

Crescent Ski Council presents...
Iceland: Land of Fire & Ice

May 19 – 28, 2024



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10 Days • 14 Meals: 8 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 5 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Reykjavík, Golden Circle, Thingvellir National Park, Gullfoss, Geysir, Snæfellsnes Peninsula, Breiðafjörður Bay Cruise, Lava Exhibition Center, Vík, Skógar Museum, Skógafoss, Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon, Vatnajökull National Park, Seljalandsfoss, Blue Lagoon

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2, 3	Centerhotel Plaza, Reykjavik
Days 4, 5	Fosshotel Stykkisholmur , Stykkisholmur
Days 6 – 8	Hotel Katla by Kea, Vik
Day 9	Centerhotel Plaza, Reykjavik

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Day 1: Sunday, May 19, 2024 Overnight Flight Set out on a journey full of dramatic contrasts. Come to know Iceland; a place where steaming lava fields reflect a volcanic nature and massive glaciers sculpt mountains and valleys, leaving behind thundering waterfalls and plunging fjords.

Day 2: Monday, May 20, 2024 Reykjavík, Iceland - Tour Begins Begin in the capital city of Reykjavík. Join a local expert for a walking tour of the city's old section featuring the city hall, the harbor, the Parliament building and the nearby cathedral, dating from 1796. Then, get to know your fellow travelers during an Icelandic lunch at a popular local restaurant before checking into your hotel in the later afternoon. (L)

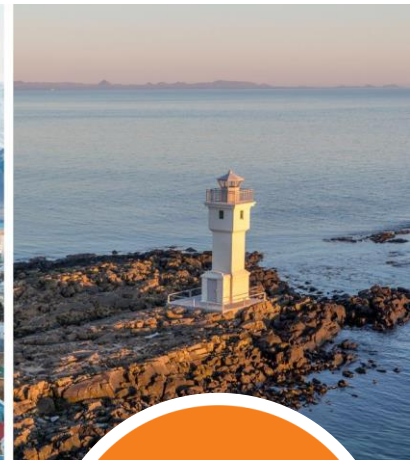
Day 3: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 Reykjavík - Golden Circle - Reykjavík Travel the Golden Circle and experience renowned natural wonders, including the double-cascade Gullfoss waterfall, the explosive Geysir thermal area, and the famous Thingvellir National Park, where you'll stand upon the crest of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. Along the way, stop at a family-run dairy farm to enjoy various cheeses and their famous ice cream. Your day ends with a visit to Friðheimar's stud farm and greenhouse cultivation center. Discover how pesticide-free produce is grown with the aid of geothermal energy and then learn about the tradition of breeding Icelandic show horses before returning to Reykjavík. (B)

Day 4: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 Reykjavík - Snæfellsnes Peninsula - Stykkishólmur Explore the Snæfellsnes Peninsula and take in black sand beaches, volcanic craters and the Snæfellsjökull glacier. Put your camera to work snapping photos of this dramatic landscape during a walk along the coastline. Connect with the local culture during a visit to a maritime museum illustrating fishing techniques, such as the century-old tradition of catching and preserving the Greenland shark; you'll also taste *hákarl* – cured shark meat. (B, D)

Day 5: Thursday, May 23, 2024 Stykkishólmur - Breiðafjörður Cruise - Stykkishólmur Begin your day with a walk on Súgandisey Island, searching for marine birds and taking in the views of Stykkishólmur before joining a nature cruise of Breiðafjörður Bay. As you drift across the water, sample fresh scallops and sea urchin roe straight from the ocean. You might spot puffins,* cormorants, and the white-tailed eagle soaring as you look out to the shoreline. This afternoon, **it's your choice!** Follow local tradition and take a hike up Helgafell Mountain, known as the Sacred Hill, with your Tour Manager **-OR-** spend some time on your own at Stykkisholmur Swimming Pool, a facility with both outdoor and indoor swimming pools and thermal pools to soak in. (B)

