



Iceland



Adventure

11 Days
 All the way around Iceland
 3 Very different boat trips
 4 National Parks
 Introduction to the Icelandic Horse
 Plenty of walking options, too
 4 Hotels -Less packing, More fun!



The Grand Countryside Escorted Tour 2010

Mountains, rivers, glaciers, icebergs, hot springs and volcanoes are all here to explore in this comfortable voyage around Iceland. Staying in four summer hotels, you'll have days of adventure, and evenings to relax. Iceland is like one big National Park - with icebergs on the east coast, lush green islands on the west, dramatic mountains and fjords in the north. A bit of walking, and three contrasting boat trips make this the perfect trip for those who want to see the great array of land-and sea-scapes on this small island.

Saturday:

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

Sunday:

Welcome to Iceland!

After an early arrival in Iceland, you'll hop on the Flybus shuttle that will take you from the airport to your guesthouse in Reykjavik. Then you'll have the day to rest and explore Reykjavik, the world's most northerly capital. We'll provide lots of ideas for what to see and places to eat- meals are on your own today.

Our Prices include flights, taxes, fuel charges and a number of "extras". See the details under *Prices.

Monday:

Reykjavik - Borgarfjörður

After a 9 AM departure, you'll see several well known sites - the double falls of Gullfoss and the geothermal water spouts at Geysir. The beautiful church at Skálholt and the Þingvellir National Park, site of the Viking Parliament, are highlights for the day, before heading to Reykholt, home of Iceland's most famous poet - Snorri Sturluson- where you'll stay for two nights.

Tuesday:

Snaefellsnes

You'll travel around the Snaefellsnes peninsula whose glacier is, according to Jules Verne's book, the entrance to the center of the earth. There are many small fishing towns, lava fields, and beaches. You'll see Stykkishólmur, the main town, and take a boat trip through the islands of Breidafjörður, home of puffins and white tailed eagles.

Check our **Small group Discount Prices** inside. And the back page has other ideas for some fun touring.

Wednesday:

Borgarfjörður - Eyjafjörður - Þingeyjarsýsla

Heading north, you'll visit the lava-layered water falls of Hraunfossar, and then on the way to Skagafjörður you'll visit the turf farm museum at Glaumbaer, and meet the Icelandic horse. You'll have a pretty drive further east, and stay in Eyjafjörður or Þingeyjarsýsla for the next three nights.

Thursday:

Husavik - Whale Watching

The day starts with a 3 hour whale watching tour from Husavik, weather permitting. Afternoon is at leisure to wander around the town to visit museums and the church.

Friday:

Goðafoss - Mývatn

A stop at the waterfall of the Gods, Goðafoss, en-route to Lake Mývatn. There is lush vegetation here and many different species of birds, some of which are not found elsewhere in Europe. There's a visit to the unusual lava field Dimmuborgir and a climb up to the rim of the ash crater Hverfjall. You've earned a nice soak in hot mineral waters of the Mývatn Nature Baths!

Saturday:

Dettifoss - Fljótsdalshérað

You'll travel along the Tjörnes Peninsula a few miles below the Arctic Circle, with its fossil filled rocks, one of the most fascinating geological areas of Iceland. And there's the magnificent waterfall Dettifoss, the most powerful in Europe. Then south to Egilsstaðir for the next three nights.

Sunday:

Fljótsdalur - Seyðisfjörður

Travel around Lake Lögurinn, past the writers museum at Skriðuklaustur and then on to one of the highest waterfalls in Iceland, Hengifoss. In the afternoon there's a pretty drive to the fishing town of Seyðisfjörður, where the ferry from Europe docks.



Monday:

Borgarfjörður Eystri

This short wide fjord and grassy, fertile valley with a charming fishing village is northeast of Egilsstaðir. Magnificent colorful mountains, beautiful rocks and rare stones are to be found here.

Tuesday:

Fljótsdalshérað - Skaftafell

Vatnajökull Europe's biggest glacier, dominates the landscape with its icy tongues and icebergs calving in a glacial lagoon. Your boat trip in Jökulsárlón glacial lagoon amongst the icebergs may be a highlight of the trip! You'll stay near Skaftafell National Park for two nights.

Wednesday:

Skaftafell

The whole day is spent at Skaftafell Park. You'll be able to take a walk, perhaps up to and on Europe's largest glacier Vatnajökull, or just relax at the park.

Thursday:

Skaftafell - Reykjavík

Return to Reykjavík through the fertile meadows and the sandy-lava desert of the south coast, shadowed by mountainous cliffs and glaciers. There are several beautiful waterfalls on the way - you may spot puffins and even some seals. You'll have a last night back in Reykjavík, at the outfitters guesthouse, and a chance to sample some of the city's great restaurants - and perhaps -if you dare- even it's night life!!

Friday:

Time to say good bye ...

Travelers on early flights will make an early departure via Flybus to the airport., while those leaving late afternoon will have time to explore a bit of Reykjavík, do some shopping, or soak in the warm swimming pool in nearby Laugardalur, before being picked up by the Flybus around 1 PM.



**Price (taxes and fuel surcharges included)
and Dates for the Grand Countryside Tour in 2010**

All Grand Countryside Tours start in Iceland on a Monday and end on a Thursday, 11 days later. Travel dates include a pre and post night. And it's easy to add a few days on to the beginning or end of your tour!

Travel Dates

June 19 - July 2
July 17 - July 30
August 14 - August 27

Small Group Prices

# in party	Price per person
2	\$5244 (double occ)
3	\$5144 (triple occ)
4	\$5094 (double occ x 2)

Price for single traveler with single supplement **\$6315**



Finer Print: Price includes round trip airfare, **including** fuel surcharge and US departure taxes from Boston, New York and Minneapolis. Add \$110 per person from Seattle. Ask about prices from Toronto, Halifax and Europe. The price also includes all airport transfers, a night before and after the tour in a Reykjavik guesthouse with breakfast. You'll spend all nights in double rooms in guesthouses, and summer hotels, all with private baths. Meals on the tour, include breakfast and dinner, from dinner on the first day to breakfast on the last day, as well as 3 boat trips, four national parks, visit to Nature Baths, introduction to Icelandic Horse, and entry fee for the Glaumbaer museum.

***Not** included are meals on pre-and post-tour days, lunch while on the tour, (there will be a stop made everyday to purchase this) and any additional expenses or travel you may choose.

The Country Hotels used on this tour are often "summer hotels" used much of the year as boarding schools. They are simple and clean, all with private baths, but don't always have usual "hotel" amenities, such as telephones or in - room internet connections. There are available in central sitting room, however.

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.



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