



Auroras, Volcanoes & Glaciers

5 Days

Northern Lights

2017 - 18

Adventure.com

Iceland is the perfect place to enjoy a winter trip full of adventure, icy landscapes and the chance to see the elusive Northern Lights. You visit Iceland's most popular sites such as the Golden Circle route, the South Coast, and Vatnajökull national park. You see cascading waterfalls, smoking geysers, colorful volcano craters, a spectacular ice lagoon with floating icebergs and black lava beaches, all set against a backdrop of glittering glaciers and restless geology.

Exciting winter tour with 2 nights in Reykjavik and 2 nights in the countryside
Visit Vatnajökull glacier and Jökulsárlón ice lagoon
Explore hot springs, lava fields, waterfalls and volcano craters
2 evenings with lectures, presentations, film and guided searches for Aurora Borealis
Optional Northern Lights fjord cruise
Great budget trip for great northern lights

Day 0: Sat: Leave US on overnight flight from an Icelandair gateway.

Day 1, Sun: Welcome to Iceland
The Flybus shuttle takes you from Keflavik International Airport to The Fosshotel Baron in Reykjavik where you spend your first and last night. We provide ideas how to explore Iceland's capital on your own, dinner suggestions too!

Day 2, Mon: The Golden Circle Route

After breakfast and check out, you'll meet your guide at 08:30 and get the tour started with a short introduction to Icelandic geology while watching a striking film at the Reykjavik Volcano House documenting the eruptions of Eyjafjallajökull and Fimmvörðuháls in 2010, which caused millions of people to be stranded worldwide as thousands of flights were canceled. These films give a good insight into the general geology and volcanology of Iceland. The Volcano House has

a hands-on geological exhibition where you can examine various pieces of pumice, ash, and lava from Icelandic volcanoes. Then you'll drive to Thingvellir National Park, a UNESCO world heritage site, home of the Althing, the oldest legislative assembly in the world. This is one of Iceland's most fascinating places both geologically and for the role it plays in the country's history and sense of national identity. Thingvellir is also remarkable for reasons of natural



Auroras, Volcanoes and Glaciers 2017-2018

science, as the site is part of a fissure zone running through Iceland, and is situated on the tectonic plate boundaries of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. The faults and fissures let you see the rifting of the earth's crust.

Exploring the hot springs at Geysir is like a geography lesson in real life: natural springs bubbling away in the ground until the pressure becomes too much – and they explode in spectacular style. Geysir and Strokkur and Strokkur still spouts every 5 to 10 minutes to the delight of visitors. Then it's on to Gullfoss, "the golden falls", one of Iceland's most beautiful- a double waterfall that tumbles 34 meters into the Hvítá river. The explosion crater called Kerið is filled with water and resembles an ancient amphitheater. You'll check into your cabins in the village of Hella, on the Ranga River. In the evening, you hear about the Northern Lights from your tour guide. Naturally, once darkness falls, you are out in the garden waiting for the Northern Lights.

Day 3, Tue: **Vatnajökull National Park & Glacier Lagoon**

A long but beautiful drive brings you to a world of glaciers, ice, and icebergs. You'll see Jökulsárlón glacial lagoon filled with floating icebergs and explore this extraordinary site. You can walk on the black sandy beach where large icebergs get stranded and perhaps see some seals swimming in the Arctic waters. The Vatnajökull National Park is about 12,000 square kilometers and it is the second largest National Park in Europe. In this area, we find Iceland's highest mountains, an alpine environment, and Europe's largest glacier. Tonight you can enjoy a movie presentation about Northern Lights as a part of the Northern Lights educational program. Be careful not to go to bed too soon in this remote and quiet location, or you may just miss out one more chance of seeing the Northern Lights shimmering and dancing across the night sky. You'll spend the night at the Fosshotel Glacier Lagoon or similar hotel

Day 4, Wed: **The South Coast**

Today, you head back west across the Laki lava field to the village of Vík where there is a photo stop. Take a stroll on the black lava beach and along the bird cliffs at Reynisfjara beach in South Iceland. Past the glacier Mýrdalsjökull and the infamous volcano Eyjafjallajökull you'll continue to Skógafoss waterfall which is 62 meters high and is truly one of the most impressive waterfalls in the country. Further west is the high but narrow Seljalandsfoss waterfall, which is 65 meters high and plunges over the mountain. In the evening you return to Reykjavik for one last night. An optional Northern Lights bus tour or fjord cruise can be booked on the spot if the weather conditions are ideal.

