

# NATURAL WONDERS OF ICELAND

## ITINERARY

DAY

**1**

### DAY 1: ARRIVAL TO ICELAND AND REYKJAVIK

On arrival at Keflavik International Airport, you will be greeted by a driver who will transfer you to your hotel in the city centre of Reykjavik. After settling in, the rest of the day is free for you to explore the vibrant capital city 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 at **Skuggi Hotel** or similar.

**Included:**

- Private meet & greet airport transfer on arrival
- Welcome drink and group information meeting with your guide

*Average Driving Distance: 49km / 30 mi.*

*Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 50 Minutes*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Reykjavík

DAY

**2**

### DAY 2: THE FAMOUS GOLDEN CIRCLE & FRIÐHEIMAR FARM VISIT

This morning, your guide will meet you at the hotel and you will head to Þingvellir, a national park which has been nominated as a UNESCO world heritage site. Next, you will visit the great Geysir area with its spouting geysers and colourful hot springs. The tour will continue to Gullfoss, the golden waterfall, where you can see white water thrash and tumble down two-tiers, falling metres below.

After a scenic drive, the tour will make a special stop at Friðheimar farm, where we'll get to taste geothermally-grown tomatoes from one of their greenhouses and their delicious tomato soup. We will also meet Icelandic horses, famous for their diversity of gaits, strength and good spirit. End the day with dinner at the hotel, with an amazing view over the Ölfusá river.

Spend the night at **Hótel Selfoss** or similar.

**Included:**

- Visit to the Friðheimar Greenhouse
- Breakfast: Continental Breakfast Buffet at the Hotel
- Dinner at Hotel Selfoss

*Average Driving Distance: 195km / 121 mi.*

*Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 7-8 Hours*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Friðheimar Farm - Geysir - Gullfoss - Þingvellir

DAY

**3**

### DAY 3: VOLCANOES, WATERFALLS AND BLACK SAND BEACHES

This morning you and your fellow travellers will learn about Iceland's unique geology. You will visit the Lava Centre, an interactive exhibition about Iceland's volcanic activity, its frequent earthquakes and how Iceland evolved over millions of years. The next leg of the tour is along the south coast, below the majestic volcano

Eyjafjallajökull. You will stop at the fairytale-like Seljalandsfoss waterfall, where you can walk right behind the misty cascade, and the gorgeous 60-metre high Skógafoss waterfall. At Skógar, we will stop at the charming Skógar Open Air Museum, a cultural heritage collection including turf houses.

Further ahead at the village of Vík, we will visit the black volcanic beach south of the village, from where you can view the rock formations Dyrhólaey and Reynisdrangar. Next, our journey continues to our charming accommodation in Kirkjubæjarklaustur where you will enjoy dinner with the group.

Spend the night at **Hótel Klaustur** or similar.

**Included:**

- Entrance to the Lava Center
- Entrance to Skógar Museum
- Breakfast: Continental Breakfast Buffet at the Hotel
- Dinner at Hótel Klaustur

*Driving distance approx. 225 km / 140 mi.*

*Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8-9 Hours*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Reynisfjara & Reynisdrangar - Seljalandsfoss - Skógafoss - Skógar

DAY

4

## DAY 4: SKAFTAFELL AND JÖKULSÁRLÓN GLACIER LAGOON

Today's drive takes us to some of Iceland's most photogenic attractions, including a visit to the beautiful Skaftafell area of Vatnajökull National Park, named for Iceland's largest glacier. Next, the journey continues to the well-known Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon, where we will sail among the floating icebergs on a guided amphibian boat tour\*. Next to the glacier lagoon we will stop at the Diamond Beach where you will see big chunks of ice that have washed up on shore after being polished in the surf of the glacier lagoon.

After our ice experience at the glacier lagoon, we will stop for some homemade ice cream before driving along the majestic East Fjords on our way to our next accommodation. There you will enjoy dinner at the hotel.

Spend the night in at **Hótel Bláfell** or similar.

*\*Please note that the Glacier Lagoon boat tour is not available in April. Instead the group will enjoy lunch together in the area, included in price.*

**Included:**

- Local Ice Cream Stop
- Guided boat tour on Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon
- Breakfast: Continental Breakfast Buffet at the Hotel
- Dinner at Hotel Bláfell

*Driving distance approx. 375 km / 233 mi.*

*Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8-9 Hours*

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

DAY

5

## DAY 5: RUGGED EAST FJORDS TO MOON-LIKE NORTH ICELAND

This is a long day with a lot of diverse sights! Today's scenery in East Iceland includes tranquil fishing villages, narrow fjords, rugged tundra and sweeping landscapes. After reaching North Iceland, prepare to be amazed by the roaring Dettifoss, Europe's most powerful waterfall. There is a 1 km walk from the parking lot to the waterfall on a gravel road, definitely worth the trip.

Next we will explore the natural beauty of Lake Mývatn and its lunar landscapes with visits to the Námaskarð pass, the lava formations at Dimmuborgir and Skútustaðagígur pseudo craters. This is a great day for geology enthusiasts! Our journey ends in the seaside village of Húsavík, known as "Europe's Whale Watching Capital."

In the evening the group will dine together at the Salka Restaurant.

Spend the night at **Fosshótel Húsavík** or similar.

