KIULLIQ REGION

Repulse Bay

Population: 838

Repulse Bay lies directly on top of the Arctic Circle in eastern Nunavut. One of the last places in the Arctic to join the modern world, Repulse Bay is full of traditional Inuit life.

The Inuktitut name for Repulse Bay is Naujaat, which means “nesting place for seagulls”. Nesting grounds are located on cliffs five kilometers north of the community and every June the area is occupied by thousands of seagulls, as well as snow birds, loons, eider ducks, long-tailed ducks, and jaegers.

Repulse Bay is renowned for its excellent artisans, especially for its Inuit carvers who work in bone, ivory and stone. Community residents have formed the Aivilik Arts Society in an effort to promote Repulse Bay carvings and art to worldwide markets.

For more information about Repulse Bay, visit their website at: www.repulsebay.ca.

Coral Harbour

Population: 853

Coral Harbour is located on the southern shore of Southampton Island, on the northern rim of Hudson Bay.

The Inuktitut name for the community is Salliq (large, flat island in front of the mainland); the English name refers to the fossilized coral that is found in the harbour.

Coral Harbour is one of the best places in Nunavut to see marine wildlife. The nearby Coates Island is a resting place for colonies of walruses. Two bird sanctuaries — the East Bay Migratory Bird Sanctuary and the Harry Gibbons Migratory Bird Sanctuary — are a must for birdwatchers. Thousands of snow geese, as well as tundra swans, sandhill cranes and other species migrate to the area in spring. Local outfitters offer boat tours to view the wildlife in the area.

For more information about Coral Harbour, visit their website at: www.coralharbour.ca.

Baker Lake

Population: 1,938

Baker Lake, or Qamani’tuq, is situated inland, at the huge widening at the mouth of the Thelon River, close to the geographic centre of Canada.
Baker Lake is well-known for its arts and craft community. Distinguished artists and studios promoting arts and crafts, such as the Inuit Heritage Centre, the Jessie Oonark Centre, and well-established independent art galleries are assets to the community’s arts and craft industry.

The natural resource industry could also have a significant impact on the economic development of Baker Lake. Further development of the Meawdowbank gold deposit has already created numerous local hires. If the mine proceeds into operation, more jobs will be available at the site, approximately 70 kms from Baker Lake. From administration to cooking to heavy equipment operation, community council is now proactively looking into training programs to prepare its residents for the assortment of jobs that may be available.

For more information about Baker Lake, visit www.bakerlake.ca.

**Chesterfield Inlet**

Population: 389

Chesterfield Inlet is located on the northwest coast of Hudson Bay, just north of Rankin Inlet. Its traditional name is *Igluigaarjuk*, which translates to “place with a few igloos”.

Chesterfield Inlet is the “oldest” community in the Arctic, dating back to the 1920s; however, even before the white man came to the area, community living had long been established at Igluigaarjuk. Remains of a complex of sod houses are located just outside the community, where it is believed that over 700 people resided before contact with European culture.

Today, the Chesterfield Inlet Historic Trail outlines the rich history of the area. Other tourist pursuits include excellent fishing, hiking, whale watching and caribou sport hunting. As part of ongoing economic development, the community is working to prepare its residents for business in tourism.

For more information about Chesterfield Inlet, visit their website at: www.chesterfieldinlet.net.

**Rankin Inlet**

Population: 2,717

Rankin Inlet, or *Kangiqtiniq* (“deep bay/inlet” in Inuktitut) is the business and transportation hub of the Kivalliq region. Rankin is the gateway to Nunavut from Central and Western Canada. Due to the large volume of traffic through the area, as well as a history of regional government, mining and exploration, Rankin Inlet has developed a strong taskforce of entrepreneurs. Freight expediters, equipment suppliers and outfitters can provide tourists and companies interested in doing business in the area with a wide variety of services.

The Ijiraliq (Meliadine) River Territorial Historic Park is a favorite spot for hiking, fishing and birdwatching. Archaeological sites, such as the European whaler shipwreck near Marble Island and the Thule site in the Ijiraliq River area, provide glimpses into a remarkable past.

For more information about Rankin Inlet, visit www.rankininlet.net.
**Whale Cove**

Population: 407

The community of Whale Cove, or Tikirarjuaq (long point), is nestled within a bay, along the western shore of Hudson Bay. The cove is located north of Arviat, just south of Rankin Inlet. This community was initially settled by three distinct Inuit groups (one inland and two coastal), who came to the area during the settlement development of the 1950s. Today, Whale Cove remains a mainly traditional community, with diverging dialects and cultures, originating from both inland and coastal traditions.

The abundance of land and marine wildlife has enabled the Inuit of Whale Cove to enjoy a traditional diet and lifestyle. Seal, walrus and beluga are the mainstay of the traditional diet. Seasonal caribou and polar bear hunting, as well as trout and char fishing, are also regular activities.

To augment the diet of fish and mammals, highly nutritious berries and sea kelp are collected for consumption.


**Arviat**

Population: 2,308

The name “Arviat” comes from *arviq*, the Inuktitut name for bowhead whale. The community is located on the western shore of Hudson Bay, north of Churchill, Manitoba. Arviat’s lands and waters are rich in wildlife. The McConnell River Migratory Bird Sanctuary, south of town, is a great place to observe thousands of nesting waterfowl. In the fall, beluga whales are frequently seen in the bays around town and caribou are often spotted near the community.

Arviat is a diverse community where traditional knowledge and values are maintained in harmony with practical economic development. The Inuktitut language remains very strong among residents. Through projects, such as a video to promote tourism and an arts and craft centre for export of Inuit art, Arviat residents use their cultural strengths to develop the local economy.

For more information about Arviat, visit [www.arviat.ca](http://www.arviat.ca) or [www.visitarviat.ca](http://www.visitarviat.ca).