

# EXPLORE ICELAND

WITH  
SUN SEEKERS  
TRAVEL

WINNIPEG

WINNIPEG • REYKJAVIK • REYKJANES PENINSULA  
VIK • HOFN • EGILSSTADIR • MYVATN • AKUREYRI  
BORGARNES • THINGVELLIR • REYKJAVÍK • WINNIPEG

**CAD 4599**  
PER PERSON

SINGLE SUPP.

**CAD 2999**

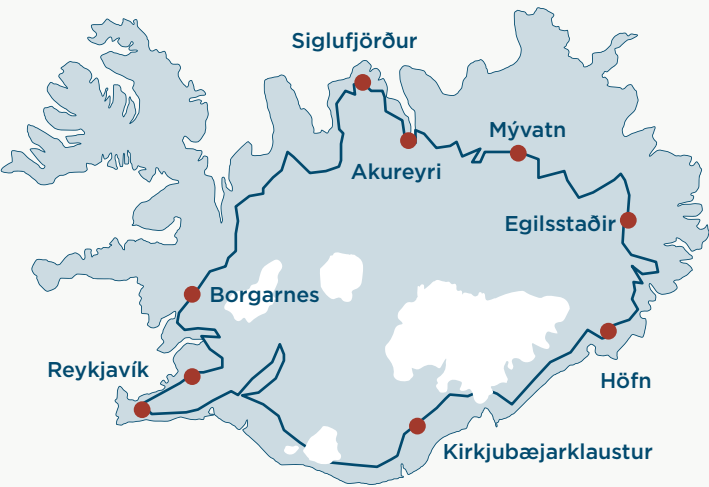
Explore the essence of Iceland on a scenic self-drive on this 11-day tour.  
See the geysers & hot springs, volcanoes, majestic glaciers, icebergs  
& roaring waterfalls on the famous Ring Road route!





TOUR SUMMARY:

On this self-drive tour you will get to enjoy a scenic drive and experience the spectacular splendor and untamed beauty of Iceland’s nature, breathtaking scenery and unique Icelandic history and culture. You will discover some of the most remote parts of the country and visit many well-known highlights as well. With so much to discover and explore in Iceland, this tour highlights the natural wonders, majestic landscapes and features all the best the country has to offer. Continue along the South shore and reach the popular and breathtaking Glacial Lagoon, where smaller and bigger icebergs are constantly floating and drifting. You will explore the Golden Circle including Þingvellir, Geysir & Gullfoss.



TOUR PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- International return flight from Winnipeg
- Accommodation in Standard hotels on double occupancy basis as listed or similar
- 9 Icelandic style breakfasts
- Car rental for 09 days including:
  - o Pick up and drop off at Keflavik International Airport
  - o Rental car type: Manual transmission (Toyota Yaris or similar) including:
  - o Unlimited mileage
  - o Theft Protection. Unwaivable charges may apply
  - o Collision Damage Waiver Reduction (CDW). Unwaivable charges may apply
- Air taxes and fuel surcharges
- All currently applicable local taxes

TOUR LODGING INFO:		
09 Nights' Accommodation + 01 night on board flight		
Accommodation will be provided on double occupancy basis		
CITY	NIGHTS	STANDARD HOTELS
Hveragerdi	02 Nights	Hotel Ork or similar
Vik	01 Night	Katla Kea Hotel or similar
Hofn	01 Night	Lilja Guesthouse or similar
Egilsstaðir	01 Night	Eyvindará Guesthouse or similar
Myvatn	01 Night	Stöng Guesthouse or similar
Siglufjordur	01 Night	Laugarbakki Hotel or similar
Borgarnes	01 Night	Hotel B59 or similar
Reykjavik	01 Night	Reykjavik Lights Hotel or similar
*Budget Hotel: Cozy, local-style guesthouses, or farms with shared bathroom facilities		

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Admire Iceland's natural wonders and majestic landscapes
- Be awed by Iceland’s culture, history and nature
- Explore the Golden Circle natural wonders of Gullfoss & the Geysir hot spring area
- Marvel at the magnificent Goðafoss Waterfall "Of the Gods"
- Soak in the majestic views of the mighty Vatnajökull Glacier, Europe's Largest Glacier
- Visit Siglufjordur’s award-winning Herring-Era Maritime Museum
- Discover Iceland’s largest lake Thingvallavatn and the UNESCO listed site Thingvellir National Park



## TOUR ITINERARY:

Please note that the itinerary below is a suggested program.

### DAY 01/Thu: WINNIPEG - REYKJAVIK

Make your own way to your selected gateway airport for your international flight. Enjoy inflight meals and services.

