

Iceland Adventure - ELIAD

12 days: Reykjavik to Reykjavik

What's Included

Arrival transfer - Welcome gift - Language lesson - Golden Circle tour, with a walk in Thingvellir National Park and visit Silfra fissure - Visit Gulfoss waterfall and Geysir hot springs - Explore Hveragerdi area and Reykjadalur Valley with a soak in a natural hot stream - Walk behind Seljalandsfoss waterfall - Picnic lunch at Skogafoss waterfall - Visit black sand beaches and Solheimajokull glacier walk - Ice walk on Virkisjokull glacier - Explore Ingolfshdfoi Cape and enjoy birdwatching - Wheeled boat trip at Jokulsarlon glacier lagoon - Visit fishing villages of the Eastern Fjords - Farm house visit for a local lunch - Explore Myvatn's geothermal Lake, Dimmuborgir lava fields, natural maze and geothermal springs - Husavik whale watching - Visit Godafoss horseshoe waterfalls and the Laufas farm house - Explore Akureyri and Reykjavik.

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

VALIDITY: Valid for all trips departing January 1st, 2013 - December 31st, 2013

Itinerary



Day 1 Reykjavik (1D)

Arrive at any time and transfer to hotel. Later today, meeting with the tour leader to go over the details of the trip ahead then enjoy a language lesson and welcome dinner with our local guide.

Days 2-3 Hveragerdi (2B,1L)

Get your first taste of the geological wonders that have shaped Iceland on the Golden Circle tour, with a walk in Thingvellir National Park to Silfra fissure, with option for dry suit snorkelling into the fissure. After, we visit the Gullfoss Waterfall and Geysir hot springs. On Day 3, we explore the Hveragerdi area and Reykjadalur Valley with a lazy soak in a natural hot stream. Option to go glacier river swimming, rafting or visit the geothermal park.

Day 2 Estimated Travel Time:

200km / 3.5 hours driving (7 hours total with stops)

Days 4-5 South shore glaciers/Ho i Oraefum (2B,2D)

Explore the south shore with a walk behind Seljalandsfoss Waterfall and enjoy a picnic lunch at Skogafoss Waterfall. Drive to the black sand beaches then up to stunning Solheimajokull glacier where the infamous Eyjafjallajokull Volcano can be viewed on a clear day. Option to visit the Iceland Erupts exhibition. On Day 5, take an unforgettable ice walk on Virkisjokull Glacier, learning about its formations. We will provide you with all the tools you need: ice axes, crampons and safety lines, making sure you are very safe as you walk. No previous experience is required, and you will receive a full briefing on using the equipment. This afternoon, explore historic Ingolfshofdi Cape to view puffins and razorbills.

Day 4 Estimated Travel Time:

300 km/ 7 hours including stops

Day 6 Eastern Fjords/Seydisfjordur (1B)

Visit Jokulsarlon Glacier lagoon on 'wheeled boats' viewing luminous blue icebergs. Afternoon scenic drive through the fishing villages of the eastern Fjords.

Estimated Travel Time:

380 km / 6 hours

Days 7-8 Myvatn (2B,1L)

Visit a local guest farm in Skalanes to learn about local produce and history with a farm lunch and option to go hiking. On Day 8, visit Myvatn's geothermal lake, Dimmuborgir lava fields, natural maze and hot springs. Option to visit the natural baths.

Day 7 Estimated Travel Time:

240 km / 5 hours

Day 9 Akureyri (1B)

Whale watching at Husavik, then visit Godafoss 'horseshoe' Waterfalls and the old farmhouse of Laufas. Option to visit Akureyri Museum and the Laufás Museum.

Estimated Travel Time:

200 km / 3 hours

Day 10-11 Reykjavik (2B)

Explore Akureyri before returning to Reykjavik. Option to visit Borgarness settlement centre or the Glaumbær Museum. On Day 11, take a culture and history tour of Reykjavik with option to visit the Blue Lagoon this afternoon.

Estimated Travel Time:

400 km / 6 hours

Day 12 Reykjavik (1B)

Depart at anytime.

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Highlights

Soaking in soothing hot springs and rivers, Learning about glaciers from your expert guide as you trek across one, Spotting puffins and other regional birds, Visiting fishing villages and farms for a taste of local life, Watching geology in action at the lava fields and volcanoes of Iceland.

Dossier Disclaimer

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Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

Important Notes

Discovery Adventures is operated in conjunction with G Adventures, the world leader in sustainable adventure travel. An award winning company with over 800 employees and 17 operational offices worldwide, G Adventures has 20 years experience in creating culturally interactive travel experiences. G Adventures advocates a triple bottom line business philosophy where equal attention is given to the environmental, social and economic impact of tourism to achieve long-term environmentally responsible growth whilst protecting destinations & cultural heritage for future generations.

