

ICELAND COMPLETE – WINTER Aurora Edition 2021 - 2022

Duration: 9 Days/8 Nights



Experience the special “Aurora Edition” of our best-selling Iceland Complete Ring Road tour! You will visit all the main attractions of the legendary Ring Road, but with the added beauty—and northern lights—of an Icelandic winter.

It's the “Aurora Edition” of our best-selling Ring Road Tour! You'll visit all the must-see attractions of the legendary Ring Road with the added beauty of an Icelandic winter. You'll also have the added value of overnighing in areas ideal for spotting northern lights on cold, clear nights! Plus traveling during this time of the year means fewer crowds and more of Iceland's peaceful, tranquil nature. Popular places visited include the Glacier Lagoon, Lake Mývatn and all the famous sights of the Golden Circle.

Highlights

- See Iceland's most popular sites and attractions along the famed Ring Road
 - Visit the world-famous Golden Circle natural wonders
 - Walk on the black sand beaches and see Skogafoss and Seljalandsfoss waterfalls along the south shore
 - Take in the majesty of Vatnajökull National Park that includes Skafafell, the Glacier Lagoon and the Diamond Beach
 - Explore the magnificent East Fjords, home of wild reindeer and a legendary sea monster
 - Visit Akureyri, Siglufjordur and the Lake Myvatn region in North Iceland
 - View the hidden treasures of beautiful Borgarfjordur in West Iceland
 - Enjoy Icelandic cuisine made with fresh local ingredients
 - Take advantage of the Northern Lights wake-up calls and optional tours to increase your chances of seeing the amazing Northern Lights
 - Discover Iceland with our hand-picked local guides
- All departures are guaranteed with minimum of 3 participants
 - Maximum group size: 36 people
 - See Iceland's most popular sites and attractions

Included:

- Guided Coach Tour from day 2 to day 8
- Expert local English speaking guide from day 2 to day 8
- Free Wi-Fi on board motor coach
- 2 hotel nights in standard rooms with private facilities in Reykjavik
- 6 hotel nights in standard rooms with private facilities in countryside
- Daily Icelandic breakfast (except arrival day)
- 6 three-course local-cuisine dinners in the countryside with coffee/tea
- Microbrewery visit and beer tasting in Breiðdalsvík

- Entrance to Laufas Folk Museum including Icelandic-style refreshments
- Entrance to Herring Museum
- Horse Show in Skagafjörður
- Northern Lights hunting kit (use of flashlight, blanket)
- Seat rotation during the tour
- Great photo stops

Added Value: Northern Lights Wake-Up Calls at selected hotels

Not Included:

- Breakfast on arrival day
- International airfare
- Round-trip transfers between Keflavik airport and Reykjavik
- Dinners in Reykjavík (day 1 and 8)
- Lunches
- Beverages with meals other than coffee/tea and fresh tap water
- Baggage portorage at airport and hotels
- Guaranteed early check-in or late check-out (check-in time for most hotels in Iceland is 14:00 (2:00pm))
- Optional tours and activities
- Any service not specifically listed under “included”

PRICE PER PERSON in EUR

	Double	Single	Triple
16 February 2022			
16 March 2022	1.909	2375	1999
06 April 2022			

All departures are guaranteed with a minimum of 3 participants

Optional tours (must be booked in advance)

- Evening Super Jeep or snowmobile tour on Vatnajökull (min 3 pax). Included: 1 hr guided jeep or snowmobiling tour on glacier. Boots, overalls, helmets, gloves for the snowmobile ride. Duration total 3,5 h. Price 160 EUR per adult (2 pax share one snowmobile)
- Myvatn Nature baths. Included: entrance to Myvatn Nature bath with towel. Price 38 EUR per adults, 18 EUR child (13 – 15 years)
- Horse riding tour by Mývatn. Included: 1 hr guided riding tour, safety helmet. Price: 54 EUR per adult (12 years and older)

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.

Important

- Little walking is required on this tour other than walking on mostly flat and paved or smooth paths.

