

ICELAND FULL CIRCLE CLASSIC

ITINERARY

DAY

1

DAY 1: WELCOME TO REYKJAVÍK

On arrival to Keflavik Airport, you will be greeted by a driver who will take you to your accommodation in **Reykjavík**. After settling in, the rest of the day is free for you to explore the vibrant city centre with its abundance of museums, restaurants and bars to suit all tastes. If you're interested in checking out Icelandic design or experiencing the city's thriving coffee culture, head to the main street, Laugavegur, and enjoy its various shops and cosy cafes.

Spend the night in Reykjavík.

HIGHLIGHTS: 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. Start with a visit to the fascinating **Pingvellir 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. 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 every few minutes. End the circle with visits to the majestic **Gullfoss** waterfall and the old implosion crater of **Kerið**.

Spend the night in the Hvolsvöllur area.

Driving distance approx. 230 km / 143 mi.

HIGHLIGHTS: Geysir - Gullfoss - Kerið - Þingvellir

DAY

3

DAY 3: WATERFALLS AND VOLCANIC BEACHES

Start with visits to the fairytale-like **Seljalandsfoss** waterfall, where you can experience walking right behind the misty cascade, and the gorgeous 60-metre high **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 rock formations **Dyrhólaey** and **Reynisdrangar**. The last stop of the day is to the stunning **Fjaðrárgljúfur** canyon. You also have a chance today to join an exciting guided excursion by foot or snowmobile on a glacier!

Spend the night in **Kirkjubæjarklaustur/Skaftafell** area.

Driving distance approx. 157 km / 97 mi.

HIGHLIGHTS: Dyrhólaey - Fjaðrárgljúfur - Kirkjubæjarklaustur - Reynisfjara & Reynisdrangar - Seljalandsfoss - Seljavallalaug - Skaftafell - Skógafoss - Vík í Mýrdal

DAY

4

DAY 4: GLACIERS AND ICEBERGS

Enjoy **Skaftafell**, part of the immense Vatnajökull National Park and a place of great natural beauty with many interesting hiking trails, including a short path to the beautiful Svartifoss waterfall. This area is also full of

interesting hiking trails, including a short path to the beautiful Svartíross waterfall. This area is also full of opportunities for more adventurous pursuits, such as guided glacier-walking or ice-climbing excursions. Then, head to the amazing **Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon**, where you can join a boat ride among the maze of floating icebergs (optional).

Spend the night in the **Höfn** or Djúpvogur area.

Driving distance approx. 208 km / 129 mi.

HIGHLIGHTS: Diamond Beach - Höfn - Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon - Skaftafell

DAY

5

DAY 5: FJORDS AND FISHING VILLAGES

Your drive along East Iceland today is characterised by spectacular fjords, tranquil fishing villages, rugged tundra and sweeping landscapes. On arrival to the otherworldly Lake Mývatn, you have an abundance of unusual natural wonders to explore, including the **Krafla** volcano, the curiously-coloured **Námaskarð** pass, the massive crater of **Hverfell** and the lunar-like pseudo-craters at Skútustaðir.

Spend the night in the Lake Mývatn area.

Driving distance approx. 430 km / 267 mi.

HIGHLIGHTS: Búlandstindur - Egilsstaðir & Lagarfljót - Hverfjall - Krafla & Leirhnjúkur - Námaskarð - Petra's Stone Collection

DAY

6

DAY 6: LUNAR LANDSCAPES OF LAKE MÝVATN

Use this day to further explore the surroundings of **Lake Mývatn**. You can start the day with an optional whale-watching trip from the village of **Húsavík**, "The Whale Watching Capital of Europe". 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**. End the day by bathing in the relaxing geothermal waters of the **Mývatn Nature Baths**, where you can experience the glow of the midnight sun.

Spend the night in the Lake Mývatn area.

HIGHLIGHTS: Ásbyrgi - Dettifoss - Húsavík - Jökulsárgljúfur National Park - Lake Mývatn - Mývatn Nature Baths

DAY

7

DAY 7: 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 and museums as well as the world's most northerly botanical garden.

After your break in **Akureyri**, you can either head straight to **Skagafjörður** or take a detour on the way there to Tröllaskagi ("The Peninsula of the Trolls"), where you can enjoy fantastic scenery of beautiful mountains, cliffs and 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 to Skagafjörður, an area known for its abundance of purebred Icelandic horses.

Spend the night in Northwest Iceland.

Driving distance approx. 301 km / 187 mi.

HIGHLIGHTS: Akureyri - Goðafoss - Hofsós - Hólar í Hjaltadal - Hrísey - Lake Mývatn - Siglufjörður - Skagafjörður

DAY
8

DAY 8: JOURNEY TO SNÆFELLSNES PENINSULA

Head to Snæfellsnes Peninsula today. On the way you'll see the countless mounds of **Vatnsdalshólar** and the beautiful **Þingeyrakirkja** church. You may also wish to make stops to the living museum at **Eiríksstaðir**, home of famous Viking Erik the Red, and 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, sea and surrounding mountains.

Spend the night on Snæfellsnes Peninsula / Borgarfjörður area.

Driving distance approx. 335 km / 208 mi.

HIGHLIGHTS: Eiríksstaðir - Guðrúnarlaug - Kirkjufell - Snæfellsjökull National Park - Vatnsdalshólar - Þingeyrakirkja

DAY
9

DAY 9: SNÆFELLSJÖKULL NATIONAL PARK AND SNÆFELLSJÖKULL GLACIER

Experience the unique **Snæfellsjökull National Park**, with amazing birdlife, lush valleys and lava fields. It is ideal to drive around the peninsula, exploring **Dritvík** Cove, **Lóndrangar** Cliffs as well as **Hellnar** and **Arnarstapi** Cliffs with its bursting bird-life and the small villages on the coast. You might also wish to test your strength at the stones of the black volcanic beach of **Djúpalónssandur** like the seamen in past times.

Spend the night in Reykjavík.

Driving distance approx. 219 km / 136 mi.

HIGHLIGHTS: Arnarstapi - Djúpalónssandur - Dritvík Cove - Hellnar - Lóndrangar - Snæfellsjökull National Park

DAY
10

DAY 10: DEPARTURE

On your day of departure, a shuttle bus will collect you from your hotel in **Reykjavík** and deliver you back 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).

HIGHLIGHTS: Reykjavík

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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