

# ICELAND

**9 DAYS – FLY TO AND FROM REYKJAVIK, ICELAND**

*Discover Iceland, a land and culture forged by fire and ice.*



Geothermal Myvatn Nature Baths.

Steaming lava fields reflect a volcanic nature. Massive glaciers sculpt mountains and valleys, leaving thundering waterfalls and plunging fjords.

## DAY

- HOME CITIES to REYKJAVIK, ICELAND:** (Overnight Flight) Begin your *Exciting Holiday* with an overnight flight to Reykjavik.
- REYKJAVIK:** (2 nights) Your tour begins in Reykjavik, where you will enjoy a walking tour of the city's old section that features HALLGRIMSKIRKJA church, CITY HALL, the harbour and Reykjavik's oldest building, home of the KRAUM ICELANDIC design center. This evening join your fellow travellers for a special WELCOME DINNER of gourmet Icelandic cuisine. **Meals Include: Dinner.**
- REYKJAVIK:** Travel the GOLDEN CIRCLE, a route that surrounds many of Iceland's most well-known natural wonders. Continue to THINGVELLIR NATIONAL PARK, the country's most historic area. In AD 930 the Icelanders gathered here and established what is considered to be one of the world's first parliaments. Find yourself standing upon one of the globe's most geologically significant landscapes, Thingvellir's rugged rift valley, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that marks the crest of the Mid-Atlantic



Ridge, the point where the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates meet. Be awed at the beauty of the GULLFOSS waterfall, a stunning 100-foot double cascade. Stop at the famous thermal area of GEYSIR to admire the hot spring Strokkur's explosive vertical spout that reaches a height of up to 90 feet. Your day concludes with a visit to Friðheimar greenhouse cultivation centre to learn how the locals grow delicious, pesticide-free tomatoes and cucumbers with the aid of Iceland's geothermal energy. **Meals Include: Breakfast.**

- REYKJAVIK to STYKKISHÓLMUR:** Journey to the SNAEFELLSNES PENINSULA and take in the dramatic landscapes of black and white sand beaches, stunning cliffs, mountains peaks, volcanic craters, soaring waterfalls, rocky coastlines, intimate fishing villages, and its remarkable Snæfellsjökull glacier. This afternoon you may choose to take a guided Vatnshellir Cave tour\* and descend 100 feet below ground to an 8,000-year-old lava tube –OR– perhaps you'd prefer to walk the lava field and put your camera to work snapping photos of nature's artwork of varying textures, colours and arrangements of this dramatic landscape. Next, experience a true Icelandic cultural adventure as you spend time with a family that keeps alive a 400 year old tradition of catching and preserving Greenland Shark. View the fishing boat used by their grandfather; the tiny farmer's church; and explore the museum to learn more about Iceland's deep relationship with this trade. Before leaving, taste "hákarl" – cured shark meat. Your day concludes with a nature cruise of BREIDAFJÖRDUR BAY. Experience countless birds like puffins\*\*, cormorants, kittiwakes and the majestic white-tailed



The Geyser Strokkur on the Golden Circle.

**DEPARTURE DATES 2020**  
**9 Days: June 7 August 16**  
**September 13 September 25**

**DEPARTURE DATES 2021**  
**9 Days: April 14 May 19**  
**July 25 August 15 September 12**

LAND PORTION ONLY. Airfare and air tax are not included. Call for best available airfare. Air ticketing is not advised until tour is guaranteed.

**PRICES STARTING AT**  
**\$3,999<sup>00</sup> twin**  
 Additional dates available

**SPECIALTY TOUR OFFERED WITH "CHANGE OF MIND" CANCELLATION POLICY. CALL 1-800-562-9999 FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**FREE DOOR-TO-DOOR AIRPORT TRANSFER WITHIN 100 KM.**

**1-800-562-9999**



**WORLDWIDE**

eagle soaring among basalt rock columns. While cruising, try delicious fresh scallops and sea urchin roe straight from the ocean. **Meals Include: Breakfast, Dinner.**

**5 STYKKISHÓLMUR to Vík:** (3 nights) Continue to Iceland's south coast and learn about geothermal renewable energy with a visit to HELLISHEIDARVIRKJUN, the largest power station in Iceland and the second largest geothermal power station in the world. Visit the Lava Exhibition Centre where you'll learn about Iceland's historical eruptions and current lava flows that make the island a showcase of volcanism. Arrive in Vík, Iceland's most southerly village and one of the most visited spots in Iceland. **Meals Include: Breakfast, Dinner.**

**6 Vík:** Drive along the scenic south shore to the SKOGAR MUSEUM which has an outstanding collection showing all aspects of Icelandic life including farm and domestic artifacts, as well as turf-built houses. Nearby is SKÓGAFOSS WATERFALL, one of the largest in Iceland. Then view REYNISFJARA a black volcanic sand beach surrounded by basalt columns and cliffs scattered with caves and rich bird life. Later see the unique natural rock formations at DYRHÓLAEY **Meals Include: Breakfast, Dinner.**

