

Cruise Iceland

Iceland

your natural cruise destination





Welcome to Cruise Iceland



PHOTOS BY PALL STEFÁNSSON

The old cliché of Iceland as ‘the land of fire and ice’ underlines the country’s spectacular extremes and perpetual surprises. Nowhere else will you see pleasant farmland hemmed in by bright, jagged glaciers. Nowhere else will you see the North American and Eurasian plates pulling the earth apart, or see volcanoes, hot springs and geysers just a short distance from a bustling, modern capital city.

Icelanders have always known their country is unique and special, but now the whole world has found out and the number of visitors keeps rising every year. With the influx of tourists comes the rapid development of facilities to accommodate them—notably in the area of port amenities for cruise ships.

“In the past 30 years or so, Iceland has become firmly established on the cruise map,” says Ágúst Ágústsson, chairman of Cruise Iceland. “First as an ideal stopover for ships repositioning from the U.S. to Europe or vice versa and then also as a main transit call in its own right in the expanding Northern European market.”

Iceland received 246 cruise ship calls in the summer of 2012 and that number is set to rise. Thirteen ports around the country offer cruise facilities—each with their own special tours and activities, as well as unique photo opportunities.

“In the past five to ten years we have seen more ports marketing themselves to the cruise sector and now all member ports of Cruise Iceland are growing their traffic,” says Ágústsson.

Cruise Iceland is an umbrella organization made up of 25 companies, including thirteen ports. The group’s aim is to co-operate and pool their resources wherever possible in order not only to have a louder voice on the international stage, but also to make Iceland as easy and convenient as possible for cruise ships and the companies that operate them. The business side taken care of, Iceland’s incredible landscape and quirky people will take care of the rest.

“Cruise Iceland looks forward to welcoming cruise passengers to sample our country at first hand,” says Ágústsson.

For more information on Cruise Iceland please email Ágúst Ágústsson, chairman, at agag@faxaports.is or Hera Gunnarsdóttir, project manager info@cruiseiceland.com



Vestmannaeyjar - South Iceland



Vestmannaeyjar (The Westman Islands) lay 10 kilometers off Iceland's south coast and consist of 15 islands and several sand rock pillars.

Heimaey is the largest island and the only one with a permanent human population. But the Westman Islands came very close to being permanently uninhabited. The townspeople had to temporarily evacuate to the mainland in 1973 as a volcanic eruption destroyed houses and changed the shape of the entire island.

Quick thinking locals, fearful of the lava destroying their harbor, used cold water to divert the lava flow. Thanks to their brave actions, not only was their crucial lifeline to the sea preserved, but the harbor is now even better than before. The eruption rumbled on for five months, but against all odds, the island's population was able to return. The town now has over 4,000 residents.

Visitors can still feel the warmth of the lava running below the ground in certain places and a fascinating project is underway to excavate some of the 400 houses still buried under ash and rock. The project, called 'Pompeii of the North,' aims to help visitors appreciate the sheer scale of the event, both from a natural and human perspective.

In a previous eruption a decade earlier, the island of Surtsey was born from nothing. Surtsey is still the world's youngest island and continues to be carefully monitored and documented by the handful of lucky scientists allowed to visit each year. Its history has provided the first ever opportunity to chronicle

life's colonization of a new land. The results continue to be both important and surprising.

The whole Westman Islands archipelago is teeming with bird-life and provides guaranteed puffin sightings during the summer. Aside from birds and volcanoes, there is a lively calendar of cultural events on Heimaey, including the Volcano Golf Open and the massive outdoor festival at the beginning of August.

• PORT FACILITIES - VESTMANNAEYJAR

- **Location:** 63° 27' N 20° 16' W
- **Number of cruise berths:** 3
- **Berth dimensions:**
- **Length:** ships up to 170m LOA
- **Width of ship:** unlimited
- **Draught:** 8m
- **Tidal movement/range:** 2.5m
- **Pilotage:** pilotage is compulsory and available 24 hours
- **Distances/transportation:**
- **Town center:** 300 to 500m
- **Airport:** 3km
- **Free shuttle to town:** no
- **Anchorage:** there are three different areas for cruise ships over 170m LOA.

Area A: A cruise ship drifting area located east of the harbour entrance. From there it is only about 5 minutes sailing for shuttle craft to the passenger quay, where there are good facilities.

Area B: Anchorage east of Heimaey. About 15 minutes sailing to the passenger quay.

Area C: Anchorage north of Heimaey. About 25 minutes sailing to the passenger quay.

Contact:
harbour@vestmannaeyjar.is
www.vestmannaeyjar.is/hofnir



PHOTO BY LÁRUS KARL INGASON

Hafnarfjörður

- The Town in the Lava



PORT FACILITIES - HAFNARFJÖRÐUR

Location: 64° 04' N 21° 58' W

Number of cruise berths: 3

Berth dimensions:

Length:

- 1) North Quay 245m for ships up to 150m.
- 2) Hvaleyrri Quay 400m for ships up to 400m.
- 3) South Quay 430m for ships up to 430m.

Width of ship: unlimited

Draught: 6.5m, 8m and 8-10m

Tidal movement/range: 4m

Pilotage: pilotage is compulsory

Distances/transportation:

Town center: 500 to 2000m

Airport: 38km (international), 12km (domestic)

Free shuttle to town: yes

Contact: mar@hafnarfjordur.is, www.hafnarfjardarhofn.is

The town of Hafnarfjörður has been built on lava which flowed from Mount Búrfell about 7,300 years ago. As the lava flowed into the sea it formed strange and picturesque shapes, and the people of the town have placed their homes among these dramatic rock formations.

Hafnarfjörður harbor is a fishing port with three quays suitable for accommodating cruise ships. It is well sheltered with a wide clear entrance where the water depth is between 11-15 meters.

Iceland's third-largest community resides here with just over 26,000 inhabitants, not to mention the elves who are reputed to live in various places in and around the town!

In Hellisgerði park you'll find the world's northernmost Bonsai park containing 130-150 miniature trees, of which 70-80 are on display in summer.

Within easy reach of the town is Helgafell, 'Holy Mountain,' a 340 meter peak easily climbed via the northeast ridge. Krýsuvík, an area of geothermal activity and outstanding natural beauty, is also recommended. There are also spectacular bird cliffs just south of Krýsuvík at Krýsuvíkurberg.

Just 10 minutes drive from Reykjavík, Hafnarfjörður offers visitors plenty of activities such as whale-watching, horse-riding, and elf spotting, as well as splendid Viking feasts. The Hafnarborg Institute of Culture and Fine Arts offers art exhibitions and concerts, while Hafnarfjörður Historic Museum provides an insight into the town's history. The work of artists from around the world may be seen at the Sculpture Park at Vídistaðatún.

Sports are also an important aspect of life in Hafnarfjörður, which is known as the cradle of handball in Iceland.

Hafnarfjörður is home to a Champions Golf Course, the first nine holes are laid out in a lava field and the second nine holes on the Hvaleyrri peninsula sticking out into the Atlantic Ocean.

The popular horse rental Íshestar is also located in Hafnarfjörður. A trip on horseback in Icelandic surroundings is an unforgettable experience. From Hafnarfjörður it is easy to go by bus to many popular attractions such as Gullfoss, Geysir and the Blue Lagoon.

For more information please email port@hafnarfjordur.is or visit www.visithafnarfjordur.is and www.portofhafnarfjordur.is.



PHOTOS ON THIS SPREAD BY PÁLL STEFÁNSSON

Reykjavík - Southwest Iceland

Reykjavík is the nation's capital and main hub in almost every sense of the word. The city is alive with culture and yet remains relaxing and laid-back – with the exception of Friday and Saturday nights!

Situated on a peninsula, the visitor is never far from the sea in Reykjavík and the old wooden buildings and fishing village atmosphere of the old town only serve to enhance that sensual connection with the city's history.

It is tempting to describe Reykjavík as the modern capital trying to squeeze into the ancient fishing village, but in reality the rapid expansion of the city has left the ancient fishing village struggling to remain the focus of the modern capital.

With an exceptionally wide variety of museums and galleries, as well as a lake in the city center and many parks and sculpture gardens, Reykjavík has got culture covered.

It also has shopping down to a fine art: its main shopping street is an odd but pleasing mix of local and international names in the fashion world, as well as gift shops, art shops and much more. The city also boasts two large shopping malls.

Iceland may be an expensive country, but designer goods are often cheaper than in Paris, London or New York – especially with tax refunds for tourists.





