

# EXPLORE ICELAND Land of Fire and Falls

Departure Date: October 18-24, 2023

Special 'Northern Lights' Departure



## **Explore Iceland**





DAY 2 – Oct 19 Keflavik, Iceland: Iceland is full of surprises – for one, it isn't covered in ice! It's a stunning mix of green plains, wild volcanic scenery, beautiful coasts and lakes, spouting geysers, hot springs, mud pools and sophisticated cities. Topped off by clean, fresh air, you'll find yourself in a trance surrounded by unique natural beauty throughout the country. Upon arrival, the group transfer will depart the airport for a local restaurant in Keflavik where you will enjoy breakfast. Continue to Reykjavik for free time to stroll through the city, known as the 'Bay of Smoke' before heading to the hotel. Rooms will be available for check-in upon arrival. This evening, enjoy a welcome dinner at the hotel. Meals: B, D

DAY 3 - Oct 20 Iceland's South Shore After breakfast, your adventure to the South Shore begins with a journey through small villages and farmlands to the majestic mountains with views including Mt. Hekla, the most active volcano in Iceland, and the towering, ice-capped strato volcano Eyjafjallajokull, which last erupted in 2010. Iceland is also famous for its waterfalls and you'll see two of the most magnificent—the Seljalandsfoss which tumbles over high rock escarpments allowing you to walk behind the waterfall, and Skogafoss. Learn about the preservation of the Southern Iceland cultural heritage on the visit to Skogar Folk Museum. Exploration continues to Dyrholaey, a magnificent rocky headland with sheer cliffs, en route to the village of Vik. Head to the seashore, flanked by steep bird cliffs rising high above the beautiful black sand beach. In the sea, just outside of Vik, see the Reynisdrangar Rocks which stand 216 feet above sea level at their highest point. Meal: B

DAY 4 – Oct 21 Reykjanes Peninsula / Blue Lagoon: This morning, head for the rough tracks of Reykjanes, one of the



most active volcanic areas in Iceland. Visit the geothermal area of Krysuvik and Lake Kleifarvatn with its hot springs and solfatares. The moonlike surroundings of the lake never fail to leave a strong impression on visitors! A remarkable life enriching experience is a visit to the Blue Lagoon – a lake of warm, mineral-rich geothermal water, internationally renowned for its healing prowess. Located in the middle of a lava field in the pure and beautiful Icelandic wilderness, water is heated by underground volcanic activity at a depth of 5,400 feet and is pumped to the surface to form this man-made wonder. The Blue Lagoon is known for its special properties and its beneficial effect on the skin. Visitors from all over the world come here in search of health, relaxation and an exotic experience. You'll have an opportunity to soak in the pleasantly warm mineral-rich water. Meal: B

DAY 5 - Oct 22 Reykjavik: Reykjavik, Iceland's capital city of 100,000 people, is unique in many ways. This capital is a modern city with a variety of restaurants, museums, galleries and theaters. Heated entirely by geothermal water, it is home to the "smoking bay", so named for the rising steam that greeted the city's Viking founder, Angolfr Arnarsson, as he sailed into the bay here in 874 AD. The city center is the heart of Reykjavik and home to many charming historic buildings of stone and timber contrasting with imaginative modern architecture. It has the features of a modern society complemented by a close connection to natural wonders right on the city's doorstep. Hot springs, glaciers, lava fields, midnight sun, waterfalls, northern lights, volcanoes and bizarre landscapes - the city has them all! On the included panoramic city tour of the world's most northerly capital, see the old town center, Parliament, cathedral, harbor, National Museum, "Pearl" and Hofoi House (site of the Iceland summit of 1986), and Hallgrímskirkja Church whose steeple is a landmark of the city. Enjoy free time for lunch on your own and shopping, then prepare to "take off" as you visit FlyOver Iceland. During this virtual flight, experience waterfalls,



geysers, scenic landscapes, and the spectacular natural wonders of Iceland like never before. With the special effects of motion, wind, sound and scents, this unique "flying" experience is sure to be a highlight of your day! Return to the hotel late afternoon for an evening at leisure.

