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## City and Country Break



### Glacier Wonders & Northern Lights

6 days / 5 nights

This tour package with daily departures is ideal for those who want to visit the most beautiful attractions of Iceland – the Golden Circle and Iceland’s largest glacier: Vatnajökull as well as the possibility to see the northern lights. Add on a boat tour, glacier hike or visit to a natural Ice Cave\*!

Time of travel: October to April.

#### Highlights:

- Golden Circle
- Glacier Lagoon Jökulsárlón
- Diamond beach at Glacier lagoon
- Northern Lights
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#### INCLUDED

- Return Airport Express from/to KEF airport including hotel drop off/pick up
- 4 nights with breakfast and private facilities at a 3\* or 4\* hotel in central Reykjavik & 1 night at Guesthouse during two day tour with breakfast and private facilities
- Golden Circle day tour
- South Coast and Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon 2 day tour
- Northern Lights bus tour from Reykjavik

#### Excluded:

- Meals besides breakfast, optional tours and activities.



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**Prices:**

Valid 01 – 31 October 2020

Valid 01 February 2021 – 31 March 2021

3 Star Hotel	4 Star Hotel	
105.800 ISK	119.000 ISK	per person in double room
146.400 ISK	170.400 ISK	per person in single room

Valid 01 November – 25 December 2020

Valid 03 – 31 January 2021

Valid 01 – 30 April 2021

3 Star Hotel	4 Star Hotel	
101.000 ISK	113.500 ISK	per person in double room
136.900 ISK	159.400 ISK	per person in single room

Valid 26 December 2020 – 02 January 2021

3 Star Hotel	4 Star Hotel	
122.300 ISK	140.300 ISK	per person in double room
179.400 ISK	212.900 ISK	per person in single room

*\* Prices are subject to hotel availability*

**Optional**

- Extra nights available on request
- All nights are in standard rooms with private facilities – upgrades available on request
- **\*Change the 2 day tour to a Glacier lagoon 2 day tour with Glacier hike: add 11.310 ISK per person.**
- **\*Change the 2 day tour to a Glacier lagoon 2 day tour with Ice Cave visit Vatnajökull: add 15.390 ISK per person. Available only 15th Nov – 31st Mar only**
- **\*ADD a boat tour on Glacier lagoon, available in October only. 5.610 ISK per person**
- Additional tours available on [www.grayline.is](http://www.grayline.is)

**Notes:**

- The accommodation on the two day tour is a 3\* Guesthouse with breakfast & private facilities
- *The two day Glacier lagoon tour is not operated on 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 30th, 31st December and 01st January.*
- The days can be changed around if needed to make it better fit or due to availability.



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## ITINERARY:

### Day 1: Arrival

Arrival at Keflavik international Airport and scheduled transfer to the hotel in Reykjavik.

Overnight in Reykjavik.



*Thingvellir National Park*



*Geysir hot spring*



*Gullfoss waterfall in winter*

### Day 2: Golden Circle Classic

It's a classic for good reason. Combining history, culture and extraordinary nature, the Golden Circle Classic Tour makes for an unforgettable day. Duration ca. 7 hours.

#### Highlights

- Thingvellir National Park—walk among the geological wonders of the fissure zone and in the footsteps of the early Viking settlers where the Althingi parliament was founded
- Gullfoss—feel the mist of glacial water as it cascades down one of Iceland's most famous waterfalls
- Geysir—hear the bubbling of the mud pots, smell the sulfur in the air and watch in awe as the geyser Strokkur blasts boiling water into the air

Overnight in Reykjavik.

### Day 3-4: South Coast and Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon – 2 day tour

Departing from Reykjavik, this tour of South Iceland and Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon takes us across lush farmlands along the coast past waterfalls, glaciers and black sands to the stunning Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon. After a night at Gerði Country Hotel and exploring its serene





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surroundings, we visit Vatnajökull glacier, stop at a seaside village and visit one, last breathtaking waterfall on the way home.

#### Highlights

- Views of glaciers and volcanoes
- Walk right up to picturesque waterfalls Seljalandsfoss and Skógafoss
- See the black volcanic sand plains at Skeiðarásandur
- Explore Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon



*Seljalandsfoss waterfall*



*Glacier lagoon Jökulsárlón*



*The Northern Lights*

#### Tour Itinerary: DAY ONE

From Reykjavik, the tour takes us across Hellisheiði heath, past Mt. Hengill volcano, an active central volcano with an enormous magma chamber that drives some of Iceland's geothermal power plants.

From Hellisheiði we descend into the southern lowlands, travelling past the greenhouse village of Hveragerði and through Selfoss, the service hub of South Iceland. We carry on through the farmlands of the Flói area and over a bridge spanning Iceland's longest river, Þjórsá, as we enter the village Hvolsvöllur for a short refreshment break.

East of Hvolsvöllur on the horizon looms the infamous Eyjafjallajökull glacier-volcano, whose 2010 eruption and subsequent ash cloud paralysed much of Europe's airspace for nearly a week.

Our next stop is Skógafoss; a powerful waterfall visitors can walk right up to and considered by many to be one of Iceland's most impressive. Afterwards, we pass Mýrdalsjökull glacier, the formidable Mt. Katla volcano, the expansive sand plains of Mýrdalsandur and finally the enormous Eldgjárhraun lava field. From there we enter Skeiðarásandur plains, a vast, desolate area of black, volcanic sands between Skeiðarárjökull glacier and the sea.