PORT FACILITIES - REYKJAVÍK

Location: 64° 09' N 21° 56' W

Number of cruise berths: 4

Berth dimensions:

Length:

(1) Miðbakki 202m for ships up to 170m

(2) Sundabakki ships up to 200m

(3) Skarfabakki 450m

Width of ship: unlimited

Draught: 8m, 8.2m and 12m

Tidal movement/range: 4m

Pilotage: pilotage is compulsory

Distances/transportation:

Town centre: 500m and 5km

Airport: 45km

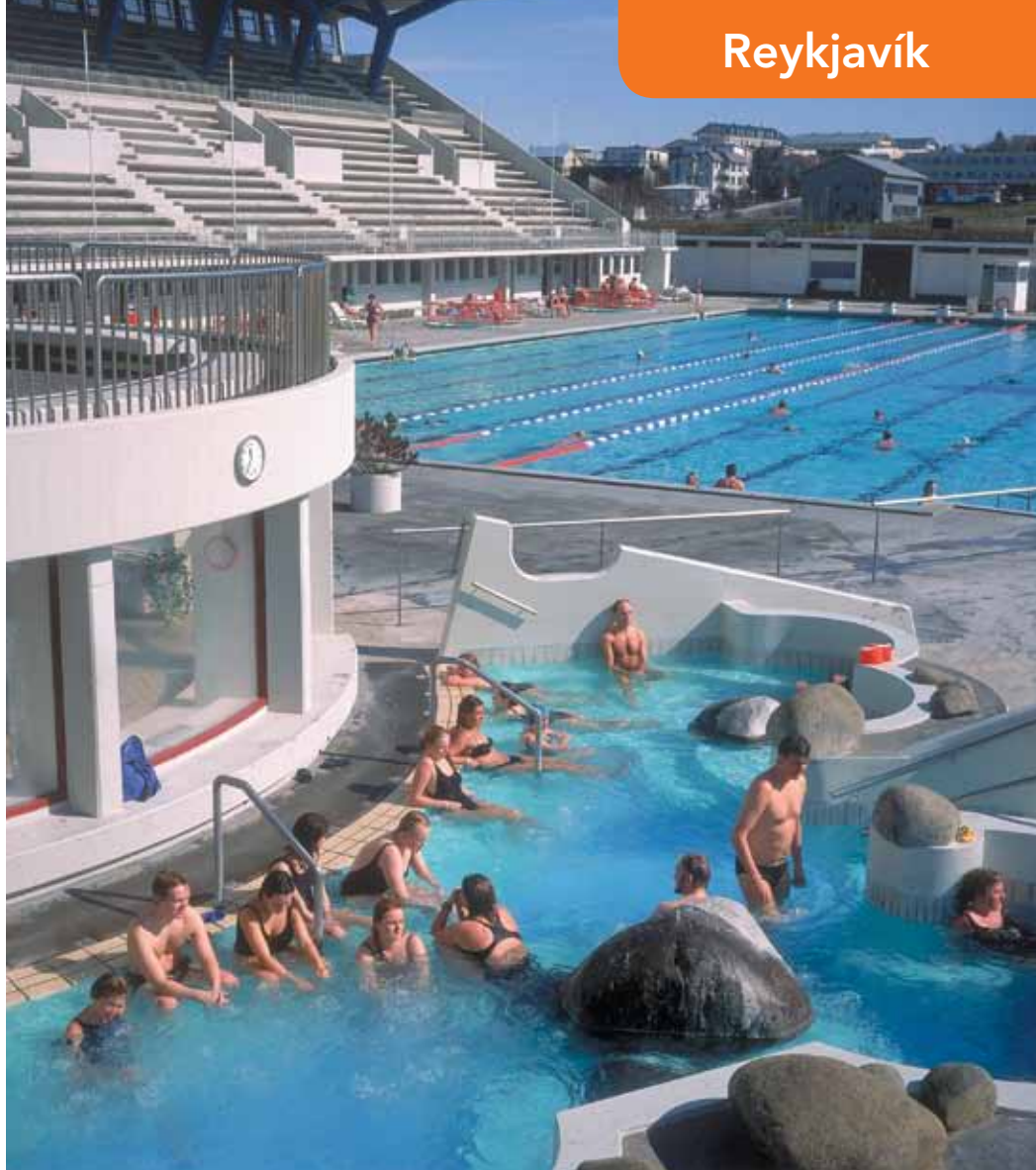
Shuttle to town: yes

Popular tours:

1. Golden Circle tour
2. Lava, Birds & Blue Lagoon
3. Blue Lagoon Bathing
4. Discover Reykjavík
5. Ain't no Mountain High Enough

Contact: agag@faxaports.is

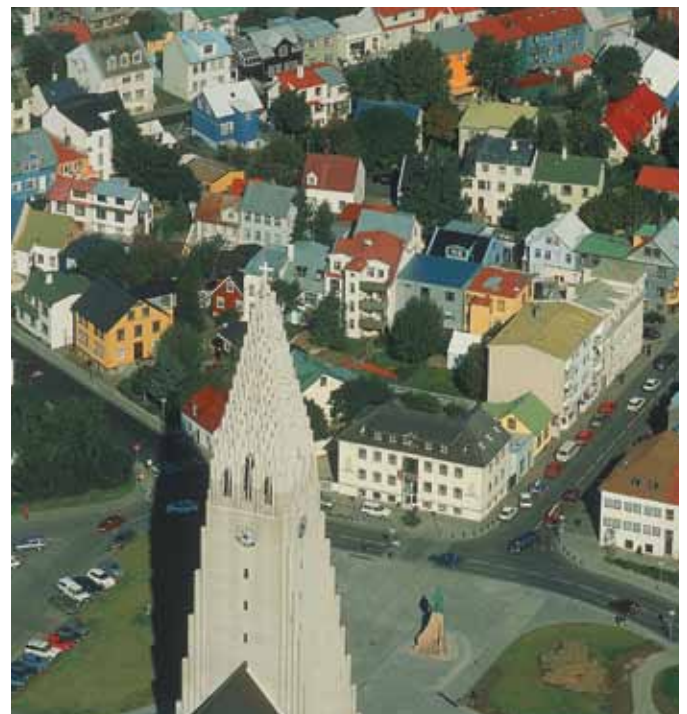
www.faxaports.is



Some of Reykjavík's biggest boasts are its pleasant cafés, its crazy nightlife and its bewildering array of world class restaurants. The world's northernmost capital city is a melting pot of much of the planet's best food – but Icelandic lamb and seafood remain firm favorites.

The focus of Reykjavík's boasts may be changing though: with the opening of the new opera house, conference center and luxury hotel right in the city center by the seafront. The ambitious project was designed by renowned Icelandic artist Ólafur Elíasson, and opened in 2011. It is both practical and aesthetically very different to any other building within thousands of kilometres.

Despite all that is great about Reykjavík, it is its closeness to nature that makes it truly special. Surrounded on three sides by the sea and dutifully watched over by the kindly but imposing hulk of Mount Esja, visitors are constantly reminded that this city lies on the edge of a grandiose, yet unforgiving, land. On clear days, Snæfellsjökull glacier can be seen gleaming over a hundred kilometres away and Reykjavík provides the perfect base for trips to four of the country's top attractions along the so called 'Golden Circle' tour.





South Iceland - The Golden Circle

Golden Circle is the collective name acquired by Gullfoss waterfall, Geysir geothermal area and Þingvellir national park. “Golden” because they represent some of the best and most accessible of Iceland’s natural wonders, and “circle” because together they make a perfect daytrip from Reykjavík.

It is uncanny that these sites should have appeared so near to each other and so close to the capital. Nature clearly had tourists on coach trips in mind when she created Iceland.

Gullfoss is where the roaring Hvítá (white river) turns sharply to the left and plunges down a ‘staircase’ of waterfalls. The visitor can stand close enough to the seething torrent to get drenched in the refreshing spray and watch the sunlight turn it to rainbows. Gullfoss is not the highest waterfall in Iceland, or even the most powerful, but it is probably the most spectacular.

Geysir geothermal area is a farmyard-sized place which is home to one of the most fascinating variety of geothermal features in the world. Geysir is the geyser from which all others took their name, but it is more or less dormant these days. Don’t

panic: just a few meters away lies Strokkur, a smaller geyser that erupts every five minutes or so to a height of up to 20 meters. In addition, visitors are also treated to steaming craters, bubbling mud, clear blue water boiling in rock caverns and even a café and exhibition centre.

Þingvellir is the very heart of the Icelandic nation: the seat of parliament from 930AD, birthplace of the Republic of Iceland in 1944 and a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2004. The site also happens to be an exceptional place to see the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates pulling apart at first hand.

Þingvellir is not only an important place, but also a very pretty place situated on the edge of Iceland’s largest lake and home to the Prime Minister’s summer residence.

The Golden Circle is a simply vital part of any trip to Iceland – even for royalty. The Golden Circle tour celebrated its hundredth anniversary in 2007, as Danish king Frederik VIII was the first to complete it as an organised tour in 1907.



PHOTOS ON THIS SPREAD BY PÁLL STEFÁNSSON





PHOTOS BY PÁLL STEFÁNSSON

The Snæfellsnes Peninsula - A Place for All Senses



This little-known peninsula never fails to delight visitors with its magnificent glacier, national park and quaint fishing villages dotted along the coastline. It is a place where all the five senses are awakened as one hears the cries of hundreds of migratory birds decorating the black cliffs.

While enjoying the many walking paths, one can feel the breeze off the ocean and smell the aroma of wild flora. The taste of pure fresh water trickling from a stream is tantalizing and the sight of marine life such as seals or whales, never fails to amaze. This coastal park is the only one of its kind in Iceland and is a microcosm of the country. Geological features such as calderas, black pebbled beaches and ancient lava terrain are just some of the attractions in the area. Countless waterfalls grace the mountainsides and open fields provide space for grazing sheep and horses. The magnificent Snæfellsjökull glacier is a known energy center and the setting for Jules Verne's famous novel, *Journey to the Centre of the Earth*. Halldór Laxness described the mystery of the glacier in his novel, *Under the Glacier* and the peninsula itself is the setting for *Eyrbyggja Saga* and *Bárðar Snæfellsás Saga*. The Snæfellsnes peninsula is a pastoral wonderland igniting a heightened sense of being in the fortunate tourist.





PHOTO BY GUEJÓN ELISSON



The Port of Grundarfjörður - Gateway to Snæfellsnes

PORT FACILITIES - GRUNDARJÖRÐUR

Location: 64° 56' N 23° 15' W

Number of cruise berths: 1

Berth dimensions:

Length: 230m

Width of ship: unlimited

Draught: 6.5m

(8m for the first 100m at lowest tide)

Tidal movement/range: 4m

Pilotage: yes

Distances/transportation:

Town center: 500m

Airport: 200km

Free shuttle to town: harbor is in town

Popular tours:

1. Grundarfjörður village walk
2. Boat trips around the numerous islands of Breiðafjörður offering ideal bird watching and wonderful sightseeing
3. Tours around Snæfellsjökull glacier
4. Whale watching

Contact: port@grundarfjordur.is

www.grundarfjordur.is

Situated on the north coast of the Snæfellsnes peninsula, Grundarfjörður is the perfect gateway to the main tourist attractions of the area. It is a pretty fishing village embraced by an impressive mountain range with its landmark being the most photographed mountain in Iceland, Mount Kirkjufell. Its beauty has also recently attracted international movie makers to film in the area. Grundarfjörður is surrounded by a landscape tapestry of waterfalls, streams, mountains, valleys and beaches. These are colored by a myriad of birds, sheep, horses, foxes and seals. The white-tailed eagle is a regular visitor to the area and minke whales are often spotted out at sea.