- Day 5: Dettifoss - Good to know that the walking path between the parking lot and the waterfall is about 15- 20 minutes. It is an easy walk overall, heading downhill to the falls and uphill back to the parking lot.
- Note: We reserve the right to alter routes without prior notice, due to road conditions
- The Northern Lights are subject to the correct weather conditions and sightings cannot be guaranteed.

What to bring:

- Comfortable outdoor shoes are recommended as there is some easy level walking on the tour
- Bring wind and waterproof outerwear with you to Iceland
- The weather in Iceland can change rapidly, we recommend dressing in layers for optimal comfort
- Activity/Difficulty Level: 1 out of 5 (Very Easy)

This tour stays in hotels with private bathrooms, generally a mix of four- and three-star hotels.

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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%



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Day 1: Arrival



On your own, transfer to Reykjavik. Airport transfer is not included, but we are happy to help you arrange shared or private transfers. If your flight lands early in the day, a great suggestion is to explore Reykjavik, the largest municipality in Iceland.

Ingolfur Arnarson, the first settler of Iceland, built his farm on the peninsula where Reykjavik stands today. The town got its name “Smoky Bay” after the columns of steam that rose from the hot springs in the area and made such a deep impression on the first settlers.

Dinner is on your own. Reykjavik offers a multitude of restaurants and/or coffee-houses, making dinner a great way to get better acquainted with Iceland's capital.

Please note guaranteed early check-in is not included in the price. Most hotels begin check-in around 14:00 (2:00pm).

Overnight stay in Reykjavik (airport transfer not included). Dinner on own.



Day 2: Geysir - Gullfoss - Skogar - Dyrholaey – Vik

Spouting Geysers – Waterfalls – Black Sand Beaches of the South Shore

Breakfast at your hotel. Start the day with a short city sightseeing of Reykjavik. From Reykjavik head through the greenhouse village of Hveragerdi. Head on to the Golden Circle natural wonders. Explore Gullfoss, the “Golden Waterfall”, and the nearby Geysir hot spring area to see the famous Geysir and Strokkur, as well as numerous other hot springs and boiling mud pools. Continue along the south shore and stop to admire the waterfalls Seljalandsfoss and Skogafoss before continuing to Dyrholaey and the black sand beaches of Iceland's South Shore. Continue to the village of Vik.

Dinner and overnight stay in the Vik area at either Hotel Vik or Hotel Kria.



Day 3: Skaftafell National Park - Jokulsarlon Glacial Lagoon - Hofn

Lava Fields – Glacial Lagoon with Icebergs – Europe's Largest Glacier

Breakfast at your hotel. Continue your journey on the Ring Road. Cross Eldhraun, the largest lava flow recorded on the planet in historical times. Visit Kirkjubaejarklaustur town, the former site of a 12th-century Catholic convent. The tour continues over Skeidararsandur sands to Skaftafell, a beautiful glacial area within Vatnajokull National Park. Continue to the stunning Jokulsarlon Glacial Lagoon to see the birthplace of icebergs. Throughout the day you will also enjoy magnificent views of the mighty Vatnajokull Glacier.

Dinner and overnight stay in the Hofn area at Hotel Hofn.



Day 4: Hofn - East Fjords - Egilsstadir

Narrow Fjords – Steep Mountains – Picturesque Coastline – Mineral Collection

Breakfast at your hotel. Get ready to enjoy some amazing views today! Drive from Hofn through Almannaskard pass, stopping to admire the majestic coastline. Continue to the towering mountains plunging vertically into the sea that form the

magnificent East Fjords. Keep your hand on your camera and keep an eye out for wild reindeer, which can sometimes be seen in the area during the winter months.

You will also pass villages, each with its own special history and charm. One of these is the tiny village of Breiddalsvik. Here, you'll visit the local Beljandi microbrewery and sample some of the beer. You'll meet one of the townsfolk and get a feel for life in a small town, as well as how great beer is made. The road next brings you to Egilsstaðir town, located near Iceland's largest forest and a lake said to be home to a legendary (friendly) monster. The area is also getting a name for itself for its excellent locally sourced cuisine, and you will surely enjoy some of it at dinner.

Dinner and overnight in the Egilsstaðir area.



