



No price increase for 2025



NATURE ADVENTURE RING TOUR OF ICELAND – 11 DAYS – 2024 + 2025

TOUR PRICE: £4,250 per person
Single Supplement: £650

INCLUDES ALL LISTED ON THIS PAGE:

FLIGHTS – From and to the UK with Icelandair. Private transfers from and to Keflavik airport, accompanied by your guide.

ACCOMMODATION – 10 nights en suite rooms in high standard hotels, located in stunning country areas, including two nights at a top hotel in Reykjavik, close to all amenities.

FOOD – Half Board – 10 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 10 evening meals (three courses). With two of the evening meals at top Reykjavik restaurants. Members buy their own picnic lunches for 9 days.

PRIVATE COACH, GUIDE AND DRIVER FOR THE WHOLE 11 DAYS.

INCLUDED IN TOUR PRICE EXCURSIONS, VISITS AND ENTRANCE FEES:

- Photo stop at the Blue Lagoon.
- Textile Museum.
- Akureyri church, museum and botanical gardens.
- Turf roofed farmhouse museum.
- Port and church at Husavik.
- Asbyrgi Odin's horse's hoof print.
- Hljóðaklettur (echo canyon) with great basaltic formations.
- Nature Baths at Mývatn, entrance fee and towel included.
- Goðafoss (Falls of the Gods).
- Dimmuborgir Lava Formations.
- Namarskad bubbling mud pools.
- Viti crater and a walk in a warm lava field.
- Krafla power station.
- Dettifoss – largest waterfall in Europe.
- Borgarfjörður – one of the best places in the world to see puffins
- Petra's mineral stone museum.
- Ski doo or go on 4x4 jeep on Europe's largest glacier Vatnajökull. **One of the top excursions in Iceland.**
- Lunch back at hotel after glacier trip.
- Duck boat trip on a glacial lagoon.
- Visit to black beaches to see marooned ice floes.
- Skaftafell National Park Video.
- Dyrhólaey (like Durdle Door) for the puffins and other sea birds
- Reynisfjara black sand beach and basalt columns.
- Skógar waterfall and largest Craft Museum in Iceland.
- Seljalandsfoss Waterfall
- Volcano Museum at Hvolsvöllur.
- Visit to greenhouses at Friðheimar.
- Skálholt Bishop's see and church.
- Gullfoss Falls (Golden Falls).
- Geysir spouting geysir area with Strokkur.
- Pingvellir Parliament Plains and the massive chasms from tectonic plates.



Day before flight home, we include a private three hour city sightseeing tour of Reykjavik in the private coach with your tour guide, including entrance fee to the National Museum of Iceland and Árbæjarsafn, architectural museum. Afternoon free, with Gala Dinner at a top restaurant in the evening.



Jóna Tours – Iceland

Some personally conducted by Jóna

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Jóna Sparey has been organising and personally conducting some tours to Iceland and other countries since 1985, with every aspect of each holiday being carefully planned. 57% of members now return again for more adventures.

Nature Adventure Ring Tour

Be captivated by this unique land of contrasts – an intriguing island for ornithologists, photographers, geologists, botanists and lovers of nature –
Highly recommended for first time visitors

11 days

2024: 22 June to 2 July + 20 to 30 July 2025: 7 to 17 July + 21 to 31 July

Exploring the North, East and Southern areas of Iceland – staying at high standard farm hotels.

This is the tour which I strongly recommend to all first time visitors to Iceland.

It covers a large area of the country and one sees such a diversity of landscapes including some spectacular visits. The lovely farm hotels offer a high standard of accommodation and food and are situated in some beautiful surroundings.

The Northern areas contain some of the most recent volcanic activity, sitting astride the north Atlantic Ridge, it contains hot smouldering lava fields, hot bubbling pools, crevasses with steam rising from them, mountains wrenched asunder due to earthquakes, incredible lava formations and a visit to the Nature Baths for that relaxing dip. This area also boasts the largest waterfall in Europe, a glacial waterfall from which falls 190,000 tons of glacial water per second. Many other waterfalls are to be seen. We visit the Echo Canyon with its huge strange basaltic rock formations, you feel that you are on a different planet. Then Asbyrgi where Odin's horse left his hoof print in a huge stone horse shoe canyon. The weather can be incredibly good in the summer. Travelling towards the Eastern areas, we visit the desolate desert areas where the late Neil Armstrong and his crew practised in their moon buggies before flying to the moon!