Emerging from these dramatic landscapes, we reach the eye-popping Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon. The roughly 18-square-km lagoon is packed with huge pieces of ice cleaved from the glacier and majestically floating towards the sea. We'll spend a good amount of time exploring



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the lagoon and its black sand shores where seals are commonly seen. The optional boat tour, available seasonally, also takes place during this time. (Please note, the boat tour must be booked \*in advance\* during the check-out process.)

From Jökulsárlón, guests are shuttled to Gerði Country Hotel, our nearby accommodations for the night where dinner is available for purchase. On clear, winter nights the hotel's remote location is ideal to view the Northern Lights if they appear.

**Day 4:** Return and overnight in Reykjavík.

#### DAY TWO

After breakfast (included), a local guide will take us to the edge of Vatnajökull glacier at Þröng to see the breathtaking views at the foot of one of Europe's largest glaciers. Afterwards, we'll return to Jökulsárlón for one, last look around before we start back, stopping in the seaside village of Vík where dinner is available for purchase.

Our last stop on is arguably the most picturesque waterfall in Iceland. At 60 meters tall Seljalandsfoss cascades down from ancient sea cliffs into a shallow pool. Weather permitting, visitors can walk behind the waterfall, which makes for some fantastic photo ops with spectacular views out to the countryside.

Please note

Bring proper hiking shoes, headwear, winter gloves, warm socks, windproof and rainproof outer layers and light and warm inner layers.

Overnight in Reykjavik.

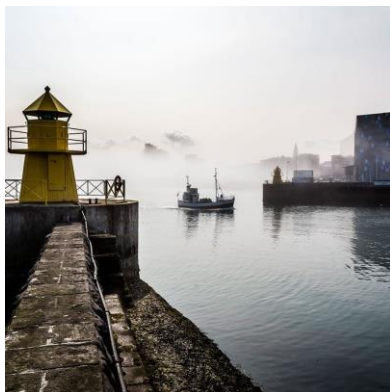
*Please note: arrival in Reykjavik at about 22:00.*

*Add on a boat tour, Glacier hike or visit to a natural Ice Cave! See extra for prices.*

*Glacier hike is possible from October to May. Operated on day 4 in the morning.*

*Ice Cave is possible 15th November to 31st March. Operated on day 4 in the morning.*

*Boat tour is possible in October. Operated either on day 1 before going to guesthouse.*



Reykjavik harbour



Northern Lights





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### **Day 5: Free day & Northern Lights evening bus tour**

Day at your leisure to explore Reykjavík or add on optional day tours. In the evening, join the Northern Lights tour.

Tour departure at 20:00 or 21:00 available. Duration 4 hours.

Join us on a dark winter night to hunt the stunning Northern Lights and watch their beautiful dance across the sky with our professional guide. This Northern Lights tour in Iceland takes you out of Reykjavik the city lights in the hope of seeing the Northern Lights in its full power.

#### Highlights

- Watching Northern Lights
- Know-how about the Northern Lights from professional tour guide
- Unforgettable life experience

Overnight in Reykjavík.



### **Day 6: Departure**

Airport Express transfer with hotel pick up to Keflavik International Airport for your flight departure.





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## ***Frequently asked questions about the Northern Lights***

### ***Where is the best place and time to see Northern Lights in 2020?***

*Northern lights season in Iceland is from late August until late April. The darker and brighter the skies, the better for seeing the aurora borealis. With that in mind, February, March, September, October, and November 2020 are your best bet to see northern lights in Iceland this winter.*

### ***Do the Northern Lights happen every night?***

*No, this is not guaranteed, because if you want to see the northern lights you need a clear dark sky, and it doesn't happen every night.*

### ***Where are the Northern Lights located?***

*You can see the northern lights in Iceland, Alaska, Canada, Norway, and other places in the world. It is important to keep in mind that the polar latitudes have the best view of the northern lights. Anywhere above or north of the magnetic 55° with low light pollution is a good place to catch the lights. The 55th parallel north runs through northern parts of Europe, Asia, and North America.*

### ***How long do the Northern Lights last?***

*The time when aurora borealis is most visible and chances are highest are from late August to late April. This works for Iceland. It really depends on how long the northern lights appear in the sky. Sometimes it might be only a few minutes, sometimes hours. Even the northern lights can be really strong and visible, it is best to be in a dark place, where lights are not shining.*

### ***Where is the best chance to see Northern Lights?***

*You can see the aurora borealis also in the city with all the city lights, but for the best moment of watching, we recommend to be outside of the city where dark sky is surrounding you.*

### ***Why do the Northern Lights happen?***

*The Northern Lights, also known as aurora borealis, are caused by solar activity, including solar wind, solar flares, and coronal mass ejections (CME). These are all forms of electrically charged particles ejected by the sun. It takes a solar flare about 8 minutes to travel from the sun to the Earth and collide with gaseous particles in the Earth's atmosphere. Due to variations in the Earth's magnetic field and the dark winters at the north and south poles, the lights are more visible near the poles than anywhere else in the world.*