

# Untamed Iceland

Iceland: Reykjavik, Stykkisholmur, Akureyri, Selfoss

13 days from **\$5795**

Includes international airfare from Newark

Single Supplement: FREE

## Itinerary Summary

DAYS	DESTINATION
1	Fly to Reykjavik, Iceland
2-3	Reykjavik
4-5	Stykkisholmur
6-9	Horse Farm • Akureyri
10-11	Fly to Reykjavik • Golden Circle
12	Reykjavik
13	Return to U.S.

### Please contact

Karen Maher at 518-588-4083 or email [kmaher2@nycap.rr.com](mailto:kmaher2@nycap.rr.com) for registration.



**DEPARTURE DATE: September 7, 2019**

## It's Included

- International airfare, government taxes, fees, and airline fuel surcharges unless you choose to make your own air arrangements (please note due to government actions taxes may change)
- All land transportation and 1 internal flight
- Accommodations for 11 nights
- 25 meals—daily breakfast, 6 lunches, and 7 dinners (including 1 Home-Hosted Dinner)
- 24 small group activities
- Services of a local O.A.T. Trip Leader
- Gratuities for local guides, drivers, and luggage porters
- 5% Frequent Traveler Credit toward your next adventure—an average of \$310

## Itinerary

### DAY 1 • Depart U.S.

### DAY 2 • Arrive Reykjavik, Iceland

*Velkomin!* Welcome to Iceland. You'll arrive in the early morning hours and be met by an O.A.T. representative, and transfer to Reykjavik. When we arrive, we'll check in to our hotel and have breakfast. Get acquainted with the neighborhood around your hotel on an orientation walk with your Trip Leader this afternoon. Later, gather for a Welcome Dinner with your fellow travelers.

B,D—Hilton Nordica or similar

### DAY 3 • Ocean Cluster House • Explore National Museum

This morning, we'll visit the Ocean Cluster for a discussion on fishing quotas before exploring the National Museum. The afternoon will be free to explore.

B—Hilton Nordica or similar

### DAY 4 • Overland to Stykkisholmur • Mount Helgafell hike

After breakfast, we depart Reykjavik for the rolling meadows of the Borgarfjordur agricultural district. We'll enjoy an interactive lesson on wool dyeing and spinning at a wool studio before visiting

the Settlement Center and having an included lunch there. Then we continue to Stykkisholmur, the largest town on the scenic Snaefellsnes Peninsula. We'll take a drive and hike to the top of Helgafell, a sacred mountain. After dinner back at the hotel, the evening is at your leisure.

B,L,D—Hotel Stykkisholmur or similar

### DAY 5 • Snaefellsnes Peninsula • Arnarstapi lava field • Shark farm visit

This morning on the Snaefellsnes Peninsula, we'll explore the area that marks the entry point to Jules Verne's *Journey to the Center of the Earth*. In the fishing village of Arnarstapi, we'll hike along the rocky coastline followed by lunch in the Hellnar valley. Another side of Icelandic culture is ours to discover on a visit to a shark farm, where we'll taste *hakarl*, a local delicacy made from shark meat. Dinner will be on your own this evening in Stykkisholmur.

B,L—Hotel Stykkisholmur or similar

### DAY 6 • Eiríksstaðir Museum • Horse farm visit

After breakfast this morning, we'll depart Stykkisholmur for the Eiríksstaðir Museum, once the site of the home of Erik the Red, and the childhood home of Leif Ericson, who reached North America

600 years before the *Mayflower*. Then we'll depart for a local horse farm to meet Icelandic horses first brought to the country by Viking settlers, where we'll enjoy lunch, learn about life on the farm, and stay overnight.

B,L,D—Gauksmyri Lodge or similar

### DAY 7 • A Day in the Life of an Icelandic horse farm • Travel overland to Akureyri

Today, we'll experience *A Day in the Life* of the Icelandic horse farm, helping to feed horses, muck the stalls, clean equipment and tack, and prepare the indoor arena. Afterwards we'll continue to Akureyri, situated on the northern fjords near the Arctic Circle. We'll enjoy dinner together this evening at our hotel.

B,L,D—Icelandair Hotel Akureyri or similar

### DAY 8 • Explore Godafoss Waterfall & Lake Myvatn • Home-Hosted Dinner

Today we begin with a visit to Godafoss (Icelandic for “waterfall of the gods”), where the current carries rushing water along a glacial river and over the rocks of the falls. We'll also visit the Lake Myvatn area, sculpted throughout the ages by volcanic eruptions and renowned for its diverse bird population. Then we visit the pseudo-crater field at Skutustadir and the whimsical “black castle” lava formations of Dimmuborgir. After lunch at a local restaurant, we stop at a viewpoint overlooking the Námafjall geothermic area before returning to Akureyri. Then, we'll take a tour of the Laufas turf house, which unlike most Icelandic turf houses, was made for the wealthy, and at one time, housed from 20–30 people.

Back in Akureyri, you'll have some time to relax before enjoying a Home-Hosted Dinner this evening.

B,L,D—Icelandair Hotel Akureyri or similar

### DAY 9 • Dalvík • Whale-watching

After breakfast, we head for the picturesque fishing village of Dalvík, where we'll set sail aboard a restored fishing vessel for a whale-watching excursion along with other locals. If we're lucky, we'll spot minke whales, white-beaked dolphins, harbor porpoises, and humpback whales. After lunch at a local restaurant in Dalvík, we

Activity Level: ① ② ③ ④ ⑤ MODERATE



return to Akureyri, where we'll have some free time for independent exploring. Dinner is on your own this evening in Akureyri.

**Please note:** Whale-watching is weather dependent and relies upon the cooperation of whale migratory patterns, which are difficult to accurately predict. If necessary, an alternate activity will be provided.

