

NEW!

IDYLIC ICELAND

TOUR 6990—8 days from Reykjavík to Reykjavík

Priced From **\$2,879** US

YOUR PACKAGE INCLUDES

Individual headsets 

SIGHTSEEING: Visits to Arnarstapi, Eiríksstaðir, replica farmhouse of Eric the Red, Goðafoss waterfall, Skútustaðir pseudo-craters, Dimmuborgir, Namaskand bubbling pools, Krafla, Mývatn Nature Baths, Deildartunguhver geothermal springs, Reykholt, Hraunfossar, Barnafoss waterfall, Þingvellir National Park, Gullfoss waterfall, Reykjavík, Seljalandsfoss and Skógafoss waterfalls, Skógar Folk Museum, Eyrarbakki village

■ Inside visits and special features are shown in UPPERCASE in the tour description including admission charges where applicable.

GUIDES: Local Guides; professional Tour Director while touring

SCENIC HIGHLIGHTS: Snæfellsnes Peninsula, Djúpálónssandur black beach, Grundarfjörður, Haukadalur Valley, Skógafjörður Valley, Akureyri, Lake Mývatn, Vík's black beaches, Sólheimajökull glacier

TRANSPORTATION: Touring by private, first-class, air-conditioned motorcoach

HOTELS: Listed below or equivalent. Rooms with private bath or shower, hotel taxes, portage not available, tips and service charges

REYKJAVÍK Fosshotel Baron (ST) or Centrehotel Plaza (F) or Fosshotel Lind (ST). **GRUNDFARFJÖRÐUR** Fosshotel Stykkisholmur (ST) at Stykkisholmur or Bifröst (ST) at Stykkisholmur or Budir (ST) at Stykkisholmur. **AKUREYRI** Nordurland (ST) or Kjarnalundur (ST). **REYKHOLT** Fosshotel Reykholt (ST) or Bifröst (ST)

MEALS: Buffet breakfasts (B) daily; 4 dinners (D)

MyACCOUNT: Personalise your tour ahead of time with additional excursions. Visit our website for details and conditions.



MOUNT KIRKJUFELL

Day 1, Sun. ARRIVE IN REYKJAVÍK, ICELAND. Check into your hotel. The rest of the day is free to start exploring the world's northernmost capital city. Tonight, meet your Tour Director and fellow travellers. (D)

Day 2, Mon. REYKJAVÍK-SNÆFELLSNES-ARNARSTAPI-GRUNDFARFJÖRÐUR. Rich fertile farmland and rugged cliffs greet you on your morning drive along the beautiful coastal road to the Snæfellsnes Peninsula. See the SNÆFELLSJÖKULL VOLCANO, which can be spotted from Reykjavík on clear days, as well as the glacier that covers its summit. More than 4,700 feet (1446 metres) in elevation, the mountain gained notoriety as setting

for Jules Verne's *Journey to the Centre of the Earth*. Arrive in the small fishing village of Arnarstapi and walk around the harbour area to enjoy the fresh sea air and watch the antics of circling birds. Later, arrive at the dramatic black-pebble Djúpálónssandur beach, where four lifting stones ranging from 50 to 340 pounds were once used to qualify men for work on fishing boats. Spend the night in quaint GRUNDFARFJÖRÐUR, where picturesque Mount Kirkjufell stands sentry nearby. (B,D)

Day 3, Tue. GRUNDFARFJÖRÐUR-EIRÍKSSTAÐIR-AKUREYRI. Iceland's natural beauty unfolds as you drive through green pastures and meandering lava flows that



SKÓGAR FOLK MUSEUM



STYKKISHOLMUR



REYKJAVÍK



have formed over the centuries. Via the colourful harbour town of Stykkishólmur, U.S. Marine landing site in the novel *Red Storm Rising*, reach the Haukadalur valley, home to some of the country's most famous geothermal features. At Eiríksstaðir, visit a replica of Norwegian Viking ERIK THE RED'S ANCIENT SOD-ROOFED HOMESTEAD, where his son Leifur Eiríksson (explorer Leif Erikson) was born. This afternoon, head into Skagafjörður, the renowned "Valley of Horses" and one of Iceland's most prosperous agricultural regions. Overnight in Akureyri, the "Capital of North Iceland." (B)