Overnight onboard

### DAY 02/Fri: REYKJAVIK (ARRIVAL) – REYKJANES PENINSULA

Once you have landed at Keflavik Airport, please pick up your luggage and head through customs. Collect your rental car at the airport and proceed to your hotel. We recommend driving the southern coast of the Reykjanes Peninsula towards your first overnight stay in the charming village of Hveragerdi. The Reykjanes Peninsula area is an ideal introduction to Iceland's volcanic personality. The region has been designated a UNESCO Geopark for its otherworldly and beautiful volcanic features. There are numerous points of interest in the area. Some of these include Krysuvik, a primordial geothermal area of bubbling earth and steam, and the Midatlantic Ridge that divides the North American and European tectonic plates. Arrive in the Hveragerdi, one of the few sites in the world located directly on top of a geothermal area and, because of its many greenhouses heated by hot water from nearby springs it is often called the "flower village".

Overnight in Hveragerdi

Please note check-in for most hotels begins at 14:00 – 16:00 (2:00pm-4:00pm)



### DAY 03/Sat: THINGVELLIR NATIONAL PARK - GEYSIR - GULLFOSS (B/-/-)

After breakfast, Today you'll be exploring Iceland's famous Golden Circle region. Start with a drive to Lake Thingvallavatn, Iceland's largest lake and Thingvellir National Park. This UNESCO heritage site is where the world's oldest continuing parliamentary government was founded in the 10th century. It is also the place where the North American and European tectonic plates meet. You will have the unusual experience of walking between two continents. Next on your journey is Gullfoss, the "Golden Waterfall", where various walking paths give you photo-worthy views of the beautiful double-ledged cascade. You'll also visit the nearby Geysir hot spring area to see the famous Geysir and Strokkur, as well as numerous other hot springs and boiling mud pools. During the day you might enjoy a glimpse into Icelandic local life. Visit Laugarvatn Fontana Geothermal Steam Baths and indulge in the natural and healing steam rooms and a variety of relaxing mineral pools. Fontana has been a local favorite since the early 20th century, and you'll see why. You might also visit Fridheimar, an Icelandic family farm where tomatoes and cucumbers are grown using organic geothermal energy. Tour the greenhouse and sample some of the farm's sweet Icelandic tomatoes. Another recommendation is the Efstidalur dairy farm known for its delicious ice cream, skyr and cheese. We love the farm's wonderful

home-made ice cream, and we are sure you will also enjoy trying it. You might even get a glimpse of the "girls," the farm's beloved dairy cows. Your day ends again in Hveragerdi where you can relax in this friendly geothermal town.

Overnight in Hveragerdi

### Optional: The Secret Lagoon in Fludir: The Discoverer Bundle

Visit the Secret Lagoon and discover the rugged charm of an Icelandic open-air geothermal bath, enjoy sampling Icelandic cuisine with a delicious buffet-style dinner and experience the magical dance of the Northern lights. The Secret Lagoon is a natural hot spring and pool located near the village of Flúðir in South Iceland, just off the Golden Circle route. Fed by mineral-rich geothermal water from nearby hot springs at a steady temperature of 38° to 40°, the Secret Lagoon's pool of water is perfect for bathing and relaxation. Over the years, the Secret Lagoon, or Gamla laugin as it was referred to by locals, has been part of the local culture that is keeping alive the unique and authentic Icelandic open-air geothermal bathing experience. The Secret Lagoon offers neat and clean locker rooms, showers and changing facilities, as well as a small bar and eating area. Boardwalks and footpaths surround the concrete encased pool enabling guests to explore small hot springs and geothermal features in the immediate area. Bathing fee & rent of towel.



### Optional: Fontana Geothermal Steam Baths The Hot Spring Specialist Bundle

The Fontana Geothermal Baths have been a part of Iceland's legendary hot spring culture since 1929. They're one of the oldest and most famous thermal baths in all of Iceland. Wispy plumes of healing steam rise from the floors of three traditional steam rooms – providing a nourishing experience that will rejuvenate your body and your soul. Before enjoying a soak in the geothermal pools and having a relaxing moment in the natural steam rooms, you'll get the chance to visit a geothermal bakery located next to Lake Laugarvatn. For many this is the highlight of the tour; to see where rye bread, which has been baking in a pot in the warm sand, is dug out, and later have an opportunity to taste of the bread with delicious Icelandic butter. Bathing fee and rent of towel.

