

ICELAND COMPLETE CLASSIC

ITINERARY

DAY

1

DAY 1: ARRIVAL/REYKJAVÍK

On arrival to Keflavik Airport, you will be greeted by a driver who will take you to your accommodation in Reykjavik. 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.

**Please note that for September arrivals, your travel consultant will alter the itinerary so you will be travelling around the island clockwise.*

HIGHLIGHTS: Reykjavík

DAY

2

DAY 2: WONDERS OF THE GOLDEN CIRCLE

Travel to some of the best known natural phenomena in Iceland on the “Golden Circle” route, starting with Þingvellir National Park, where you can actually walk in the rift valley between the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates. Next up is the Haukadalur geothermal area, home of the Great Geysir—the original “geyser”—and its more active neighbour, Strokkur, which spouts water every few minutes. End 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: THE SOUTH COAST & WATERFALLS

Head to the south coast and visit the majestic Seljalandsfoss waterfall—where you can walk right behind the misty cascade—and the equally impressive Skógafoss waterfall. Further along near Vík, make a stop to admire the black volcanic beach and the dramatic Dyrhólaey and Reynisdrangar rock formations. Other sights on the way include the Mýrdalsjökull glacier and the quaint village of Kirkjubæjarklaustur.

Spend the night in the Kirkjubæjarklaustur or Skaftafell area.

Driving distance approx. 162 km / 100 mi.

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

DAY

4

DAY 4: SKAFTAFELL AND VATNAJÖKULL GLACIER

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 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 Djúpivogur area.

Driving distance approx. 208 km / 129 mi.

HIGHLIGHTS: Diamond Beach - Höfn - Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon - Skaftafell - Vatnajökull National Park

DAY

5

DAY 5: THE EAST FJORDS

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 – may 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 the area of Egilsstaðir, where you will find the monster habitat Lagaflljót and Hallormsstaðarskógur forest, the largest wooded area in Iceland.

Spend the night in the Egilsstaðir area.

Driving distance approx. 256 km / 159 mi.

HIGHLIGHTS: Búlandstindur - Djúpivogur - Egilsstaðir & Lagaflljót - Hallormsstaður - Petra's Stone Collection

DAY

6

DAY 6: LUNAR LANDSCAPES OF LAKE MÝVATN

Today's drive brings you to the Lake Mývatn area, a hotbed of volcanic landscapes such as the Námaskarð Pass, the Skútustaðagígur pseudo-craters, the Dimmuborgir lava formations and Mt. Krafla, one of Iceland's most interesting volcanoes. Later on, take a dip in the soothing 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. 197 km / 122 mi.

HIGHLIGHTS: Dimmuborgir - Krafla & Leirhnjúkur - Lake Mývatn - Námafjall

DAY

7

DAY 7: JÖKULSÁRGLJÚFUR NATIONAL PARK

Use this day to explore more of Lake Mývatn and its unique surroundings. We recommend a drive through the Jökulsárgljúfur part of Vatnajökull National Park, visiting such sights as the Ásbyrgi canyon and Dettifoss, the most powerful waterfall in Europe. Another great option is to join a whale watching tour at the nearby village of Húsavík, "the whale watching capital of Europe".

Spend another night in the Lake Mývatn area.

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

DAY

8

DAY 8: AKUREYRI & THE "TROLL PENINSULA"

Make a stop at Goðafoss ("waterfall of the gods") before arriving to Akureyri, a charming town with a variety of interesting shops and museums as well as one of the world's northernmost botanical gardens. Continuing towards Skagafjörður, a valley known for its abundance of Icelandic horses, you will also pass through the beautiful, mountainous area of Tröllaskagi ("peninsula of the trolls"), the old herring-fishing village of Siglufjörður and Hofsó, where you can enjoy wonderful scenery from the town's thermal pool.

Spend the night in Northwest Iceland.

Driving distance approx. 258 km / 160 mi.

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

DAY

9

DAY 9: JOURNEY TO THE WEST FJORDS

Drive to the tranquil, remote West Fjords of Iceland. Sights along the way include the countless mounds of Vatnsdalshólar, the Borgarvirki natural fortress and the Glaumbær folk museum. The Icelandic Sorcery and Witchcraft Museum and the Sorcerer's Cottage, both in Hólmavík, and hot natural pools in Dranganes are also well worth a visit.