B—Icelandair Hotel Akureyri or similar

### DAY 10 • Fly to Reykjavik • Explore the Golden Circle

We transfer to the airport for our flight to Reykjavik this morning. Today we explore the Golden Circle, a ring of natural highlights. First we'll explore Thingvellir National Park, which sits in a major rift between two tectonic plates—the Eurasian and North American. This rift creates a valley in the land, ringed by rocky cliffs and fault lines. The snowcapped mountains surrounding this plain form a striking natural amphitheater. Then, we'll visit a local flower farm. Next is Geysir, the geyser from which all others take their name. We'll witness the dramatic column of water and steam that shoots into the air

when the nearby Strokkur geyser erupts. After, we travel to stunning Gullfoss (Golden Falls), with its multiple tiers of white water. Finally, we'll arrive in Selfoss in time for dinner at our hotel.

B,D—Hotel Selfoss or similar

### DAY 11 • Explore South Iceland • Super Truck tour • Seljalandsfoss Waterfall

After breakfast this morning, we'll then journey to the south coast, where we'll stop at the iconic Skogafoss waterfall and enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. Then, from the village of Vik, we'll go off-road driving for our Super Truck Tour, introducing you to the black sandy landscapes. Dinner is on your own this evening.

B,L—Hotel Selfoss or similar

### DAY 12 • Hellisheidi Power Plant • ATV tour • Blue Lagoon • Overland to Reykjavik

This morning, we visit the geothermal power plant at Hellisheidi. We'll learn more about Iceland's progressive approach to sustainable resources as we tour the plant. Then, we'll venture onto the Reykjanes Peninsula for an ATV tour of the volcanic

landscape, and a relaxing dip in the famed Blue Lagoon. Afterward we'll travel to Reykjavik, the world's most northerly capital—and enjoy a Farewell Dinner at our hotel.

B, D—Grand Hotel Reykjavik or similar

### DAY 13 • Return to U.S.

After breakfast, you'll transfer to the airport to board your flight home.

**Please note:** Due to Icelandair flight schedules, some trips may include an extra night in the U.S. upon arrival. Please ask your Adventure Specialist for details.

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# Admire the stunning beauty of Iceland ...

## Reykjavik

Reykjavik is the world's most northerly capital and is home to 170,000 people, close to one-third of the country's population. Its aptly chosen name means "Smoky Bay," and it is the site where Iceland's first settler, Ingolfur Arnorson, built a farm late in the ninth century AD. Highlights of the city include the National Museum, the ancient Saga manuscripts at the Culture House, the soaring, modern Hallgrímskirkja Church, and the harbor, where black and red whaling vessels float side-by-side with whale-watching ships.

## Stykkisholmur

Stykkisholmur is the largest town on the scenic Snaefellsnes Peninsula and was once a center of devotion to the Norse god Thor. The town's location makes it an ideal jumping-off point for many of Iceland's highlights, including the Snaefellsjökull Glacier and Snaefellsnes National Park. Stykkisholmur has worked hard to preserve its Old World architecture, especially the Danish-style merchant homes that dot the town center.

## Selfoss

Selfoss is the largest town in southern Iceland and the gateway to all that this area has to offer. Located on the banks of the Olfusa River, it is home to around 6,300 inhabitants. The natural wonders of the Golden Circle are nearby: the Gullfoss waterfall, which plunges into a hundred-foot-deep crevice; geysers that erupt in massive columns of water and steam; and Thingvellir National Park, the location of a major rift between two tectonic plates—the Eurasian and the North American—which creates a dramatic (and growing) fissure in the land. We'll get a unique perspective on this area's natural beauty when we go off-roading on the black-sand beaches.

## 2019 Departure Dates & Prices

Additional departure cities are available

9/7/2019

Small Group Adventure with Roundtrip air from Newark

\$5795

**Deposit:** \$350 per person.

**Single Supplement:** FREE. Single accommodations are limited. If single rooms are full, ask about our Roommate Matching Service.

**Travel Protection Plan:** \$699 per person

**GOVERNMENT TAXES AND FEES** The following government taxes and fees are now included in your airfare price. **Government and other authority taxes and fees:** **September 11th Security Fee** of up to \$2.50 USD applies per passenger, per flight segment (maximum charge per trip—\$5.00 USD one-way, \$10.00 USD round trip). A flight segment is defined as one takeoff and one landing. **Passenger Facility Charge (PFC)** of up to \$18 per passenger. **Federal Domestic Flight Segment Fee** of up to \$3.70 USD applies per passenger, per flight segment (defined as a takeoff and a landing). **U.S. or International Departure and Arrival Charges** of up to \$200 USD may apply depending on itinerary. On select itineraries that include the purchase of a pre- and/or post-trip extension, U.S. or international departure and arrival charges of up to \$300 USD may apply. Call for details. Standard Terms & Conditions can be found on the web at [www.gct.com/tc](http://www.gct.com/tc).

## Please contact

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Here's how you'll save up to 10%  
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Months That You Pay in Full Prior to Your Final Payment Due Date (90 days prior to your departure date)	Guarantee Your Price and Receive:	Good Buy Plan Savings:
12 months or more	10%	\$500
11 months	9%	\$450
10 months	8%	\$400
9 months	7%	\$350
8 months	6%	\$300
7 months	5%	\$250
6 months	4%	\$200
5 months	3%	\$150
4 months through final payment due date	\$50 off	\$50

Good Buy Plan savings is calculated based on total reservation cost

## Not included in price

- \$50 pre-registration fee for sustaining members of RC10
- \$100 pre-registration fee for non-sustaining members of RC10
- Transportation to/from airport
- personal expenses
- meals not included above
- Gratuities for your Trip Leader