The Eastern coast is cut out by dramatic fjords, we visit a private collection of crystals very impressive and then descend down to see the vast glacier and glacial tongues of Europe's largest glacier. If you added all the glaciers in the rest of Europe, they would not equal the size of Vatnajökull glacier. We drive across the glacier on ski doos or journey in four wheel



drive jeeps. After our exciting ski doo trip we have a lunch on top of the glacier. We take a boat trip on a glacial lagoon amongst a vast array of icebergs and see them stranded on the black sand beaches by the sea. We discover another glacial lagoon of the beaten track that few tourists know about.

Our journey continues along the black sand areas of the south, where the glacial burst occurred a few years ago when all the highway bridges were washed away, we pass by the largest volcanic eruption in the history of our planet, when over 200 fissure eruptions occurred, bringing devastation to Iceland as well as Europe, some historians believed this triggered off the French Revolution.

Along the southern areas we visit the biggest folk museum in the country, passing by superb waterfalls on the way. Then back to Reykjavik for our two night stay and City Sightseeing tour.

Many members become captivated with the tranquillity and beauty of the Icelandic landscape, returning many times with me to visit other areas, which are completely different. My special first time members tours to Iceland have become so popular, that I need to conduct more than one tour each year, with places filling up quickly, usually by Christmas.

I do hope you decide to join one of my tours, you certainly will experience a peaceful and very personal holiday to Iceland, all best wishes, Jóna.

Tour price includes – see page 4
Full itinerary on page 2 (overleaf)



Nature Adventure Ring Tour

Exploring the North, East and Southern areas of Iceland – staying at farm hotels. Recommended for first time visitors – 11 days

PROPOSED ITINERARY

NB: Subject to change, for your benefit.

Day 1: Arrive at Keflavik

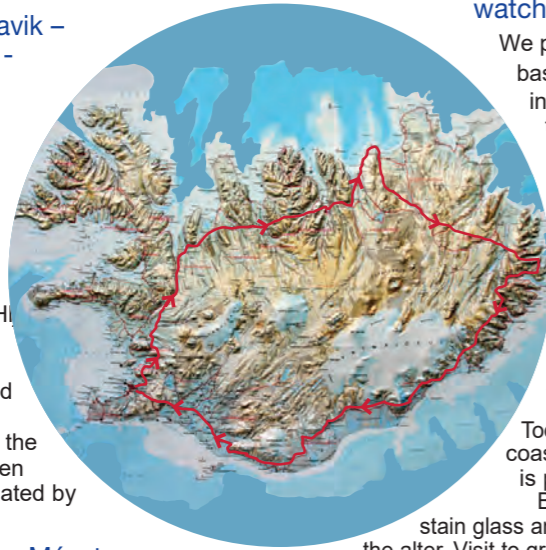
Arrive at Keflavik airport around 3pm, we make a short detour to see the famous Blue Lagoon set dramatically amidst a lava field and take some photos. Then onto our first night in Iceland, staying at the Hamar hotel in Borgarnes.

Day 2: Borgarnes – Farm visit – Blondous – Akureyri

Drive to Blondous where we visit a Textile Museum and sit by the banks of the estuary for a picnic lunch. On our arrival into Akureyri, (capital of the north), we visit the church and botanical gardens, before crossing the fjord to our farm hotel, situated in beautiful surroundings, for a one night stay at Sveinbjarnagerði Hotel.

Day 3: Farmhouse Museum – Husavik – Goðafoss – Asbyrgi – Hljóðaklettur - Lake Mývatn – Nature baths

First a visit to a turf roofed farmhouse museum then a visit to Goðafoss, the Falls of the Gods. Then we drive around the Tjornes Peninsular, to Husavik, a beautiful fishing port and visit its lovely church. Onto Asbyrgi where according to the ancient Viking stories, is a hoof print made by Odin's 8 legged horse. At Hljóðaklettur (echo canyon) we have a picnic lunch and then a walk through the strange basaltic area. Then a drive around part of the Mývatn lake, to see many attractions, finishing with a relaxing dip in the geothermal Nature Baths of the north. Then back for a one night stay at Sel Hotel situated by Mývatn Lake.



Day 4: Journey to east coast – Lake Mývatn – Dettifoss – Egilsstaðir

A long day, to include many visits, starting with Goðafoss, the Falls of the Gods, more visits around lake Mývatn, to see the incredible bird life there, and a walk into a steamy lava field. Onto Dimmaborg to see the strange lava formations and Namarskað for the bubbling mud pools, then onto Víti a sleeping volcano. Then a visit to Europe's largest waterfall, the magnificent mighty Dettifoss. On our journey to the east coast, we hope to find time to visit an isolated farm in the wilds of the countryside, called Sænautasel. Then we continue to our hotel for two nights, situated right by a lake, at Egilsstaðir, which has a spa centre.

