

## **VOLCANOES AND GLACIERS - 6 DAYS / 5 NIGHTS**

This is a unique fire and ice adventure you'll never forget! Explore South Iceland's famous wonders, including the infamous Eyjafjallajökull volcano, the Glacier Lagoon, and the Golden Circle. Travel along one of Iceland's most volcanically active routes, viewing the breath-taking destruction left behind by eruptions. You'll also see how both volcanoes and glaciers have forcefully created and continue to shape the land. No trip to South Iceland is complete until you've visited the volcanic Westman Islands where you'll see first-hand the power and fury of volcanoes! Get closer to some of Iceland's most beautiful and magnificent glaciers with awe-inspiring activities.

### **Get the most out of your holiday in Iceland!**

- Excellent locally-based guides who know and are passionate about Iceland
- Stay in the best available hotels in each area (quality three-star hotels)
- All departures are guaranteed with minimum of 2 participants
- Maximum group size: 36 people
- SMALL GROUP experience available with max 16 pax

### **Highlights:**

- A great first-time tour to experience both the natural wonders and energetic adventure of Iceland
- Visit and catch great photos of classic natural wonders, including the Gullfoss waterfall and Geysir, the Glacier Lagoon, Diamond Beach and the Reynisfjara black sand beach
- Visit and overnight in the ruggedly beautiful Westman Islands – and get a good look at its infamous, powerful volcano
- Enjoy exciting and breathtaking activities that bring you alongside – and even onto – magnificent glaciers.

### **INCLUDED**

- Guided Coach or small bus tour from Reykjavik from day 2 to day 5
- Return transfers from pre-arranged bus stops in Reykjavík to meeting point prior to and after tour
- Expert local English-speaking guide from day 1 to day 4
- Free Wi-Fi on board tour vehicle
- Accommodation 2 nights at hotel in Reykjavik with breakfast
- Accommodation 3 nights in a standard room with facilities in the countryside & breakfast
- 1 three-course local-cuisine dinner in the countryside with coffee/tea (day 4)
- Guide service during dinner
- Exhibition and cinema at Lava Centre
- Roundtrip ferry fare to Westman Islands
- Entrance to Eldheimar Museum
- Glacier Walk or Kayak tour at Sólheimajökull Glacier
- Iceberg Lagoon Zodiac Tour
- Great photo stops
- Seat rotation during the tour

## NOT INCLUDED:

- International airfare
- Baggage portorage at airport/hotel
- Personal travel insurance (highly recommended)
- Round-trip transfers between airports and hotels
- Breakfast on arrival day
- Dinners
- Beverages, snacks, lunches 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"

## Important

- Note: We reserve the right to alter routes without prior notice, due to road conditions

## PRICE PER PERSON (EUR): May – September 2022

Large group with max 36 pax: 02 June, 07, 14 July, 11, 18 August	Double 1319 EUR	Single 1739 EUR	Triple 1313 EUR
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15 September	1215 EUR	1599 EUR	1198 EUR
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Small group with max 16 pax 19 May	Double 1379 EUR	Single 1738 EUR	Triple 1379 EUR
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16 June, 21 July, 01 September	1499 EUR	1899 EUR	1499 EUR
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### 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.

### Optional Activities:

Zip Line Adventure Vik: 99 EUR per person, Duration 1,5 – 2 hrs incl. Transfer to/from Vik, safety equipment, certified guided hike, 4 ziplines

Evening horse riding Tour in Vik: 73 EUR per person, Duration 1,5 hrs incl. 1 hr guided rigint tour, safety helmet and overalls.

**Snæfellsnes Extension:** stay another night in Reykjavik and take a day tour to the beautiful Snæfellsnes peninsula. Max group size 16 pax. Includes 1 night at hotel in Reykjavik with breakfast and private facilities, scheduled small group day tour to Snæfellsnes peninsula with expert local English speaking Driverguide.

Double TBA EUR	Single TBA EUR	Triple TBA EUR
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## ITINERARY:



### **DAY 1 – Arrival**

Please note: If you have added extra nights in Reykjavík before your tour, the guide will meet you on the morning of Day 2 as per the standard “Volcanoes & Glaciers” itinerary. Please check the “Services” section in your travel documents to see how to meet your guide at the start of the tour.

