

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY ALUMNI & FRIENDS

Iceland: The Golden Circle & Ring Road

+ THE NORWEGIAN FJORDS EXTENSION

JUNE 27 – JULY 6, 2018



10

DAYS

13 DAYS WITH EXTENSION

Nature & Wildlife Tour

Immerse yourself in all the otherworldly beauty that Iceland has to offer.

Some of Earth's most astounding and extreme landscapes can be found in Iceland, where every corner of the country offers something new. Learn about fascinating maritime history and taste traditional fare as you journey from the culturally rich capital to the most remote parts of the coast. Glacier-fed waterfalls, boiling mud pools, moss-covered cliffs—see it all on this whirlwind journey through “The Land of Fire and Ice.”

Go Ahead

Start planning today **1.800.267.7837**

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Overview

ICELAND: THE GOLDEN CIRCLE
& RING ROAD

Let us handle the details

- 8 nights in handpicked hotels
- Breakfast daily, 1 lunch, 5 three-course dinners with beer or wine, 1 schnapps tasting, 2 traditional food tastings
- Multilingual Tour Director
- Private deluxe motor coach
- Guided sightseeing and select entrance fees

Exclusive alumni highlights

- In-depth experience exploring all of Iceland, up close and off the beaten path
- Soaking in the ethereal waters of the Blue Lagoon
- The cosmopolitan appeal of Reykjavik, the world's northernmost capital
- The "Golden Waterfall" cascading over 100 feet into a craggy canyon
- Looking for seals on a cruise through the Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon
- The stark lunar landscape surrounding Lake Mývatn
- Admiring the untouched landscape of Snæfellsjökull National Park

Where you'll go



OVERNIGHT STAYS

2 nights • Reykjavik
1 night • South Coast Region
1 night • Egilsstaðir
2 nights • Akureyri
1 night • Snæfellsnes Peninsula
1 night • Reykjavik

Starting at
\$5,649 CAD
per person

Overnight flight | 1 night

Days 1: Travel day

Board an overnight flight to Reykjavik.

Reykjavik | 2 nights

Day 2: Arrival in Reykjavik

Included meals: welcome dinner

Welcome to Iceland! Get a feel for Reykjavik, often called "the greenest city on Earth," with your Tour Director leading the way.

- See the iconic Höfði House, Perlan Restaurant and the presidential residence at Bessastadir
- Visit Hallgrim's Church and the University District
- Pass the Old Town Center, Parliament House and modern City Hall
- Glimpse the artwork of Ásmundur Sveinsson and Einar Jónsson, both famous Icelandic artists
- Travel to the Blue Lagoon, a geothermal spa known for its restorative properties, and soak in beneficial minerals as you float weightlessly in the water

Tonight, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner.

Day 3: The Golden Circle

Included meals: breakfast, lunch

Leave the bustle of Reykjavik behind as you travel around the Golden Circle, a ring of some of Iceland's most magnificent natural wonders.

- Stop at Thingvellir National Park to see the Althing, an open-air governmental assembly that was established in 930 and continued to meet until 1798
- Sit down for lunch at Fridheimar Farm, where the produce is grown fresh in a greenhouse heated by geothermal energy
- Explore the Great Geysir Geothermal Area, located in the Haukadalur Valley
- Discover Gullfoss, or the "Golden Waterfall," a natural wonder and one of the most powerful waterfalls in Europe

South Coast Region | 1 night

Day 4: Sightseeing tour of the South Coast

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Continue on to the South Coast, a lowland region of lush farmland, striking waterfalls, beaches, glaciers and picturesque villages.

- Make a photo stop by the Eyjafjallajökull volcano to marvel at breathtaking views (*weather permitting*)
- View coastal mountain scenery as you travel to the Seljalandsfoss waterfall for a short walk behind the falls
- Enter the Skogar Museum to learn more about Iceland's cultural heritage
- Marvel at the Sólheimajökull glacier and iconic black sands of Reynisfjara beach

Egilsstaðir | 1 night

Day 5: Egilsstaðir via the Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Travel east toward the town of Egilsstaðir, admiring the stunning landscape and stopping for a boat cruise en route.