Day 4, Wed. AKUREYRI. EXCURSION TO GOÐAFOSS & MÝVATN. First stop this morning is at GOÐAFOSS, the "Waterfall of the Gods." Then, follow the shores of Mývatn Lake for vistas of the splendid volcano, peaceful wetlands, and abundant wildlife. Later, stop at Skútustaðir to see the intriguing volcanic pseudo-craters; DIMMUBORGIR, the "Catacombs of Hell," with its bubbling mud pools, volcanic caves and lava tubes, and unusual rock

formations; and the Krafla caldera with its ochre-coloured glow of subterranean lava. Relax in the mineral-rich waters at the MÝVATN NATURE BATHS before returning to Akureyri for another overnight. (B,D)

Day 5, Thu. AKUREYRI-REYKHOLT. Today features an introduction to the spectacular geothermal hot springs at DEILDARTUNGUHVER. Here, you'll find clusters of emerald-green deer ferns growing, a plant that grows nowhere else in the country. Next up is the tiny hamlet of Reykholt, former home of medieval Icelandic poet, historian, and politician Snorri Sturluson. Then, see the fascinating series of waterfalls at Hraunfossar before enjoying a stroll along the riverbanks to the BARNAFOSS WATERFALL, where the glacial cascade has carved out rock formations. (B,D)

Day 6, Fri. REYKHOLT-ÞINGVELLIR-GEYSIR-GULLFOSS-REYKJAVÍK. Some of Iceland's most spectacular sights are on the agenda today as you visit ÞINGVELLIR NATIONAL PARK, a rift valley and boundary

between the North American and Eurasian continental plates. See geysers as they erupt from the earth's geothermal vents, and later, see the famed GULLFOSS waterfall before heading back to Reykjavík. (B)

Day 7, Sat. REYKJAVÍK. EXCURSION TO THE SOUTH SHORE. Explore the South Shore today, and have your cameras ready for the awe-inspiring SELJALANDSFOSS and SKÓGAFOSS waterfalls. Then, visit the tiny settlement of Skógar to admire turf farmhouses, a pioneer-era hydroelectric plant, and examples of many periods of Icelandic architectural history at the SKÓGAR FOLK MUSEUM. On to Vik, the southernmost village in Iceland, to see its black-basalt beach, counted as one of the 10 most beautiful beaches on Earth in *Islands Magazine*. The cliffs here are home to a large seabird population, including puffins. Finally, marvel and the Sólheimajökull glacier before enjoying a stop in the village of EYRARBAKKI. (B)

Day 8, Sun. REYKJAVÍK. Your holiday ends with breakfast this morning. (B).



ICELANDIC HORSES

TOUR 6990 DATES & PRICES

								US\$			
Departure Number	Start Reykjavík	End Reykjavík	Land Only	Departure Number	Start Reykjavík	End Reykjavík	Land Only	Departure Number	Start Reykjavík	End Reykjavík	Land Only
0304	Sun 04 Mar	Sun 11 Mar	3019	0729	Sun 29 Jul	Sun 05 Aug	3619	1111	Sun 11 Nov	Sun 18 Nov	2879
0318	Sun 18 Mar	Sun 25 Mar	3019	0805	Sun 05 Aug	Sun 12 Aug	3619	1216	Sun 16 Dec	Sun 23 Dec	2879
0415	Sun 15 Apr	Sun 22 Apr	3019	0826	Sun 26 Aug	Sun 02 Sep	3429	2019			
0513	Sun 13 May	Sun 20 May	3169	0902	Sun 02 Sep	Sun 09 Sep	3429	0127	Sun 27 Jan	Sun 03 Feb	2989
0520	Sun 20 May	Sun 27 May	3169	0916	Sun 16 Sep	Sun 23 Sep	3379	0217	Sun 17 Feb	Sun 24 Feb	2989
0617	Sun 17 Jun	Sun 24 Jun	3509	0923	Sun 23 Sep	Sun 30 Sep	3379	0317	Sun 17 Mar	Sun 24 Mar	2989
0624	Sun 24 Jun	Sun 01 Jul	3509	1007	Sun 07 Oct	Sun 14 Oct	2879	0324	Sun 24 Mar	Sun 31 Mar	2989
0701	Sun 01 Jul	Sun 08 Jul	3509	1014	Sun 14 Oct	Sun 21 Oct	2879				

Prices are per person, based on double room occupancy. Single room supplement: \$720; guaranteed shares not available: see page 5; no triple room reduction.

Extra nights per person in Reykjavík: in single room \$224-\$412, in twin \$139-\$235, triples on request. 2019 departures are subject to itinerary and price modification. Details will be available in September 2018.