**Included:**

- Breakfast: Continental Breakfast Buffet at the Hotel
- Dinner at Salka Restaurant

*Average Driving Distance: 425 km / 264 mi.*

*Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 9-10 Hours*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Dettifoss - Dimmuborgir - Lake Mývatn - Námaskarð

DAY

6

## DAY 6: ÁSBYRGI, HLJÓÐAKLETTAR & LEISURE TIME

We start the day by driving to Jökulsárgljúfur National Park where we will visit the horseshoe-shaped Ásbyrgi canyon, which according to legend was formed by a footprint from the Norse god Odin's eight-legged horse. The next natural wonder on our list is Hljóðaklettar, the „echo rocks“, which are a collection of great basalt columns lying in every direction to create unique formations arched caves that are known to create eerie echoes and reverberations. There we will do a short hike to explore the area.

In the afternoon we will return to Húsavík, where you can enjoy the rest of the day at your leisure. For those who are up for more adventure, this is the perfect spot to join a whale watching tour from Húsavík harbour. Tonight, dinner will be on your own this evening in the village and there are several restaurants to choose from.

Spend another night at **Fosshótel Húsavík** or similar.

**Included:**

- Breakfast: Continental Breakfast Buffet at the Hotel

*Driving distance approx. 150 km / 93 mi.*

*Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 4-5 Hours*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Ásbyrgi - Hljóðaklettar - Húsavík - Jökulsárgljúfur National Park

DAY

7

## DAY 7: HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GREAT NORTH

Leaving the Húsavík area today, our first highlight of the journey is Goðafoss, (the waterfall of the Gods), one of the most picturesque waterfalls in Iceland. We will then make our way to the charming town of Akureyri, where we will take a stroll in the heart of the city centre. You will have some leisure time to explore the town on your own and grab a lunch, before we head to our next stop.

Next, the tour will drive around Tröllaskagi, where you can enjoy fantastic views of beautiful mountains, cliffs and fjords. We will make a stop in the scenic Siglufjörður, which was once the centre of Iceland's herring fleet. Here, we will visit the Herring Era Museum and taste some local treats. The journey continues to the tranquil farmlands of Skagafjörður, where you will enjoy dinner at the guesthouse.

Spend the night at **Hofsstaðir Guesthouse** or similar.

**Included:**

- Visit to the Herring Era Museum including a local treat
- Breakfast: Continental Breakfast Buffet at the Hotel
- Dinner at Hofsstaðir Guesthouse

*Driving distance approx. 270 km / 168 mi.*

*Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 7-8 Hours*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Akureyri - Goðafoss - Siglufjörður - Skagafjörður

DAY  
**8**

## DAY 8: HIDDEN GEMS OF THE WEST COAST

Today we will drive through Skagafjörður, towards the Snæfellsnes peninsula. This is a scenic drive on a beautiful stretch of Iceland. Your guide will pass sweeping farmlands of the northwest that are dotted with Icelandic horses. You will also get to see spectacular views of the islands of Breiðafjörður just before reaching Stykkishólmur in the early afternoon, where you will have time to explore on your own. You also have the option to partake in Viking sushi adventure, where you will sail around the islands of Breiðafjörður and sample delicious fish straight from the sea (optional; not included)\*. Tonight, you will enjoy dinner with the group.

*\*The Viking Sushi adventure is only available from 29 May - 31 Aug.*

Spend the night at **Hotel Fransiskus** or similar.

### **Included:**

- Breakfast: Continental Breakfast Buffet at the Hotel
- Dinner at Stykkishólmur village

*Driving distance approx. 275 km / 171 mi.*

*Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8-9 Hours*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Skagafjörður - Stykkishólmur

DAY  
**9**

## DAY 9: NATURAL WONDERS OF SNÆFELLSNES PENINSULA

Today we will explore the beautiful Snæfellsnes peninsula, starting with a visit to Kirkjufell, one of the most photogenic mountains of the area. Next up we will head toward the tip of the peninsula where you can measure your strength at Djúpalónssandur, by the lifting the large stones on the beach. Who will be the strongest? Nearby, we will find Hellnar and Arnarstapi, with its unique rock formations, before heading back to the capital and completing our circle around Iceland. After being dropped off at your hotel for the night, you will have the rest of the evening in the city at your leisure.

Spend the night at **Skuggi Hotel** or similar

### **Included:**

- Breakfast: Continental Breakfast Buffet at the Hotel

*Driving distance approx. 315 km / 196 mi.*

*Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8-9 Hours*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Arnarstapi - Djúpalónssandur - Hellnar - Kirkjufell - Reykjavík - Snæfellsjökull National Park

DAY  
**10**

## DAY 10: DEPARTURE DAY

When it's time for your Iceland adventure to end, you will be picked up from the hotel for your airport transfer by a shuttle bus about three hours before your flight. If you're flying in the afternoon, you have the option to visit the Blue Lagoon geothermal spa to relax in the warm mineral waters before continuing to the airport (optional; not included).

### **Included:**

- Breakfast: Continental Breakfast Buffet at the Hotel
- Shuttle Transfer to Keflavík International Airport on Departure

*Average Driving Distance: 49 km / 30 mi.*

*Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 50 Minutes*

**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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