As a cruise destination, Grundarfjörður is excellent for a number of excursions to nearby attractions. The Snæfellsjökull National Park with its magnificent glacier and diverse landscape is by far the main attraction while excursions through lunar-like lava fields to an old traditional shark-curing farm and ancient pathways as well as the picturesque village of Stykkishólmur, are also very popular.

Its central location on the peninsula puts Grundarfjörður in a strategic position for these cruise excursions while activities in the town itself include boat trips and village walks. The smallness of the town guarantees personal encounters with locals who are warm and friendly and whose knowledge of the area can prove invaluable for cruise passengers. Despite its size, most modern services and facilities are available.



Vesturbyggð - West Fjords



The ports of **Patreksfjörður** and **Bíldudalur** in the municipality of **Vesturbyggð** are both perfect starting points for trips to the most precious tourist attractions in the West Fjords, Iceland's north-western peninsula. Destinations like **Látrabjarg** bird cliff, the most westerly point in Europe, **Dynjandi** waterfall, **Rauðisandur** beach, or the **Vatnsdalur** nature reserve in **Breiðafjörður** bay.

The southern West Fjords area is one of Iceland's best preserved secrets with stark mountains climbing vertically up to the heavens. The West Fjords is a region of small fishing villages existing wherever they find land flat enough to survive. Its impressive but humbling landscape makes even the rest of Iceland look gentle and flat.

Rich birdlife makes the area a birdwatcher's paradise. Agriculture is scarce and good harbors have always been the key to prosperity for the region's 7,000 inhabitants.

Patreksfjörður is the southernmost fjord in the region, and the largest settlement in the southern West Fjords area—700 people call it home. The small village of Bíldudalur, population 170, lies in beautiful Arnarfjörður.

Enjoy a visit to ports in Vesturbyggð and experience the rich heritage and dynamic culture by foot in the town centers to cafés and restaurants. In Patreksfjörður visit the Pirate House and in Bíldudalur the Sea monster Museum is a must-see. You can also take a trip to the unique and spectacular Samuel Jónsson outdoor museum in Selárdalur or the folk museum of Egill Ólafsson in Hnjóti Örylgshöfn, a museum chronicling the history of the southern fjords. The area is also excellent for hiking, and for those who like trout fishing, trips and licenses for Lake Sauðlauksdalsvatn are very modestly priced. Enjoy a sea angling trip in Patreksfjörður or Arnarfjörður or a trip back in time to the Icelandic Sagas with a tour to Geirþjófsfjörður.



PORT FACILITIES - VESTURBYGGÐ

Location: 65° 36' N, 24° 00' W

Number of cruise berths: 2, Patreksfjordur and Bíldudalur

Berth dimensions.

Length: 230m in Patreksfjordur
80 m in Bíldudalur

Width of ship: in Patreksfjordur 18 m in a 40 m narrow channel, unlimited in outer dock. In Bíldudalur unlimited

Draught: 6m at LW

Tidal movement/range: 3m

Pilotage: 24 hours available on request

Distances/transportation:

Town centre: 100m

Airport: 35km

Free shuttle to town: harbour is in town center

Popular tours:

1. **Puffins up close;** Látrabjarg – Europe's biggest bird cliff.
2. **Life of past generations;** a visit to the Museum in Hnjótur Örylgshöfn.
3. **The Seamonster Museum** in Bíldudalur.
4. **Dynjandi waterfall** the pride of the Westfjords.
5. **The Saga hero Gísli Súrsson's country** – boat trip to Geirþjófsfjörður with Eagle Fjord
6. **The Artist trail and rugged roads to Selárdalur** – The Samúel Jónsson museum.
7. **The Sagafjords** – travel and learn workshop.
8. **Wonder World of Látrabjarg** (Hiking trip with Westfjords Adventures)
9. **Red Sand – Colours, tranquility and spectacular photoscenes.** (Hiking trip with Westfjords Adventures)
10. **The cycle thrill** – Bicycle tour with maximum thrill. (Tour with Westfjords Adventures, a bus lift to the high points of the mountain roads).
11. **Sea Angling in Arnarfjörður** + dine with the catch of the day with **Eagle Fjord**
12. **Sea angling in Patreksfjörður** + Prepare your own feast (Boat trip and your own cousine) with **Westfjords Adventures.**

Contact: baejarstjori@vesturbyggd.is

www.vesturbyggd.is/port



PHOTO BY PÁLL STEFÁNSSON

PORT FACILITIES - ÍSAFJÖRÐUR

Location: 66° 04' N 023° 07' W

Number of cruise berths: 3 Sundabakki (two piers) and Asgeirsbakki

Berth dimensions:

Length: 190m, 120m Sundabakki and 270m Asgeirsbakki

Width of ship: unlimited

Draught: 8.0m Sundabakki and 7m Asgeirsbakki (Approach to Asgeirsbakki through narrow channel, 7,5m depth).

Tidal movement/range: average 2.2m

Pilotage: pilotage is compulsory

Distances/transportation:

Town center: 300m

Airport: 5km

Free shuttle to town: harbor is in town

Popular tours:

1. Vigur - The Paradise Island: boat tour with light refreshments, easy stroll round Vigur island
2. Life & Culture: bus tour around Ísafjörður and vicinity
3. Mountains & Fjords: bus tour around Alps of West Fjords and botanical garden
4. Backstreets of Ísafjörður: and easy and enjoyable stroll around Ísafjörður
5. Visit to a fishing village: bus tour, food trail and a taste of Icelandic eco friendly fish

Contact: hofn@isafjordur.is

www.isafjordur.is



Ísafjörður - West Fjords

The town of Ísafjörður lies some 30km down the dramatic Ísafjarðardjúp fjord, an unforgettable journey past numerous fjords where the land seems to swallow the sea and ships seem powerless to resist the call of the unknown. Ísafjörður is the capital of the West Fjords area and despite having a metropolitan population of around 3,800; it is a veritable city with flourishing cultural life. For visitors arriving by ship, Ísafjörður is a vision straight from a fairytale.

The town sits on a flat spit of land in the fjord. Although it is well connected with the rest of Iceland with good roads and daily flights, there is no more majestic way of entering it than sailing right under the towering mountains which surround Ísafjörður on three sides.

With a surprising array of cultural events all year round, the town has achieved a reputation as one of the most dynamic, bohemian places in the whole country.

This manifests itself in Ísafjörður's pleasant atmosphere and big-town ambience, and the well-kept town center is an exceptionally pleasant place to explore on foot. Ísafjörður boasts the oldest collection of houses in Iceland, dating back to the 1700s and the same site is also home to the fascinating Maritime Museum.

Trips in the area are varied and include memorable sightseeing boat trips to the island of Vigur. Aside from the splendid views and the usual varied selection of seabirds including puffins, Vigur is also home to a large colony of eider ducks, producing 65kg of high quality eiderdown per year.

Back in town, visitors will be pleased to find a good selection of cafés and restaurants and an innovative offering of original gifts and souvenirs from the area.



Siglufjörður - North Iceland



Iceland's northernmost town, Siglufjörður, is a historic fishing town which fame and fortune has always been linked to the ebb and flow of the fishing industry. A tiny shark fishing village in 1900, Siglufjörður soon became one of the largest towns in Iceland and the undisputed capital of herring fishing in the Atlantic. Although the herring has disappeared, the town bears the distinct imprint of 'The Herring Era.'

During the 20th century, the Siglufjörður harbor was one of the largest and most important in the country. In the heyday of the herring fishery, Siglufjörður was a town filled with jobs and money—a busy boomtown with a gold rush-like atmosphere that quickly earned the nicknames 'Klondike of the Atlantic,' 'Fishermen's Eldorado' and 'Iceland's Sodom.'

By mid-century upwards of 500 boats were active in the local herring fishery. In times of bad weather, hundreds of fishing boats would seek refuge, tying to the docks or anchoring in the fjord to wait out the storm. There were so many docks in the harbor that you had to travel a kilometre and a half to get from the first one to the last. In fact, laid end-to-end Siglufjörður's docks would have stretched well over five kilometers!

Since 2002 Siglufjörður has welcomed cruise ship passengers to visit this small town at the edge of North Iceland that is full of well-kept history. By walking through the Herring Museum's three buildings one can easily sense the atmosphere of times past, in the herring girls lodgings one can for example find a ball dress, red lipstick, love letter or a knife for gutting the herring. When visiting the Folk Music Center guests are introduced to Icelandic folk music; locals sing traditional rhymes and folk songs. Last but not least a walk down by the harbor and around town allows guests to visit art galleries, restaurants and cafés, the local church—and on a good summer's day—watch local fishermen at work down by the harbor.

PORT FACILITIES - SIGLUFJÖRÐUR

Location: 66° 12' N 18°52' W

Number of cruise berths: 2

Berth dimensions:

Length:

1) Bæjarbryggjan 100 m. for ships up to 140 m.

2) Óskarsbryggja 1 55. for ships up to 160 m.

