



Iceland - The land of Ice, Fire and Aurora Borealis



HOLIDAY TYPE: Small Group

VISITING: Iceland

BROCHURE CODE: 20920

DURATION: 4 nights

In Brief

In this short tour, we have included some of the most famous attractions including a tour of the famous Golden Circle, featuring geysers, waterfalls and Pingvellir National Park - a UNESCO world heritage site, a Northern Lights tour and a hike to witness the lava flow of an active volcanic eruption; we are certain you will be planning your next trip on the plane ride home!

Our Opinion

“ This short trip was so much fun, we haven't stopped talking about it since we got back! There was so much to see and do that it felt like we were away much longer. Taking in some highlights and having time to wander around stunning Reykjavik was perfect, but to witness the gentle lava flow of an active volcano was truly incredible. ”

Andy Marshall



What's included?

- **Transfers:** return scheduled Flybus airport shuttle transfers and all activity transfers
- **Meals:** 4 breakfasts and 1 dinner at Bryggjan Brygghus
- **Accommodation:** 4 nights standard double/twin room at Hotel Frón (or similar) (upgrades available subject to availability; supplements may apply)
- **The following activities and equipment are included:** Golden Circle tour with a stop to bathe in a secret lagoon, Northern Lights hunt, hike to an active volcano (order subject to change)
- Crampon hire during active volcano hike
- Emergency contact during your time in Iceland
- **A note on flights:** flights are not included in the holiday price so that the best possible fares and schedule can be found at the time of booking. There are low cost and scheduled flights operating this route and our Travel Experts will happily provide a quotation and arrange the flights as part of the package

Trip Overview

There is nowhere else quite like Iceland. It is a country with many firsts and a country of many extremes in both historical milestones and geological attractions.

During the late ninth century, Iceland was officially first claimed by the Vikings who settled there. The world's first parliament was recorded in 930 in the Þingvellir National Park. Iceland has continued to be very progressive politically and socially and had the first female democratically voted president in the world, the first openly gay prime minister and was also amongst the first countries to make it a legal requirement to pay both men and women equally.

Even for those who have not previously been particularly interested in physical geography, you will soon remember your school textbooks as you explore some of the dramatic landscapes Iceland has to offer. The island's position in the middle of the Mid-Atlantic Rift is geologically significant because it marks the boundary between where the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates meet and separate. This is the reason why Iceland boasts over 200 different volcanoes, geysers and volcanic fissures.

During your trip, you will visit some of the most spectacular natural attractions Iceland has to offer. There will also be some free time to book additional tours or explore the bustling city of Reykjavik before heading out on a Northern Lights hunt. Your final day will be spent trekking to an active volcano* to witness the raw power of the lava pouring from the earth's surface! There are very few places in the world this is possible.

*Please note there is no way of predicting how long the volcanic eruption will continue in its current form. If the volcanic activity does change, we will work with our local partners to adapt the tour to ensure everyone's safety first and foremost. If the tour is no longer possible during your travel dates we will get in touch and offer an alternative at that time.

@ Lost in Iceland

Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY
1

ARRIVAL AND WELCOME DINNER

When you land at Keflavik Airport and collect your luggage you will head to the meeting point for the Flybus. This regularly scheduled service makes frequent trips to Reykjavik and will drop off at all the major hotels. If you would prefer to upgrade to private taxi transfers, please speak to your Travel Expert.

Once you have arrived and settled into your room, we recommend making use of its central location to explore Reykjavik's buzzing atmosphere. We have included a welcome dish at a restaurant in the harbour area of the city. It is a little hidden gem of a restaurant which one of the locals showed us during a visit – famous for their Barion burger, which is what you will be tasting tonight (vegan option available, drinks not included. The restaurant is around a 25-minute walk from your hotel or reception can arrange a taxi if you prefer). If you have time, we would also recommend visiting the FlyOver Iceland experience which is located in the same area as the restaurant. Please see the '[Personalise](#)' tab for more information.