Group Leader Description

All Discovery Adventures group trips are accompanied by one of our group leaders. The aim of the group leader is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting- we think it's the best of both worlds.

Group Size Notes

Max 16, Avg 12

Meals Included

11 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 3 Dinners.

Meals

Travelling with Discovery Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful foods and flavors that are available in the world. Some meals are included in the trip price in more remote regions or as a highlight where we can share a local specialty or cultural experience. In many places where there is a choice of eating options, we like to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each others company, but there is no obligation to do this. Your CEO will be able to suggest favorite restaurants during your trip. For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

Meal Budget

Allow EUR350-450 for meals not included.

Transport

Bus/van, walking, boat.

Solo Travellers

We believe single travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and single travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

Accommodation

Comfort hotels (11 nts)

About Accommodation

The accommodation level for most Discovery Adventure tours are comfortable, in mid-range hotels, motels, lodges, guest houses, etc. You'll often enjoy air-conditioned rooms, complete with en suite bathrooms and some amenities. Accommodation and amenities can vary by Country and region and please remember that standards can be different from what you are used to in your home country, which is part of the appeal of adventure travel. Some trips may include camping, permanent tented camps or more rustic lodges, depending on the remoteness of where you are visiting. Please see your trip details for more information, specific to your tour. Portage is not included, but can be arranged directly at most hotels.

Joining Hotel

Hotel Odinsve
Thorsgata 1, Odinstorg, 101 Reykjavik
Reykjavik
Iceland
+ 354 511 6200

Please note, if you are on the 16 August 2013 departure, your joining hotel will be:

Fosshótel Barón,
Barónsstígur 2-4
101 Reykjavik,
Iceland
+354 562 3204

Joining Instructions

You can catch the Flybus right outside the terminal at Keflavik Airport and the bus will take you straight to Reykjavik city.

The Flybus operates in connection with all arriving flights. The Flybus departs from Keflavik Airport 35-40 minutes after each flight arrival.

Tickets cost around 2500 ISK and can be bought inside the terminal building at the Flybus booth or in the ticket machine located by the exit door of the terminal building. Select a Flybus+ ticket to ensure a drop off direct at the door of the hotel.

**Please note, the arrival transfer included occurs on Day 1 of the tour. If you plan to arrive prior to Day 1, you will be required to arrange pre-tour accommodation through G Adventures to be eligible for the transport from the airport. Due to customer experience and quality considerations, all services related to the tour must be continuous.

Arrival Complications

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, as soon as possible please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your CEO (if you are not on a group tour please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier). If you are unable to get in touch with your leader, please refer to our emergency contact details.

Emergency Contact

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call either the G Adventures Local Representative (if one is listed below) or our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Office, London, UK
After hours emergency number: +44 7817 262559

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below, which will connect you directly with our 24 hour Sales team, who will happily assist you.

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100
Calls from UK: 0844 272 0000
Calls from Germany: 01805 70 90 30 00

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

What to Take

Our advice is to pack as lightly as possible. We highly recommend using a backpack, sports bag or soft compact wheeled suitcase, whichever you find easiest to carry, plus a small daypack is essential.

Checklist

Documents:

- Passport (with photocopies)
- Travel insurance (with photocopies)
- Airline tickets (with photocopies)
- Cash
- Credit or debit card (see personal spending money)
- Discovery Adventures vouchers, pre-departure information and trip details
- Any entry visas or vaccination certificates required

Suggested Items:

- Camera and extra memory card/film
- Extra batteries (recommended)
- Electricity Plug Adapter
- Flashlight or Headlamp (with extra batteries and bulbs)
- Binoculars
- Concealable money belt
- Fleece top
- Windproof/waterproof jacket
- Small towel and swim wear
- shirts/t-shirts
- Sun hat
- 1 pair of shorts
- 2 pairs of long trousers
- 1 pair hiking pants/track pants
- 1 smart outfit for special evenings
- hand sanitizers/ antibacterial wipes
- Hiking boots/ sturdy walking shoes, and 3 pairs of socks
- Sport sandals
- Sunblock
- Sunglasses
- Toiletries
- Watch or alarm clock
- Water bottle
- Insect Repellent
- Pocketknife
- First-aid kit (should contain lip salve, Aspirin, Band Aids, anti-histamine, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, re-hydration powder, extra prescription drugs you may be taking).