### DAY 04/Sun: THJORSARDALUR VALLEY - SKOGAR - DYRHOLAÆY - VIK (B/-/-)

Breakfast at the hotel. Explore Thjorsardalur valley and its ever-changing landscapes of birch woods, sandy lava fields, rivers, and waterfalls. View the charming Gjain valley with its miniature waterfalls and volcanic formations. If the skies are clear, you'll also see the impressive and beautiful Mt. Hekla volcano towering over the region. Visit Stong, where you can view a replica of a Viking-age longhouse that was buried by a volcanic eruption of Hekla during the 13th century. (There is an admission fee to visit the inside of the longhouse.) The Stong area was a filming location for Game of Thrones Season 4. Drive along the scenic farmlands of Iceland's South Shore. Stop to admire the scenic waterfalls Seljalandsfoss and Skogafoss. Each waterfall



has its own charm. You can get a glimpse of country life in Iceland's olden days at the intriguing Skogar Folk Museum. We especially recommend checking out the turf-roofed farmhouse. Continue on to Dyrholaey\* and the thundering waves of the Reynisfjara black sand beaches. Continue to Vik, Iceland's southernmost town.

Dinner and overnight in the Vik area.

\*Please note that Dyrholaey is closed for the bird nesting season between mid-May and the 25th of June.

### **Optional: Snowmobiling on Myrdalsjokull Glacier The Adventurer Bundle**

Enjoy this exciting and fun snowmobile tour on top of the Myrdalsjokull Ice Cap. This snowmobile tour gives you the opportunity to go up on the top of a glacier. The Myrdalsjokull glacier is Iceland's fourth largest glacier and covers the volcano Katla. To get up to the base of the glacier we will first take you up the mountain in a unique glacier truck (journey to the base of the glacier is about 1 hour each way). Once we reach the glacier location we'll get on our snowmobiles and ride up the ice cap. You'll certainly enjoy the glacier landscapes and the views over South Iceland. We'll provide everything you need for snowmobiling, and our expert guides will teach you how to handle the snowmobile to enjoy this adventure in a fun but safe way.

### **DAY 05/Mon: VATNAJOKULL NATIONAL PARK - JOKULSARLON GLACIAL LAGOON - HOFN (B/-/-)**

After your breakfast, today you will be in a world of glaciers! You'll be visiting the southern area of Vatnajokull National Park, named after Europe's largest glacier. The total park area covers almost 14% of Iceland, making it the largest national park in Western Europe. Drive through vast sand plains created by glacial outwashes as you head east. Visit the national park's famous Skaftafell area, a site of outstanding natural beauty. Enjoy the views of rich green landscapes and black sands dominated by several magnificent glaciers. You'll also see Svinafellsjokull, one of the most beautiful glacial "tongues" that are slowly creeping down from Vatnajokull. Visit Jokulsarlon Glacier Lagoon where you'll enjoy the breath-taking sight of icebergs floating in the fantastic 180m (591 ft.) deep glacial lagoon. Make sure that camera is charged and ready! You also have the option of enjoying a boat tour amid the ice bergs (we recommend booking this in advance and are glad to help with this!). Nearby is the dramatic beauty of

the Diamond Beach, named for the shrinking icebergs that settle on the black sands before drifting out to sea. Your overnight is in Hofn, a fishing port in the shadow of Vatnajokull glacier. Hofn has a nice selection of restaurants and cafes. The local specialty is langoustines (Norway lobsters), and you might enjoy the opportunity to try some for yourself! Overnight in Hofn.

### **DAY 06/Tue: HOFN – EAST FJORDS - EGILSSTADIR (B/-/-)**

Breakfast at your hotel. Drive from Hofn through Almannaskard pass, stopping to admire the majestic coastline. Continue to the towering mountains plunging vertically into the sea that form the magnificent East Fjords. We're sure you'll love the amazing views, so keep your camera ready. You will also pass villages, each with its own special history and charm. You might enjoy visiting the town of Djupivogur, the gateway to the Eastfjords. It is nice to walk along the harbor and view the interesting art installation sculpture depicting seabird eggs. If you're feeling thirsty for a local brew, we recommend a stop at the Beljandi microbrewery in Breiddalsvik. The brewery was a community project, so you'll get a feel for local life in the Eastfjords. The road brings you to Egilsstadir town, located near Iceland's largest forest and a lake said to be home to a legendary (friendly) monster. The area also has an excellent reputation for locally sourced cuisine, and you'll enjoy some of it at dinner.

Dinner and overnight stay in the Egilsstadir area.

### **DAY 07/Wed: LAKE MYVANTN AREA (B/-/-)**

Breakfast at your hotel. Explore the empty vastness of the highland desert plateau Modrudalsoraefi, desolate and yet hauntingly beautiful, as you head towards the Lake Myvatn area. Your route takes you by a historical Modrudalsoraefi; it is located at the highest altitude of any working farm in Iceland. Stop at Dettifoss, Europe's largest and most powerful waterfall. Continue onwards to the Namaskard pass with its boiling mud pools and vibrant colors. We often feel like we are visiting another planet when we come here, and you may the same way. It's such a surreal experience. Walk along the pseudo craters at Skutustadir and peek into Grjotagja, a cave with underground hot springs. Explore the peculiar lava formations at Dimmuborgir. They look as if they were built by fantasy creatures. Legend has it that elves live here, so be respectful during your visit. You'll see why the surreal Myvatn area has become so popular as a movie location. Dinner and overnight stay in the Myvatn area.