Included Meals: Dinner

DAY
2

GOLDEN CIRCLE TOUR AND HOT SPRING VISIT

After breakfast, you will be picked up for a tour of the famous 'Golden Circle'. This will be a small group tour with a maximum of 20 people.

The golden circle combines some of Iceland's most popular natural attractions. You will travel to the

southern highlands visiting Þingvellir National Park, geyser geothermal area and Gullfoss waterfall.

Þingvellir National Park was Iceland's first National Park and is a UNESCO world heritage site. It was the first area of Iceland to be inhabited and later became the sight of the world's first parliament. Geology enthusiasts may already be familiar with this area as it is the meeting point of the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates, which creates some stunning geological sights.

The Geyser geothermal area is located in the Haukadalur Valley and at this site, you will find two remarkable geysers which have been active for around 10,000 years. Great Geysir only erupts every few months at most, so you will need to be exceptionally lucky to catch that one, but nearby Strokkur geyser erupts every 6-10 minutes and can shoot hot water as high as 40 metres into the air.

Finally, on your tour, you will visit Gullfoss waterfall. This is one of Iceland's most iconic and most photographed attractions. The waterfall has two 'drops' which together total 32 metres. The power of the water is mesmerising and on sunny days it is possible to view rainbows shooting from the spray.

Finally, you will make a stop at a tiny village in the countryside where the farms use the heat generated beneath the earth's surface to power their greenhouses. After a short tour, you will head to a local secret spot to bathe in a hot spring (don't forget your swimming costume!) before heading back to the city.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY
3

FREE DAY AND NORTHERN LIGHTS HUNT

Today we have left free for you to either book additional tours or enjoy Reykjavik at your own pace. We can arrange a city tour for you or, alternatively, if you would like to visit the world-famous Blue Lagoon we can also book this for you today. Please see the '[Personalise](#)' tab for more information.

Later this evening, around 21.30, you will be picked up to set off on a small group Northern Lights tour away from the artificial lights in the city. Your driver-guide will take you to some of the most successful viewing locations to enjoy an Aurora display if the conditions are in your favour. Viewing the Northern Lights can never be guaranteed, but that is all part of their charm. Your guide will also be able to answer any questions you have about the Aurora and will give you an introduction to the science behind their magical appearance.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY
4

TREK TO AN ACTIVE VOLCANO

Fill up on breakfast this morning as afterwards, you will be setting off on a real adventure. You will be picked up and driven to the eruption site at Geldingadalur. Fagradalsfjall, the volcano here had been dormant for around 6,000 years before erupting in March 2021. Experts believe the volcano will pose little threat to life, infrastructure or air travel for two main reasons. Firstly, this is an effusive eruption rather than an eruptive one (which was the case with Eyjafjallajökull in 2010 which severely impacted

air travel around the world). Fagradalsfjall has emerged as an open fissure releasing slow-moving, gentle lava flows in the form of molten rivers. The second reason is that the volcano's location is in a sheltered valley away from significant infrastructure.

No one knows exactly how long the eruption will continue in its present form. If the conditions do change, then we will adapt the tour accordingly - perhaps hiking to an alternative area to view the volcano from further away. If this does happen, we will contact you to discuss your options at the time.

The hike is around 2 hours each way, so you do need to be reasonably fit and comfortable walking on unsteady ground for such distances. For some sections of the walk, it may also be necessary to use crampons. These will be provided by the local team and a safety briefing will be given prior to setting off but your footwear should be suitable for crampon use. You will be using marked footpaths and trails, but the terrain does vary.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY
5

DEPARTURE

Today it is time to head home from Iceland! If you would like to extend your stay then please speak to one of our Travel Experts who would be happy to accommodate any requests.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Personalise this tour

Our pick



Northern Lights Boat Tour

If you really wish to maximise your chances of viewing the Northern Lights whilst in Iceland you have the option to add in one of our favourite tours. The best way to get away from all the artificial light of the city is to head out to sea. This voyage takes between 1.5 – 2.5 hours and you will travel far away from the bright lights of Reykjavik to, hopefully, catch a glimpse of the Northern Lights whilst out at sea. Even if you are not successful in your quest this is a great adventure to share with your travelling companions.