Width of ship: unlimited

Draught: 6.5m. and 8.5m

Tidal movement/range: average 1.5m

Pilotage: Not compulsory, but available on request

Distances/transportation:

Town centre: 300 m

Airport: Domestic: 75 km

Shuttle to town: If needed

Popular tours:

1. The Herring Era Museum

2. A historic walk around town

3. Hiking tours

4. Bird watching

5. Whale watching from Ólafsfjörður

Contact: fjhafnir@fjallabyggd.is

www.fjallabyggd.is



PORT FACILITIES - AKUEYRI

Location: 65° 41' N 18° 04' W

Number of cruise berths: 2

Berth dimensions:

Length:

- 1) Oddeyrarbyggja 200m for ships up to 330m.
- 2) Tangabryggja 170m for ships up to 300m.

Width of ship: unlimited

Draught: 9-11m, 8.5-11m

Tidal movement/range: max 1.7m

Pilotage: 3 pilots available

Distances/transportation:

Town center: 100m - 500m

Airport: 3km

Free shuttle to town: no

Popular tours:

1. Jewels of the North: Lake Mývatn and Goðafoss waterfall
2. Whales & Waterfalls: Húsavík whale watching and Goðafoss waterfall
3. Nature, Folk & Flora: Goðafoss, Laufás museum and Akureyri Botanical Garden
4. Polar flight to Grímsey Island: a flight to a bird island located on the Arctic Circle
5. A Glimpse of Icelandic Culture: Eyjafjörður fjord, including local buffet and horse show

Contact: petur@port.is

www.port.is

Akureyri - North Iceland

Akureyri sits on the shores of Iceland's longest fjord, Eyjafjörður. It is the country's second largest city and the self-proclaimed 'capital of the north.' With a population of just 18,000, there are many things that set Akureyri apart.

The inhabitants of Akureyri have an uncanny knack for making things grow. Set among the tree-lined streets of this town just 60 kilometers south of the Arctic Circle, visitors are delighted to find the world's northernmost botanical garden—a collection of thousands of flowers, trees and shrubs from all over the world.

Visitors are also intrigued to see such a large and flourishing community of artists, musicians and all sorts of creative types in a town so comparatively small. Of course, Iceland is as much about the unique and varied countryside as it is about the warm and welcoming towns—and Akureyri is fortunate to lie in one of the most varied parts of the whole country.

The nearby Lake Mývatn for example is set in a bewitchingly beautiful area, featuring rock columns, geothermal vents, forest and the Mývatn Nature Baths. Just an hour away from the port, Mývatn consistently proves the most popular excursion for cruise passengers.

Another popular trip from Akureyri is the short flight up to Grímsey Island—the only part of Iceland to cross the Arctic Circle. The small island has excellent tourist facilities, an interesting variety of landscapes and a huge bird population. What's more, each visitor receives a commemorative certificate for crossing the Arctic Circle.

Back in town, Akureyri boasts the biggest selection of bars, cafés and restaurants outside Reykjavík and its eclectic mix of shops and boutiques are the perfect place to find those unusual gifts and souvenirs.



Húsavík - Northeast Iceland



Húsavík, population 2,200, has evolved considerably over recent years, from a town mainly known for its maritime and fishing sectors before, Húsavík has become a household name to travelers as the ‘whale watching capital of Europe.’

It is not just the number and variety of whales to be seen in Húsavík’s Skjálfandi Bay that earn the town its reputation, but also the fact that many of the tours take place on beautifully renovated oak fishing boats. The Húsavík Whale museum is located by the harbor and provides a unique insight into the habitat and life of these giants of the oceans.

Open air folk museums are fairly common in Iceland, but the one in Húsavík is rated as among the best and the town’s church is a personal favorite of people living all over the country. Built in the shape of a cross, the wooden church was erected in 1906-7 and features a 26 meter steeple over the entrance, which is visible from all over the town and out in the bay.

The beautifully-groomed park along the banks of the Búðará River comes as a pleasant surprise to many visitors and the challenging nine hole golf course on the southern edge of town adds yet another dimension to this interesting town.

Out of town, visitors can take in the sights of Lake Mývatn—among the prettiest places in Iceland, and favorite holiday destination of Icelanders.

Húsavík is also an ideal base for trips to Jökulsárgljúfur in Vatnajökull National Park which includes Dettifoss. At 44 meters high, 100 meters wide and water gushing at an average of 193m³/s, it is Europe’s most powerful waterfall.

PORT FACILITIES - HÚSAVÍK

Location: 66° 03’ N 17° 22’ W

Number of cruise berths: 3

Berth dimensions:

Length:

- 1) Þvergarður 90m for ships up to 120m.
- 2) Norðurgarður 125m for ships up to 135m.
- 3) Bökugarður 130m for ships up to 170m.

Width of ship: unlimited

Draught: 6m, 8m and 10m

Tidal movement/range: average 1.7m

Pilotage: Not compulsory, but available on request

Distances/transportation:

Town center: 200 to 800m

Airport: 10km for sightseeing and charter, 90km for domestic, scheduled

Free shuttle to town: harbor is in town

Popular tours:

1. Lake Mývatn
2. Goðafoss waterfall
3. Dettifoss waterfall in Jökulsárgljúfur National Park
4. Historical tour
5. Whale watching around Skjálfandi Bay

Contact: port@husavik.is www.husavik.is

Lake Mývatn Area

The north of Iceland could keep you entertained for a lifetime but there are several things that stand out and demand attention.

The region is home to the spectacular waterfalls Goðafoss and Dettifoss; the latter being the most powerful in Europe.

Goðafoss (Waterfall of the Gods) is thought to have got its name in 999 or 1000 AD. Lawspeaker Þorgeirr Ljósvetningagoði made Christianity the official religion of Iceland at the Alþingi parliament in the southwest. On the way home, he reportedly threw his statues of the Norse gods into the waterfall – and the name stuck.

A short distance further east and the visitor comes across Lake Mývatn, one of the country's most treasured natural features. The region is known for its plant life, its rock formations and its geothermal activity.

The lake itself and surrounding wetlands are home to thousands of birds, especially ducks and geese – but there would be no lake at all if not for a volcanic eruption 2300 years ago.

The area is as beautiful as it is varied and the jewel in the crown comes in the form of the Mývatn Nature Baths. Some call them the Blue Lagoon of the north – but in reality, they are quite different.

The waters of the Mývatn Nature Baths are clear and sweet, the bottom of the lagoon is sandy and the hot water comes from as deep as 2.5 kilometers underground. Visitors are guaranteed to leave feeling relaxed and reinvigorated.



PHOTOS THIS PAGE BY PÁLL STEFANSSON





Seyðisfjörður - East Iceland

The eastern town of Seyðisfjörður would probably not be on many people's radar were it not for one very important factor: its extreme beauty. Seyðisfjörður is a picture postcard village nestled in an epic, untamed landscape. What's more, the friendly locals add an unexpected bohemian atmosphere to the already unique locale.

With the establishment of the Norwegian herring fishery here in around 1870 came an influx of wooden Norwegian houses in kit form. Many of these houses remain today, both as private homes and public buildings. Seyðisfjörður may owe part of its beauty to Norway, but mostly it has nature to thank for its spectacular location.

Surrounded on three sides by mountains a thousand meters tall and at the end of a 17km snaking fjord, the location is the perfect antidote to time spent at sea. Rather appropriate for Iceland's nearest port to mainland Europe.

As the river Fjarðará lunges carelessly for the sea, it cascades over more than 25 waterfalls on its way to Seyðisfjörður and onward to freedom. The river, the mountains and the excellent road make the route out of town one of the most exhilarating and humbling parts of any trip.

The eastern highlands are the only place to see wild reindeer in Iceland, and also home to thousands of geese. It is about an hour's walk from Seyðisfjörður to Skálanes, a private nature re-





PHOTO BY ÞÓRA GUDMUNDSDÓTTIR

serve specializing in education and conservation—a paradise for birdwatchers and all who love the great outdoors.

There is also plenty to see and do in Seyðisfjörður itself, such as the excellent Technical Museum, portraying the dawn of modern life in Iceland through lively and interesting displays. The museum houses the oldest telegraph station in Iceland and the country's oldest mechanical shop, among other things.

Many creative souls have spent time in Seyðisfjörður's inspirational locale, including the late Swiss/German artist Dieter Roth (1930-1998), whose work can be seen at the Skaftfell Culture Centre in town.



PHOTO BY GODDUR

PORT FACILITIES - SEYÐISFJÖRÐUR

Location: 65° 15' N 14° 00' W

Number of cruise berths: 2

Berth dimensions:

Length: up to 230m

Width of ship: unlimited

Draught: 9m

Tidal movement/range: average 1.6m

Pilotage: not compulsory, but available

Distances/transportation:

Town center: 500m

Airport: 30km

Free shuttle to town: no

Seyðisfjörður is still the only port in Iceland with purpose built terminal building. Facilities include shopping, internet, WC and tourist information.

Popular tours:

1. Town and nature
2. Bjölfur: avalanche (snow) barrier with a magnificent view
3. Skálanes: nature and heritage
4. A tour around Lagarfljót
5. A tour to Hengifoss waterfall
6. A tour to Borgarfjörður eystri

For more information please contact alla@seydisfjordurport.is or visit www.seydisfjordurport.is.



Eskifjörður



Eskifjörður is a charming seaside village. Named after the adjacent fjord, it lies centrally located in the region known as Iceland's East Fjords. Since the sea has long influenced village culture and industry, the traveler will enjoy simply walking and looking around, perhaps going to the Maritime Museum. In addition to other historic buildings and piers, the spacious, attractive fishing shed called Randulffssjóhús dates from 1890. At Randulffssjóhús you will not only see how fisher folk used to work, but you can even try tasting the shark and dried fish which are still produced there. The town has a geothermal swimming pool opened in 2006, a cultural center, supermarket, boat rental, café and further attractions.