### Important

Please note Roads 864, 862 and therefore Road 85 is usually closed during the fall, winter and spring until the end of May. (Road opening dates are dependent on the weather conditions.) Roads 864 and 862 are gravel roads, and you must heed warning signs in the area if road conditions are not good for driving. It is not possible to visit Dettifoss between October and April, as the roads to the waterfall are not safe for winter travel. We recommend following Ring Road 1 from Myvatn to Egilsstadir.

### DAY 08/Thu: LAKE MYVATN AREA - AKUREYRI - SIGLUFJORDUR - SKAGAFJORDUR (B/-/D)

Enjoy your breakfast at the hotel, start your day's adventure with a visit to magnificent Godafoss waterfall, one of North Iceland's most important symbols. Afterwards, you'll see , the colorful northern "capital" of Iceland. The town has charming buildings and a beautiful view of the Eyjafjordur fjord. After spending some free time in Akureyri, you'll continue along the coastal roads of Eyjafjordur and the Troll Peninsula. You'll surely be amazed at the steep mountains with amazing views over the Arctic Sea and its black sand coastline. Stop in Siglufjordur, a town with some of the country's most beautiful timber buildings. It's a great idea to visit the town's award-winning Herring-Era Maritime Museum. The museum recreates the atmosphere of the early 20th century, when Siglufjordur was transformed into a frontier-like boom town, thanks to a large migration of herring. The museum will transport you back to that exciting time. Head along majestic mountains and narrow passes to your overnight in Skagafjordur, a scenic region full of historical sites and folk tales.

Dinner and overnight in Northwest Iceland.

Please Note: The Ring Road route today contains a toll tunnel. More information on the tunnel and fees is here.

### DAY 09/Fri: SKAGAFJORDUR – BORGARNES (B/-/-)

Breakfast at your hotel. Cross the Holtavorduheidi plateau taking you into West Iceland. Drive through Borgarfjordur, a region that has been getting international recognition for its lovely volcanic and wooded scenery and for its Viking history. Walk up to the top of Grabrok crater for an amazing view. Listen to the powerful rushing waters of Deildartunguhver, Europe's mightiest hot spring area. Stop to admire the beautiful Hraunfossar waterfalls, where brightly blue water rushes through black lava formations. Nearby is Barnafoss, a waterfall with even more brilliantly blue colors. There is an interesting and poignant legend associated with this waterfall. A nice and relaxing activity is a visit to Krauma Natural Geothermal Baths. You can soak in water warmed by a blend of Deildartunguhver's hot water and cool spring water.

Dinner and overnight stay in the Borgarfjordur area.

### Optional: Krauma Natural Geothermal Spa The Hot Spring Specialist Bundle

Experience nature from its core by bathing in the geothermal baths at Krauma. The hot water originates in Europe's most powerful hot spring Deildartunguhver, at a temperature of 100°C (212°F). To achieve the perfect bathing temperature we mix the hot water with cold water from Rauðsgil, which originates in the glacier Ok. Ok the was smallest glacier in Iceland. Ok is the first Icelandic glacier to lose its status as a glacier in August 2019. Krauma offers five relaxing natural geothermal baths, a cold tub to get your blood circulation going, two calming saunas and a relaxation room where you can rest by the fireplace while listening to soothing music. Bathing fee and rent of towel.

### DAY 10/Sat: BORGARFJORDUR - SNAEFELLSJOKULL NATIONAL PARK - REYKJAVIK (B/-/-)

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel, today you will explore the amazing variety of natural landscapes in Snaefellsjokull National Park. The park's crown jewel is Snaefellsjokull glacier itself, which covers a dormant volcano that last erupted in 250 AD. In addition, you'll also see Kirkjufell, one of the most photographed mountains in Iceland. Walk along the uniquely pebbled seascape of Djupalonssandur beach. At the picturesque harbor village of Arnarstapi, you can observe magnificent basalt rocks in stacked formations. One Icelandic Saga mentions that Snaefellsnes and its people are protected by a benevolent half troll who lives high on the glacier. You might even find a sense of magic and healing energy in this beautiful peninsula. At the end of the afternoon, your journey to Reykjavik, Iceland's amazing capital city. Overnight stay in Reykjavik. Dinner is on your own.

### DAY 11/Sun: REYKJAVIK (DEPARTURE) – WINNIPEG (B/-/-)

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel and drive back to Keflavik International Airport for your car rental drop off. We recommend departing Reykjavik no later than 3 hours before your flight.

#### DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Items of personal nature, tips & gratuities
- Baggage fees may apply and vary by Carrier
- Entrance fees
- Fuel and car deposits (to be paid locally)
- Items not mentioned as being included

