

## Horses



## North

*Riding through a wide range of  
Iceland's dramatic landscapes*

**Riding with the Herd**  
**9 Day tour, 7 days of riding**  
**2010**

# Around the Glaciers

*The rim of a mighty glacier, expanses of soft black sand, waterfalls and the sea. Some great riding trails and a good bit of time in the saddle. From gentle upland valleys to steep rugged rock island awash in wild surf.*

### **First Night**

#### **Overnight flight to Iceland**

Travelers from North America leave for Iceland on an overnight flight with an early morning arrival at Keflavik Airport in Iceland.

### **Day 1:**

#### **Welcome to Iceland!**

Riders will arrive at Keflavik International Airport and use their vouchers for the Flybus which takes them to the BSI bus terminal in Reykjavik. Luggage can be left here, you can get some breakfast, and it will be very convenient to explore a bit of Iceland's capital city. Around 5:30 PM the outfitter will pick up riders at the BSI bus terminal and take you to their farm, Vellir, in Hveragerdi, about an hour outside of the capital. The tour group meets over dinner and is given details of the tour ahead. Horses North clients are upgraded to a night in the comfortable Hotel Eldhestar.

### **Day 2 :**

#### **Skálakot – Fljótshlíð**

After breakfast go by coach from Vellir to the farm Skálakot where you meet the horses and the riding tour starts. You'll ride from Skálakot toward the area Fljótshlíð with the mountain chain Eyjafjöll on the right and Atlantic Ocean and Westman Islands on your left. Before crossing the river Markarfljót you'll pass the waterfall Seljalandsfoss, one of the most impressive waterfalls in southern Iceland. The day ends at Eyvindarmúla where the horses stay the night. You'll be driven back to Skálakot where you spend the night.

### **Day 3:**

#### **Fljótshlíð – Emstrur**

Today's ride is on soft paths with great views toward glaciers Tindfjallajökull, Eyjafjallajökull, and Mýrdalsjökull. A change of horses by the valley Hverisvellir and mountain Einhyrningur, which got its name from the rock formations because it looks like a Unicorn. Ride to the river Markarfljót and continue over it to Emstru. Spend the night here.

### **Day 4:**

#### **Emstrur – Álftaverskofi**

From Emstrur the ride continues further up the highland towards glacier Mýrdalsjökull, which you'll get close to, especially when riding over the black sand Mælifellssandur. Riding over Mælifellssandur is a unique experience. You'll ride in tölt over the soft sand for 20 kilometers. Take a break at the mountain Mælifell, then follow Mýrdalsjökull heading southeast. The horses stay the night in Snæbyli, you stay in Túngusel.

### **Day 5:**

#### **Álftaverskofi – Herjólfsstaðir**

Ride from Snæbyli over the heath Hrífunesheiði, with a good view over Mýrdalsjökull and the Atlantic. Head towards the lowlands, eventually reaching old road number 1. Follow this for a short bit. End the day riding towards Álftaver. Spend the night at the farm Herjólfsstaðir.

# Around the Glaciers

**Ride with the Herd  
Wilderness  
9 Days/ 7 riding days  
2010**

## **Day 6:**

### **Herjólfstaðir - Vík**

Today you go from Herjólfstaðir to Vík, a ride that shows landscape with lots of variety. Start riding via the area created when volcano Katla erupted in 1918. Most of the area is black lava sand. As you get closer to the village Vík the landscape becomes more green and hilly. Vík is situated right by the Atlantic Ocean, surrounded by mountains and beautiful meadows. There is rich bird life in the mountains. Stay the night at Hotel Lind in Vík.

## **Day 7:**

### **Vík – Skógar**

Today's ride from Vík towards Eyjafjöllin is further west, following the coast and riding through some of the most beautiful valleys in southern Iceland. Great views over both the Atlantic and the glacier Eyjafjallajökull. Ride towards the village Skógar, where there are some very interesting museum exhibits, and the waterfall Skógarfoss. The horses stay in Skógar, you stay in Skálakot.

## **Day 8:**

### **Skógar – Skálakot**

From Skógar follow the mountain chain Eyjafjöll to Skálakot. In the mountains you'll see many different cliff formations. You'll bid farewell to the horses at Skálakot, and late in the afternoon, everyone will be taken back to Reykjavik where you'll be dropped at your hotel (another upgrade for Horses North clients). Often riders all go out to one of Reykjavik's many good restaurants for a last dinner together, (but it's not included in the price!).

## **Day 9 :**

### **Farewell, perhaps ...**

Travelers returning home will have a few hours to shop, visit museums, or tack shops before the Flybus returns them to Keflavik airport for flights back home. Those lucky enough to be exploring more of Iceland can get underway.

**Accommodations** during the Around the Glacier riding tour are traditionally Icelandic. On your first night you are lodged in the Eldhestar Hotel in comfort. On the tour you'll need a sleeping bag and you'll stay in farm guesthouses, mountain huts and cabins, which are all warm and clean. Typically there are several beds per room, and in huts there may be one big sleeping room. Most will have shared bathroom facilities. What they lack in creature comforts they make up for in impressive scenery. On your last night in Reykjavik you'll be upgraded to a hotel for a bit of post-ride comfort.

*Please note that the price is subject to revision until you book your tour by making a deposit. The prices listed on print material may not be the latest price. We will make every effort to keep prices on our webpages and their PDFs up to the minute. We welcome phone inquiries about prices and any other details.*

## **Dates:**

The Around the Glacier Tour runs 2 times in 2010. The first day is always a transfer day, which allows you to rest from the short night of sleep on the flight, before you start riding on the second day.

## **Travel Dates**

Wed, June 23-Fri, July 2

Tues, Aug 3-Thurs, Aug 12

## **2010 PRICES\***

The price for this tour is **\$3834** per person double occupancy. (pp/do) **\$3942** single supplement. **Price includes round trip airfare, including fuel surcharge and departure tax**, from Boston, New York, Minneapolis. Add \$110 per person from Seattle, (ask about prices from Toronto, Halifax and Europe), all airport transfers, hotel accommodations for your pre & post ride nights with private bath, tv, internet connection, breakfast on departure day, sleeping bag accommodations during the ride in mountain huts and guest houses with shared facilities, all meals during the ride, as well as safety helmets and rain gear. **Not** included in the price are travel insurance, breakfast and lunch on your arrival day, dinner on your last riding day back in Reykjavik, lunch on the day of departure and the cost of any additional travel you may choose.

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