Meal: B

DAY 6 – Oct 23 The Golden Circle: On the full-day tour of the Golden Circle, enjoy scenic drives along with the geological and historic sites of the island. Your excursion includes a drive to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Thingvellir National Park. A remarkable geological site, it is one of the few spots in the world where the Mid-Atlantic Ridge is seen above water. The amazing canyon that runs through the park is a meeting point of two of the earth's tectonic plates. The park is situated by Lake Thingvallavatn, the largest lake on the island. The park is also the most historic site on the island as the world's oldest democratic parliament was founded here in 930 AD. You'll see outstanding natural wonders when you visit Geysir, Iceland's most famous area for thermal activity. View "Strokkur", one of the most active geysers, and "Gullfoss" (Golden Waterfall), Iceland's most famous waterfall. Before returning to the hotel, a visit to a local farm gives you the chance to meet some of the native Icelandic horses, as well as learn about the growing of healthy tomatoes using green energy, pure water and organic pest controls. This evening, join your travel companions for the farewell dinner. Meals: B, D

DAY 7 – Oct 24 Iceland / USA: Following breakfast, transfer to Keflavik Airport and bid a fond farewell to amazing Iceland, as you return home with memorable life enriching experiences to cherish. Meal: B



### Tour Highlights

- 8 Meals: 6 breakfasts and 2 dinners
- Airport transfers on tour dates when air is provided by Mayflower Cruises & Tours
- Included city tour of Reykjavik with a local guide
- Experience a full-day adventure of volcanoes, water falls, geothermal activity and nature, with a local quide, on the included South Shore excursion
- Discover the Reykjanes Peninsula\* and its geothermal activities with a local guide on this included full-day excursion
- Relax in the Blue Lagoon (entrance included)
- Enjoy a virtual flight as you 'Fly Over Iceland'
- On a full-day included Golden Circle tour with a local guide, see the Thingvellir National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, visit the "Geysir" and more natural wonders

#### HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Days 2 through 6 – Hotel Ork, Hveragerdi, Iceland or Hotel Selfoss, Selfoss, Iceland

## **Explore Iceland**



**Tour Departure Date** 

Oct 18, 2023

Per Person Twin	Single Room add
\$3,649	\$549

Pricing includes Geneseo pick up, roundtrip ORD air, transfers, land package, Travelers Protection Plan, gratuities to local guides, drivers and professional Tour Manager.

> Deposit Amount \$549 per person Final Payment is due July 10, 2023









FOR RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION CONTACT:



**Amber Thomas** 309-944-1635

amber.thomas@central-bank.com

#### Travelers Protection Plan (TPP) - \$299 per person INCLUDED

This nonrefundable fee waives all cancellation fees when we are notified of cancellation one day before the tour departs. If you must leave the tour early due to personal illness, illness or death of a member of your immediate family, TPP quarantees full refund for any unused services after the departure of the tour. Other benefits include medical expenses for illness and injury, emergency transportation, 24 hour hot line, and lost or stolen baggage assistance. Return air transportation is included ONLY if your air tickets were provided by Mayflower Cruises & Tours. If you purchase the optional Travelers Protection Plan (TPP), you will be refunded all payments, including deposit amount, less the TPP premium amount.

Cancellation Charges Without Traveler's Protection Plan (TPP)

- Deposit Amount
- 44 to 15 day prior 30% of tour cost
- 90 to 45 days prior 14 to 1 day prior 40% of tour cost
- Day 1 of departure or early departure from tour 100% of tour cost No refund on unused portions of the tour

Exclusions: Mayflower Cruises & Tours reserves the right to alter its refund and cancellation policy when a substantial amount of cancellation or postponement of travel is attributable to: conditions resulting from an act of God, natural or man-made disaster, fire, government action, civil disorder, war, hostilities between nations, or unavailability of transportation through no fault of Mayflower Cruises & Tours.

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL







#### \*Special 'Northern Lights' Departures

Join Mayflower Cruises & Tours for special departures to see the Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights). During the tour, there will be a special excursion to a location selected by your guide that will offer optimal viewing of this amazing natural phenomenon. If the "lights" are not seen, there will be one more opportunity offered

during the tour. Please note: sightings are not guaranteed.