

Alabama Public Television presents...

Iceland: Land of Fire & Ice

August 4 – 13, 2024



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10 Days • 15 Meals: 8 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 5 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Reykjavík, Golden Circle, Thingvellir National Park, Gullfoss, Geysir, Akranes, Breidafjörður Bay Cruise, Lava Exhibition Center, Vík, Skógar Museum, Skógafoss, Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon, Vatnajökull National Park, Seljalandsfoss, Choice on Tour: Blue Lagoon or Perlan Center

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2, 3	Centerhotel Grandi, Reykjavík
Days 4, 5	Fosshotel Reykholt, Reykholt
Days 6 – 8	Hotel Dyrhólaey, Vík
Day 9	Centerhotel Grandi, Reykjavík

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Day 1: Sunday, August 4, 2024 Overnight Flight Set out on a journey full of dramatic contrasts. Come to know Iceland; a place where steaming lava fields reflect a volcanic nature and massive glaciers sculpt mountains and valleys, leaving behind thundering waterfalls and plunging fjords.

Day 2: Monday, August 5, 2024 Reykjavík, Iceland - Tour Begins Begin in the capital city of Reykjavík. Get to know your fellow travelers during an Icelandic lunch at a popular local restaurant before checking into your hotel in the later afternoon. Then, join a local expert for a walking tour of The Old City featuring the city hall, the harbor, the Parliament building and the nearby cathedral, dating from 1796. (L)

Day 3: Tuesday, August 6, 2024 Reykjavík - Golden Circle - Reykjavík Travel the Golden Circle and experience renowned natural wonders, including the double-cascade Gullfoss waterfall, the explosive Geysir thermal area, and the famous Thingvellir National Park, where you'll stand upon the crest of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. Along the way, stop at a family-run dairy farm to enjoy various cheeses and their famous ice cream during a light lunch. Your day ends with a visit to Friðheimar's stud farm and greenhouse cultivation center. Discover how pesticide-free produce is grown with the aid of geothermal energy and then learn about the tradition of breeding Icelandic show horses before returning to Reykjavík. (B, L)

Day 4: Wednesday, August 7, 2024 Reykjavík - Akranes - Reykholt Explore the western side of Iceland's coastline and visit Akranes, an old fishing town at the base of Akrafjall Mountain. Capture a photo of one of the most picturesque lighthouses in the world. You'll have an opportunity to climb up the stairs and enjoy the stunning views this lighthouse has to offer and hear some of the mysterious stories about this place, or perhaps you will want to take a walk along the historical harbor. Continue to Delidartunguhver, the highest-flowing hot spring in Europe. Enjoy a walk on a number of wooden walkways and observation points to explore the hot spring safely. Listen to local stories and legends while visiting Barnafoss, which translates to "the Children's Falls," before you wrap your day in Reykholt, located in the valley of the River Reykkladalsá. (B, D)

Day 5: Thursday, August 8, 2024 Reykholt - Stykkishólmur - Grudarfjörður - Reykholt Begin your day with stunning views on your way to Stykkishólmur, located in the northern part of the Snæfellsnes Peninsula. Search for marine birds before joining a nature cruise of Breiðafjörður Bay. As you drift across the water, sample fresh scallops and sea urchin roe straight from the ocean. You might spot puffins,* cormorants, and the white-tailed eagle soaring as you look out at the shoreline. After, enjoy lunch on your own in this picturesque fishing town dotted with traditional wooden houses. Before continuing your journey on to Grudarfjörður. Take in views of Mount Kirkjufell with its iconic shape and freestanding form; this is one of the most photographed landscapes in Iceland. Witness Kirkjufellsfoss, a beautiful series of waterfalls, before returning to Reykholt for an evening at leisure. (B)

Day 6: Friday, August 9, 2024 Reykholt - Vík Learn about geothermal renewable energy on a visit to Hellisheiðavirkjun, the largest power station in Iceland and the second largest geothermal power station in the world). Visit the Lava Exhibition Center and delve into Iceland's past and present volcanic eruptions. Afterward, witness Seljalandsfoss, a rushing waterfall where you may walk behind the water for unique views from the inside out. Arrive in Vík, Iceland's southernmost village, and one of the most remarkable spots in Iceland. (B, D)

Day 7: Saturday, August 10, 2024 Vík - Dyrhólaey - Vík Drive along the scenic south shore to the Skógar Museum. Discover its turf-built houses and its collection of farm and domestic artifacts. Nearby, find the impressive Skógafoss waterfall, one of the tallest in Iceland.



