



Northern Lights Exploration – Small group - 8 days (#2885)

Note: Price printed on this PDF is valid until **27-04-2024** and is subject to change without notice due to Partner changes and currency fluctuations

Overview

Discover the Golden Circle, the Snæfellsnes Peninsula, the Blue Lagoon, the Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon and Black lava beaches. Climb a volcano, learn about Iceland's earliest days at a Settlement Center, meet Icelandic horses, see turf farmsteads and churches. There is an optional ice cave tour at Vatnajökull glacier from October-April (weather permitting) and an optional Northern Lights by boat cruise from Reykjavík. Our Northern Lights Exploration series are designed to include the highlights of Iceland and aim to maximise the chances of seeing the elusive Northern Lights, most nights are spent in the darkness away from light pollution.

Regular departures (maximum 35 people) on Fridays

Small group departures (maximum 16 people) on Tuesdays

German departures (maximum 40 people) on Sundays

Trip Highlights



Reykjavik City Tour - Borgarfjordur Saga Valley - 3Snæfellsnes Peninsula - Lava Cave - Golden Circle, Geothermal Taste & Icelandic Horse - Natural Wonders of South Iceland & Eyjafjallajökull Volcano - Vatnajökull National Park & Glacier including Glacier Lagoon and Diamond Beach - South Shore & Blue Lagoon

Detailed Itinerary

Day 01

Day 1 Welcome to Iceland

Individual transfer by Flybus shuttle bus from Keflavik airport to your accommodation in Reykjavik. You may explore Iceland's capital city on your own if time allows.

Overnight location: Hotel Klettur or similar. Dinner is on your own. (50km / 31mi)

Day 02

Day 2 Reykjavik City Tour & Borgarfjordur Saga Valley

At 09:00 meet your tour guide who shows the group the highlights of Iceland's exciting capital. Then we head west. We stop in Borgarnes and learn about Iceland's earliest days at the Settlement Center. Next we head to Borgarfjörður, known as the Saga Valley because of its many important historical events. Get a chance to climb the Grábrók volcano crater and visit Deildartunguhver, Europe's most powerful hot spring. Hraunfossar is a series of waterfalls pouring from beneath a wide lava field. Barnafoss – the Children's falls, is nearby with its own tragic tale. The afternoon includes a lecture about Northern Lights. After dinner, step into the hotel garden in search of the Northern Lights followed by a hot cup of chocolate or tea.

Overnight location: Hotel Hamar or similar. Breakfast included. Lunch & dinner is on your own. (245km / 152mi)

Meal: Breakfast

Day 03

Day 3 Snæfellsnes Peninsula & Lava Cave

The Snæfellsnes Peninsula, "the peninsula of the snowy mountain", juts out from Iceland's west coast, like a long arm with a clenched fist at its tip, and is in many ways a microcosm of the whole island. A rugged mountain chain runs its length. Visit the fishing village of Grundarfjörður, a place with an impressive coastline and mountains, lakes and waterfalls behind the village. One of the most photographed and famous mountain in Iceland, Kirkjufell, can be seen jutting out into the bay. Visit



Arnarstapi and Hellnar before experiencing the area from below, inside Vatnshellir cave. We take you 35 meters underground and about 200 meters into the lava tube under the glacier Snæfellsjökull! On the way back to Borgarnes the guide gives you some practical tips on how to photograph the Auroras as part of the Northern Lights Academy program. Naturally, once darkness falls, we are out in the hotel garden to chase the Northern Lights and to soak in the hotel's outdoor hot tubs.

Overnight location: Hotel Hamar or similar. Breakfast & Lunch included. Dinner on your own. (300km / 186mi)

Meal: Breakfast and Lunch

Day 04

Day 4 Golden Circle, Geothermal Taste & Icelandic Horse

Travel along the Hvalfjörður fjord. The first stop is Þingvellir National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Travel the Golden Circle route, see steam rising from the Geysir geothermal fields. The chef of the Restaurant Geysir invites you to taste freshly baked hot spring bread served with Icelandic butter, boiled eggs and herring. On we travel to double waterfall of Gullfoss. In the afternoon, learn about the Icelandic horse, its unique qualities and history and visit a geothermal greenhouse, before reaching the accommodation in South Iceland. Tonight, step into the darkness and search for the elusive Northern Lights in the peace and stillness of rural Iceland.

Overnight location: Land hotel in Hella or similar. Breakfast included. Lunch & dinner is on your own. (260km / 162mi)

Meal: Breakfast

Day 05

Day 5 Natural Wonders of South Iceland & Eyjafjallajökull Volcano

Today we travel along the South coast. At the Lava & Volcano Exhibition Center, learn about geology and active volcanoes. Further east we visit one of Iceland's finest folk museums. This museum contains an outstanding collection of farm and domestic artefacts from Iceland's past and several turf-built houses. Nearby is Skógafoss waterfall which is 60 meters high and one of the most impressive waterfalls in the country. In the afternoon take a stroll on the black lava beach and along bird cliffs at Reynisfjara in South Iceland. We spend two nights near Kirkjubæjarklaustur in the Vatnajökull National Park region, located in darkness and ideal for Northern Lights search.