Day 5: Lake Myvatn Area

Highland Desert – Bizarre Lava Formations – Geothermal & Volcanic Activity – Rich Birdlife – Protected Salmon River

Breakfast at your hotel. Explore the empty vastness of the highland desert plateau Modrudalsoraefi as you head towards the Lake Myvatn area. On the way, stop at Dettifoss, Europe's most powerful waterfall. Continue onwards to Namaskard pass with its boiling mud pools and vibrant colors. Explore the natural beauty of the Lake Myvatn area, including the pseudo craters at Skutustadur and the Laxa Salmon River.

Dinner and overnight stay in the Myvatn area.



Dettifoss waterfall



Hverarönd/Námafjall mud hot springs



Day 6: Lake Myvatn Area - Akureyri - Siglufjörður

"Waterfall of the Gods" – Folk Museum – The Beautiful Troll Peninsula

Breakfast at your hotel. Start the day by exploring the peculiar lava formations at Dimmuborgir. Visit the magnificent Godafoss waterfall and the old turf farm Laufas. Afterwards, visit Akureyri, the colorful northern "capital" of Iceland. The town has charming buildings and beautiful view of the Eyjafjörður Fjord.

After spending some time in Akureyri, continue along the coastal roads of Eyjafjörður and the Troll Peninsula. This is a beautiful drive along steep mountains with amazing views over the Arctic Sea and the black sand coastline. The day's destination is Siglufjörður, set in a beautiful fjord of the same name. This town has some of the finest timber buildings in the country, beautifully restored to their original glory. Siglufjörður is a very picturesque and easily walkable town for an evening stroll. You may even recognize some of the buildings; the town was a filming location for both seasons of the popular Icelandic thriller series Trapped.

Dinner and overnight in Siglufjörður.

Day 7: Skagafjörður – Borgarnes

Historical Museum - Fertile Farmlands – Glacial Rivers – Unique Viking Horse Demonstration



Breakfast at your hotel. This morning visit Siglufjörður's award-winning Herring-Era Museum. The museum recreates the atmosphere of the early 20th century, when

Siglufjordur was transformed into a herring boom town, thanks to a large migration of herring. The museum will transport you back to that exciting time.

Afterwards, head along majestic mountains and narrow passes to Skagafjordur, considered to be one of the finest places in Iceland for horse breeding. Enjoy an introduction to the unique Icelandic horse breed with its special fifth gait – the tolt.

Continue towards the village of Blonduos, built on both sides of the river Blanda. This is a part of Iceland known from the Icelandic literary work Vatnsdaela Saga. Cross the Holtavorduheidi plateau taking you into West Iceland. Drive through Borgarfjordur, a region that has been getting international recognition for its diverse types of scenery and its Viking history.

Dinner and overnight stay in Borgarnes area



Day 8: Borgarfjordur - Thingvellir - Reykjavik

Europe's Largest Hot Spring – Picturesque Waterfalls – National Park with Geological Wonders (UNESCO)

Breakfast at your hotel. Visit some of the beautiful natural wonders of West Iceland. Drive to Deildartunguhver, the most powerful hot spring in Europe. Stop to admire the beautiful Hraunfossar waterfalls, where brightly blue water rushes through black lava formations. Nearby is Barnafoss, a waterfall with a more brilliantly blue color. There is an interesting and poignant legend associated with this waterfall.

Drive through the scenic and mountain lined Hvalfjordur fjord to Lake Thingvallavatn, Iceland's largest lake, and Thingvellir National Park. This UNESCO heritage site is where the world's oldest continuing parliamentary government was founded in the 10th century. It is also the place where the North American and European tectonic plates meet. You will have the unusual experience of walking between two continents! Afterwards, head to Reykjavik for a last night in the colorful capital city. Your guide will bid you farewell at your hotel.

Overnight stay in Reykjavik. Dinner is on your own.

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Day 9: Departure – Farewell to the Land of Fire and Ice

Breakfast at your hotel. Please note that this might be a light breakfast if you are taking an early morning departure flight. Transfer to the airport **not included**. We advise departing your hotel no later than three hours before your international flight. Airport transfer is not included, but we are happy to help you arrange shared or private transfers.

If you did not visit the Blue Lagoon on your arrival day, you might use the opportunity to stop there now on your way to the airport.