



# Iceland Land of Fire and Ice

**Tour Dates:** August 14 - 20, 2019



# Iceland – Land of Fire and Ice

**7 Days • 7 Meals** Iceland is a unique destination that offers pristine nature, boasting geysers, geothermal pools, waterfalls and wildlife, breathtaking landscapes and vibrant culture deeply rooted in ancient heritage. Spend five nights in Hveragerdi while exploring this amazing land of fire and ice.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ 7 Meals (5 breakfasts and 2 dinners)
- ✓ Airport transfers on tour dates when air is provided by Mayflower Cruises & Tours
- ✓ Included city tour of Reykjavik with a local guide
- ✓ Experience a full-day adventure of volcanoes, waterfalls, geothermal activity and nature, with a local guide, on the included South Shore excursion
- ✓ Discover the Reykjanes Peninsula\* and its geothermal activities with a local guide on this included full-day excursion
- ✓ Relax in the Blue Lagoon (entrance included)
- ✓ Included whale-watching excursion with onboard naturalist guides
- ✓ On a full-day included Golden Circle tour with a local guide, see the Thingvellir National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, visit the “Geysir” and more natural wonders
- ✓ \$35 in Mayflower Money

*\*weather permitting during ‘Northern Lights’ departures*



Beauty surrounds Reykjavik, Iceland's capital city

### DAY 1 – Depart the USA

Today you'll depart the USA on your overnight flight to Keflavik, Iceland.

### DAY 2 – Reykjavik, Iceland

Upon arrival, you'll be met by a representative of Mayflower Cruises & Tours and transferred to your hotel in the town of Hveragerdi. Rooms will be available for check-in upon arrival. All flights should arrive by 12:00 noon. Iceland is full of surprises – for one, it isn't covered in ice! It's a stunning mix of green plains, wild volcanic scenery, beautiful coasts and lakes, spouting geysers, hot springs, mud pools and sophisticated cities. Topped off by clean, fresh air, you'll find yourself in a trance surrounded by unique natural beauty throughout the country.

This afternoon, enjoy a short stroll to the Skeyr Factory. During the guided visit, discover the full history of skyr – a type of yogurt, popular in Iceland. Watch a video, then enjoy a demonstration from the master skyr maker. See some of the old tools used to make the product in the past, and taste the skyr through the various stages of production. This evening, enjoy a welcome dinner at the hotel. **Meal: D**

### DAY 3 – Iceland's South Shore

After breakfast, your adventure to the South Shore begins with a journey through small villages and farmlands to the majestic mountains with views including Mt. Hekla, the most active volcano in Iceland, and the towering, ice-capped strato volcano Eyjafjallajokull, which last erupted in 2010. Iceland is also famous for its waterfalls and you'll see two of the most magnificent—the Seljalandsfoss which tumbles over high rock escarpments allowing you to walk behind the waterfall, and Skogafoss.

Learn about the preservation of the Southern Iceland cultural heritage on the visit to Skogar Folk Museum. Exploration continues to Dyrholaey, a magnificent rocky headland with sheer cliffs, enroute to the village of Vik. Head to the seashore, flanked by steep bird cliffs rising high above the beautiful black sand beach. In the sea, just



## HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotel Ork, Hveragerdi, Iceland





Hear the thunderous roar of Gullfoss, the Golden Waterfall



Relax in the Blue Lagoon, warmed by forces of nature



A geyser erupts for camera-wielding travelers

outside of Vik, see the Reynisdrangar Rocks which stand 216 feet above sea level at their highest point. **Meal: B**

#### DAY 4 – Reykjanes Peninsula and the Blue Lagoon

This morning, head for the rough tracks of Reykjanes, one of the most active volcanic areas in Iceland. Visit the geothermal area of Krysuvik and Lake Kleifarvtn with its hot springs and solfatares. The moonlike surroundings of the lake never fail to leave a strong impression on visitors!

A remarkable life enriching experience is a visit to the Blue Lagoon – a lake of warm-mineral rich geothermal water, internationally renowned for its healing prowess. Located in the middle of a lava field in the pure and beautiful Icelandic wilderness, water is heated by underground volcanic activity at a depth of 5,400 feet and is pumped to the surface to form this man-made wonder. The Blue Lagoon is known for its special properties and its beneficial effect on the skin. Visitors from all over the world come here in search of health, relaxation and an exotic experience. You'll have an opportunity to soak in the pleasantly warm mineral-rich water. **Meal: B**

#### DAY 5 – Reykjavik / Whale Watching

Reykjavik, Iceland's capital city of 100,000 people, is unique in many ways. This capital is a modern city with a variety of restaurants, museums, galleries and theaters. Heated entirely by geothermal water, it is home to the "smoking bay", so named for the rising steam that greeted the city's Viking founder, Angolfr Arnarsson, as he sailed into the bay here in 874 AD. The city center is the heart of Reykjavik and home to many charming historic buildings of stone and timber contrasting with imaginative modern architecture. It has the features of a modern society complemented by a close connection to natural wonders right on the city's doorstep. Hot springs, glaciers, lava fields, midnight sun, waterfalls, northern lights, volcanoes and bizarre landscapes – the city has them all!

