# **Hidden Powers and Northern Lights Hunt - Winter**

Icebergs, hot springs and volcanoes dominate this beautiful, yet rugged landscape. On this guided coach tour, experience the hidden powers of the island, including stunning rural locations.





# 6 days/5 nights

#### **ITINERARY**

## Day 1: Keflavik-Reykjavik

Arrive Iceland at Keflavik airport and transfer downtown (extra charge for transfer by bus or private vehicle, please ask for a price quote) for your overnight stay in Reykjavik.

Guaranteed early check-in is not included in the tour price. Most hotels begin check-in around 2:00pm. You can leave your luggage in storage at the hotel and go out for a walk and lunch until your room is ready. Should you wish to guarantee early check in we can add on a night's stay to your program, allowing you immediate use of your room on arrival.

This escorted tour will give you many exciting experiences including views of the notorious Eyjafjallajokull volcano and the breath taking glacial lagoon at Jökulsárlón. With several nights spent in stunning rural locations, you'll be perfectly situated to hunt the magical Northern lights.

# Day 2: Thingvellir - Geysir - Gullfoss

Northern Lights Center - National Park with Geological Wonders (UNESCO) - Exploding Geysers - The Famous Golden Falls

Start the day by visiting the recently opened and fascinating Northern Lights Centre in Reykjavik for an exciting and informative presentation on the Northern Lights. Onwards to Thingvellir National Park (UNESCO World Heritage site) where the world's oldest parliament met for centuries on the shores of Iceland's largest lake. Drive to Laugarvatn Fontana where your group experiences a geothermal bakery first-hand and digs up bread that has been cooked underground. Sample the delicious bread, served hot from the ground and slathered with fresh Icelandic butter. Continue through farmland areas to the geothermal fields of Geysir with bubbling mud pools and the high-spouting Strokkur hot spring. Visit the dramatic two-tiered Gullfoss waterfall, a spectacular sight in winter when frozen midcascade. Stop at Skalholt, Iceland's capital during the Middle-Ages and now a culture centre with a beautiful church. Overnight stay and Northern light hunt in south coast area.

## Day 3: South Shore - Eyjafjallajokull Volcano

Drive along the south shore, an area of Iceland that is quite beautiful to view in the winter. This is one of the main farm regions of the country, and the road will pass by typical Icelandic farms, often with Icelandic horses in the fields. This part of Iceland is home to the new Lava Centre, an interactive, high-tech educational exhibition depicting volcanic activity, earthquakes and the creation of Iceland over millions of years. Stop at the spectacular waterfalls Seljalandsfoss and Skogafoss. Head onwards, passing by Myrdalsjokull Glacier, to visit Reynisfjara beach. Take a walk on the black sands, admiring the extraordinary rock formations and thundering waves of the Atlantic Ocean. Overnight stay and Northern light hunt in Kirkjubaejarklaustur area.

#### Day 4: Skaftafell National Park - Jokulsarlon Glacial Lagoon

Europe's Largest National Park - Glacial Lagoon with Icebergs - Europe's Largest Glacier

Today enter the area of Vatnajokull National Park, named after Europe'slargest glacier. This national park is also the largest one in Europe. The park's Skaftafell region is a site of outstanding natural beauty, dominated by Vatnajokull glacier. View Svinafellsjökull, one of the most beautiful of the glacial outlets emerging from Vatnajökull. Continue to Jokulsarlon Glacial Lagoon where you can enjoy a breathtaking sight of icebergs floating in the fantastic 180m (591 ft) deep glacial lagoon. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

#### Day 5: Volcanic areas - Hveragerdi - Blue Lagoon - Reykjavik

Greenhouse Village - Thundering Waves - Geothermal Lagoon

Explore the region near the towering strato-volcano Eyjafjallajokull, which is probably the most famous volcano in the world today. At the Volcano Visitor Centre at Thorvaldseyri Farm, located beneath Eyjafjallajokull Volcano, you will see, both in pictures and film, the 2010 eruption and its impact on the countryside, the country itself and the whole world. Head towards the village of Hveragerdi, which is one of the few sites in the world located directly on top of a geothermal area. Hveragerdi is often called "the flower village" because of its many greenhouses heated by hot water from nearby springs. The tour then continues to Strandarkirkja, a church that is widely believed to have a special power to aid success or provide good luck. Follow along the coastline with its breathtaking waves and through a deserted community that once was a flourishing centre for the region. On to the Reykjanes peninsula, where you can enjoy a dip in the famous Blue Lagoon, a unique wonder of nature with pleasantly warm, mineral-rich water in the middle of a black lava field. Return to Reykjavik, where the evening is at your own leisure. Dinner is on your own, with a wide choice of options offered in the city.

#### Day 6: Reykjavik - Keflavik

After breakfast, check-out of your hotel and shuttle back to the airport (extra cost) to catch your flight home.

This day by day itinerary is subject to change by the tour operator without advance notice. The tour operator's itinerary takes precedence over this outline.

# **Details**

# 2018-2019 Winter Departures:

Economy November: 08 December: 13 February: 07 March: 07, 14

Comfort

November: 01, 13, 20, 22, 29

December: 06, 11

January: 08, 10, 17, 22, 24, 31 February: 05, 14, 19, 21, 28 March: 05, 12, 19, 21, 28

April:

## 2018-2019 Pricing:

Economy US\$1,370 - twin US\$1,776 - single Comfort US\$1,463 - twin US\$1,873 - single

Supplement for two course dinners in the countryside US\$48 per person. Included in the supplement are 3 desserts. However, on some departures the supplement will include 2 desserts and a dinner buffet. Must be booked in advance, not available locally.

Prices are shown in US\$ per person based on two people sharing a twin room and one person in a single room. Triple rooms are not available on this tour. Prices are set in US\$ and CA\$ prices are not available for this program.

#### **Trip Code:**

008202 - W15

#### **INCLUDED**

- · 2 nights hotel accommodation in Reykjavik
- 3 nights countryside hotel accommodation
- Breakfast daily at hotel (except morning of arrival)
- Fully guided coach tour from day 2 to the end of day 5
- 3 one-course dinners with coffee/tea in the countryside on days 2, 3 and 4
- Entrance fee to the Northern Lights centre in Reykjavik
- Entrance to Laugarvatnshellir, the Cave People
- Entrance to the new Lava Center and volcano film at the Lava Centre's Cinema, day 3
- Northern light hunting kit on day 3 or 4 (flash light, blanket and Thermos with hot chocolate)
- Northern lights guided hunt on foot one selected evening
- Special Northern Lights wake up call during the night (an option at countryside hotels)
- Blue Lagoon bathing fee, towel rental, silica mud mask and one drink

## **NOT INCLUDED**

- Airfare to/from Iceland
- · Round trip transfers between Keflavik airport and downtown Reykjavik hotels
- Breakfast on morning of arrival
- Optional tours not listed above
- Treatment packages at the Blue Lagoon spa
- Meals, drinks and refreshments not indicated
- Travel insurance
- Gratuities
- Items of a personal nature
- Passport and visa fees, if necessary

#### **TOUR NOTES**

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















# ©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!