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† Refer to the reservation form to choose your upgrade option

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. Once deposited, you have 7 days to send us written consumer consent or withdraw consent and receive a full refund. **(See registration form for consent.)**

Behold Reynisfjara, a black volcanic sand beach scattered with caves and surrounded by basalt columns and cliffs. The beach is rich with bird life, such as the fulmar, black guillemot, razorbill, and gannet. You might also spot some nesting puffins* along the unique natural rock formations at Dyrhólaey, a volcanic peninsula towering over the ocean. Cap off your day with a visit to Sólheimajökull Glacier, part of Iceland's fourth largest ice cap. Take in its dramatic, blue-white ice, rugged crevasses, and stunning views. *(B, D)*

Day 8: Sunday, August 11, 2024 Vík - Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon
- Vík Journey to Vatnajökull, Iceland's largest National Park and home to the country's highest mountains. Marvel at the vistas and snowy mountain peaks while you join a cruise on an amphibian boat** along the huge icebergs of the Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon. Keep your eyes peeled for possible seal sightings and get to taste the 1,000-year-old ice that surrounds you. *(B, D)*

Day 9: Monday, August 12, 2024 Vík - Reykjavík Today, make your way back to Reykjavik, taking in the incredible backdrops that make this journey picturesque. In the afternoon, **it's your choice!** You may choose to visit the Blue Lagoon and soak in the warm, mineral-rich waters, located in the heart of a dramatic lava field, - **OR-** visit the Perlan Center to explore the wonders of Iceland through interactive exhibits such as the Ice Cave, the Planetarium, the virtual aquarium and more. This evening, join your fellow travelers for a farewell dinner at a local restaurant and reflect on your adventures in the Land of Fire and Ice. *(B, D)*

Day 10: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 Reykjavík - Tour Ends Depart for home with memories of your Icelandic adventure. *(B)*

Experience It! Geothermal Greenhouses

Growing food in Iceland has historically been a challenge for residents due to the cold climate, unproductive land, and at times, a lack of natural light. Discover how modern technology defies these natural challenges with geothermal greenhouses. At a family-run greenhouse, learn how they are able to harness the natural warmth from the ground's geothermic waters and use it to create a year-round Mediterranean climate. Join a horticultural expert for an insider's look at innovative growing methods used to produce a large variety of tomatoes that are able thrive in this otherwise challenging environment.

For more information visit <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1224158>

PLEASE NOTE:

Book Now rates valid until Feb 05, 2024, valid on air inclusive packages only.
IDENTIFICATION

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require that your passport be valid at least 6 months beyond the dates of your travel. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that travelers take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Museum visits and shopping may be affected by the observance of religious or local holidays.

The days and order of sightseeing may change to best utilize your time on tour.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

On occasion, some activities may not be available due to inclement weather.

Hotel check-in on your day of arrival is 3:00 p.m. Rooms may not be available prior to that time.

Appropriate clothing is critical to fully enjoying your trip. Iceland's weather conditions are ever-changing and require sturdy waterproof shoes and layers of waterproof and windproof clothing.

*Puffins can usually be viewed mid-May through mid-August.

**During the months of April and October, the Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon cruise may not operate due to seasonality. This is reflected in the land price for these time periods.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect some longer days with early mornings or late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

Due to flight schedules, a post night may be required in some Icelandair gateway cities (at an additional cost). Please inquire at time of reservation.



Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Due to tour scheduling, arrival flights should arrive prior to 10:00 a.m.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of January 29, 2024 are based upon availability. Final payment due by June 05, 2024. Deposits are refundable up until February 05, 2024.

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For important reservation information visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1224158>.
You can also find this information on your tour documents.