour that best suits your group's preferences, select an available date, and reach out to the Spirit of the West office via email or phone. We can typically hold tour dates for up to a week while you organize your group.

❑ **Connect with your group:** Share preliminary information with your group including: price, tour details, [Guest Handbook](#), [Terms and Conditions](#), and [travel insurance recommendations](#).

❑ **Secure your trip:** Each guest must contact the Spirit of the West office to pay a 25% deposit. This applies if your tour is more than 60 days (for tours in Canada) or 120 days (for tours outside of Canada) before the tour start date. If the tour is closer, the full amount is due.

❑ **Final payment:** 60 days (tours in Canada) or 120 days (tours outside of Canada) before your tour, final payment is due.

\*If your group does not meet the maximum group size at the time of final booking, your group has 2 options.

- Pay the remaining balance for the unfilled spaces to keep your tour fully private.
- Sell the remaining spaces to the general public, which means your tour is no longer fully private, but will still be eligible for our group booking discount.

Your group discount depends on the total number of reserved spaces at the time of final payment: 10% for groups of 8 or more, and 5% for groups of 5-7. If the group size is fewer than 5 people, no discount applies.

❑ **Get ready:** Check in with your group to ensure they are familiar with the details in the Guest Handbook, including packing list and meeting location and times. Prepare to enjoy your adventure with your private group of family or friends!

# FAQS

## **Q: Why book a private tour buy out?**

A: Booking a private tour provides maximum flexibility for you and your group. Exclusive access to our private campsites, facilities, and guides ensures a personalized experience. With a private tour buy out, you can tailor the day's itinerary to suit your group's needs and interests. The flexibility of a private tour buy out makes it a great option for intergenerational groups with younger and/or older guests. Ultimately, there's nothing like immersing yourself in the adventure with just your selected group of family or friends!

## **Q: I have fewer people than I had hoped, what are my options?**

A: If, at the time of final payment, your group has fewer people than the maximum number of guests required for your tour, you have two options:

- You are welcome to keep your trip entirely exclusive and private, provided the remaining group members are comfortable paying the full cost of the trip by purchasing the remaining spaces on the tour.
- Your group can contact the Spirit of the West office, and we will sell the remaining spaces to the general public. While your tour would no longer be entirely private, it would still be eligible for our group discount.

If your group decides to cancel outright, the Terms and Conditions for private tours will apply. The key date to remember is the final payment deadline: 60 days for tours in Canada or 120 days for tours outside of Canada.

## **Q: What if I have a larger group? Can we be accommodated?**

A: Up to 14 people may be able to be accommodated on the Whales and Wilderness Glamping, Johnstone Strait Glamping, Wellness in the Wilderness, and Ultimate Family Adventure for an additional fee. Larger group accommodation depends on guide and water taxi availability as well as tent sharing arrangements.

## **Q: How many people share a tent?**

A: On our base-camp tours (*Whales & Wilderness Glamping tour, Johnstone Strait Glamping, Wellness in the Wilderness, and Ultimate Family Adventure*), there are eight guest tents available for your group to use, each with two single beds that can be pushed together. Your group can decide who will be sharing the tents amongst yourselves. Generally it is two people per tent, but if you have young kids, one or two cots with a therm-a-rest mattress can be added in. On our expedition style tours, most of our tents also have the capacity for two, with some larger tents available. When filling out your Personal and Medical Information form, you will have the opportunity to share who you would like to share a tent with on your tour.

## **Q: I have had someone in my group cancel. What are my options?**

A: You are welcome to change group members up until 30 days prior to your departure. 30 days or closer to the tour departure we may still be able to accommodate a change in person, but complex dietary needs would need to be discussed with our food team. Any changes in dietary needs could result in the dietary accommodation fee being added or removed from your tour cost.

## **Q: How do my group members pay for the trip?**

A: Each group member will receive an invoice directly from Spirit of the West once they contact us with their details. To secure their spot on the tour, a 25% deposit is required. At the time of final payment, guests will receive an email with instructions to pay the remaining balance. Payments can be made by calling us with your payment details, sending an e-transfer to [info@kayakingtours.com](mailto:info@kayakingtours.com) (installment options available), or clicking the 'Pay' button on your booking invoice to pay the 25% deposit. This link will take you to our secure server, allowing you to pay online at your convenience.

[Click here to see more general tour FAQs](#)

# PRIVATE TOUR PRICING

Prices for private tours (also known as tour buyouts) depend on the type of tour selected. Each group member will pay their portion of the tour cost, which is based on the maximum occupancy required for your selected tour.

If, at the time of final payment, your group is smaller than the maximum capacity, the discount applied will depend on the number of people booked. Our group discounts are as follows:

- 10% for 8 or more people
- 5% for 5–7 people
- No discount for fewer than 5 people

\*No other discounts apply to these rates. All tour rates above are also subject to 5% GST and a \$25 sustainability fee per person.

## ADDITIONAL OPTIONAL INDIVIDUAL CHARGES

- **Dietary Accommodation Fee\*:** \$75
- **Rental sleeping bag:** \$30 (+tax)
- **Rental rain jacket OR pants:** \$20 (+tax)
- **Rain gear set (jacket and pants):** \$30 (+tax)

\*Add-on for gluten-free, dairy-free, vegan, nut-free, or similar dietary accommodation. This add-on is NOT needed for vegetarians, no red meat, no fish, or no seafood diets. Please see our Food Page for more details.

## CANCELLATION POLICY

**Tours that take place in Canada:** If you must cancel your tour, your refund is as follows:

- 60 days or more prior to the trip departure date – Full amount is refunded less a \$150 administration fee per person (the guest is responsible for any costs incurred for cancelling any additional tours or travel arrangements).
- 59-30 days prior to the trip departure date – 50% of total tour price is refunded.
- Less than 30 days prior to the trip departure date – No refund will be given.

**Tours that take place outside of Canada:** If you must cancel your tour, your refund is as follows:

- 120 days or more prior to the trip departure date – Full refund less a \$250 USD administration fee per person (the guest is responsible for any costs incurred for cancelling any additional tours or travel arrangements).
- 119-90 days prior to the trip departure date – 50% of total tour price is refunded.
- Less than 90 days prior to the trip departure date – No refund will be given.