

# NORTHERN LIGHTS EXPLORATION – 8 days / 7 nights

## Seat-in-coach tour · Winter 2019-2020

### Day 1: Welcome to Iceland (50km / 31mls)

- Flybus shuttle airport transfer to your hotel in Reykjavik.

### Day 2: Reykjavik City Tour & Borgarfjörður Saga Valley (245km / 152mls)

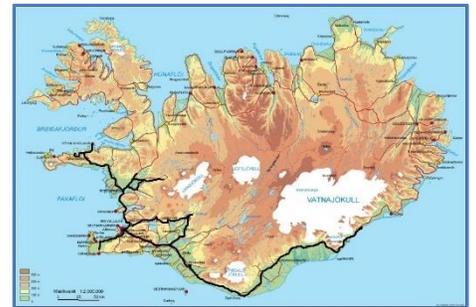
- At 09:00 meet your tour guide who shows the group the highlights of Iceland's exciting capital. Then head west to Borgarfjörður which is known as the Saga Valley. After a light hike at the Grábrók volcano crater continue with a visit to Deildartunguhver-Europe's most powerful hot spring. Hraunfossar is a series of waterfalls pouring beneath a wide lava field. Barnafoss – the Children's falls, is nearby with its own tragic tale.
- Evening northern light lecture and followed by a northern light search in the hotel garden while enjoying warm beverages and bathing in geothermal hot pots.

### Day 3: Snæfellsnes Peninsula & Fjord Cruise (250km / 155mls)

- Enjoy an exciting cruise around Breiðafjörður fjord, located in the charming fishing town Stykkishólmur. After a light lunch, visit Bjarnarhöfn, where they make Hákarl – the fermented shark. If conditions permit, we will explore the fishing village of Grundarfjörður where Mt. Kirkjufell - the most photographed mountain in Iceland is located.
- As part of the Northern Lights Academy, our guide will share some practical tips on how to photograph auroras. Once darkness falls, we are out in the hotel garden to chase the northern lights and to soak in the hotel's outdoor hot tubs.

### Day 4: Golden Circle, Geothermal Taste & Icelandic Horse (240km / 149mls)

- After a visit at an Icelandic wool outlet store, continue to Þingvellir National Park, a UNESCO world heritage site. See steam rising from the Geysir geothermal fields. It's time to taste freshly baked hot spring bread served with Icelandic butter, geothermally boiled eggs and herring. Travel to Gullfoss, the second biggest waterfall in Iceland.
- In the afternoon, learn about the Icelandic horse and visit a geothermal greenhouse. Northern Lights search at night, best enjoyed from a comfortable hot tub at the hotel.



**Day 5: South Iceland & Eyjafjallajökull Volcano (200km / 124mls)**

- Today, travel along the South coast. At the Lava & Volcano Exhibition Center, learn about geology and active volcanoes. Further east visit one of Iceland's finest folk museums with beautiful turf houses, Skógasafn. Nearby is the impressive Skógafoss waterfall. In the afternoon take a stroll on the black lava beach and along bird cliffs at Reynisfjara in South Iceland.
- Step out of the hotel and check if there are Northern Lights in the sky.



**Day 6: Vatnajökull, Glacial Lagoon & Diamond Beach (255km / 159mls)**

- Today's it's all about glaciers, ice and icebergs. Travel to Jökulsárlón, a glacial lagoon filled with floating icebergs. See the stranded icebergs at so-called Diamond beach. Visit the tiny turf church at Hof and spend time at Europe's second largest national park, which has Iceland's highest mountains and Europe's largest glacier.
- In the evening enjoy a film presentation about the Northern Lights and look up if Northern lights are shimmering and dancing across the night sky.



*\* Optional Ice Cave Tour offered between November 15<sup>th</sup> and March 15<sup>th</sup>*

**Day 7: South Shore, Reykjavik & Blue Lagoon (350km / 218mls)**

- Cross the Eldhraun lava field to the village of Vík, for a photo stop. Further west reach the high but narrow Seljalandsfoss waterfall which plunges from the mountain. In the afternoon return to Reykjavik and have about 2-hour leisure time to explore Iceland's capital on your own; visit museums, do some shopping or simply rest after all this touring.
- In the evening, enjoy bathing at the famous Blue Lagoon geothermal pool. After an Icelandic farewell dinner at a local restaurant, we go on one last nocturnal tour to seek more Northern Lights. Around midnight we reach Reykjavik for one last night.



**Day 8: Departure Home (50km / 31mls)**

- Individual transfer by Flybus shuttle from Reykjavik to Keflavik International Airport.



*\*Sequence of the itinerary is subject to change\**

**RATE:** Starting from EUR 1,775 p.p. winter season 2019-2020

**DEPARTURES:** Mid-September to mid-April

**GROUP SIZE:** Big group with maximum 45 people, departures on Fridays & Sundays

Small group with maximum 16 people, departures on Tuesdays

**INCLUSIONS:** 7-night accommodation at comfort tourist-class hotels, in rooms with shower/wc · 6-day escorted bus tour with an English-speaking guide or driver-guide · Arrival & departure airport transfer by Flybus shuttle (no guide) · 7x breakfast · Fjord cruise on Breiðafjörður fjord including light lunch (day 3) · Visit traditional shark curing farm · Hot spring Tasting with geothermal cooked bread & eggs · Visit Icelandic horse stable & geothermal greenhouse · Visit Lava Exhibition Center · Skógar folk museum & turf houses · Admission to Hof turf church · Entrance with towel to Blue Lagoon · Traditional Icelandic dinner at local restaurant (day 7) · Northern Lights program with searches, lectures and presentations · Use of winter explorer equipment: snow & ice gripper spikes and a flashlight

**EXCLUSIONS:** Any private expenses · Any additional services · All meals not listed under "included" · Single supplement (mandatory when in single room)

#### **ACCOMMODATIONS:**

We use comfort tourist-class hotels, in rooms with private shower/wc. Most of our groups will stay at the following accommodations (subject to change):

- First and last night: Hotel Klettur, Reykjavík
- 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> night: Icelandair Hotel Hamar, Borgarnes
- 4<sup>th</sup> night: Hotel Eldhestar, Hveragerði
- 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> night: Hotel Klaustur, Kirkjubæjarklaustur

