

ICELAND ROAD TRIP

ITINERARY

DAY
1

DAY 1: WELCOME TO ICELAND

On arrival to Keflavik International Airport, you will be greeted by a driver who will take you to your accommodation in Reykjavík. The rest of the day is free for you to settle in and explore Reykjavík at will. Visit the city's many museums, galleries and landmarks or enjoy its cafés and restaurants; all accessible by foot. Central Reykjavík is also home to many bars and nightclubs for those interested in experiencing the city's renowned nightlife.

Spend the night in Reykjavik.

Attractions: Reykjavík

DAY
2

DAY 2: THE GOLDEN CIRCLE

Collect your rental car in the morning and begin your journey on the classic Golden Circle route, home to some of Iceland's most popular attractions in the south. Start with a visit to the fascinating Þingvellir National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Here, you can walk on a path in the rift valley between the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates, and also see the site of Iceland's first parliament. History and geology enthusiasts will not want to miss this. Next on the route is the Haukadalur geothermal area, where you can see Geysir—the original “geyser”—and its more active neighbour, Strokkur, which spouts water and steam metres into the air every few minutes. Complete the circle with visits to the majestic Gullfoss waterfall and the impressive implosion crater of Kerið, which currently holds a pool of bright blue water.

Spend the night in the Selfoss area.

Driving distance approx. 182 km / 113 mi.

Attractions: Geysir, Gullfoss, Kerið, Þingvellir

DAY
3

DAY 3: SCENIC NATURE & THRILLING ADVENTURES

Enjoy the day in the area surrounding Selfoss, where you can hike some trails or book optional activities like horseriding, a visit to a natural geothermal spring, river rafting, snorkeling between the continents, venturing inside a volcano, golfing or simply spending the day at leisure. You are in control of your adventure today. Other options today include visiting the charming coastal villages of Stokkseyri and Eyrarbakki or perhaps drive the beautiful Þjórsárdalur valley towards Hekla. If you have rented a 4x4 vehicle approved for F-roads, you could venture out to the surreal, colorful mountainous area of Landmannalaugar – a popular destination among hiking enthusiasts.

Spend the night in the Selfoss area.

Attractions: Eyrarbakki & Stokkseyri, Háifoss, Hekla, Þjórsárdalur

DAY

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DAY 4: WATERFALLS AND VOLCANIC BEACHES

Start with visits to the fairytale-like Seljalandsfoss waterfall, where you can have the unique experience of walking directly behind the misty cascade, followed by a visit to the gorgeous 60-metre tall Skógafoss waterfall just a short drive down the road. Further ahead at Vík, you can make a stop at the black volcanic beach south of the village, from where you can view the impressive rock formations Dyrhólaey and Reynisdrangar. The last stop of the day is at the stunning Fjaðrárgljúfur canyon, which is a treat to roam and photograph. You also have a chance today to join an exciting guided excursion by foot or snowmobile on a glacier!

Spend the night in the Kirkjubæjarklaustur area.

Driving distance approx. 205 km / 127 mi.

Attractions: Dyrhólaey, Fjaðrárgljúfur, Kirkjubæjarklaustur, Reynisfjara & Reynisdrangar, Seljalandsfoss, Seljavallalaug, Skaftafell, Skógafoss, Vík í Mýrdal

DAY

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DAY 5: VAST GLACIERS AND JAGGED ICEBERGS

Today you will have a chance to enjoy Skaftafell, part of the immense Vatnajökull National Park and a place of great natural beauty with many interesting hiking trails, including a short walk to the beautiful Svartifoss waterfall. This area is also full of opportunities for more adventurous pursuits, such as a guided glacier walk or ice-climbing excursion. Then, head to the glorious Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon, where you can join a boat ride among the maze of floating icebergs (optional).

Spend the night in the Höfn area.

Driving distance approx. 208 km / 129 mi.

Attractions: Diamond Beach, Höfn, Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon, Skaftafell

DAY

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DAY 6: THE ENCHANTING EAST FJORDS AND THE QUIET WILDERNESS

Today's drive in East Iceland takes you along tranquil fishing villages, spectacular fjords and sweeping landscapes. Anyone who enjoys offbeat attractions – particularly geology buffs or garden enthusiasts – will want to visit Petra's Mineral Collection in Stöðvarfjörður, a small museum of found natural objects and mineral rocks started as a personal hobby by a local resident. End the day in Egilsstaðir, where you will find the monster habitat Lagaflljót and Hallormsstaðarskógur forest, the largest wooded area in Iceland; the Wilderness Center – Óbyggðasetrið is highly recommended, an old farm turned into a exhibition, guesthouse, café, located at the end of the fjord leading into a deep valley close to the highlands.

Spend the night in the Egilsstaðir or Seyðisfjörður area.

Driving distance approx. 259 km / 159 mi.

