



North Iceland Aurora Escape

Experience the Arctic North! This tour takes you on an exploration of West and North Iceland, known for its winter adventures in a veritable nature paradise.



YOUR
ADVENTURE
AWAITS

8 days/7 nights

ITINERARY

Day 1: Tuesday: Welcome to Iceland

The Flybus shuttle brings travelers from Keflavík International Airport to the accommodation in Reykjavík where you spend the night. We provide you with ideas how to explore Iceland's capital on your own, dinner suggestions too! Food lovers will be pleased and perhaps even impressed by the number of diverse restaurants in Reykjavík. Many award winning chefs create delicious Icelandic cuisine that is characterized by an imaginative use of local ingredients such as fresh seafood, organic lamb and wild game; but be sure to try the fabulous Icelandic hot dog and pizza too!

Day 2: Wednesday: Volcano Crater – Seals – Fjords – Mountains (400 km/248 mls)

At 09:00 meet your tour guide and travel west, passing the town of Borgarnes and climb the Grábrók volcano crater. We visit a natural history & seal museum and further north we stop at the turf church of Víðimýri. We travel along scenic fjords and over several challenging mountain passes until we reach Siglufjörður, Iceland's northernmost town. We overnight at the new and beautifully located Hotel Siglo which offers spectacular geothermal hot tubs built into the local fjord. In the evening, if weather permits, we take a little walk or drive to search for the Northern Lights.

Day 3: Thursday: Siglufjörður, Iceland's Northernmost Town (170 km/106 mls)

In the morning we explore Siglufjörður, Iceland's northernmost town, known as the herring capital of the North Atlantic. In Siglufjörður we visit the herring museum, the largest seafaring and industrial museum in the country. In the afternoon we drive along Eyjafjörður, Iceland's longest fjord which offers an amazing mountain panorama and explore Tröllaskagi Peninsula. Along the way, we stop at a deserted fjord valley that even most Icelanders have not yet seen. Later we stop at a local brewery and taste one of Iceland's micro-beers. We continue to Lake Mývatn, a winter wonderland, where we stay for 3 nights. Join an evening lecture about Northern Lights and don't miss the chance to search for the magical auroras after dinner.

Day 4: Friday: Trolls & Snow Adventures (30 km/19 mls)

This morning we go for a snowshoe trip (or a normal hike if there is no snow) through the lava formations of Dimmuborgir "the dark castles", hoping to get a glimpse of the trolls who are said to live there. The afternoon is free at leisure to explore the many pseudo craters or walk along the lake shores. Also available is an optional tour on cross-country skis or snow-mobles. The trail depends on the snow conditions and number of participants. Winter clothing, hat and gloves are required. In the evening we take a relaxing soak at Lake Mývatn Nature Baths and get ready to chase the elusive Northern Lights.

Day 5: Saturday: Lake Mývatn (50 km/31 mls)

Lake Mývatn is known for its geological wonders and active bird life, but also for having Iceland's coldest temperatures. We take an easy walk through the bizarre lava formations and landscape with great views to the lake, bird life and trees. Later we explore the hot spring area of Námaskarð with bubbling mud pools and steaming solfataras. We taste traditional dark bread baked underground in the geothermal heat. In the evening enjoy a video



presentation about Northern Lights as a part of the Northern Lights educational program. After a delicious dinner, don't forget to keep an eye out for the Northern Lights.

Day 6: Sunday: Birds – Christmas Garden – Akureyri (120 km/75 mls)

We visit the Lake Mývatn bird museum and travel to Goðafoss, the waterfalls of the Gods. Next stop is the Christmas Garden, a small museum and shop where you find countless items connected to Icelandic Christmas traditions. The afternoon is free at leisure to explore Akureyri, the capital of North Iceland on your own. There are some excellent local museums and a great geothermal swimming pool. Depending on weather there is a short excursion into the darkness to hunt the Aurora Borealis.

Day 7: Monday: Horses in Skagafjörður (420 km/261 mls)

We travel back west over the mountains to Skagafjörður, the valley of horses and home of many ancient farms. We visit the folk museum and turf farm at Glaumbær. Enjoy a guided tour through the only tannery in Europe which makes fish leather. Later we stop for coffee & cake at a horse farm, where we learn about the history and the special gaits of Icelandic horses. We reach Reykjavík depending on weather and road conditions between 18:00-20:00 where you stay one night in Iceland's capital.

Day 8: Tuesday: Departure (50 km/31 mls)

Individual transfer by Flybus airport shuttle from your accommodation in Reykjavík to Keflavík Airport. Subject to your flight schedule there is little time to see and explore Reykjavík on Day 8. If you are interested to see Iceland's capital, the famous Blue Lagoon and Golden Circle or Snæfellsness Peninsula we recommend adding extra nights in Reykjavík either before or after your tour.

Details

2018 Dates:

February: 06, 13, 20, 27

March: 06, 13, 20, 27

2018 Pricing:

US\$3,585 – twin

US\$3,585 – triple

US\$4,188 – single

Extra nights in Reykjavík:

From US\$113 – per person, twin or triple room

From US\$182 – per person, single room

Prices shown are per person in US\$, based on 1 person in a single room, 2 people sharing a twin room or 3 people sharing a triple room. Pricing is subject to change based on exchange rates in effect at time of booking.

Trip Code:

008201 - W20

INCLUDED

- Round-trip airport transfers between Keflavik and Reykjavik
- Fully escorted 6-day tour with English speaking guide
- 7 nights of accommodation in tourist class hotels
- Breakfast daily
- Meals: 2X light lunch; 3X 3-course dinner; 3X midnight refreshments
- Visit to natural history & seal museum
- Horse show, coffee & cake at local horse farm
- Visit to herring museum and local micro beer brewery
- Hot steam baked bread tasting
- Entrance with towel at Mývatn Nature Baths
- Snow shoe hike (or hike, if no snow) in lava labyrinth
- Visit to Mývatn bird museum



- Visit to Christmas house & garden near Akureyri
- Visit to Viðimýri turf church, Glaumbær folk museum & turf farm and tannery in Skagafjörður
- Northern Lights program during 5 evenings with a combination of lectures, presentations, film and guided searches for the Northern Lights
- Use of winter & Northern Lights explorer equipment: simple non-slip snow & ice grippers spikes for shoes and a flash light that is helpful when walking in the dark and operating your photo camera at night

NOT INCLUDED

- Airfare to/from Iceland
- Optional tours not mentioned in itinerary
- Entrance fees to nature sites, as charged by property owners
- Travel Insurance
- Gratuities
- Items of a Personal Nature

TOUR NOTES

DAILY DRIVING: Total mileage without airport transfer is 1.190 km (738 miles) which is an average of 200 km (124 miles) per day. You spend about 3 hours per day on the bus, depending on road conditions, traffic and daily distances. On some days the driving might be longer than on some other days, such as day 2 and day 7.

CHANGE OF PROGRAM: 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.

NATURE FEES: There is a possibility that some of the nature attractions around Iceland might charge an entrance fee during the trip. These entrance fees are not included in the tour price and need to be paid by all tour members additionally on the spot, when entering any of these nature sites. Locations, amount of entrance fee, form of payment and other details are not known at the present time and are subject to change.

Disclaimer: We do our utmost to ensure that information posted on our website is correct at the time of publication, however trip details are subject to change without notice by the suppliers and operators involved. We update the information as soon as possible when changes are advised to us, however, we cannot assume responsibility for such changes made by the suppliers and operators.

ROUTE MAP





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