Arrival at the Keflavik airport. Transfers to Reykjavik are **not included** in the tour. We would be happy to arrange shared or private transfers for you, so let us know at booking time.

Overnight stay in Hotel in Reykjavik. Dinner on your own.

*Please note that hotels in Iceland start check-in around 14:00 (2:00pm), and early check-in is not guaranteed. Most hotels will be happy to store your luggage if you are not able to check in early.*

### **DAY 2 - Westman Islands**

*Highlights: Seljalandsfoss Vestmannaeyjar*

Amazing Waterfall – Lava Fields – Volcanic Aftermath – Magnificent lava fields

*Approximate distance: 170 km (106 miles)*

Breakfast at your hotel. Meet your guide in the hotel lobby and walk out to the area where your tour coach is waiting. Drive along the South Shore, one of Iceland’s most volcanic regions. Pass alongside farmlands built in the shadow of towering volcanic mountains. You’ll see many signs of how the volcanoes of the area have powerfully altered the landscape. If the skies are clear, you may even catch views of two of Iceland’s most famous volcanoes: Hekla (last eruption 2000) and Eyjafjallajokull (last eruption 2010).

In Hvollsvollur town, visit the LAVA Centre, an interactive, high-tech exhibition about volcanoes and earthquakes and how they have shaped Iceland. It’s a perfect introduction to the geological wonders you’ll see during your tour.

Next visit the impressive Seljalandsfoss waterfall. If you’re up for adventure and cool experiences you can take the trail that leads behind the waterfall.

Travel along the farmlands of the south coast to Landeyjahofn harbor. Hop onboard a local ferry for a 30-minute trip to the Westman Islands. Enjoy the ride and the view of volcanic islands and seabirds. Your destination is Heimaey Island, the largest of the Westman Island archipelago. Life here is quite a bit different from the “mainland” Iceland, and you’ll discover some of the unique culture and history on a drive around the area.

Visit windy Storhofdi Point with its fantastic views over the area. (During mid-May through the beginning of August you might also see puffins here.) Take a walk up to the crater of a volcano that erupted only three decades ago. The view from up here and over the sea and islands is simply stunning! (Make sure your camera is charged up and ready!)



Next, take a trip back in time and visit Eldheimar Museum. You'll learn about the catastrophic 1973 eruption that poured lava over many houses on Heimaey and changed the residents' lives forever. You'll see where lava covered houses and where grass and moss now grow among the lava. The volcanic flows also created an amazing time capsule; wandering through Eldheimar gives you a peek into Icelandic daily life in the early 1970s.

The rest of the afternoon is open for you to explore the island on your own. Walk along the harbor and check out the 17th-century fortress built to protect the islands from pirate raids. Catch some interesting and timeless photos of a Viking-style stave church built in the year 2000. Take a swim in the public swimming pool, which uses geothermally warmed sea water. Soak in the vibes of the charming and lively fishing town, home to a micro-brewery and several restaurants known for great seafood.

Overnight in the Westman Islands. Dinner on your own.



### **DAY 3 – South Shore – Skogar – Vík**

*Highlights: Skogafoss Reynisdrangar Cliffs Dyrholaey Vík*

Amazing Waterfall – Unforgettable Glacier Experience – Black Sand Beaches

*Approximate distance: 120 km (75miles)*

Breakfast at your hotel. Yesterday's focus was on volcanoes. Today the focus is on glaciers! Take the morning ferry back from the Westman Islands and continue your exploration of the south coast. Start with a visit to photogenic Skogafoss waterfall, where legends say an ancient treasure is hidden. The waterfall also makes the perfect backdrop for a selfie.

Soon you will be in the area of Myrdalsjokull Glacier. Visit Solheimajokull, a glacier outlet flowing from Myrdalsjokull glacier. Solheimajokull gives you a fantastic opportunity to discover glaciers up close. You can choose one of two unforgettable glacier experiences (Both activities are great for beginners; no previous experience is needed).