© Lost in Iceland

Other options

ACTIVITIES



Visit to the Blue Lagoon

Since the Blue Lagoon opened almost 35 years ago it has become famous around the world as one of the most unique spas anywhere! Much renovation and development has happened during its lifetime, but the essence of relaxing in the natural hot springs surrounded by the moon-like lava fields is still as memorable now as it was then. This tour includes return transfers from Reykjavik, entry to the lagoon, a welcome drink and a towel.

© Lost in Iceland



Walking tour of Reykjavik

There are many different walking tours of Reykjavik covering a whole range of specialist interest tours. Everything from street art, gastronomy to archaeology and Viking history and legends. We have chosen this 3-hour walking tour as a great introduction to gain a perfect overview of this vibrant city.

© Lost in Iceland



FlyOver Iceland

Around the world, Iceland is known for its incredible landscapes and dramatic views. Due to the remote location of some of these incredible settings, the FlyOver Iceland experience has opened in the harbour area of Reykjavik. Using state of the art technology, from your seat suspended before a 20-metre spherical screen, you will feel as if you are literally 'flying over Iceland' as you explore the vast glaciers, majestic fjords, dramatic ravines and many other attractions.

© Lost in Iceland

Included Accommodation

Hotel Frón (Nights: 1-4)



Hotel Frón has a great location in downtown Reykjavik. It is located just a few minutes walk from the main shops, restaurants, cafes, galleries and museums that this vibrant city has to offer. The staff are really welcoming, friendly and knowledgeable and are more than happy to help with anything guests need during their stay.

There is a range of room types available at Hotel Frón. Our holiday is based in the double/ twin rooms but there are also apartments (both standard and deluxe, studio, one or two-bedroom) and also suites if you are looking for a little more luxury during your stay. Please ask our Travel Experts for more information and a quotation if you are interested.

Room Type

Double/Twin rooms: these rooms are a stylish and comfortable base for your time in Iceland. They are furnished in a modern design and offer a great bolthole from the vibrant city around you. All rooms are en-suite and have a shower, a minibar, satellite TV, free Wi-Fi, a hairdryer and a safe to store valuables.

The Specifics

Holiday group size (approximate)

Minimum 2 persons; maximum 25 (approximately)

Group Size

We always try to provide an approximation of the group size you can expect to be with for the duration of each of our holidays. It may be that you are joined by others for parts of your holiday (such as transfers and particular activities) but the above number reflects those you can normally expect to be with from beginning to end. If group size is something which is particularly important to you, please speak to our Travel Experts and they can suggest the best holidays for you.

Tailor-made holiday group sizes will vary for all activities as will the group size for any additional activities you book.

Minimum numbers required for a holiday to operate

Some of our holidays require a minimum number of participants to operate (as listed in the 'Group Size' section). If your holiday departure has not yet reached the minimum number, you will be told at the time of booking. In the unlikely event that your chosen date is not guaranteed by nine weeks before your scheduled departure date, we will contact you to discuss the available options as per our [booking conditions](#).

Minimum and maximum age

If a specific minimum age applies to this holiday, it can be found in the Key Facts box on the holiday Overview page.

Unless otherwise stated in the Key Facts box on the holiday Overview page, the minimum age for participation in an Aurora Zone holiday is typically 12 years old (there may be younger children in some destinations who have booked with other companies). If an adult-only environment is important to you, then please contact our Travel Experts and they will advise on the best dates and destinations for you. If you are looking for a holiday designed specifically for families then please see our sister company www.activitiesabroad.com.

Itinerary amendments

The order of activities listed in this agenda is provided for guidance only, your final and detailed itinerary will be provided either with your final travel documents (which are uploaded into your online account around a week prior to departure) or upon arrival.

Terms and Conditions

Our full booking terms and conditions can be found on our website: <https://www.theaurorazone.com/booking-conditions>