Hidden Powers and Northern Lights Hunt – Winter Escorted Tour

Languages: English, Dutch
Duration: 6 days/5 nights
Operation: 1 Oct 2020 - 30 Apr 2021

All departures are guaranteed with minimum of 3 participants
Maximum group size: 36 participants.

Prices Winter 2020 – 2021, price per person ALL TOURS CANX

Languages	Category	Departures	Double	Single	Triple
English	Comfort	~~November: 05~~ ~~December: 17~~	~~961 EUR~~	~~1.239 EUR~~	~~957 EUR~~
English	Comfort	~~February: 11~~ ~~March: 25~~	~~1.017 EUR~~	~~1.322 EUR~~	~~999 EUR~~
English	Quality	~~October: 08, 15, 27~~	~~1.127 EUR~~	~~1.498 EUR~~	~~Upon request~~
English	Quality	~~November: 19~~ ~~December: 10~~ ~~January: 21~~ ~~February: 16, 23~~ ~~March: 04, 09, 16, 18, 23~~ ~~April: 01, 06~~	~~1.068 EUR~~	~~1.413 EUR~~	~~Upon request~~
English/ Dutch	Quality	~~January: 28~~ ~~February: 18~~ ~~March: 04~~	~~1.068 EUR~~	~~1.413 EUR~~	~~Upon request~~

Children rate:
Child 6-11 years sharing a double room with 2 adults will receive a 25% discount from the listed package price. Children 12 years and older pay full price. It is not recommended that children 0-5 years old travel on scheduled tours.

Highlights

- Let us provide you with a great introduction to Iceland and its unique wonders
- We'll take you to view first-hand many of the classic natural wonders, including the Golden Circle area, the Glacier Lagoon and Reynisfjara Beach
- Enjoy a glimpse into Icelandic life with activities like meeting Search and Rescue team members and a visit to a geothermal bakery
- Discover and learn about Iceland from our hand-picked local guides, who are passionate and knowledgeable about Iceland

Included

- Guided Coach Tour from day 2 to day 5
- Expert professional English-speaking local guide from day 2 to day 5
- Free Wi-Fi on board motor coach
- Accommodation 2 nights in a standard room with facilities in Reykjavik
- Accommodation 3 nights in a standard room with facilities in the countryside
- Icelandic breakfast (except arrival day)
- 3 Two-course local-cuisine dinners in the countryside (main course and dessert) with coffee/tea (Day 2, 3, 4)
- Entrance fee to the Aurora Reykjavik Northern Lights Centre (day 2)
- Visit to outdoor geothermal bakery and taste of steam-baked rye bread (day 2)
- Entrance fee to the LAVA Centre and volcano film at the LAVA Centre Cinema (day 3)
- Visit and introduction to an Icelandic Search Rescue Team Base on one of the days during your trip
- Blue Lagoon admission, including towel rental, silica mud mask and one drink (day 5)
- Use of crampons/cleats (if needed) for walking on snow/ice covered surfaces
- Great photo stops
- Seat rotation during the tour
- Northern lights guided hunt on foot one selected evening
- Northern lights hunting kit (use of blanket and headlight)
- The tour includes a visit and introduction to one Iceland's unique ICE-SAR Search and Rescue bases. Meet some of these amazing Icelanders, many who are volunteers, dedicated to saving lives and preventing accidents.

Added Value:

- Northern Lights "wake-up call" option during the night on days 2-4 (please note: available at most countryside hotels)

Not Included

- Breakfast on arrival day
- International airfare
- Baggage porterage at airport/hotel
- Personal travel insurance (highly recommended)
- Swimsuit at the Blue Lagoon (rentals available)
- Round-trip transfers between airports and hotels
- Beverages, snacks, lunches, dinners unless otherwise noted in itinerary
- Guaranteed early check-in (check-in time for most hotels in Iceland starts between 14:00 and 16:00 (2:00pm and 4:00pm)
- Guaranteed late check-out
- Any service not specifically listed under "included"

Time of cancellation:
More than 3 weeks (22+ days) prior to arrival deposit which is 20%
3 weeks (21 days) and more than 1 week (8 days) 50%
1 week (7 days) and more than 72 hours 75%
72 hours' notice and less 100%

Accommodation - Quality category:
These are quality hotels, guesthouses and farmhouse accommodation, all with private facilities and breakfast included.
In Reykjavik: 4-star hotel. In the Countryside: The most comfortable accommodation available in each area. Most of the groups stay at the following hotels. Please note this is an advised hotel list and subject to change.
Day 1 – Icelandair Hotel Reykjavik Natura
Day 2 – Hotel Stracta
Day 3 – Hotel Klaustur
Day 4 – Hotel Klaustur
Day 5 – Icelandair Hotel Reykjavik Natur

Accommodation- Comfort Category
These are pleasant and economical standard hotels, guesthouses and farmhouse accommodation, all with private facilities and
breakfast included. Generally, 3 star or equivalent both in Reykjavik and the countryside. Most of the groups stay at the following hotels. Please note this is an advised hotel list and subject to change.
Day 1 – Fosshotel Raudara
Day 2- Hotel Selfoss
Day 3- Fosshotel Nupur / Hotel Kria
Day 4- Fosshotel Nupur / Hotel Kria
Day 5 – Fosshotel Raudara