- Pass the Eldhraun lava field and Skaftafell National Park
- Cruise through the Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon, keeping your eyes open for seals (*seasonal, mid-May–September*)
- Pass through the East Fjords region as you continue on to Egilsstaðir, stopping for photos and short walks along the way

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Itinerary

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Akureyri | 2 nights

Day 6: Akureyri via Dettifoss, Lake Mývatn & Goðafoss

Included meals: breakfast

Make your way north toward the small city of Akureyri, stopping to admire breathtaking waterfalls and volcanic landscapes as you go.

- Travel through Módrudalsöræfi desert plateau on your way to Dettifoss for a short walk around the rim of the waterfall (*Please note: The road to Dettifoss is closed in bad weather.*)
- Stop at Lake Mývatn to learn about the boiling mud pools and geothermal activity of the Námaskard sulfur field
- Marvel at the beauty of Goðafoss waterfall, one of Iceland's most famous cataracts, before ending the day in Akureyri

Day 7: Siglufjörður

Included meals: breakfast, traditional food tasting, schnapps tasting

Get to know more about Icelandic culture during a visit to town of Siglufjörður.

- Learn about the country's maritime history as you follow a local guide through the Herring Era Museum
- Enjoy a tasting of herring, one of Iceland's most important culinary staples, washed down with Brennivín schnapps

Spend a free afternoon in Akureyri or add an excursion.

+ Akureyri Fjord Whale Watching (seasonal, June–September)

Snæfellsnes Peninsula | 1 night

Day 8: Transfer to the Snæfellsnes Peninsula

Included meals: breakfast, traditional food tasting, dinner

Drive through the landscapes of West Iceland to the Snæfellsnes Peninsula. Stop along the way to enter the Bjarnarhöfn Shark Museum, where you'll have the opportunity to taste cured shark and dried fish.

Reykjavik | 1 night

Day 9: Reykjavik via Snæfellsjökull National Park

Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner

Continue exploring the sites of the Snæfellsnes Peninsula with your Tour Director before returning to Reykjavik.

- Pay a visit to rural Arnarstapi, a breathtaking fishing village that was once an important trading post
- Set off to explore Snæfellsjökull National Park, which has a natural landscape dominated by the massive Snæfellsjökull Glacier

Tonight, say goodbye to your Tour Director and fellow travellers at a farewell dinner.

Day 10: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Post-tour extension

Bergen | 3 nights

Day 10: Flight to Bergen

Included meals: breakfast

Fly from Iceland to Bergen, Norway, called "the gateway to the fjords," where you'll enjoy a free evening to explore.

Day 11: Sightseeing tour of Bergen

Included meals: breakfast

Get to know Bergen with a local guide, uncovering the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Bryggen harbour district and city centre.

- Discover the Bergenhus Fortress
- Pass through the bustling fish and flower market
- Head to the Custom House pier to view the city centre and harbour
- Drive to the medieval-style Fantoft Stave Church in Fana
- Explore the Edvard Grieg Museum to learn about the famed composer

Day 12: The Norwegian Fjords

Included meals: breakfast

Spend the day journeying through Norway's fjord country, a region of otherworldly natural beauty.

- Take a scenic train ride from Bergen to Voss, where you'll continue on to the village of Gudvangen
- Embark on a cruise through the country's steep cliffs and narrow waterways
- Disembark in the village of Flåm, overlooking Aurlandsfjord
- Take a scenic train ride along one of the steepest rails in the world

Day 13: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Extension is available on select departure dates. Space is limited. Minimum of 10 travelers is required.

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Customize your experience

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Create a more personal journey by adding optional excursions that speak to your interests. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose—you're free to do as much or as little as you'd like. Save \$10* when you book your excursion up to 3 days before your tour departs. Please note: Excursions that require advance reservation will only have this discounted price listed. Call or go online to start customizing your tour: **1.800.742.1731**

Day 7: Akureyri Fjord Whale Watching |

\$99/\$109* (3 hours, departs in the afternoon)

Take in the beauty of northern Iceland's varied landscape and keep your eyes open for wildlife as you enjoy a three-hour cruise on the Akureyri Fjord. As you cruise on the idyllic waterway, a local guide will tell you more about the fjord's ecosystem and history, and you may spot minke whales, orcas, humpback whales, dolphins and porpoises. *Please note: This excursion is seasonal and runs from June through September.*

*Optional excursions may be purchased up to 3 days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be cancelled within 3 days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or cancelled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour.

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