With its assortment of village and rural farming communities nestled in the valleys by scenic fjords, East Iceland is steeped in culture and history. The region is known for its varied nature and is the only part of Iceland inhabited by reindeer. A number of easy-to-approach bird species are an added attraction, along with a variety of the landscape types which typically lure people to Iceland, such as glaciers, stupendous mountainsides and peaks, tranquil fjords, wooded valleys and beautiful waterfalls.

Geologically, the east is one of the oldest parts of Iceland, and this, together with its colorful rock forms and semi-precious stones, makes it a paradise for specialists and the less scientifically-minded alike. Typical for the region are the fog banks which can suddenly but softly drift in from the sea, sometimes staying just off the coastline, or resting at different levels up against the slopes, before suddenly disappearing.

PORT FACILITIES - ESKIFJÖRÐUR

Location: 65° 04'46"N 14° 01'42"W

Number of cruise berths: 1

Berth dimensions:

Length: up to 220m

Width of ship: Unlimited

Draught: 10m

Tidal movement/range: 1.7m

Pilotage: Compulsory for vessel over 100m in length

Distances/transportation:

Town center: 500m

Airport: 49km

Free shuttle to town: no

Popular tours:

1. Stroll around Eskifjörður to experience local life and museums
2. Petra's Rock and Mineral Collection, Stöðvarfjörður
3. The town with the French heritage, Fáskrúðsfjörður
4. Neskaupstaður town, museum and tree floors, avalanche-defense structures
5. Reyðarfjörður town, Icelandic Wartime Museum.

Contact: info@portofeskifjordur.is

www.portofeskifjordur.is





Djúpivogur

The eastern town of Djúpivogur is dominated by the pyramid-shaped mountain Búlandstíndur (1,069 m), which is reputed to hold mystical powers. Another local hill may or may not in fact be a troll in disguise. Either way, it provides a stunning backdrop.

Langabúð is the oldest house in town and was built in about 1790 by the powerful merchants, without whom the town would not exist. Langabúð is partly made from logs and now houses a sculpture museum and a coffee shop.

This pleasant and ancient fishing village is fortunate to lay in such idyllic surroundings, including a beautiful network of tiny green islands, grand mountain peaks and within striking distance of Vatnajökull; the biggest glacier in Europe. Visitors to the area will want to experience trips on the glacier or boat cruises among the icebergs in the bizarrely beautiful glacial lagoon.

Passengers can stroll around Djúpivogur, visit the Eggs of Merry Bay outdoor artwork or go bird watching on the black sand dunes. You can also visit the local handcraft gallery and the popular souvenir store Bakkabúð, museums, coffee shops and Hotel Framtið restaurant. Breathe in the spirit of a typical Icelandic fishing village, enjoy the swimming pool or try your luck at the golf course in the surroundings (12km from Djúpivogur). Passengers can also visit Papey Island to see seals and puffins or drive through the 'Valley of Water Falls' (Fossárdalur).



PORT FACILITIES - DJÚPIVOGUR

Location: 64° 40' N 14° 17' W

Number of cruise berths: 1

Berth dimensions:

Length: 75m for ships up to 100m

Width of ship: 30m

Draught: 9m

Tidal movement/range: 2.5m

Pilotage: yes

(Bigger ships can anchor in the fjord away from the pier, where space is almost unlimited)

Distances/transportation:

Town center: 700m

Airport: 80km

Free shuttle to town: no

Popular tours:

1. Glacier lagoon
2. Papey Island
3. Jeep safari
4. Bird watching

Contact: ugnius@djupivogur.is

www.djupivogur.is



A Play on Light - The Glacial Lagoon, a Unique Experience

The opening scenes in James Bond films are always stunning and full of excitement. The high-speed chase on Jökulsárlón at the beginning of *Die Another Day* has become a movie classic. The dramatic landscape is magical but you can experience it too, even though you are unlikely to meet villains or to travel at such high speeds.

Jökulsárlón, also referred to as the Glacial Lagoon for the icebergs which fill its waters, is the best-known and largest of a number of glacial lakes or lagoons in Iceland. It is situated to the south of the glacier Vatnajökull, between Skaftafell National Park and Höfn. Appearing first in 1934-1935, the lake has grown from 7.9 square kilometers in 1975 to 18 square kilometers today, as a result of the rapid melting of the Icelandic glaciers.

Jökulsárlón is separated from the sea only by a short distance, and the combined action of the glacier, the river that empties from the lake and the ocean may eventually transform it into an ocean inlet. There are plans to try to prevent this from happening, since the only road in the area, the Icelandic Ring Road, passes over the narrow isthmus.

The lagoon has caught the imagination of many visitors and *James Bond* is not the only movie to have been filmed there. Scenes from *Tomb Raider* were also shot there a few years ago.

The lagoon is quite a sight from land but it is only when you get out on a boat that you realize the scale and beauty of the icebergs; some are many stories high and their colors and formations are spectacular. Others are much smaller but retain the form of white-blue-green glacial ice as they change color in the sunlight, which plays games with the ice crystals. You may see seals swimming close to the opening to the sea.

When the boat comes close to the glacier you can see and hear the ice break off and splash into the lagoon. The icebergs break free from the glacier's edge and are carried by the current towards the mouth of the river until they catch on the bottom. Tidal currents move the icebergs back and forth, causing them to scrape the bottom of the river, and winds and tides erode them until they are small enough to float out to sea.

Previously, the Jökulsá river flowed from under the glacier directly out to sea, but in the 1930s the glacier began receding and a lake was formed. The sea is breaking down the sandy beach and getting closer to the bridge at the end of the lagoon. The river, the sea, the wind and glacier are all fighting each other and the outcome is a magnificent feast for our senses.

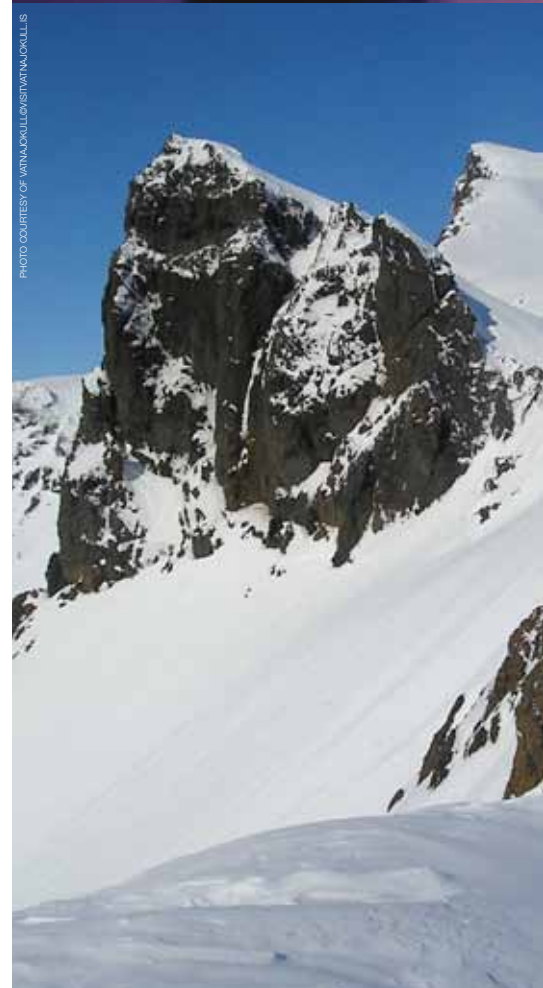


PHOTO COURTESY OF VATNAJÖKULLON/STWATNAJÖKULLIS



To the Top of Iceland

There is no feeling like reaching the top and an increasing number of Icelanders are climbing to the country's highest point, Hvannadalshnjúkur (2,110 meters), located on southern Vatnajökull, Europe's largest glacier. It may not be one of the world's highest mountains, but it may be one of the most difficult to climb in one day and is thus a challenge that no serious mountain climber in Iceland can pass up.

In the past, only a handful of people tried to climb to its peak every year. This has changed over the past few years and now groups of all kinds make the journey up Hvannadalshnjúkur. The climb to the top requires passing over challenging terrain and should never be attempted without a guide. Organized trips are offered in spring and summer when conditions allow.

The climb to the summit takes eight to nine hours (approximately 15 hours return), the snowy slopes seem to go on forever. After around seven hours the peak appears in the distance but you still have an hour to go, past a volcanic crater filled with ice and snow. But don't think about that too much; it has been 700 years since the volcano was last active. The final climb to the top is the most challenging. It is time to put on your crampons and take out your ice axes.

But finally you will make it, at least most people do. And on a clear day you will be rewarded with breathtaking panoramic views; an unforgettable experience.



Höfn



From flat sands to fertile plains and from charming villages to the imposing brightness of magnificent glaciers, South Iceland is a rich and fascinating place to explore. From the port at Höfn, visitors are within sight of Vatnajökull, Europe's largest glacier. Being in Höfn, they are lucky to find themselves in a town geared up to help them make the most of the surroundings.

Visitors are in the area of Iceland's biggest national park. The town is known as the lobster town of Iceland and is famous for the various lobster dishes served at its restaurants and for the annual lobster festival.

Tours to the glacier lagoon and over the glacier itself offer different but equally valuable experiences of Vatnajökull. One of Iceland's most enduring photo opportunities is the Jökulsárlón glacial lagoon, where icebergs shear off the glacier into a natural lagoon and slowly float under the suspension bridge and out to sea, where they quickly melt. The experience is made all-the-more surreal by taking a trip on an amphibious vehicle out into the lake among the icebergs, seals and seabirds.

From Jökulsárlón it is a short hop onward to the Skaftafell national park: a unique area of lush greenery sandwiched between the flat, black floodplains and the ragged, white glacier. The interplay between fire and ice is nowhere more evident than here, as the floodplains exist only because of the volcanoes that erupt underneath the glacier. The landscape is beautiful, the geology is humbling and the first rate tourist facilities help the visitor to find out exactly why that is.