Attractions: Búlandstindur, Djúpivogur, Egilsstaðir & Lagarfljót, Fáskrúðsfjörður, Hallormsstaður

DAY 7: SEYÐISFJÖRÐUR AND LAKE MÝVATN

Drive to Seyðisfjörður, one of the most enchanting villages in Iceland with its well-preserved wooden houses, steep mountains and picture-perfect fjord scenery. Next, head to the Lake Mývatn area, a hotbed of volcanic landscapes such as the Námaskarð Pass, Skútustaðagígar pseudo-craters, Dimmuborgir lava formations and Krafla, one of Iceland's most fascinating volcanoes. Later, take a dip in the soothing milky blue geothermal waters of the Mývatn Nature Baths, the perfect way to relax after a full day of sightseeing.

Spend the night in the Lake Mývatn area.

Driving distance approx. 228 km / 141 mi.

Attractions: Dimmuborgir, Hengifoss & Litlanesfoss, Krafla & Leirhnjúkur, Lake Mývatn, Námaskarð, Seyðisfjörður, Skútustaðagígar Pseudo-Craters

DAY 8: DETTIFOSS, ÁSBYRGI & HLJÓÐAKLETTAR

Use this day to further explore the surroundings of Lake Mývatn. You can start the day with an optional whale-watching trip from the charming village of Húsavík, “the whale watching capital of Europe” for a chance to see Minke, Fin and Humpback whales if luck is on your side. Then, drive through Jökulsárgljúfur—part of Vatnajökull National Park, visiting such sights as the hoof-shaped Ásbyrgi canyon and the most powerful waterfall in Europe, Dettifoss. Watching the white rapids tumble and crash metres below is awe-inspiring as the wide waterfall is vast and thunderous. There are well maintained walking paths on the east and west sides of the waterfall, giving you a chance to explore it from multiple angles.

Spend the night in the Lake Mývatn area.

Driving distance approx. 200 km / 124 mi.

Attractions: Ásbyrgi, Dettifoss, Húsavík, Jökulsárgljúfur National Park, Lake Mývatn

DAY

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DAY 9: EXPLORE NORTH ICELAND

Spend the first half of the day around Lake Mývatn. We recommend a visit to Goðafoss (the Waterfall of the Gods) on your way to the charming town of Akureyri, where you will find interesting shops, cafes, museums and even a well-maintained botanical garden.

After your break in Akureyri, you can choose to head straight to Skagafjörður or take a detour on the way to Tröllaskagi (the Peninsula of the Trolls), where you can enjoy fantastic scenery of towering mountains, jagged cliffs and wide fjords. Then, continue through Siglufjörður, which was once the centre of Iceland's herring fleet, and make a stop at Hofsós to relax in the thermal pool (optional) before arriving at Skagafjörður, an area known for its abundance of purebred Icelandic horses.

Spend the night in Northwest Iceland.

Driving distance approx. 255 km / 158 mi.

Attractions: Akureyri, Goðafoss, Hofsós, Hólar í Hjaltadal, Hrísey, Siglufjörður, Skagafjörður

DAY

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DAY 10: JOURNEY TO SNÆFELLSNES

You will head to the Snæfellsnes Peninsula today, and along the way you will see the numerous mounds of Vatnsdalshólar and the classic Icelandic Þingeyrarkirkja church. You may also choose to make stops at the living museum at Eiríksstaðir, the home of famous Viking Erik the Red, visit the hot geothermal pool of Guðrúnarlaug, or pay a visit to Stykkishólmur, a picture-perfect fishing village overlooking Breiðafjörður Bay. Here, you can take a walk up to the small hill overlooking the harbour, Súgandisey, for a wonderful panoramic view over the town, ocean and looming mountains.

Spend the night in the Snæfellsnes/Borgarfjörður area.

Driving distance approx. 359 km / 223 mi.

Attractions: Eiríksstaðir, Guðrúnarlaug, Kirkjufell, Snæfellsjökull National Park, Vatnsdalshólar, Þingeyrarkirkja

DAY

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DAY 11: SNÆFELLSJÖKULL NATIONAL PARK & SNÆFELLSJÖKULL GLACIER

Experience the geographically diverse Snæfellsjökull National Park, with rich birdlife, lush valleys and lava fields. It's an ideal road trip to drive around the peninsula, exploring Dritvík Cove, Lóndrangar Cliffs as well as Hellnar and Arnarstapi Cliffs with its abundant birdlife and the quaint villages along the coast. You might wish to test your strength at the stones of the black volcanic beach of Djúpalónssandur like the sailors did years ago to prove their strength and vie for choice roles in ships. In Snæfellsnes, you can choose from a variety of activities such as hiking, taking a boat cruise or simply relax and take in the glacier's alleged supernatural energy.

Spend the night in Reykjavík.

Driving distance approx. 185 km / 115 mi.

Attractions: Arnarstapi, Djúpalónssandur, Dritvík Cove, Hellnar, Lóndrangar, Snæfellsjökull National Park

DAY

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DAY 12: DEPARTURE

On your day of departure, a shuttle bus will collect you from your hotel in Reykjavík and transport you to Keflavík International Airport ahead of your scheduled flight. If your flight is in the afternoon, you can fit in a relaxing visit to the Blue Lagoon geothermal spa or even take a short guided tour of the volcanic Reykjanes Peninsula (optional; not included).

Whatever your needs, we are here to help. If you have any questions about our packages or services, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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