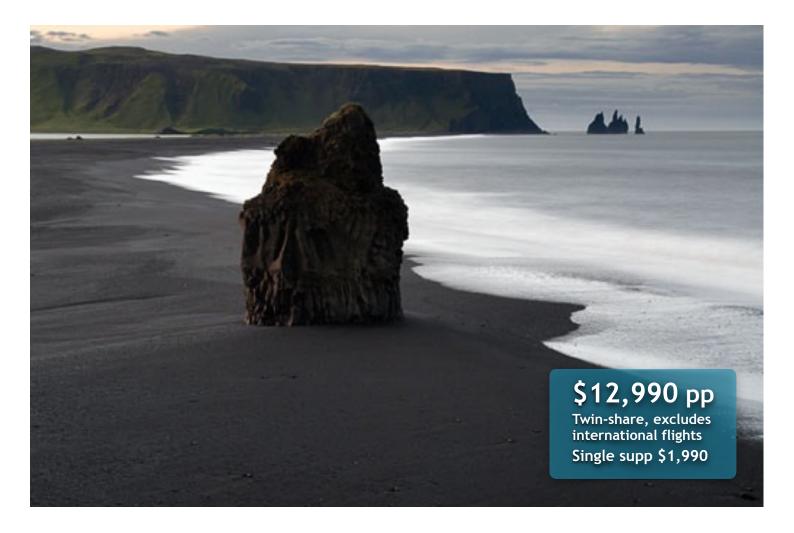
Iceland in Depth

Departs 2nd June 2026





ICELAND - VOLCANOES, FJORDLANDS AND GLACIERS

Discover the unparalleled beauty of Iceland - often dubbed the Land of Ice and Fire - a name that reflects the island's dramatic natural landscapes shaped by ancient geothermal forces. Known for its volcanoes, glaciers, fjords, mountains, lava fields, waterfalls, and hot springs, Iceland is a land of extremes. The interior is a harsh, uninhabitable expanse of sand, mountains, and lava, but the coastal areas are a haven of breathtaking beauty.

From its humble Nordic origins, Iceland has transformed into one of Europe's foremost eco-paradises, home to the largest national park in the European Union, Vatnajökull. We'll guide you through all Iceland has to offer, staying in character-filled local hotels, in spectacular natural settings.

Visit the well-known Icelandic sights; quirky Reykjavík, the nearby Blue Lagoon and the Golden Circle, which includes the erupting geysers of Geysir, the mighty Gullfoss waterfall, and the UNESCO-listed Pingvellir National Park. Then venture into the remote beauty of the Westfjords, a rugged and untouched region where jagged cliffs, dramatic fjords, and quaint fishing villages await. This area is perfect for those seeking solitude and adventure in one of the most unspoiled corners of Iceland. Enjoy panoramic views of the wild landscapes, and spot local wildlife such as seals, seabirds and whale watching in the Northern town of Akureyri. In the North-East, experience the volcanic landscapes that define much of Iceland's geological identity. From black sand beaches to the smoking craters of active volcanoes, these dramatic terrains are perfect for adventurers seeking to witness nature's raw power firsthand. Finally, visit East Fjords, a region less traveled but no less stunning, with its dramatic coastal scenery, picturesque fishing villages, and rugged mountains.

This tour offers the ultimate Icelandic experience, circumnavigating the island to showcase all of its varied natural wonders, wildlife encounters, and jaw-dropping landscapes.



Departure, Tuesday 2nd June IN TRANSIT

Depart Australia for Reykjavik, the capital of Iceland. We will provide you with an individualised flight itinerary for your trip.

Day 1, Wednesday 3rd June ARRIVAL TO REYKJAVIK

Welcome to the very chic and cosmopolitan city of Reykjavik, where we will spend the next three nights. After transferring from the airport, you can rest or explore the city, which is within easy walking distance. We'll meet for a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. D



Day 2, Thursday 4th June **REYKJAVIK**

This morning we'll a walking tour of this small but lively city. We'll visit the stunning opera house, Hallgrímskirkja church with its impressive tower, the Þingholt

neighbourhood, the beautiful old town with its colourful buildings and lively café scene and at the Perlan Museum with its excellent glacier and ice cave exhibits. Later, we'll head to the Blue Lagoon on the outskirts of Reykjavik (bring your swimmers). This geothermal spa is renowned for its vibrant, milky-blue waters, surrounded by black lava fields, offering a relaxing and otherworldly experience. We'll return to Reykjavik for dinner. B/D



Day 3, Friday 5th June THE GOLDEN CIRCLE

Experience Iceland's famous Golden Circle, including the stunning Thingvellir National Park, the Gullfoss Golden Waterfall, Strokkur Geyser and the surrounding hot springs.