Spend the night in the Hólmavík area.

Driving distance approx. 274 km / 170 mi.

HIGHLIGHTS: Borgarvirki - Dranganes - Glaumbær - Vatnsdalshólar - Westfjords

DAY

10

DAY 10: ÍSAFJÖRÐUR & MARITIME HISTORY

Today's journey is characterized by endless but dramatic fjords and towering mountains on your way to Ísafjörður, the "Capital of the West Fjords" and the biggest settlement in the region. There you'll find some of the most historic houses in Iceland, dating back to the mid-18th century. You may also wish to drive to nearby Bolungarvík and visit the Ósvör Maritime Museum, a great way to see what life was like for Iceland's fishermen in the old days.

Spend the night in the Ísafjörður area.

Driving distance approx. 220 km / 136 mi.

HIGHLIGHTS: Bolungarvík - Ísafjörður - Neðstikaupstaður

DAY

11

DAY 11: DYNJANDI WATERFALL & LÁTRABJARG CLIFFS

Head to Dýrafjörður, where you will find the trail of the Viking Saga hero Gisli Súrsson as well as the Skrúður botanical garden. Continuing to Hrafnseyri, you can visit a museum dedicated to another hero, Jón Sigurðsson, who was influential in Iceland's battle for independence. Next, make a stop at the impressive Dynjandi waterfall before heading to the spectacular 444 metre-high cliff of Látrabjarg, the westernmost point of Europe. Here, you can get a good look at some of Iceland's many species of nesting seabirds, such as puffins and razorbills.

Spend the night in the Patreksfjörður or Breiðavík area.

Driving distance approx. 269 km / 167 mi.

HIGHLIGHTS: Dynjandi - Hrafnseyri - Látrabjarg - Mt. Kaldbakur

DAY

12

DAY 12: RAUÐISANDUR BEACH & FERRY ACROSS BREIÐAFJÖRÐUR

Kick off the day with an early visit to the rich golden sands of Rauðisandur, or take a relaxing dip in a natural hot pool at Vatnsfjörður nature reserve. Take the Baldur ferry at noon across Breiðafjörður Bay to the village of Stykkishólmur on the Snæfellsnes peninsula, passing the island of Flatey along the way*. The duration of the ferry ride is about 2 Hours and 45 minutes.

If you have time to explore after your arrival in Stykkishólmur, we recommend spending the afternoon roaming the region's unique sights, including Snæfellsjökull glacier in Snæfellsjökull National Park, the Dritvík cove and the small, charming hamlets of Arnarstapi, Hellnar and Búðir.

Spend the night in the Snæfellsnes region.

**In May and September, the Baldur ferry departs only in the evenings, so we recommend that you drive around the bay to Stykkishólmur village. The drive adds approximately 280 km / 173 mi to your journey, but it is very scenic.*

Driving distance approx. 170 km / 100 mi.

HIGHLIGHTS: Arnarstapi - Breiðafjörður & Flatey - Búðir - Dritvík Cove - Hellnar - Kirkjufell - Rauðisandur - Snæfellsjökull National Park

DAY
13

DAY 13: SNÆFELLSNES PENINSULA & WEST ICELAND

Spend the early part of the day exploring the Snæfellsnes peninsula before reaching Borgarfjörður and the western part of the island. An optional detour today is to drive along beautiful Borgarfjörður where you will find the largest hot spring in Europe, the twin waterfalls Hraunfossar and Barnafoss, as well as Glanni Waterfall, Háafell Goat Farm, and the large lava tunnel of Víðgelmir. You can also choose to join a thrilling ice cave tour Into the Glacier (if time allows). There is something for everyone in wondrous West Iceland.

Spend the night in Reykjavík.

Driving distance approx. 177 km / 109 mi.

HIGHLIGHTS: Borgarnes - Deildartunguhver - Hraunfossar & Barnafoss - Reykholt - Reykjavík

DAY
14

DAY 14: 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 may have time for a relaxing visit to the Blue Lagoon geothermal spa or 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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