Important

- Northern lights are dependent on weather conditions and sightings are not guaranteed
- Note: We reserve the right to alter routes without prior notice, due to road conditions
- Activity/Difficulty Level: 1 out of 5 (Very Easy)
- Please advise us at booking time if you have food allergies or dietary preferences
- Your tour guide will meet you on day 2 in the lobby at 08:45am
- Your guide will have a sign with Iceland Travel‘s logo and words “Hidden Powers.“ Please be ready with your luggage. The tour will depart from the hotel at 09:00am
- If you are staying at a different hotel than the group, pickup will be between 08:15 – 08:30
- Please note: If you have added extra nights in Reykjavík before your tour, the guide will meet your group for the start of the tour on day 2 according to the standard “Hidden Powers & Northern Lights” itinerary

Itinerary:

Day 1: Arrival
Highlights: Reykjavik, Hallgrimskirkja, Tjornin, National Gallery, The Sun Voyager, Perlan, Parliament House

Important: If you have added extra nights in Reykjavík before your tour, the guide will meet your group for the start of the tour on Day 2 according to the standard "Hidden Powers and Northern Lights" itinerary.

Overnight stay in Reykjavik. Airport transfer is NOT included, but we are happy to help you arrange shared or private transfers.

Please note that check-in at most hotels starts at 14:00 (2:00pm).

Day 2: Thingvellir - Geysir - Gullfoss
Highlights: Gullfoss, Geysir, Thingvellir, National Park

Approximate distance: ca 205 km / 127 miles

Northern Lights Centre – National Park with Geological Wonders (UNESCO) – Lively Geysers – The Famous Golden Falls

Start the adventure by visiting the fascinating Aurora Reykjavik Northern Lights Centre. You'll get a great introduction to northern lights, how they are formed and the folklore surrounding

them. You'll also get tips about how to capture northern lights on film. It's also possible to get assistance from the staff in adjusting your camera's settings for northern lights photos.

Then head 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. This is a place that makes us Icelanders very proud of our heritage, and your guide will show you some of the amazing sites here. You might even have the rare chance to walk between two continents!

Continue on to the geothermal fields of Geysir with bubbling mud pools and the high-spouting Strokkur hot spring. Last but not least, visit the dramatic two-tiered Gullfoss waterfall, a spectacular sight in winter when frozen mid-cascade. Stop at Skalholt, Iceland's capital "city" during the Middle Ages and now a culture center with a beautiful church.

During the day you will also visit the town of Laugarvatn. The town is built around three hot springs, and the residents have cleverly harnessed the hot springs for heating, greenhouses and even cooking. You'll visit a unique outdoor geothermal bakery where sweet Icelandic rye bread is baked in the hot sands. You'll have the chance to taste some of the freshly baked bread, hot from the ground. It's especially delicious slathered in sweet Icelandic butter.

If weather conditions are right, your guide will take you on a northern lights hunt on foot in the area outside your hotel tonight, or on the evening of Day 3 or 4.

Dinner and overnight in the south coast area.

Geysir

Þingvellir

Gullfoss waterfall

Day 3: Iceland's South Shore - Eyjafjallajokull Volcano
Highlights: Eyjafjallajokull, Seljalandsfoss, Skogafoss, Vík, Reynisdrangar, Cliffs

Approximate distance: ca. 205 km / 127 miles

Waterfalls – Lava Centre – Glacial Views – Black Sand Beaches

Breakfast at your hotel. Drive along the South Shore, an area of Iceland that is especially 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 roaming in the fields. This part of Iceland is home to the wonderful LAVA Centre, an interactive, high-tech educational

exhibition depicting volcanic activity, earthquakes and the creation of Iceland over millions of years. Enjoy both the exhibit and viewing an interesting film about Icelandic volcanoes at the Centre's cinema. Continue onwards. If the skies are clear you might see the area's two most famous volcanoes in the distance: Mount Hekla (last eruption 2000) and Eyjafjallajokull (last eruption 2010). You might also possibly catch a glimpse of Westman Islands archipelago off the coast of Iceland.

Stop at the spectacular waterfalls Seljalandsfoss and Skogafoss. If trail conditions are right, you might be able to walk behind the ribbon-like Seljalandsfoss falls. Skogafoss is a beautifully shaped waterfall that makes a perfect backdrop for a selfie. It has an interesting history geologically, and it just may also be hiding some buried treasure from the Middle Ages.

We'd like you to meet some of our best countrymen with a visit to an Icelandic Search and Rescue (ICE-SAR) base. We Icelanders are very proud of our rescue teams. Thousands of Icelandic volunteers dedicate themselves to work for ICE-SAR rescue teams and assisting in accident prevention programs. Their joint mission is to prevent accidents and save human lives. ICE-SAR serves in both Icelandic and international rescue efforts. You'll meet some members of the team and get an introduction to the unique ICE-SAR program.