On the included panoramic city tour of the world's most northerly capital, see the old town center, Parliament, cathedral, harbor, Na-

tional Museum, 'Pearl' and Hofi House (site of the Iceland summit of 1986), and Hallgrímskirkja Church whose steeple is a landmark of the city.

Following the city tour, enjoy a whale-watching excursion where the naturalist guides onboard the vessel will share their knowledge of these magnificent creatures while searching for pods of whales in the area. Enjoy free time during the excursion for lunch on own and shopping before returning to the hotel for an evening at leisure. **Meal: B**

#### DAY 6 – The Golden Circle

On the full-day tour of the Golden Circle, enjoy scenic drives along with the geological and historic sites of the island. Your excursion includes a drive to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Thingvellir National Park. A remarkable geological site, it is one of the few spots in the world where the Mid-Atlantic Ridge is seen above water. The amazing canyon that runs through the park is a meeting point of two of the earth's tectonic plates. The park is situated by Lake Thingvallavatn, the largest lake on the island. The park is also the most historic site on the island as the world's oldest democratic parliament was founded here in 930 AD.

You'll see outstanding natural wonders when you visit Geysir, Iceland's most famous area for thermal activity. View 'Strokkur', one of the most active geysers, and 'Gullfoss' (Golden Waterfall), Iceland's most famous waterfall. Before returning to the hotel, a visit to a local farm gives you the chance to meet some of the native Icelandic horses, as well as learn about the growing of healthy tomatoes using green energy, pure water and organic pest controls. This evening, join your travel companions for the farewell dinner. **Meals: B, D**

#### DAY 7 – Return to USA

Following breakfast, transfer to Keflavik Airport and bid a fond farewell to amazing Iceland, as you return home with memorable life enriching experiences to cherish. **Meal: B**

*Itinerary subject to change based on local conditions.*





2019 DEPARTURE	PER PERSON TWIN ROOM	SINGLE ROOM
August	\$3,899	add \$489

**Pricing includes:**

- Roundtrip airfare from Des Moines International Airport
- Local Transportation to/from Newton
- All gratuities

*Air itineraries may not be available until documents are received. Air seats are assigned by the airline for the entire group. Seat changes can only be attempted upon receipt of tickets and documents at which time availability may be limited. If specific seat assignments are vital to your reservation, we recommend individual air reservations rather than booking air with the group.*

FOR RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION CONTACT:

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**Travelers Protection Plan (TPP) - \$199 per person (optional)**

This nonrefundable fee waives all cancellation fees when we are notified of cancellation one day before the tour departs. If you must leave the tour early due to personal illness, illness or death of a member of your immediate family, TPP guarantees full refund for any unused services after the departure of the tour. Other benefits include medical expenses for illness and injury, emergency transportation, 24 hour hot line, and lost or stolen baggage assistance. Return air transportation is included ONLY if your air tickets were provided by Mayflower Cruises & Tours. If you purchase the optional Travelers Protection Plan (TPP), you will be refunded all payments, including deposit amount, less the TPP premium amount.

**Cancellation Charges Without Traveler's Protection Plan (TPP)**

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| • 91 days or more                          | Deposit Amount    |
| • 90 to 45 days prior                      | 20% of tour cost  |
| • 44 to 15 day prior                       | 30% of tour cost  |
| • 14 to 1 day prior                        | 40% of tour cost  |
| • Day 1 of departure                       | 100% of tour cost |
| • or early departure from tour             |                   |
| • No refund on unused portions of the tour |                   |

**Exclusions:** Mayflower Cruises & Tours reserves the right to alter its refund and cancellation policy when a substantial amount of cancellation or postponement of travel is attributable to: conditions resulting from an act of God, natural or man-made disaster, fire, government action, civil disorder, war, hostilities between nations, or unavailability of transportation through no fault of Mayflower Cruises & Tours.



**Passport & Visas** – Each U.S. citizen must have a valid passport. Expiry date of passports should be at least 6 months after the return date of tour. If you don't have a passport, call our office and we'll tell you how to apply for one. Some countries require visas for entry by U.S. citizens. We will send visa applications and instructions if a visa is required for your tour. Holders of non-U.S. passports should contact their nearest consulate and inquire about the necessary passport or visa documentation required for entry into the countries visited. NOTE: Due to airline security measures, your passport name must match your airline ticket name and your tour reservation name or you may be denied aircraft boarding.

**TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL**

