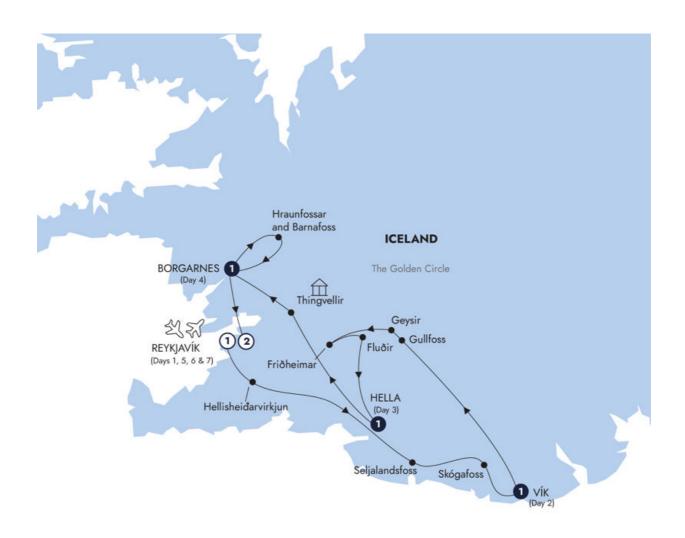
# **INSIGHT VACATIONS**

The Art of Travelling in Style

# SCENIC ICELAND & THE NORTHERN LIGHTS





## **KEY**

- Central
  Hotels + Nights
- Scenic Hotels + Nights
- Place Visited
- O Optional Place Visited
- Trip Option

- Cruise
- Train
- ₩ Join/Leave Options
- Included Flights
- Heritage Site

Day 1 | The Viking City of Reykjavík



Welcome to Iceland. At Reykjavík's Keflavík Airport, you will be welcomed and transferred to your hotel. Join your Travel Director and traveling companions at 18:15 for your Welcome Reception and enjoy the opportunity to get to know each other, over a pleasant evening of wine and canapés. Afterwards, search for the most spectacular show on Earth—the northern lights. See the breathtaking night sky filled with the aurora borealis and its vast spectrum of color. Please note the northern lights are a natural phenomenon and therefore sightings cannot be guaranteed.

Hotel: Fosshotel Reykjavík

Day 2 | South Shore Adventure to Vík



Take a journey through the stunning landscape of Iceland's south coast and through the land of Njál's Saga—a region of breathtaking scenery and legendary stories. Join a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience, heading east to visit Iceland's newest geothermal and electric power station at Hellisheiðavirkjun Your journey continues, as you witness the majesty of Seljalandsfoss and Skógafoss. Stand awestruck by the beauty of these thundering waterfalls, before venturing on to view more spectacular phenomena. See the magnificent Hekla and Eyjafjallajökull volcanoes. Arrive in the welcoming community of Vík. Later, perhaps enjoy another chance to go in search of the mystical northern lights?

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner **Hotel:** Katla by Keahotels

Day 3 | The Golden Circle to Hella

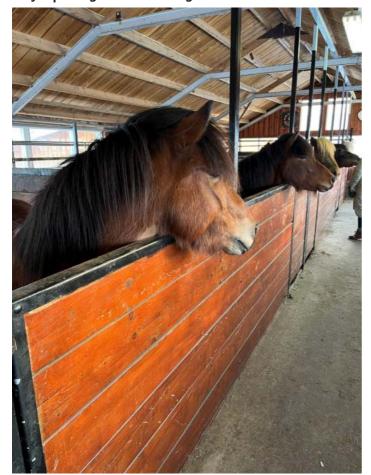


Embark on a day of discovery around Iceland's Golden Circle, taking in some of the famous landmarks this magical country has to offer. Experience the mighty Gullfoss waterfalls - the Icelandic equivalent of Niagara Falls, before continuing on to the exploding hot springs at Geysir. Next stop is Friðheimar, to learn about Icelandic greenhouse horticulture. Visit a family-run vegetable farm, specialising in tomatoes. Explore their greenhouses and sample the sweet, unique flavour of their lovingly grown crop. Last stop will be a chance to relax in the Secret Lagoon, known locally as Gamla Laugin, which is the oldest swimming pool in Iceland since 1891.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Stracta, Hella

#### Day 4 | Thingvellir and Borgarnes



First visit today will be Thingvellir National Park, this remarkable UNESCO World Heritage Site lies on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge line, where the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates meet. The first meeting of the Icelandic parliament was held here in A.D. 930. Journey along the trail of Viking warrior and poet Egill Skallagrímsson. In Borgarnes, learn about Iceland's history with a fascinating visit to the Icelandic Settlement Centre. Continue with a stop at Sturlureykir horse breeding farm that is run by a local family. The farm has a natural hot spring, and the hot water is used to bake rye bread underground. Enjoy a taste of this freshly baked rye bread, a family recipe for over 100 years. Enjoy views of the Hraunfossar and Barnafoss waterfalls as you drive through glorious landscapes. Your travels continue to Deildartunguhver, Europe's most powerful hot spring, before dining at your hotel this evening.

Meals: Breakfast. Dinner

**Hotel:** Icelandair Hamar, Borgarnes

Day 5 | Reykjavík sightseeing



Journey back to the Icelandic capital and see Old Reykjavík, the 19th century parliament building and Höfði House. In 1986, US President Ronald Reagan and Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev met here for the famous Reykjavík Summit. Later, visit the colourful harbour and the Hallgrímskirkja, a modern church and landmark that can be seen from almost anywhere in the city. The afternoon is at leisure.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Fosshotel Reykjavík

#### **OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:**

**Northern Lights by Boat -** Sailing away from the coastline of Reykjavik, we'll escape the lights of the city and begin our search for the northern lights. Seeing the aurora borealis, with a beautiful backdrop of mountains and city lights, is something you won't ever forget. In less than 30 minutes we'll be in a prime location, away from the city lights, perfect for viewing the auroras. *This tour is subject to weather conditions*.

Adult: 104.00 EUR

**Whales of Iceland -** With the personal knowledge of your whale expert, journey through the exhibition where there are life size models of these amazing mammals. Truly appreciate the size and majesty of these magnificent creatures. Learn about the evolution of whales,

migration patterns and feeding habits.

Adult: 41.00 EUR

### Day 6 | Choice in Reykjavik



Explore Reykjavik with Insight Choice. Choose to experience the magic of Iceland on an exhilarating flight-ride at FlyOver to see incredible scenery from sweeping glaciers to stunning fjords. Alternatively, visit the Perlan Museum with the Wonders of Iceland, one of a kind exhibition to experience Iceland's natural beauty. This afternoon you may decide to visit the mineral-rich waters of the Blue Lagoon on our optional experience. Surrounded by lava fields and snow-capped mountains, the lagoon is a wonder of nature and offers a unique experience for both body and soul. With your newfound friends, toast to the culmination of your fascinating journey of discovery during dinner at a local restaurant.

**Meals:** Breakfast. Dinner with Wine

**Hotel:** Fosshotel Reykjavík

#### **OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:**

**Blue Lagoon -** Bathe in Iceland's world-famous Blue Lagoon. Geothermic seawater flows from 2000 meters underground, emerging at the surface enriched with algae, silica, and minerals. Treat your skin to an included silica mud mask as you relax in the milky blue waters against the black lava landscape. **Please note** this involves a pre paid reservation. Cancellation within 48 hours will be subject to cancellation fees.

Adult: 140.00 EUR

#### Day 7 | Farewell Reykjavík



Your Icelandic adventure comes to an end, with a transfer to Reykjavík's Keflavík Airport.

Meals: Breakfast