Glacier Hike- Strap on crampons, pick up an ice axe and follow an expert glacier guide onto Solheimajokull glacier. You'll explore the glacier's surface, discovering amazing ice formations and learn interesting facts about how glaciers form. | Duration: 2 – 2,5 hours, 1 – 1,5 hours on the ice) | Included: Guided hike and all necessary safety equipment (crampons, ice axe, and safety harness) | Notes: Minimum age for tour is 8 years old and a minimum shoe size of European 34 (U.S. 25) • Hiking boots are essential for this tour

Glacier View Kayaking – Enjoy Solheimajokull from a different angle on an easy kayak tour. Paddle a special sit-on-top kayak in a natural lagoon that flows out from Solheimajokull glacier. Enjoy views of the glacier you can only see from the water. |Included: Guided kayak trio and all necessary safety equipment | Duration: 2,5 hours, 1 – 1,5 hours in kayak) | Note: minimum age for kayaking is 12 years old



*Skogafoss waterfall*



*Reynisfjara black sand beach*

Afterwards, you'll head to the magical black sands of Reynisfjara beach. You'll witness powerful waves and amazing basalt column structures carved by the power of the sea. Walking along the beach and hearing the thundering waves is a reminder of nature's power.

Head to the village of Vik for your overnight. Vik has become a base for a variety of activity tours. This evening you might like to try a Zip Line adventure or a horseback ride along the black sand beach. We're happy to book these tours for you; simply let us know at booking time.

Overnight stay in Vik. Dinner is on your own.



## **DAY 4 – Vik – Skaftafell – Jokulsarlon**

*Highlights: Skaftafell National Park Svartifoss Waterfall Jokulsarlon Glacial Lagoon Vatnajokull National Park Vatnajokull Oraefajokull Eldhraun Lava Field*

Volcano and Glacier Oasis – Europe’s Largest Glacier – Glacial Lagoon with Icebergs

*Approximate distance: 400 km (249 miles)*

Breakfast at your hotel. Today you’ll be visiting the southern area of Vatnajokull National Park, named after Europe’s largest glacier. Vatnajokull National Park covers 14% of Iceland’s surface, making it the largest national park in Western Europe. Throughout the day you’ll also have views of massive Vatnajokull glacier.

Start the day by crossing Eldhraun, the largest single flow of lava ever to flow on the face of the Earth. The cataclysmic eruption happened in 1783-1784 AD and affected the climate across mainland Europe. Your tour vehicle then crosses a landscape of black sand plains and braided rivers created when glacier capped volcanoes erupted.



### *Glacier Lagoon Jökulsárlón*

Visit Skaftafell, a beautiful glacier-ringed valley in Vatnajokull National Park. The contrast of black volcanoes, silvery glaciers and small green forests is strikingly beautiful. Continue to the stunning Jokulsarlon Glacier Lagoon to see floating icebergs and maybe a curious seal or two. Spend a few moments here taking in this unforgettable site. Nearby is the Diamond Beach, a black sand area where broken bits of ice bergs come to rest before they eventually drift to sea. Now it’s time to enjoy the beauty of ice and water even more with a boat trip! Head to the Iceberg Lagoon, another (and more tranquil) glacier lagoon in the area. Take a Zodiac boat tour amid the floating ice bergs, viewing the different shapes and shades of blue. You’ll also surely enjoy the guide’s interesting insights about the glacier and the area’s history and nature.

Return to Vik for your overnight. Dinner and overnight stay in Vik.



## **DAY 5 – Gullfoss – Geysir – Thingvellir – Reykjavik**

*Highlights: Geysir Gullfoss Thingvellir National Park*

Lively Geysers and Golden Falls – National Park with Geological Wonders (UNESCO World Heritage Site)

*Approximate distance: 295 km (183 miles)*

Breakfast at your hotel. We've reserved today for you to explore the Golden Circle region, perhaps Iceland's most famous natural wonders. It's also a fascinating place to discover more about Iceland's volcanic and glacial powers, with a bit of Viking history on the side.

