



# - Kjölur Riding Tour

*Between the Glaciers*

*Through the Highlands - Iceland  
from Top to Bottom*

Ride with the Herd  
Classic Wilderness Ride!  
8 Days  
2009

## First Night

### Overnight flight to Iceland

Americans fly out on the night before the tour begins in Iceland. Travelers from Mainland Europe can leave on the same day.

## Day 1

### Welcome to Iceland!

Riders will arrive at Keflavik International Airport and then take the Flybus shuttle 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, your outfitter will pick up riders at the BSI bus terminal, and take them to their farm in Hveragerdi, about an hour outside of the capital where they can check into the comfortable country hotel. The tour group meets over dinner and are given details of the tour ahead.

## Day 2

### Hveragerdi - Torfastaðir- Geysir

After breakfast, riders will be driven to the farm Torfastaðir in the Biskupstungur region. Here, you'll meet the horses, and enjoy a 4 hour ride, and get used to their unique gaits and qualities.

## Day 3

### Geysir-Fremstaver

After a civilized soak in the hot pools at Geysir, you'll head for the wilderness. You'll ride past Gullfoss, then into a

**Slip way back in time and ride the ancient Kjölur trail as Icelanders have for centuries. You'll ride with a herd of loose horses as re-mounts, as you see some of the most beautiful sights in southern Iceland, before ascending to the glacial highlands of the interior, where you'll also ride over grasslands and soak in hot springs. The classic Icelandic riding tour!**

black desert of stones and sand. You'll follow the River Hvita west until coming to Mt. Blafell, which is 1160 meters above sea level, and offers a beautiful view over Kjölur. Three glaciers greet you - Eyjafjallajökull, Hofsjökull and Langjökull, as well as the volcano Hekla. The night will be spent south of Blafell in the mountain hut Fremstaver, after riding about 7 hours.

## Day 4

### Fremstaver - Arbudir

You'll ride further east along Blafell, crossing the Hvita River, past the waterfall Abota to the beginning of the Kjölur trail. It's the oldest road between South and North Iceland, quite flat and about 700 meters above sea level. The view over highlands and glaciers is impressive. You'll ride along the Svarta River to the hut Arbudir, where the night will be spent after riding about 40 km. in 8 hours.

## Day 5

### Arbudir - Hveravellir

You'll head off towards Hvitarnes, a grassy area that blossoms with Fifa flowers in the summer's light. Then you'll ride through the lava field Kjalhraun, shaped like the keel of a ship, for which the Kjölur may be named. The trail heads into a narrow cleft into the Valley of Thieves, Thjofadalur, hidden behind the mountains. The grass in this lush field is welcomed by the horses! Then it's up over the mountain named Throskuldur and from there it's an easy ride to Hveravellir. Your reward for getting there will be a dip in the natural hot spring at Hveravellir.

## Day 6

### Hveravellir - Afangi

There will be time to explore the area around Hveravellir in the morning, before



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saddling up. The vast highlands surround you in all directions. Riding past the ruins of the hut of the outlaw Fjalla-Eyvindur you can understand how the highlands were fit only for criminals! After a ride of 28 km, in 5-6 hours, the night will be spent at a mountain hut north of the Galltara River.

### Day 7

#### Afangi - Blondudalur

The last day's ride continues north along the Thegjandaa River, over the moor named for the outlaw, called Eyvindarstadaheidi. Now the mountains are behind you and the glaciers surround you. It's a pretty ride along the large blue lake Blonduvirkjun. You'll go past two hills named for Vekell the Strong, called Vekelhsaugar. This fellow is said to be the first to ride Kjolur - and now you will have joined him. The horses will be left at Bollastadir farm, while the riders will head back south to Reykjavik for a last night in a guesthouse. Typically everyone goes out to a restaurant together, although it's not included in the price!

### Day 8

The tour officially ends this morning after breakfast. You'll have some time to explore Reykjavik, and then take the Flybus shuttle out to the airport for late afternoon flights. Or, you could take a bus that will take you to the Blue Lagoon for a couple hours before heading on to Keflavik airport.

### Dates:

Please Note: Some departures of this tour have a reversed itinerary.  
Dates are when the tour runs in Iceland.

June 20	-	June 27
June 28	-	July 5
July 13	-	July 20
July 21	-	July 28
Aug 8	-	Aug 15
Aug 16	-	Aug 23

American travelers will have to leave the US on the night prior to the start of the tour.

Coming from Europe? Our prices listed here include flights from the US, but we'll be happy to give you a price that includes airfare from your nearest Icelandair gateway! Just drop us an email!

### Decisions, Decisions!

Trying to pick out a tour?  
Click to our Tour Tree at  
[www.icelandadventure.com/tree.html](http://www.icelandadventure.com/tree.html)  
to see some of the differences between the various kinds of tours we offer in Iceland. Send us an email or call with questions!

### Price

The price is **\$3725** p/p, d/o, **\$3815** single supplement **includes round trip airfare, with departure taxes and fuel surcharge** from NYC, Boston, Minneapolis, and Orlando (ask for prices from Toronto, Halifax, and Europe). Price also includes all transfers while in Iceland, sleeping bag accommodations with shared facilities, all meals, tack and equipment while on the tour, and a last night in a hotel in Reykjavik, with private bath. **\*NOT** included are travel insurance, breakfast and lunch on the day of arrival in Iceland, dinner on your last riding day back in Reykjavik, lunch the day of departure and the cost of any extra and additional travels.

Accommodations during the Kjolur 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 bath facilities. What they lack in creature comforts they make up in impressive scenery. Your last night in Reykjavik is also upgraded.

*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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