Head onwards, passing 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. Cross Eldhraun, a vast lava field created from a very destructive 18th-century eruption as you head into Southeast Iceland. The snows of winter make this landscape into something very mysterious.

Dinner and overnight stay in the Kirkjubaejarklaustur area.

Seljalandfoss

Reynisfjara

Skogafoss waterfall

Day 4: Vatnajökull National Park - Jokulsarlon Glacial Lagoon
Highlights: Skaftafell National Park, Jokulsarlon Glacial Lagoon, Vatnajokull National Park

Approximate distance: ca. 209 km / 130 miles

Western Europe's Largest National Park – Glacial Lagoon with Icebergs – Europe's Largest Glacier

Breakfast at your hotel. Today you will be in a world of glaciers! You'll be visiting the southern area of Vatnajokull National Park, named after Europe's largest glacier. The total park area covers almost 14% of Iceland, making it the largest national park in Western Europe! Drive through vast sand plains created by glacial outwashes as you head east. Visit Jokulsarlon Glacier Lagoon where you can enjoy the breath-taking sight of icebergs floating in the fantastic 180m (591 ft.) deep glacial lagoon (make sure that camera is loaded and ready!) Nearby is the dramatic beauty of the Diamond Beach, where shrinking icebergs settle on the black sands before they drift out to sea.

Then view Svinafellsjokull, one of the most beautiful glacial "tongues" that are slowly creeping down from Vatnajokull. Visit the national park's famous Skaftafell area, a site of outstanding natural beauty dominated by several magnificent glaciers.

After an amazing day, return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

Glacier lagoon Jökulsárlón *Diamond beach*

Day 5: Hveragerdi - Blue Lagoon - Reykjavik
Highlights: Hveragerdi, The Blue Lagoon

Approximate distance: ca. 369 km / 229 miles

Greenhouse Village – Thundering Waves – Geothermal Lagoon

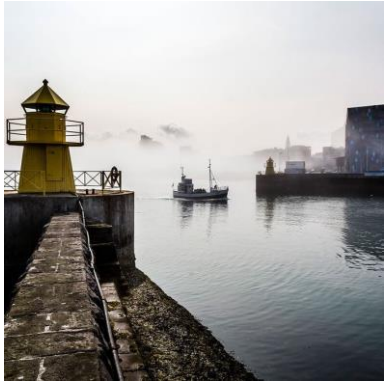
Breakfast at your hotel. Head back along the beautiful South Coast, enjoying a different view of the winter landscapes. Visit the village of Hveragerdi, which is one of the few sites in the world located directly in the middle of a geothermal area. Hveragerdi is often called "The Flower Village" because of its many flower greenhouses heated by hot water from nearby springs.

Turn onto a southern coastal road and follow alongside the shoreline with its breath-taking sea waves, passing through a deserted community that once was a flourishing center for the region.

The trip then takes you through the surreal landscapes of the Reykjanes peninsula, where you can enjoy a dip in the famous Blue Lagoon, a unique wonder of nature with pleasantly warm,

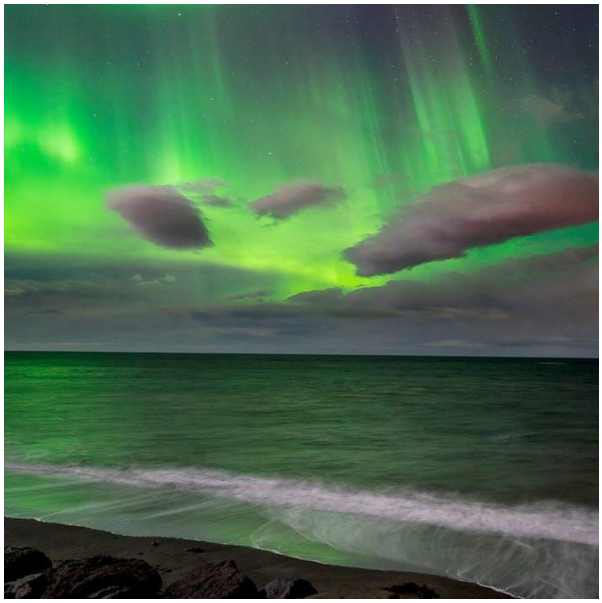
mineral-rich water in the middle of a black lava field. Return to Reykjavik, where the evening open for you to enjoy your own activities

Dinner is on your own.



The Blue lagoon *Hallgrimskirkja church in Reykjavik & harbour*

Day 6: Departure
Highlights: Reykjavik Reykjavik City Museum, Kjarvalsstadir, National Museum, Laugardalur

Breakfast at your hotel. Please note that this might be a light breakfast if you are taking an early morning departure flight. Transfer on your own to the international airport for your departure flight. The airport transfer is not included, but we are happy to help you arrange shared or private transfers.

We recommend you depart your hotel no later than three hours before your departure flight. We wish you a pleasant trip back to your homeland and hope to see you in Iceland again!