Optional Items: reading/writing material, Maps, guidebooks

Laundry

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

Visas

Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check yourself and

understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Spending Money

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

Emergency Fund

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

Tipping

It is customary in Europe to leave a small tip for service providers, such as waiters, if you are pleased with the service (€1-2). Tipping is an expected - though not compulsory - component of your tour program and an expression of satisfaction with the persons who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides. You may do this individually, or your CEO will offer to collect the money and tip as a group. Recommendations for tipping local guides would range from €3-5 per day depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your CEO for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture. Also at the end of each trip if you felt your G Adventures CEO or skipper did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference, however as a guideline €20-25 per person, per week can be used.

Optional Activities

All prices are per person (unless stated otherwise), and are subject to change as services are provided by third party operators.

Hveragerði

- Dry suit snorkelling in the fissure between Europe & N. America. 11.990 ISK
- White water rafting. 9990 ISK

Hof in Öræfum

- Iceland erupts exhibition on the eruption in Eyjafjallajökull glacier. 750 ISK

Myvatn

- Nature Baths at Mývatn 2500 ISK

Akureyri

- Akureyri Museum 2500 ISK for Laufás old farm and museums in Akureyri

Borgarness settlement centre

- one exhibition 1800 ISK both exhibitions (two) 2400 ISK
- Glaumbær museum, old turf farm 800 ISK.

Reykjavik

- Blue Lagoon admission 5800 ISK

Health

Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information well before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit and hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as any personal medical requirements. Please be aware that quite often we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities, and for legal reasons our leaders are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc. When selecting your trip please carefully read the brochure and itinerary and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel. Please refer to the Physical and Culture Shock ratings in this dossier for trip specific information. For travellers over 70 years a completed Medical Form is required. G Adventures reserves the right to exclude any

traveller from all or part of a trip without refund if in the reasonable opinion of our CEO they are unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group.

Safety and Security

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your CEO has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns. Your CEO will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgment when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Protests and Demonstrations- Protests and demonstrations, even those that are well intended, have the potential to turn violent with no warning. Counter protests can also turn violent. Action by security forces to disperse demonstrators and protesters may occur at any time. If you are in an area where demonstrators or protesters are gathering, avoid the temptation of staying for a good photo opportunity and leave the area immediately.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards) have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk.

We take all prudent measures in relation to your safety. For ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling, please visit:

www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/

Medical Form

Our small group adventures bring together people of all ages. It is very important you are aware that, as a minimum, an average level of fitness and mobility' is required to undertake our easiest programs. Travellers must be able to walk without the aid of another person, climb 3-4 flights of stairs, step on and off small boats, and carry their own luggage at a minimum. Travellers with a pre-existing medical condition are required to complete a short medical questionnaire, which must be signed by their physician. This is to ensure that travellers have the necessary fitness and mobility to comfortably complete their chosen trip. While our CEOs work hard to ensure that all our travellers are catered for equally, it is not their responsibility to help individuals who cannot complete the day's activities unaided. Please refer to the physical ratings in this Trip Details document for more information.

The medical questionnaire can be found online at:

www.gadventures.com/medical-form.

A Couple of Rules

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter, and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of prostitutes is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they use prostitutes.

Travel Insurance

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your CEO, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy please bear in mind that all clients must have medical coverage and that we require a minimum coverage of USD 200,000 for repatriation and emergency rescue. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

Planeterra-The G Adventures Foundation

Through our commitment to responsible tourism we have developed the Planeterra Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of people and communities around the world through support of international charities, local organizations and community projects in the places that we visit on our tours. G Adventures matches all individual donations and pays all administration costs, which means that 100% of each donation is doubled and goes directly to support our projects. For more information about Planeterra and the projects we support, or to make a donation, please visit www.planeterra.org

Planeterra Dollar-A-Day Program

Our Dollar-A-Day Program provides travellers with the opportunity to help us give back to the people and places visited on our tours by donating one dollar per day for the duration of their tour. 100% of these proceeds will go directly to support our Planeterra projects.

To participate in this program please indicate at the time of booking that you would like to participate in G Adventures' Dollar-A-Day program, either by clicking the check box online, or by advising your G Adventures specialist or travel agent. (Note: Donation will be charged in the currency of your booking)

Local Dress

Weather can change dramatically, even in the summer months. It is best to layer clothing to ensure you are prepared for any extremes.

Feedback

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Your tour evaluation will be e-mailed to you 24 hours after the conclusion of your trip. If you do not receive the tour evaluation link in the days after your tour has finished, please drop us a line at customerservice@gadventures.com and we will send it on to you.

Newsletter

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at www.gadventures.com/newsletters/

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

Travel Forum - The Watering Hole

Be sure to stop by [The Watering Hole](#), our adventure travel forum. If you're interested in meeting others booked on your upcoming trip, check out the [Departure Lounge](#) section of our forum and introduce yourself. Otherwise, just drop in at anytime to share some travel tips, ask questions, meet other travellers and quench your thirst for travel. Our forum is located at wateringhole.gadventures.com.