Day 5, Thu: **Farewell, Iceland**

Individual transfer by Flybus airport shuttle from your hotel accommodation in Reykjavik to Keflavik Airport.

Daily travel:

Total mileage without airport transfer is 910 km (564 miles) an average of 303 km (188 miles) per day. You spend about 4 hours per day on the bus, depending on road conditions, traffic, and daily itinerary. On some days the driving might be longer than on some other days



Jökulsárlón glacial lagoon fills with icebergs that calve from the glacier Vatnajökull

Auroras, Volcanoes and Glaciers 2017 - 2018

It's Winter! In rare cases, a change of itinerary might be necessary during winter programs in Iceland, should snow, road and weather conditions not allow to follow the scheduled itinerary, and certain outdoor activities might be cancelled. In this case no refund will be given, but GJ-Travel will do its best to find reasonable alternatives whenever possible.

Price includes round trip flights from Icelandair east coast gateways – New York, Newark, Boston, Philadelphia, Washington Dulles, and MCO Orlando. Airport transfers on arrival and departure, 4 nights in simple hotels and cottages including breakfast in Reykjavik and South and Southeast Iceland, 2 dinner and 2 midnight refreshments on day 2 and 3 2 nights of the Northern Lights Academy with presentations, films and lectures and a guided search for the northern lights. Fully guided 3 day tour, including the many activities listed in itinerary, including entry to the Volcano House in Reykjavik, Kerid crater, You'll have the use of ice gripper spikes for your shoes, and a flashlight There will be a stop each day to purchase lunch at a simple cafe or road side shop.

Not included are travel insurance, lunches, the optional ice cave tour, and any additional travel or activities that you may choose to add



ACCOMMODATION: You'll stay in comfortable hotels, with private bath and breakfast every day. In Reykjavik you'll stay at the Fosshotel Baron for first and last night; in South Iceland you'll stay in simple cabins in the village of Hella, on the banks for the Ytri-Ranga River. In the Southeast you'll stay at the Fosshotel Glacier Lagoon at Vatnajökull National Park All hotels subject to change. **Dinners** are on your own in Reykjavik with a wide variety of choices. In the countryside, you'll have two course dinners at your hotels. Lunch stops are made at small country restaurants or petrol station diners. If you have any special diet requests or allergies, please let us know at the moment of your booking.

Our travel dates list the day that travelers need to leave the US. Your arrival day in Iceland is a transfer day and unscheduled - we provide some ideas for exploring Reykjavik. The guided coach tour starts the day after your arrival at 8:30 AM.

The Aurora, Volcanoes and Glaciers tours are designed to spend 4 evenings in the countryside to maximize the chances of seeing the elusive Northern Lights. The Northern Lights are in the northern hemisphere from September through April but are only visible when the sky is clear and free of clouds, so sightings are not guaranteed. Like many natural wonders, the Northern Lights are ephemeral – they may be visible, they may appear for a bit and then be gone. But it is worth the patience which is much required. They are a fall and winter event, and you may spend considerable time outside while looking for them. It is best to dress very warmly, in layers, with good footwear, gloves, hats and whatever else makes you comfortable while you await patiently this truly outstanding event. For the best photos we recommend using a tripod.

Dates & Prices 2017 - 2018



Finest Print: Please note that the price is subject to revision until you book your tour by making a deposit. Air prices are very vulnerable to timing - we can sometimes get great deals, or seats may require a surcharge if it's a late booking. The prices listed on print material may not be the latest price. We will make every effort to keep prices on our webpages and their PDFs up to the minute. We welcome phone inquiries about prices and any other details.

	Single	\$2623	
	Double p/p	\$2335	
	Triple p/p	\$2335	
<i>Depart US</i>	<i>Return US</i>		<i>Depart US</i> <i>Return US</i>
Sat - Thurs			
Dec 2 - Dec 7			Feb 10 - Feb 15
Dec 9 - Dec 14			Feb 17 - Feb 22
Dec 16 - Dec 21			Feb 24 - Mar 1
Jan 6 - Jan 11			Mar 3 - Mar 8
Jan 13 - Jan 18			Mar 10 - Mar 15
Jan 20 - Jan 25			Mar 17 - Mar 22
Jan 27 - Feb 1			Mar 24 - Mar 29
Feb 3 - Feb 8			Mar 31 - Apr 5
			April 7 - April 12