Lunch (at own cost) will be available at one of the geyser cafes. We begin our tour by driving to Þingvellir, a remarkable geological feature and the most historic site on the island. The world's oldest democratic parliament was founded here in 930. The beautiful canyon running through the park is the meeting point of two of the earth's tectonic plates. A fantastic day of breathtaking scenery and nature at its best! Return to the hotel late in the afternoon. Dinner is at your leisure tonight. B



Day 4, Saturday 6th June

THE WESTFJORDS

Over the next two days, we'll explore the highlights of Westfjords, focusing on the beautiful landscape of fjords and mountains. Today



we'll travel from Reykjavík to the tiny village of Flókalundur, stopping for many photoshops in the breathtaking scenery along the way. Enjoy some local hospitality and dinner on arrival to our hotel. B/D





We'll continue driving through this mind-blowing region, visiting the black volcanic sands of Rauðisandur & Breiðavík, the puffin colony of Látrabjarg and the mighty Dynjandi waterfall towards Ísafjörður, where spend the night. Both days involve a fair bit of driving on windy roads, but the scenery makes it well worth it! B/D



Day 6, Monday 8th June **ISAFJOROUR** -**LAUGARBAKKI**

Today we'll drive the last stretch of the West Fjords towards Laugarbakki. Subject to weather, we plan to visit the Hvítserkur

basalt columns and the Hólmavík Museum of Icelandic Sorcery and Witchcraft (small entrance fee payable). The scenery changes dramatically from the volcanic fields to the glacial sculptured landscape created 10,000 years ago today. As we reach the North coast, Skagafjörður stretches from the Arctic Ocean to the highlands and is one of the "cradles of Icelandic history", playing a leading role in the events of the 13th-century civil war and cultural developments for centuries afterwards. Dinner and overnight in Laugarbakki. B/D



Day 7, Tuesday 9th June LAUGARBAKKI -**SKAGAFJÖRÐUR** SIGLUFJÖRÐUR -**AKUREYRI**

After breakfast, we'll visit Glaumbær - an old farm with turf buildings in

traditional style, sections of which date back to the 18th century. From there, we'll drive past Hegranes and then on to the scenic Skriður drive along the coastline of the North Atlantic Ocean. On arrival to Siglufjörður, the former herring capital of Europe, we'll visit the herring museum, which provides a fascinating insight into the industry. From there, it's just a short drive to Akureyri, the capital of North Iceland, where we spend the next two nights. Dinner at a local restaurant a short walk from our hotel. B/D



Day 8, Wednesday 10th June **AKUREYRI**

Todav's main activity is whale watching from Akureyri, onboard a comfortable vessel with a protected interior area. seating inside, toilets,

cafe, and outdoor viewing decks. On board, we'll be provided water-resistant thermal overalls for venturing outside during the whale watching. Afterwards we'll have lunch in Akureyri town, and then drive to Husavik, a

picturesque harbourside town, perfect for a stroll and coffee. There may be an opportunity to bathe at the hot springs on the way back, so bring swimmers. Return to Akureyri for dinner at one of the excellent local restaurants. B/D

Day 9, Thursday 11th June **AKUREYRI - MYVATN -DETTIFOSS** -**EGILSTAÐIR**

Todav we will drive 270 km to the east of the island and learn about Iceland's volcanic nature. We'll



witness craters, sulphur mud pools, geothermal energy, steam vents and waterfalls. Highlights include Lake Myvatn and the Dettifoss Waterfall. (Tip; insect nets for your head can be useful at the lake). We'll spend one night at a charming lakeside hotel near Egilstadir. B/D

Day 10, Friday 12th June **EASTFJORDS & GLACIER LAGOON**

Today we journey through the East Fjords, towering mountains plunging vertically into the sea. We'll explore the majestic coastline to Höfn and beyond. We'll follow

Vatnajokull Glacier -Europe's largest glacier most of the day. The glacier controls the elements on the South Coast. You will see the Glacier Lagoon, where thousands of years old icebergs float past on their



way to the ocean. Weather permitting, we will include an amphibian boat ride on the lagoon. Compare the vast stretches of black sandy wasteland and volcanic debris resulting from volcanic eruptions with the glaciers and the gorges with crystal clear brooks, beautiful waterfalls and lush vegetation. We'll stay one night in Kirkjubaejarklaustur with dinner at our hotel. B/D

Day 11, Saturday 13th June KIRKJUBAEJARKLAUSTUR - VIK -**REYKJAVIK**

Today we head west to the quaint township of Vik. Along the way we'll pass Skógarfoss - a stunning waterfall over 60m high, the Reynisdrangar sea stacks, Reynisfjall Mountain, Dyrhólaey - a magnificent rocky headland with sheer cliffs renowned for its birdlife - and Reynisfjara, a black sand beach with beautiful basalt columns. We'll return to Reykjavik in the early evening and share a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. B/D

Day 12, Sunday 14th June **DEPARTURE**

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight home or to your next destination. For those joining Blue Dot Travel's Quark Arctic Expedition Cruise, you'll fly to Helsinki to meet the group. B