Overnight location: Fosshótel Núpar or similar. Breakfast included. Lunch & dinner is on your own. (225km / 140mi)

Meal: Breakfast



Day 06

Day 6 Vatnajökull National Park & Glacier including Glacier Lagoon and Diamond Beach

Today's program is all about glaciers, ice and icebergs. We travel to Jökulsárlón, a glacial lagoon filled with floating icebergs, and we explore the amazing site and might see seals swimming in arctic waters. You can walk on the black sandy beach, the so-called Diamond beach, where large icebergs get stranded. In the afternoon we visit the tiny turf church at Hof and spend time at Europe's largest national park, which has Iceland's highest mountains, an alpine environment, and Europe's largest glacier. In the evening enjoy a film presentation about the Northern Lights as part of the Northern Lights Academy program. Be careful not to go to bed too soon in this remote and quiet location, or you may miss out one more chance of seeing the Northern Lights shimmering and dancing across the night sky.

Optional Ice Cave Tour offered between October-April (weather permitting)

The tour takes about 2,5 hours in total – a 30-minute drive by 4×4 vehicle from the Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon and 5-15 minutes hike (one-way). You spend about one hour inside the ice cave. You need good hiking boots, warm clothing that keeps you dry from the dripping water in the ice cave. Minimum age is 10 years old. The ice cave tour can be booked on day 2 of Northern Lights Exploration tour. The ice cave explorers meet their local guide at the glacier lagoon and will be brought back to the hotel after the ice cave tour, while the rest of the group continues the official tour program. The ice cave explorers will miss out on some of the official tour programs, as there is no time for everything, but the stop and visit at the Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon are included for all group members.

Price per person ISK 23.000.-

Overnight location: Fosshótel Núpar or similar. Breakfast included. Lunch & dinner is on your own. (200km / 125mi)

Meal: Breakfast

Day 07

Day 7 South Shore & Blue Lagoon

From Kirkjubæjarklaustur we head across the Eldhraun lava field to the village of Vík, where we make a photo stop. The black lava beach with high bird cliffs and pounding waves is awe-inspiring. Further west we reach the high but narrow Seljalandsfoss waterfall which plunges from the mountain. In the afternoon we get to soak in the famous Blue Lagoon. We reach Reykjavík around dinner time for one last night.

Overnight location: Hotel Klettur or similar. Breakfast included. Lunch & dinner is on your own. (365km / 225mi)

The Blue Lagoon visit is in the afternoon. Tour ends around 7pm.

Meal: Breakfast



Day 08**Day 8 Departure Home**

Individual transfer by Flybus shuttle bus from your accommodation in Reykjavik to Keflavik International Airport.

Breakfast included. (50km / 31mi)

Meal: Breakfast

Inclusions

- 7 nights accommodation at comfort tourist-class hotels
- 7x breakfast
- 1x lunch
- 6 days escorted bus tour with English-speaking guide/driver-guide
- Arrival & departure airport transfer by Flybus shuttle (no guide)
- Visit the Settlement Center in Borgarnes
- Guided tour into Vatnshellir cave
- Hot spring Tasting with geothermal cooked bread & eggs
- Visit Icelandic horse stable & geothermal greenhouse
- Visit Lava Exhibition Center
- Skógar folk museum & turf houses
- Entrance with towel to Blue Lagoon
- Northern Lights program

Complementaries

- Entrance fees
- Free Wi-Fi on the bus
- Use of crampons for shoes
- Use of flashlight

Exclusions

Any private expenses

Any additional services

All meals not listed under “included”



Single supplement (mandatory when in a single room)

International airfares

Optional activities

Other meals, drinks, tips and other personal expenses or services not specified on the program

Personal equipment

Travel insurance

Gratuities

Voluntary tips for guides or drivers

Travel and medical insurance

Any items not mentioned as included

Note

Availability : September - April

Max People : 16

NOTE: Itineraries may be subject to change at short notice during severe weather conditions and certain outdoor activities/day trips may be cancelled during the winter season in Iceland. In these rare cases, where situations of force majeure apply, excursions/activities cannot be refunded but the local guides will try their best to find reasonable alternatives where and whenever possible.

NOTE: Accommodations are subject to change.

Additional services

- Extra night in Reykjavik before/after the tour – on request
- Upgrade for private airport transfer
- Optional ice cave visit October-April (weather permitting)

Child supplement is available on request

Tour is not recommended for children younger than eight years of age. Triple rooms are double rooms with extra bed and ideal for two adults and one child.

Start & End Location

Keflavik International Airport (Flybus shuttle)

Departure Time

09:00 on day 2 at Hotel Klettur, Reykjavík (subject to change)



Program Touring / Guide

Escorted Experience

Departure Period

01 Nov, 2023 to 30 Apr, 2024

3 Star

AUD 4,843 P P twin share

AUD 5,804 P P single

AVAILABLE

