



## Auroras, Volcanoes and Glacier Lagoon

Iceland is the perfect place to enjoy a winter trip full of adventure, icy landscapes and the chance to see the elusive Northern Lights.



YOUR  
ADVENTURE  
AWAITS

5 days/4 nights

### ITINERARY

#### Day 1, Sunday: Keflavik – Reykjavik

The Flybus shuttle brings you from Keflavik International Airport to the accommodation in Reykjavik 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 Reykjavik. 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, Monday: Golden Circle

At 08:30 meet your tour guide and start the escorted tour program with a short introduction to Icelandic geology while watching a striking film at the Reykjavik Volcano House documenting the eruptions of Eyjafjallajökull and Fimmvörðuháls in 2010, which caused millions of people to be stranded worldwide as thousands of flights were cancelled. These films give a good insight into the general geology and volcanology of Iceland. At the Volcano House you can experience a hands-on geological exhibition where you can examine various pieces of pumice, ash and lava from Icelandic volcanoes. Later on we depart from Reykjavik and drive to Thingvellir National Park, a UNESCO world heritage site, and where the Althingi, the oldest legislative assembly in the world was founded. This is one of Iceland's most fascinating places both geologically and for the role it plays in the country's history and sense of national identity. Thingvellir is also remarkable for reasons of natural science, as the site is part of a fissure zone running through Iceland, and is situated on the tectonic plate boundaries of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. The faults and fissures of the area make evident the rifting of the earth's crust. Exploring the hot springs at Geysir is like watching a geography lesson in real life: natural springs bubbling away in the ground until the pressure becomes too much – and they explode in spectacular style. Geysir and Strokkur are the two biggest of the geysers there. While Geysir is no longer active, Strokkur still spouts every 5 to 15 minutes to the delight of visitors. Next we travel to Gullfoss, "the golden falls", which is a double waterfall that tumbles 34 meters into the Hvítá river. Gullfoss is one of Iceland's most beautiful waterfalls. The explosion crater called Kerið is filled with water and resembles an ancient amphitheatre. In the evening, you hear about the Northern Lights from your tour guide. Naturally, once darkness falls, you are out in the garden waiting for the Northern Lights. We stay for one night in a countryside hotel.

#### Day 3, Tuesday: Vatnajökull National Park & Glacier Lagoon

A long drive brings us to a world of glaciers, ice and icebergs. We travel to Jökulsárlón glacial lagoon filled with floating icebergs. We explore this extraordinary site and perhaps see some seals swimming in the arctic waters. You can walk on the black sandy beach where large icebergs get stranded. The Vatnajökull National Park is about 12,000 square kilometers and it is the largest National Park in Europe. In this area we find Iceland's highest mountains, an alpine environment and Europe's largest glacier. Tonight you can enjoy a movie presentation about Northern Lights as a part of the Northern Lights educational program. Be careful not to go to bed too soon in this remote and quiet location, or you may just miss out one more chance of seeing the Northern Lights shimmering and dancing across the



night sky. We stay for one night at Fosshotel Núpar in the Vatnajökull region.

#### Day 4, Wednesday: South Coast

Today, we head across the Laki lava field to the village of Vík where we make a photo stop. We take a stroll on the black lava beach and along the bird cliffs at Reynisfjara beach in South Iceland. We pass the glacier Mýrdalsjökull and the infamous volcano Eyjafjallajökull and continue to Skógafoss waterfall which is 60 meters high and belongs to the most impressive waterfalls in the country. Further west we reach the high but narrow Seljalandsfoss waterfall which plunges over the mountain. There's a trail that goes behind the fall which is interesting – if you are prepared to get wet! In the evening you return to Reykjavik for one last night. An optional Northern Lights bus tour or fjord cruise can be booked on the spot, if the weather conditions are ideal. We stay for one night in Iceland's capital.

#### Day 5, Thursday: Departure

Individual transfer by Flybus airport shuttle from your guesthouse accommodation in Reykjavik to Keflavík Airport.

### Details

**Group Size:** 30

#### Dates:

November:

December:

January:

February:

March:

April:

*\*Special New Year's departure*

#### Pricing:

US\$1,245 – twin

US\$1,245 – triple

US\$1,559 – single

New Year's departure, 28 December, 2018:

US\$2,060 – twin

US\$2,060 – triple

US\$2,435 – single

Extra nights in Reykjavik:

From US\$92 / New Year's US\$106 – per person, twin or triple room

From US\$152 / New Year's US\$181 – 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 3-day bus tour with English speaking guide
- 4 nights of accommodation in tourist class hotels and cottages
- Breakfast daily
- Meals: 2X 2-course dinners; 2X midnight refreshment (days 2 and 3)
- Entrance to Kerið volcano crater
- Multi-media presentation at the Volcano House in Reykjavik
- Northern Lights program over 2 evenings combining lectures, presentations, film and guided searches for the Aurora
- Use of equipment such as non-slip snow and ice-gripper spikes for shoes and a flashlight

### NOT INCLUDED

- Airfare to/from Iceland
- Optional tours not mentioned in itinerary
- Travel Insurance
- Gratuities
- Items of a Personal Nature



## TOUR NOTES

You visit Iceland's most popular sites such as the Golden Circle route, the South coast and Vatnajökull national park. You see cascading waterfalls, smoking geysers, colourful volcano craters, a spectacular ice lagoon with floating icebergs and black lava beaches, all set against a backdrop of glistening glaciers and restless geology. There is always a thrilling potential for the night sky to be decorated with the jewels of the amazing Aurora Borealis. Imagine the excitement to search for the most spectacular – and natural – light show on earth.

Daily driving: Total mileage without airport transfer is 910 km (564 miles) which is an average of 303 km (188 miles) per day. You spend about 4 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.

Accommodation:

Reykjavik – Hotel Cabin

South Iceland – Hotel Borealis

Southeast Iceland – Fosshotel Nupar near Kirkjubæjarklaustur

**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



### Contact

#### Winnipeg

164 Marion Street  
Winnipeg, MB, Canada  
R2H 0T4  
Phone: 204.949.0199  
Fax: 204.949.0188  
Toll Free: 800.661.3830

#### Edmonton

(formerly Butte Travel Service)  
11733 95th St. NW  
Edmonton, AB, Canada  
T5G 1M1  
Phone: 780.477.3561  
Fax: 780.477.9871  
Toll Free: 800.661.8906



Accredited  
Agent



©The Great Canadian Travel Group Ltd.

Prices listed on our website are stated in Canadian Dollars unless otherwise indicated. Tour details, inclusions and prices were valid at the time of publication but are subject to change without notice due to currency fluctuations, tax increases and at the discretion of the supplier(s). Current prices will be re-quoted for you at the time of booking. By air, land or sea, we can take you anywhere – contact us for your quote today!