Day 6: Friday, May 24, 2024 Stykkishólmur - Lava Exhibition Center - Vík Learn about geothermal renewable energy on a visit to Hellisheiðavirkjun, the largest power station in Iceland, and the second largest geothermal power station in the world. Visit the Lava Exhibition Center and delve into Iceland's past and present volcanic eruptions. Arrive in Vík, Iceland's southernmost village, and one of the most remarkable spots in Iceland. (B, D)

Day 7: Saturday, May 25, 2024 Vík - Skógar Museum - Sólheimajökull Glacier - Vík Drive along the scenic south shore to the Skógar Museum. Discover its turf-built houses and



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its collection of farm and domestic artifacts. Nearby is the impressive Skógafoss waterfall, one of the tallest in Iceland. View Reynisfjara, a black volcanic sand beach scattered with caves and surrounded by basalt columns and cliffs. The beach is rich with bird life, such as the fulmar, black guillemot, razorbill, and gannet. You might also spot some nesting puffins* along the unique natural rock formations at Dyrhólaey, a volcanic peninsula towering over the ocean. Cap off your day with a visit to Sólheimajökull Glacier, part of Iceland's fourth largest ice cap. Take in its dramatic, blue-white ice, rugged crevasses, and stunning views. (B, D)

Day 8: Sunday, May 26, 2024 Vík - Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon - Vatnajökull National Park - Vík Journey to Vatnajökull, Iceland's largest National Park and home to the country's highest mountains. Marvel at the vistas and snowy

mountain peaks while you set sail** along the huge icebergs of the Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon. Keep your eyes peeled for possible seal sightings and get to taste the 1,000-year-old ice that surrounds you. (B, D)

Day 9: Monday, May 27, 2024 Vík - Seljalandsfoss - Blue Lagoon - Reykjavík Make a picture stop at Seljalandsfoss, where you'll walk behind a waterfall for views from the inside-out. In the afternoon, visit the Blue Lagoon and soak in the warm, mineral-rich waters, located in the heart of a dramatic lava field, before returning to Reykjavik. This evening, gather with your fellow travelers for a local dining experience and share stories of your days in Iceland. (B, D)

Day 10: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 Reykjavík - Tour Ends Depart for home with memories of your Icelandic adventure. (B)

Experience It! Geothermal Greenhouses

Growing food in Iceland has historically been a challenge for residents due to the cold climate, unproductive land, and at times, a lack of natural light. Discover how modern technology defies these natural challenges with geothermal greenhouses. At a family-run greenhouse, learn how they are able to harness the natural warmth from the ground's geothermic waters and use it to create a year-round Mediterranean climate. Join a horticultural expert for an insider's look at innovative growing methods used to produce a large variety of tomatoes that are able thrive in this otherwise challenging environment.

For more information visit <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1178779>

PLEASE NOTE:

Book Now rates valid until Nov 20, 2023, valid on air inclusive packages only.
IDENTIFICATION

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require a minimum of 6 months passport validity from date of return home. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that our clients traveling abroad take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Effective for travel in 2024, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS visa waiver, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>

Museum visits and shopping may be affected by the observance of religious or local holidays.

The days and order of sightseeing may change to best utilize your time on tour.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

On occasion, some activities may not be available due to inclement weather.

Hotel check-in on your day of arrival is 3:00 p.m. Rooms may not be available prior to that time.

Appropriate clothing is critical to fully enjoying your trip. Iceland's weather conditions are ever-changing and require sturdy waterproof shoes and layers of waterproof and windproof clothing.

*Puffins can usually be viewed mid-May through mid-August.

**During the months of April and October, the Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon cruise may not operate due to seasonality. This is reflected in the land price for these time periods.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect some longer days with early mornings or late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices.



Due to flight schedules, a post night may be required in some Icelandair gateway cities (at an additional cost). Please inquire at time of reservation.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Due to tour scheduling, arrival flights should arrive prior to 10:00 a.m.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

A deposit of \$1,147 per person (which includes cancellation waiver and insurance) is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of November 13, 2023 are based upon availability. Final payment due by March 20, 2024. Deposits are refundable up until November 20, 2023.

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For important reservation information visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1178779>.
You can also find this information on your tour documents.