

## ICELAND ITINERARY

Iceland has become the hottest and most popular destination of the Nordic countries over the past 5 years or so, and the interest for this otherworldly and stunning island is still growing steadily. When traveling to <u>Iceland</u>, you can expect a warm and proud welcome by the Icelandic people, who will show

you culture & history, tell you tales about the elves and trolls who roam the beautiful landscape mixed with green meadows, black sand beaches and ancient volcanoes & glaciers. The whole trip is customizable, depending on your interests. The 6-day/5-night itinerary below, with breakfast included daily, is just a suggestion that focuses on the highlights. Pricing is always based upon number of travelers, time of year, city of departure, and exact itinerary. The itinerary below includes private bus transfers to and from the airport and hotel, 5 nights accommodation in Reykjavik (includes breakfast and tax), a guided bus tour of Reykjavik and Reykjanes Peninsula with pick



up/drop off from hotel, entrance to the <u>Blue Lagoon</u> (includes towel use, drink of choice, Silica mud mask, and more), guided Super Jeep tour (of volcanoes, glaciers, and waterfalls), glacier walk with equipment, and a 13-hour private guided Super Jeep tour of the <u>Snaefellsnes</u> Peninsula with pick up/drop off from hotel.

#### **SUGGESTED ITINERARY:**

## Day 1: Arrival in Iceland and Reykjavik City Tour

Most U.S.-based flights are red-eyes and arrive in Iceland early in the morning. Upon arrival, you will receive airport bus or private transfer to your hotel in Reykjavik. You'll leave your luggage at the hotel

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reception, while you relax or explore the area, before your Reykjavik city tour. Your hotel is centrally located, within walking distance to shops, restaurants, museums, cafés, and the beautiful coastline at the harbor. A bus will pick you up at the hotel after lunch time. On your three-hour guided tour of Reykjavik, you will experience the historical and cultural highlights of Iceland's capital. There will be a stop at Hallgrimskirkja church, Perlan with its fabulous viewing deck, The Hofdi house

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(where Reagan and Gorbachev met in 1986 to begin the process of ending the Cold War), and the beautiful <u>Harpa</u> concert hall. The guide will provide you with all the essential information regarding Reykjavik's rich culture, history and natural environment. This tour provides the essential introduction to Iceland's capital!

## Day 2: Lava fields, tectonic plates, and the Blue Lagoon

After a delicious breakfast, you'll be picked up by the bus at the hotel. You will get a little bit of

geothermal sites, dramatic coastlines and quaint, historic towns. Between the lava fields and geothermal hot spots, you will really get a feeling of the life and power of this young land. It's hard to explain the charm of this cozy tour because half of the attraction is the beautiful scenery, starting with the endless lava fields and the quaint and historic small town Eyrarbakki, which you pass through en-route to the legendary Strandakirkja church. You can see the ground cooking at two different geothermal areas: Krysuvik and



Gunnuhver, and enjoy delicious lobster soup in <u>Grindavik</u> (optional). Take in the magnificent coastline and dramatic breaking waves by the <u>Revkjanesviti</u> lighthouse, and finally step out on the "Bridge



Between the Continents" which connects the American and Eurasian tectonic plates - all while surrounded with the **breathtaking scenery of the Reykjanes peninsula**. You will stop at the Blue Lagoon to relax after the day's adventures. At the **Blue Lagoon** you can enjoy the geothermal healing waters, try the silica mud mask or an optional in-water massage. Either enjoy dinner at the famous Lava Restaurant or back in the city of Reykjavik.

#### Day 3: Super Jeep, volcanoes, and a glacier walk adventure

Another adventurous day is ahead! Pick up by Super Jeep in the early morning. Set out from Reykjavik,

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taking the road east towards the <u>Eyjafjallajokull Volcano</u>. Here you can get an idea of the forces at play in the 2010 eruption as the impact of the eruption is still very visible on the glacier and the area around it. Continuing east you'll come to <u>Solheimajokull glacier</u> where you go for a short and easy Glacier Walk up onto the ice field. You may also choose to stay by the Jeep and explore the area. As you learn more about the Icelandic glaciers, you examine the wonderland of ice sculptures, ridges and deep crevasses. On the way back to Reykjavik, you'll stop to **visit two impressive waterfalls**, <u>Skogafoss</u> and <u>Seljalandsfoss</u>.

### Day 4: Free Day to Explore!

Today you have a FREE day to explore the capital city on your own. Visit **downtown Reykjavik for shopping and sightseeing opportunities**. "Laugavegur" is the primary commercial artery of



downtown Reykjavik and one of the oldest shopping streets. The name means "wash road," as it used to lead to the hot springs in Laugardalur, where in olden times the women of Reykjavik took their laundry for washing. It was constructed in 1885 as a result of the town council's decision. It has experienced economic setbacks in recent years mostly because of the increase in popularity of shopping malls. It still maintains the charm of a historical shopping street and is still

home to the more exclusive stores in Iceland. It is also home to many bars, nightclubs and restaurants. On Friday and Saturday nights, the street is often filled with people. (If you don't wish to have a Free Day, inquire about optional tours.)

#### Day 5: Snaefellsnes Peninsula

Early pick up by Super Jeep for an absolutely amazing guided tour. The <u>Snaefellsnes</u> peninsula in West Iceland is almost a miniature version of the island. In addition to its characteristic **Snaefellsjokull glacier**, there are black sandy beaches, bird cliffs, spectacular mountains and volcanic craters. On this tour, you will likely stop at the small fishing village <u>Arnarstapi</u>, the ancient fishing village <u>Hellnar</u>, visit <u>Djupalonssandur</u> beach and the iconic <u>Kirkjufell</u> mountain. The stunning landscape of the peninsula has captured the imagination of people all over the world, ever since Jules Verne wrote the famous

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science fiction novel "Journey to the Centre of the Earth." During this day's excursion, you'll stop for lunch at the famous Hotel Budir.

### Day 6: Departure!

Bus or private transfer to airport for your flight according to flight schedule.

PLEASE NOTE: IN THIS SPECIAL SITUATION, IF WE CAN GET A NUMBER OF TRAVELERS WISHING TO GO AT THE SAME TIME, WE COULD CREATE A GROUP TRIP IF YOU DESIRE.



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