PORT FACILITIES - HÖFN

Location: 64° 14' N 15° 11' W

Number of cruise berths: 2

Berth dimensions:

Length:

1: Álogareyjarbryggja, 150m for ships up to 120m

2: Óslandsbryggja, 80m for ships up to 100m

Width of ship: 30m

Draught: 6m

Tidal movement/range: 1.0m

Pilotage: Yes compulsory (3 pilots available)

Distances/transportation:

Town center: 700m

Airport: 7km

Free shuttle to town: no

Popular tours:

1. Glacier lagoon

2. Glacier Jeep safari

3. Snowmobile safari

4. Town, exhibitions and nature

5. Iceland's biggest national park

Contact: sigurdurg@hornafjordur.is

www.visitvatnajokull.is



Atlantik

If you are looking for a company consistently providing the best possible travel services for cruise passengers visiting Iceland, **Atlantik** is your first choice. **Atlantik** has been the leading local tour operator for the cruise industry over the last 35 years working from every port around Iceland. And if you are looking for **creativity built on experience**, you will find our team both motivated and capable when delivering travel programs and bringing our guests to the center of what Iceland is all about. Our objective is to build premier programs and to create long lasting enjoyable memories for our guests. It has on the other hand not been our aim to become the largest cruise operator in Iceland, it has simply been realized as a result of our successful long lasting partnership with cruise clients around the world. **Atlantik** enjoys having a dedicated team of creative travel professionals carefully managing each and every project in line with our company philosophy. In 2012 **Atlantik** was one of the first tourism companies in Iceland to be certified by **VAKINN**, Iceland Tourism Official Quality Assurance Organization. The organization ensures that certified companies adhere to strict criteria of quality of services, safety, environmental sustainability and social responsibility, (<http://www.vakinn.is>). **Atlantik** was also ranked **among the top 1% of Iceland's strongest companies**, further proof that Atlantik is an extremely valuable local partner to rely on. **Atlantik** is a member of various trade associations including EUROMIC, The World Leading Ground Operators (TWLGO), Destinations Unlimited, Cruise Iceland, The Association of Icelandic Travel Companies and more. For further information please contact: cruise@atlantik.is or visit our website www.atlantik.is

Air Iceland

No more than two hours' flight from Iceland is Greenland: a country so near yet so different. Air Iceland (Flugfélag Íslands) operates flights to Kulusuk, Narsarsuaq, Ilulissat and Nuuk throughout the summer, allowing cruise passengers arriving at Reykjavík a unique opportunity for day trips to the wonders of Greenland.

Visitors to Kulusuk can stroll around the village, purchase hand-made crafts, or even get to know some of the 360 inhabitants. Excursions from here include a visit to the nearby glacier, dog sledding and kayaking.

Narsarsuaq in South Greenland offers stunning views of the inland ice and with hundreds of icebergs floating in the fjord just outside the town, the green valley and mountains surrounding South Greenland provide an incredible contrast. South Greenland is the perfect destination for visitors wishing to experience pure and unspoiled nature.

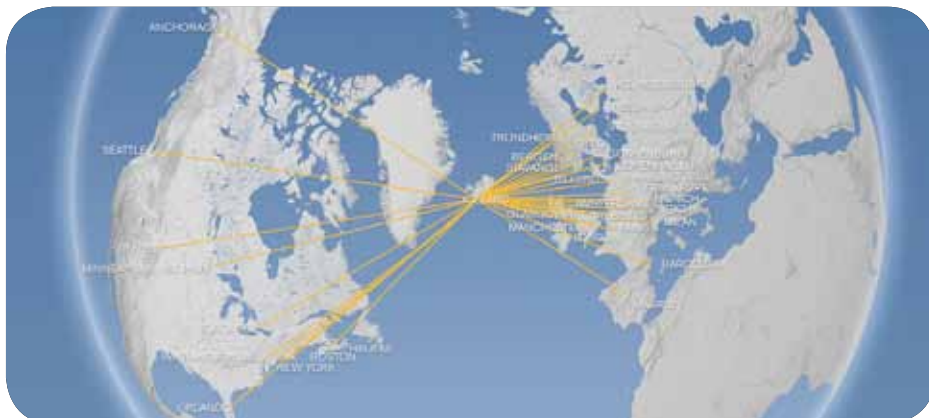
Nuuk is Greenland's capital and has a lot to offer, like fishing, hunting and of course a good hotel and great tours and sightseeing opportunities. Air Iceland offers flights to Nuuk the whole year around.

UNESCO World Heritage listed Ilulissat, known as the 'Iceberg Town' is in the north of Greenland. The town has become one of Greenland's biggest tourist destinations with its awe-inspiring scenery and dramatic sounds of glaciers breaking off into the sea.

Air Iceland also offers packages with hotel, fishing, hiking or hunting. For more information please contact web-sales@airiceland.is or visit www.airiceland.is



Icelandair



With roots stretching back over 75 years, Icelandair is one of the world's longest established airlines. It is a leading airline offering flights to and from Iceland, and an attractive option for cross-Atlantic flights. Icelandair provides safe, reliable flights and exceptional service on flights to metropolitan areas on both sides of the Atlantic.

The airline operates out of Iceland and uses the country's geographical location mid-way between America and Europe as an opportunity to build an ever-growing network of international routes with Iceland as a hub.

By uniting on one aircraft, passengers traveling to and from Iceland, with passengers crossing the Atlantic via Iceland, Icelandair has expanded and reinforced its network continuously over the last decades. Today Icelandair

connects 23 cities in Europe with 10 cities in North America.

The number of passengers projected to fly with Icelandair in 2013 is close to 2.3 million, compared to an estimated 2 million plus passengers in 2012. A total of 18 Boeing 757 aircrafts will be used to serve the company's route network.

Icelandair offers leather seats and personal in-flight entertainment systems for all passengers.

Icelandair has also signed a contract with Row 44, a leader in commercial in-flight broadband service, to equip Icelandair's fleet with high-speed Wi-Fi. By the end of autumn 2013, when the installation is complete, Icelandair will be the first North Atlantic airline to operate Wi-Fi on its entire fleet.

addy@icelandair.is www.icelandair.com

Ekran

Full and Swift Service for Cargo and Cruise Vessels

Ekran is a duty free wholesaler in Iceland with its own bonded warehouse and transport facilities. Through ship chandlers, Ekran supplies cargo, cruise and other ocean-going vessels in all the main harbors around Iceland.

The Best Possible Prices, the Best Available Products

Ekran has key supplier agreements with leading companies, so you can be assured of the best possible prices and the best available products at any time. To keep our stock up to date and compatible with the world market, we are constantly on the lookout for new products to fit our clients' needs.

Bonded Warehouses in Reykjavík and Akureyri – Delivery All Around Iceland

Our bonded warehouses are located in the ports of Reykjavík and Akureyri, and we service vessels in all the main harbors around Iceland. The warehouses also make it possible for us to extend our selection and keep larger stocks for a better service to our clients. Our sales office is integrated within our bonded warehouses together with our logistics center.

For more information please call +354 530 8500, e-mail sales@ekran.is or visit our website www.ekran.is



Síminn

Stay connected while you are in Iceland

Is a reliable connection important for you during your trip to Iceland?

Síminn operates the largest mobile phone network in Iceland, covering every population centre in the country and allowing you to stay in touch on most major roads.

A reliable connection is vital in a country where bad weather can affect you at any time, even during the summer.

Prepaid mobile service for travelers (Frelsi)

Síminn offers a prepaid mobile service that is ideal for visitors traveling around Iceland.

The service is called **Frelsi** in Icelandic, and it's available in most supermarkets and petrol stations. Now you can enjoy 3G services in the Reykjavík area, and access Internet information at any time.

Our prepaid mobile service will allow you to make cheaper domestic and international calls. You decide how much you want to spend on mobile services while you are in Iceland, and you can monitor your credit by simply calling 1441.

Top up **Frelsi** using credit or debit cards, or by purchasing a mobile voucher, available in most petrol stations around the country. We will let you know when your credit is running low and you need a top-up.

Frelsi is simple to use and comes with full instructions in English.



About Síminn:

Síminn is the market leader in the telecommunication industry in Iceland and provides all telecommunication, mobile and Internet services to private and corporate clients. Its range of services and solutions includes fixed and mobile subscriptions as well as Broadband/DSL solutions, LiveTV, IP and Centrex network solutions. 8007000@siminn.is www.siminn.is

Iceland Travel

Part of the **Icelandair Group** and crowned one of The **World's Top Ten Tour Operators** in 2010, **Iceland Travel** is Iceland's **Premier Cruise Ground Operator**. For over 30 years the name Iceland Travel has been associated with only the highest in quality services and dedicated professionalism.

Iceland Travel has successfully handled cruise ships since the mid 1990s and as our impressive track record will show, we have grown steadily. As our client list has grown, so has our department and we are always on the lookout for new talent. Thanks to this new talent, we have migrated effortlessly into the technical age and have enthusiastically embraced the era of social media networking.

Our aim is that we continue to grow - onward, upward and confidently.

We enjoy outstanding working relationships with all of the lines we proudly represent and strive continuously to keep our product offerings fresh. We are very creative in all of our approaches and love to share these qualities with our partners.

Our business ethic is such that we remain true to our clients and deliver that which we have promised.

We are the extremely proud recipients of **two Seatrade Insider Awards** to date, "Marketing Initiative of the Year Winner" 2010 and "Innovative Shore Excursion of the Year Winner" 2011.

We were also awarded a **Silver Standard** at the Travel Marketing Awards in 2011.