Start off by heading for the Geysir geothermal field. The very earth steams with volcanic heat. Underground hot springs shoot from the earth as geysers. The most famous spouting hot spring is Strokkur, which shoots high in the air every few minutes. But there are many other smaller yet very interesting geysers and bubbling mud pools (one of our personal favorites is the hard-working, tiny "Geysir Litli.")



*Geysir*



*Thingvellir National Park*

Travel onwards to Gullfoss, one of Iceland's most impressive waterfalls. Gullfoss is created by a glacial river, Hvita, that thunders over two ledges into a deep canyon. Several footpaths lead around the falls, each giving you a different view.

The final stop of this amazing day is Thingvellir National Park, where the Viking-age parliament met for centuries on the shores of Iceland's largest lake. Thingvellir is where Iceland became a nation, and many important decisions and historical events happened here. Thingvellir is also a fascinating place geologically; the North American and European tectonic plates meet, allowing you to walk between continents.

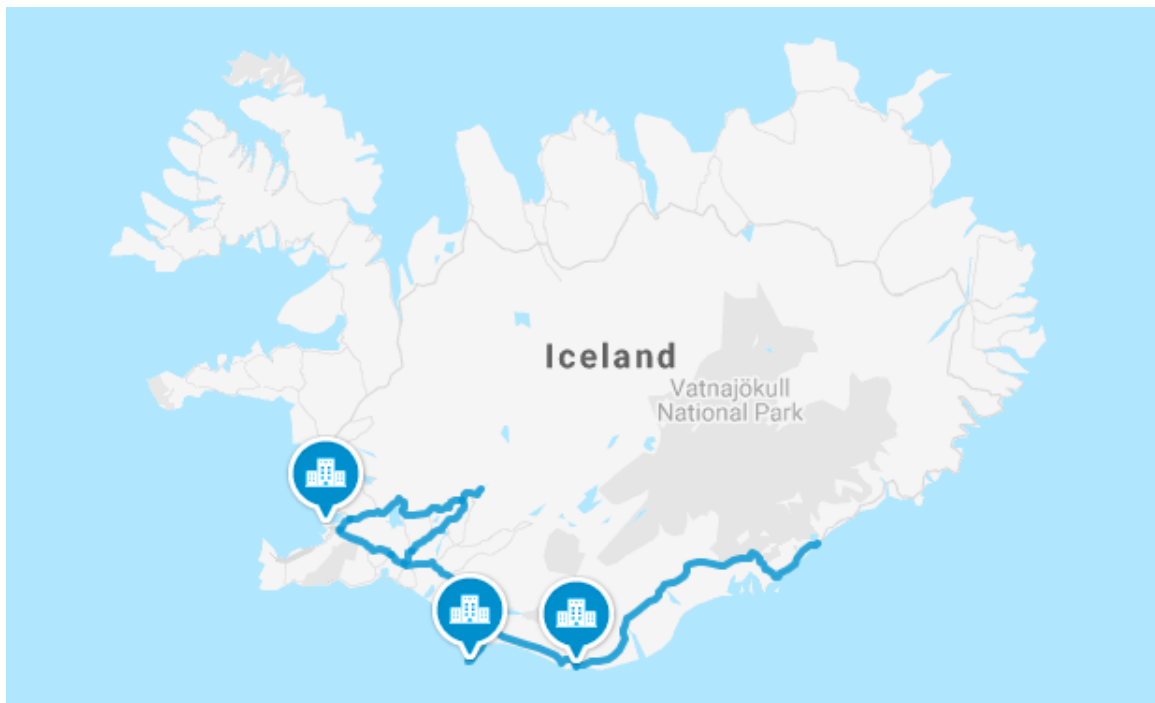
After some time to explore the wonders of Thingvellir, head back to Reykjavik, where your guide bids you farewell.

Overnight stay in Reykjavik. Dinner is on your own.

## **DAY 6 – Departure**

Breakfast at your hotel. Please note that this might be a light breakfast if you are taking an early morning 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!



Time of cancellation:

- More than 3 weeks (22+ days) prior to arrival deposit
- 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%