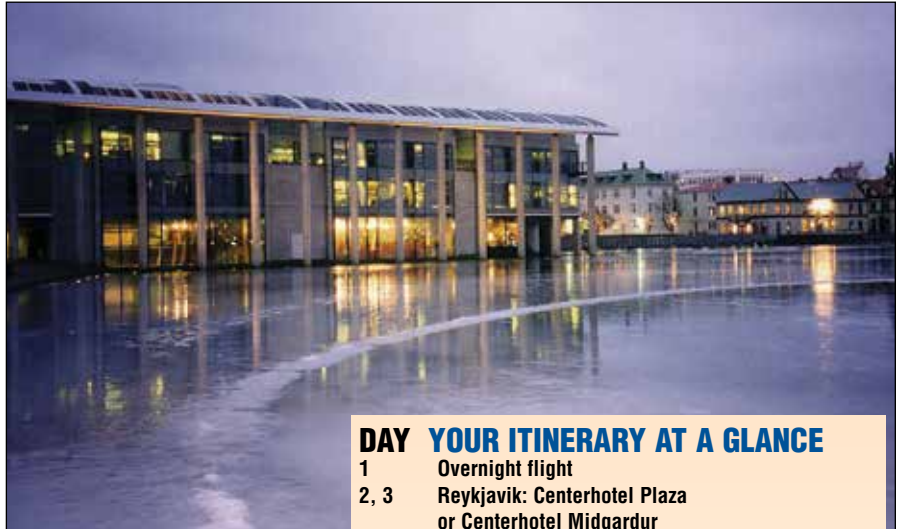
**7 Vík:** Today sail\*\*\* among the huge icebergs in the picturesque scenery of JÖKULSÁRLÓN GLACIAL LAGOON. Taste the 1,000-year-old ice and possibly see some seals. Later stop at SKAFTAFELL, gateway to VATNAJÖKULL NATIONAL PARK, the largest national park in Europe. View Iceland's highest mountains and the Vatnajökull glacier, Europe's largest. **Meals Include: Breakfast, Dinner.**

**8 Vík to REYKJAVÍK:** Before departing the south shore, make a picture stop at SELJALANDSFOSS WATERFALL, one of few waterfalls providing you with a walkway for views from the inside out. **Then, it's your choice!** Perhaps drive to the REYKJANES PENINSULA, known for its rugged landscape, lava fields, numerous hot springs, and home to the BLUE LAGOON. Take a dip in the pleasantly warm, mineral-rich waters of the geothermal pool, located in the middle of a dramatic lava field –OR– visit the PERLAN CENTRE, where you'll explore the wonder and mystery of Iceland through interactive exhibits; use your pass to delve into the Ice Cave, the Planetarium, the virtual aquarium and more. Later gather with your fellow travellers for a local dining experience and share stories of your days in Iceland. **Meals Include: Breakfast, Dinner.**

**9 REYKJAVÍK to HOME:** Your tour ends leaving you with many pleasant memories of a wonderful holiday. **Meals Include: Breakfast.**



Seljalandsfoss waterfall.



Reykjavik City Hall.



Iceland waterfall at sunrise.

**DAY YOUR ITINERARY AT A GLANCE**

- 1 Overnight flight
- 2, 3 Reykjavik: Centerhotel Plaza or Centerhotel Midgardur
- 4 Stykkishólmur: Fosshotel Stykkishólmur
- 5 - 7 Vík: Hotel Katla Hofdabrekka or Hotel Dyrholaey
- 8 Reykjavik: Centerhotel Plaza or Centerhotel Midgardur

On some dates alternate hotels may be used

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- 13 Meals: 7 Breakfasts and 6 Dinners
- Reykjavik City Tour
- Thingvellir National Park
- Geysir
- Breidafjörður Bay Cruise
- Seljalandsfoss Waterfall
- Skógafoss
- Vatnajökull National Park
- Blue Lagoon or Perlan Centre
- Golden Circle
- Gullfoss Waterfall
- Snæfellsnes Peninsula
- Vík
- Skógar Museum
- Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon
- Lava Exhibition Centre

**IMPORTANT TRAVELLERS INFORMATION**

\* The Vatnshellir Cave tour is not recommended for guests who are claustrophobic or have back or knee problems. Guests should be in good physical condition.  
 \*\* Puffin can be viewed between mid-May through late August. During the other seasons, a cruise featuring a talk on fishing in the region will be included.  
 \*\*\* During the months of April & October, the Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon cruise may not operate due to seasonality.  
 To truly experience the program and destination, you need to be able to participate in physical activities such as longer walking tours, walking over uneven terrain, climbing stairs and periods of standing.

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