Iceland Travel, the number one choice for quality cruise services in Iceland - we look forward to being of service.

liz@icelandtravel.is / cruise@icelandtravel.is

Seatrade Insider
CRUISE AWARDS 2011
Innovative Shorex Award Winner

Seatrade Insider
CRUISE AWARDS 2010
Marketing Initiative of the Year Winner

Samskip

Samskip is an international company offering transport by land, sea and air. Since its foundation in Iceland in 1991, Samskip has experienced constant growth, opening over 40 offices in more than 20 countries.

Samskip is active within three business segments:

- Multimodal Container Logistics
- North Atlantic Integrated Logistics
- Worldwide Temperature Controlled Logistics
- Worldwide Forwarding
- Worldwide Breakbulk & Project Cargo

The five core businesses are supported by warehouses and cold stores in all Samskip's major ports offering possibilities for storage, stock control and local distribution.

With agency agreements and partnerships throughout the world, Samskip is able to meet all the transport needs of its customers. Services include pre- and on-carriage, documentation and clearance of goods. Samskip offers a professional and reliable 24-hour port agency service to all vessels in Icelandic ports, with offices around the country. These may range from cruise vessels, cargo ships and fishing vessels to liners and tankers. The port agency also arranges crew change, clearance of spare parts, provisions, technical and repair service and sludge disposal. Our main emphasis is on reliability and flexibility.

For more information please email agency@samskip.is or agency@samskip.com or visit www.samskip.com.



Norðurflug

Iceland's premier helicopter tour operator, Norðurflug operates an elegant black-liveried fleet of helicopters comfortably accommodating from three up to eight passengers in our largest twin rotor aircraft.

We offer a wide range of package tours and custom charters to all of the most popular and spectacular sites in Iceland. Our tours cater to a wide range of budgets, from shorter 'whirlwind' tours at affordable prices, to extended day tours covering large areas of Iceland with stopovers for lunch and on-the-ground sightseeing.

There is simply no faster or more comprehensive way to enjoy Iceland's magnificent and diverse nature. In a single flight our passengers can experience giant lava fields, volcanoes, glaciers and glacial lagoons, as well as geothermal areas with hot springs, geysers, spectacular geological formations and eruption sites such as the now legendary Eyjafjallajökull.

So come fly with us to enjoy a unique and special aerial experience of Iceland's wonders. In addition to the many popular tours that we have on offer, enjoy the freedom and flexibility that only private hire of a helicopter can afford to create an exclusive tour of your own design. Whether it's fishing in a remote river hideaway, landing on the top of a glacier or stopping for a dip in the blue lagoon, our customer service team is always delighted to make your bespoke itinerary an unforgettable experience.

For more information or to arrange your flight please email our service team at info@nordurflug.is or call +354 562 2500.

Iceland Travel Assistance (ITA)

Since its establishment in 2002, Iceland Travel Assistance has been offering visitors to Iceland a gateway to an unforgettable travel experience. ITA is a leading travel company primarily servicing visitors to Iceland, Greenland and the Faroe Islands. ITA's service centers are visited by tens of thousands of people each year. The goal of ITA is to provide planning and organizing of events, tours, adventures and experiences for individuals and groups, and above all, superior and welcoming service to our customers for a competitive price.

ITA operates Skarfabakki harbor Information and Service Center at Reykjavík port. Each year we service thousands of cruise line passengers who arrive in Iceland during the spring and summer months. With tight arrival and departure schedules, cruise line passengers want a short but fun-packed experience. ITA's service centre at Skarfabakki harbor in Reykjavík is specifically designed to handle this task.

Skarfabakki cruise center serves as a one stop shop for passengers and provides a wide range of services including internet and phone access, money exchange, rent-a-car services, activities and tour- and event bookings. All bookings can be done on the spot, or if clients want to plan ahead, on our website www.icelandonline.com.



At the Skarfabakki harbor Service Center as well as at other ITA locations, ITA boutiques are proud to offer unique Icelandic design, such as clothes and jewelry along with a wide variety of Icelandic souvenirs.

We arrange full booking service for cruise line operators. If you are a cruise line or a tour operator and wish to partner with ITA by providing service to your cruise line or passengers, please contact us at arnar@ita.is or by phone +354 570 7703.

Iceland Excursions - Gray Line Iceland



Iceland Excursions - Gray Line Iceland is a fully licensed tour operator, travel agency and a coach company that has been in operation with great reputation for more than 30 years.

It is one of the leading specialists in incoming tourism in Iceland, with a large selection of services available for individuals and groups. Its main goal is to give a personal service, show flexibility and guarantee safety to all its customers. It organises wide variety of day tours, from basic coach tours to adventure tours.

They have their own fleet of first class coaches, which is one of the youngest available in Iceland.

Coach capacity ranges from 9 seats to 71 seats.

Iceland Excursions Gray Line Iceland is a member of Gray Line Worldwide. For 100 years, Gray Line has been the trusted name in sightseeing tours around the world. With tours and excursions in more than 700 locations, spanning six continents, it is the largest sightseeing company in the world.

For more information please email sales@grayline.is or visit www.grayline.is

Reykjavik Excursions

Reykjavik Excursions was founded in 1968 and has over the last four decades grown into one of the largest tour operators in Iceland, offering a wide range of excellent tours and services for individuals, groups as well as shore excursions passengers. We operate one of the largest coach fleets in Iceland with vehicles of all shapes and sizes, which can take you to all of the most beautiful spots in our country—however remote. All our coaches are equipped with free Wi-Fi. Our staff is comprised of energetic, outgoing, well-educated and experienced professionals, who are as easygoing and flexible as they are dependable. It goes without saying that we are a fully licensed tour operator and travel agent.

Moreover we are extremely proud to be the first Icelandic tour operator to be granted the ISO 14001 certification for environmental management by the British Standard Institute (BSI). Currently we are implementing the OHSAS 18001 (Occupational Health and Safety management system). The company is also an exclusive member of the Global Passenger Network, an elite group of networks representing the best motor coach and travel companies in the world.

Reykjavik Excursions is more than happy to guide you around Iceland, offering a great variety of different tours and entertainment. Our only goal is to make your visit to our port of call the most enjoyable destination of your cruise—leaving serene and lasting memories.

For more information please contact us via email sales@re.is, or visit our website www.re.is



TVG-Zimsen

Formerly known as Eimskip Cruise Agency, and since 2010 a department within TVG-Zimsen, we are dedicated in agency and freight logistics for cruise vessels and yachts coming to Iceland.

TVG-Zimsen is today the biggest cruise agency in Iceland. Our head office is in Reykjavik, but we have boarding agents in all Icelandic ports.

The agency offers a complete range of services including:

- Communication with harbor authorities, customs and immigration.
- Provisions, water, spare parts, bunkering, waste and sludge disposal, repairs and divers.
- Scanning of luggage, stevedoring and portering for a smooth and efficient turnaround during port calls.
- Flights, airport transfers, accommodation, immigration formalities, dental and medical services for both crew and passengers.
- Air and ocean shipments, bonded storage, temperature controlled warehousing, and own domestic distribution.
- Secure cash-to-master delivery and sanitation certificate section.

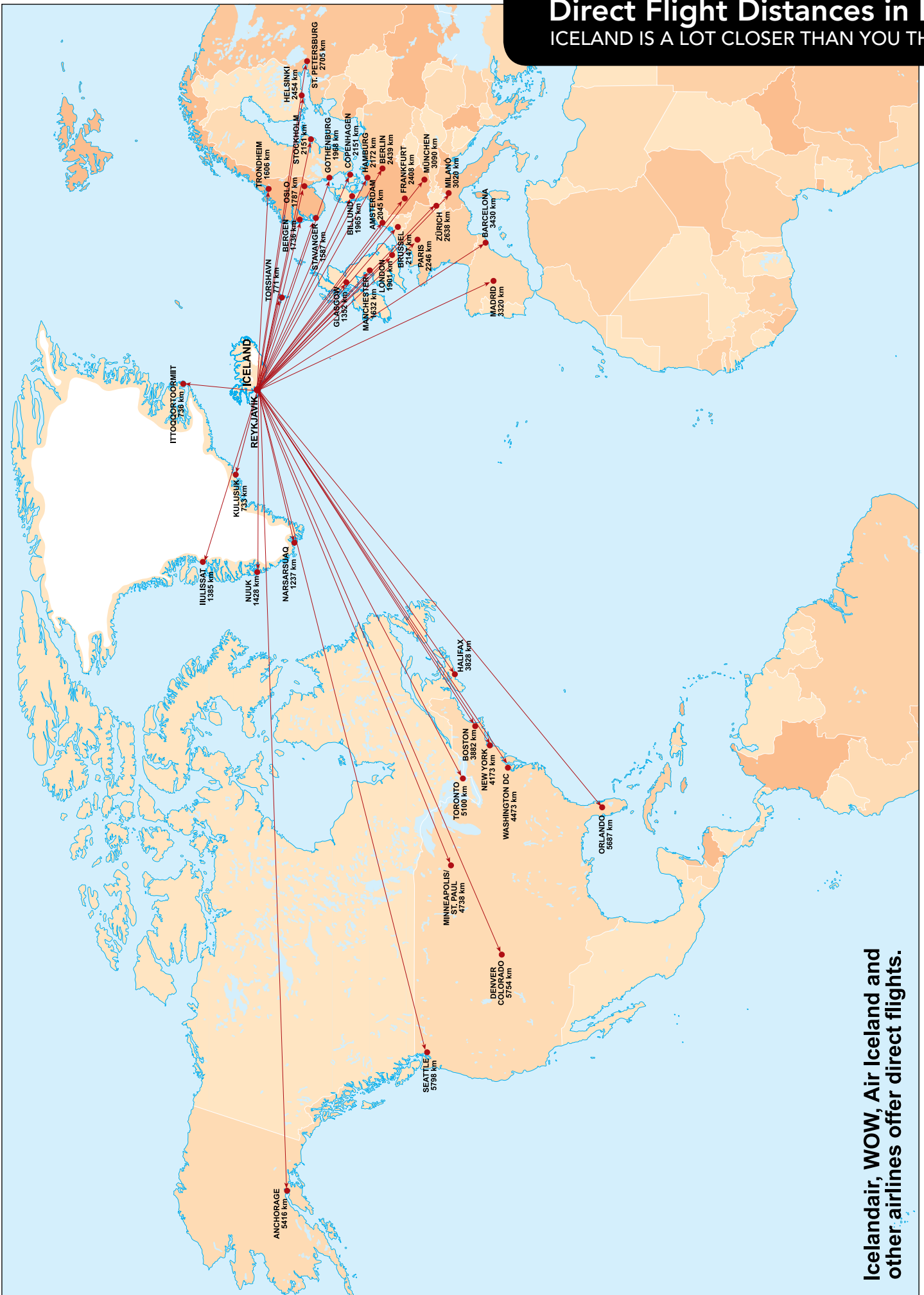
We offer cruise lines one personal contact—from booking the berth until closing the final DA.