Day 5: Borgarfjörður eystri

Today we visit Borgarfjörður eystri - one of the best places in the world to see the endearing puffin. The little town in Borgarfjörður eystri called Bakkagerði has about 100 inhabitants. Johannes Kjarval - one of Iceland's greatest painters - grew up in the area and there is a great exhibition of his work here. Elves are also said to reside in this town. Lunch at Smyrlabjörg.

Day 6: Eastern fjords – Petra stone museum Djúpabogur visits

Our journey to-day takes us all along the east coast, in and out of the fjords. Our first stop is at a huge collection of mineral stones, collected by one lady from the local mountains surrounding her home. Her garden is truly beautiful. Then a visit is made to Djúpabogur, for a picnic lunch. Other stops are made along this interesting journey, until we reach the view point at Almannskarð to see the many glaciers and glacial tongues that sweep down in between the mountains of Europe's largest glacier Vatnajökull (Water Glacier). Two nights stay and dinner at our farm hotel called Smyrlabjörg.

Day 7: Glacier adventure – Ski-doo – 4x4 drive – glacial lagoon

A very exciting day, which commences at 8.30 am, when we are collected from our hotel, in huge 4x4 cars and driven to the top of the glacier, where we experience driving a ski doo, or are taken in 4x4 cars across the glacier. We descend down again to sea level and have lunch at our hotel. We then proceed to our next adventure and take a duck boat trip on a glacial lagoon amongst ice bergs, and look out for seals that are chasing herring, as the lagoon is connected to the sea. A visit to the black beach sands to witness the stranded crystal icebergs, a photographers dream. After our exciting day back to our farm hotel for a second night.

Day 8: Basaltic columns – Dyrhólaey bird watching – Skogar museum

We pay a visit to the black beach to see huge basaltic columns and the bird life there, including the endearing puffins. Further along the coast we visit more bird life, skuas and puffins, at Dyrhólaey, (a hole in the sea cliffs, almost identical to Durdle Door in Dorset). Lastly a visit to the largest Craft Museum in Iceland, and to see its beautiful neighbour Skógafoss (Wood Waterfall), Jona's favourite Icelandic waterfall. Then to our farm Hotel Dyrhólaey, for a one night's stay.

Day 9: Skálholt – Gullfoss Falls – Geysir – Þingvellir parliament plains

Today our journey continues along the southern coastal areas, visiting first Seljalandsfoss, where it is possible to walk behind waterfall. We visit Skálholt the Bishop's see and learning Centre and see the amazing stain glass and Italian mosaic alter piece set in the high wall above the alter. Visit to greenhouses at Friðheimar. Then to Gullfoss (Golden Falls), one of Iceland's most famous and most beautiful waterfall. Then to the Great Geysir, hot spring area, to watch Strokkur spout high into the air. Lastly onto the most hallowed place in Iceland, Þingvellir National Park, where the first Parliament in the world was created in 930AD. This area is split by the Continental Rift System with huge chasms and rifts caused by the plates moving away from each other, and literally pulling Iceland asunder. Then our journey back to the most northerly capital in the world, Reykjavik, for our two nights stay, at Hotel Skuggi. Dinner at one of the top restaurants in Reykjavik.

Day 10: Sight seeing tour – Harpa Concert Hall – Last night gala dinner

Today is the city sight-seeing tour of Reykjavik. We visit many interesting places, including the Museum of Architecture on the outskirts of Reykjavik, also the Town Hall to see the massive relief map of Iceland where you can trace your journey around the island. Then the Hallgrímskirkja, a stunning church of great beauty. Down to the docks to see the many sea faring vessels, and onto the sculptures of Asmundur Sveinsson, and a visit is made to the new Harpa Concert Hall of Reykjavik set by the sea. We finish the tour by dropping you all off at the National Museum, strikingly refurbished over 6 years, and extremely interesting, where you can follow the history of the Vikings from 874AD right up to the present day Icelanders. The remainder of the afternoon is free to stroll around this small and compact city, with a 20 min walk back to your hotel, for your second night. Dinner at one of the best restaurants in Reykjavik.

Day 11

Morning usually free, as flight is usually in the afternoon, collecting you from your hotel at around 1pm for the journey to the airport, and our farewells.