Being located only 200 meters from the cruise terminal makes it possible to come on board with the shortest possible notice. Our highly experienced team focuses on personal attention, accuracy and reliability, to make your port call as comfortable as possible. With careful planning and proper preparation at each call we can make this happen.

TVG-Zimsen can proudly say that the advantage of combining freight forwarding, express deliveries and cruise agency business, makes it possible to provide the most practical and efficient service. For more information: eca@tv.g.is and our website www.tv.g.is

Direct Flight Distances in km

ICELAND IS A LOT CLOSER THAN YOU THINK



Icelandair, WOW, Air Iceland and other airlines offer direct flights.

ICELAND IS A LOT CLO



All distances are in nautical miles.

DEEPER THAN YOU THINK



General Info

ICELAND IS A NORTH ATLANTIC ISLAND of 103,000 sq. km. It has long served as a convenient half way point between Europe and North America and is located between Greenland, The Faroe Islands, Scotland and Norway.

Icelanders were some of the poorest people in Europe before World War II, but the population has since reached over 320,000 and they are privileged to enjoy among the highest standards of living in the world. The biggest exports are fish and aluminum; tourism and the creative industries are in growth. Iceland benefits from the Nordic model of social welfare and high standards of education.

The country is home to the world's oldest working parliament—called Alþingi, which was originally established in 930 A.D.

Contrary to its name, Iceland has a surprisingly mild climate. Of course visitors should always be prepared for wind and rain, but they should not be surprised to find considerable spells of clear, warm weather during the summer.

The Icelandic cruise season runs from late May to late September.

» OPENING HOURS

General offices

Weekdays from 09:00/09:30-17:00

» PUBLIC OFFICES

Weekdays from 09:00/09:30 to 15:00/16:00

BANKS

Normally open 09:00/09:30-16:00 Mon. to Fri. Extended hours on Fri. Some branches stay open on weekends. 24 hour banking service is available at Landsbanki bank at Leifur Eiríksson Airport Transit Lounge.

» SHOPS & SUPERMARKETS

Open Mon.-Thu. 10.00-19.00, Fri. 10.00-19.30, Sat.10.00-18.00 and Sun. 12:00-18:00 Malls usually stay open a bit longer on Thu. and weekends.

» 24 HOUR SHOPPING

Major gas stations stay open 24 hours, as well as the 10-11 grocery store chain and some outlets of the Hagkaup and Nettó supermarkets.

» POST OFFICES

Icelandic Postal Service main branch is located on Pósthússtræti 5, 101 Reykjavík. Tel.: 580-1200. Open Mon.-Fri. 09:00-18:00.

PHARMACIES

Pharmacies are generally open 09:00-18:00/19:00. Some open earlier and stay open longer.

» CURRENCY EXCHANGE

All major banks exchange foreign currencies and accept traveler's checks.

» WIRE TRANSFERS

All major banks provide wire transfer services.

» CARDS

Visa, EuroCard, MasterCard, Diners Club and American Express are widely accepted.

» ATM'S/CASH MACHINES

You can get cash advances from your credit and/or debit card at cash machines widely available in Reykjavík.

» AIRMAIL

Letters/postcards within Iceland, up to 20g, ISK 120, letters up to 100g, ISK 125 and letter up to 250g ISK 155. Letters/postcards to other

European countries, up to 50g, ISK 175, letters up to 100g, ISK 300 and letters up to 250g ISK 580. To countries outside Europe, letters/postcards up to 50g, ISK 230, letters up to 100g, ISK 475 and letters up to 250g, ISK 955.

» TAX-FREE SHOPPING

Visitors can reclaim value-added tax (VAT) on purchases exceeding ISK 4,000 in each store. Look for the "Tax-Free Shopping" logo and ask the shop assistant for a refund. You will be given a refund check or coupon which you can cash in at the airport on leaving the country. Tax-Free agents are also available at all major cruise ships before departure. The refund amounts to 7-15% of the purchase price.

» CALLING CARDS

With a prepaid Atlas Calling Card you can call anywhere in the world via a toll free number (800 number). Phone cards for public phones are available at most gas stations, bookstores and supermarkets.

» PHONE CENTRES


International calls can be made at the Tourist Information Centre on Aðalstræti 2, 101 Reykjavík. Calling cards can be purchased at the Tourist Information Centre's main desk.

» INTERNET CENTRES

You can access computers with internet access at the Tourist Information Centre on Aðalstræti 2, , Reykjavík City Library on Tryggvagata 15, Ground Zero internet café on Frakkastígur 8, 101 Reykjavík, or for free at 'hot spots' in most cafés and restaurants.

» GSM / CELL PHONES

The main GSM/cell phone operators in Iceland are Iceland Telecom (Síminn), Vodafone,

A background image of a sunset over a mountain range in Iceland, with the sky transitioning from orange to purple.

Tal and Nova. They sell prepaid phone cards, which visitors may find convenient to use with their own cell phones. Prepaid cards are available at gas stations around the country.

» DOMESTIC CALLS

Phone numbers in Iceland are seven digit numbers. No area codes are necessary, you dial the number directly. The Icelandic phone book (online at ja.is) lists names alphabetically by Christian names, not family names.

» INTERNATIONAL CALLS

When calling outside Iceland, dial without interruption the international code (00), then the country code, the area code, and finally the number. If you need help to reach the number, you can call 118 for assistance. If you need help in finding a phone number abroad, you can call 1811 for information.

» PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2013

Business, banks and most stores are closed on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Jan 1. Maundy Thursday, March 28. Good Friday, March 29. Easter Sunday, March 31. Easter Monday, April 1. First day of summer, April 25. Labor Day, May 1. Ascension Day, May 9. Pentecost-Whitsun Monday, May 20. National Day, June 17. Commerce Day, August 5, Christmas Eve, Dec. 24. Christmas Day, Dec. 25. St. Stephen's Day, Dec. 26. New Year's Eve, Dec. 31.

» RELIGION

The church and state are not separated in Iceland and 77% of the population belongs to the National Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Iceland. There are also several independent Christian associations in Iceland, including the Roman Catholic Church (3.3%), Reykjavik Free Church (2.9%), , Hafnarfjörður

Free Church (1.8%), other Christian (3.2%).

Other religious associations include the Ásatrú Association (Norse mythology; 0.6%), Buddhist Association (0.3%), Muslim Association of Iceland and Muslim Cultural Center in Iceland (0.2%). Those who belong to other and unspecified religious associations amount to 5.8% of the population and those with no religious affiliation 4.9%.

» TIPPING

As a rule, there is no tipping in Iceland including taxi, hotel and restaurant services and the practice might even be frowned upon in some situations. Some exceptions are made, such as for fishing guides.

» LANGUAGES

Icelandic is the national language. Most people in Iceland speak at least one foreign language. English is most common, but many also speak one of the Scandinavian languages and some also speak German.

» IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBER

Emergency, Police, ambulance, and fire department: **112**

Information: **118**

Police: **444-1000**

Emergency ward at the National University Hospital (24h service): **543-2000**

Doctor on duty: **1770** and **543-1000**

Dental ward, for information on dentists on duty: **575-0505**

» MIDNIGHT SUN

During summer the nights are bright in all of Iceland. Between mid-June and mid-July the sun hardly sets in the north.

» CLIMATE

The average temperature in Reykjavik in July is 10.7°C (51.3°F) and 10.9°C (51.6°F) in Akureyri. The average temperature in Reykjavik in January is -0.6°C (30.9°F) and -9°C (28.6°F) in Akureyri.

» DRIVING IN ICELAND

The general speed limit is 50 km/h in urban areas, 80 km/h on gravel roads in rural areas, and 90 km/h on asphalt roads. Please note: special warning signs indicate danger ahead, such as sharp bends, but there is generally not a separate sign to reduce speed. Please choose a safe speed according to conditions. Motorists are obliged by law to use headlights at all times day and night. In Iceland all driving off roads or marked tracks is forbidden. Passengers in the front and back seats of an automobile are required by law to use safety-belts. Icelandic law forbids any driving under the influence of alcohol. All mountain roads and roads in the interior of Iceland have a surface of loose gravel. The same applies to large sections of the national highway, which also has long stretches of asphalt. The surface on the gravel roads is often loose, especially along the sides of the roads, so one should drive carefully and slow down whenever approaching an oncoming car. The mountain roads are also often very narrow, and are not made for speeding. The same goes for many bridges, which are only wide enough for one car at a time. In addition to not having an asphalt surface, the mountain roads are often very winding. Journeys therefore often take longer than might be expected. For information on road conditions: Tel: 1777, answering service 24h, Tel: 1779.



Cruise Iceland

**ICELAND
IS CLOSER THAN
YOU THINK**

info@cruiseiceland.com

www.cruiseiceland.com