



NEW HORIZON TOURS
PRESENTS
ICELAND
Northern Lights Exploration
October 1 – October 9, 2018

\$3,095 double occup. Single supplement – add \$810

The price for this trip is based on 20 or more going and if it falls below 20 the price increases by \$175 per person.

This Northern Lights Exploration trip is designed to include the highlights of Iceland and aim to maximize the chances of seeing the elusive Northern Lights. In addition to a seven night stay with breakfast, this program includes our special six night Northern Lights Academy, a combination of evening presentations, lectures, film and guided lookouts for the Aurora Borealis – the Northern Lights. Experience Icelandic winter as good as it gets. Head to the countryside: from the regions of Snæfellsnes Peninsula in the west to the Vatnajökull glacier in the southeast. Profit to search for the Aurora Borealis away from the big city lights. By combining daytime sightseeing with night-time Northern Lights seeking, this tour offers the perfect package to gain an insight into the many wonders of Iceland,

Temperature Range in Oct. is between 32 and 41 F

Highlights and Experiences:

- Climb a volcano crater and walk between two continental tectonic plates
- Visit a traditional shark farmer, turf farmsteads and churches
- Relax in the Blue Lagoon and learn about living next to Eyjafjallajökull volcano
- See Icelandic horses, taste freshly baked hot spring bread and enjoy a fjord cruise
- Six evenings Northern Lights Academy

ITINERARY -

Delta Airlines

Oct. 1 – Depart LAX for Iceland arriving Reykjavik on Oct. 2

Oct. 1 Flt #471 departs LAX 11:10 am arrives JFK 8:00 pm

Oct.1 Flt, #446 departs JFK 9:04 pm arrives Reykjavik 6:45 am Oct.2

Oct. 2 – Welcome to Iceland

Group transfer by Flybus shuttle from Keflavik Airport to your accommodation in Reykjavik Centerhotel Plaza, Reykjavik. [https://www.centerhotels.com/hotel-plaza/_where you spend the night](https://www.centerhotels.com/hotel-plaza/_where_you_spend_the_night). We provide you with ideas how to explore Iceland.

Oct. 3 REYKJAVIK CITY TOUR & BORGARFJÖRÐUR SAGA VALLEY (245 km/152mi)

At 09:00 meet your tour guide who will show the group highlights of Iceland's exciting capital. Then we head west. Borgarfjörður is known as the Saga valley because of its many important historical events. We get a chance to climb the Grábrók volcano crater and get warmed at Deildartunguhver, Europe's most powerful hot spring which produces 180 liters per second of water that is nearly boiling - 97° Celsius. Hraunfossar is a series of waterfalls pouring from beneath a wide lava field. Barnafoss – the Children's falls, is nearby with its own tragic tale. We spend two nights in Borgarnes, West Iceland. The afternoon includes a lecture about Northern Lights. After dinner, we step into the hotel garden in search of the Northern Lights followed by a hot cup of chocolate or tea.

Hotel Icelandair Hotel Hamar, outside Borgarnes, West Iceland, 3-star plus

<https://www.icelandairhotels.com/>

Oct 4 SNÆFELLSNES PENINSULA & FJORD CRUISE (250 km/155 mls)

The Snæfellsnes Peninsula “the peninsula of the snowy mountain“ just out from Iceland's west coast, like a long arm with a clenched fist at its tip, and is in many ways a microcosm of the whole island. A rugged mountain chain runs its length. We travel to the charming fishing town of Stykkishólmur for a cruise in the Breiðafjörður fjord. After a light lunch a uniquely Icelandic “treat“ awaits us at Bjarnarhöfn, where they make Hákarl - the fermented shark. Depending on road and weather conditions, we visit the fishing village of Grundarfjörður, a place with an impressive coastline and mountains, lakes and waterfalls behind the village. Jutting out into the bay rises one of the most photographed mountain in Iceland, Mt. Kirkjufell. On the way back to Borgarnes the guide gives you some practical tips of how to photograph the Auroras as part of the Northern Lights Academy program. Naturally, 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.

Icelandair Hotel Hamar, outside Borgarnes, West Iceland, 3-star plus

Oct. 5 GOLDEN CIRCLE, GEOTHERMAL TASTE & ICELANDIC HORSES (220 km/136mi)

Today we travel along the Hvalfjörður fjord. The first stop is at an Icelandic wool outlet store, just to see what they do with all those sheep! We continue inland to Þingvellir National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site. We travel the Golden Circle route and see steam rising from the Geysir geothermal fields as we arrive. There is a variety of hot springs and bubbling pools. The original geyser is now dormant but has been replaced by Strokkur "the Churn" which erupts at 5-10 minute intervals. The chef of the Restaurant Geysir invites you to taste freshly baked hot spring bread served with Icelandic butter, geothermally boiled eggs and herring. It is best served with a small glass of Geysir Schnapps, very cold – nearly freezing. On we travel to Gullfoss, a double waterfall that tumbles 34 meters into the Hvítá river and attracts tourists and travelers in summer and winter. In the afternoon, you learn about the Icelandic horse, its special qualities and history and visit a geothermal greenhouse, before we

reach the accommodation in South Iceland. Tonight, step into the darkness and search for the elusive Northern Lights, while best enjoyed from a comfortable hot tub in the garden of the hotel, amidst the peace and stillness of rural Iceland.

Hotel Eldhestar, Hveragerdi <http://eldhestar.is/>

OCT. 6 NATURAL WONDERS OF SOUTH ICELAND & EYJAFJALLAJÖKULL VOLCANO (220km/136mi)

Today we travel along the South coast. At the Eyjafjallajökull Information Center we learn about living next to a glacier and an active volcano. Further east we visit one of Iceland's finest folk museums. This museum contains an outstanding collection of farm and domestic artifacts from Iceland's past and several turf-built houses. Nearby is Skógafoss waterfall which is 60 meters high and one of the most impressive waterfalls in the country. In the afternoon we take a stroll on the black lava beach and along bird cliffs at Reynisfjara in South Iceland. We spend 2 nights near Kirkjubæjarklaustur in the Vatnajökull National Park region, located in darkness and ideal for Northern Lights search.

Fosshotel Nupar, outside Kirkjubæjarklaustur, Southeast Iceland, simple 3-star, excellent location outside light pollution for northern lights watch

OCT 7. SKAFTAFELL NATIONAL PARK & VATNAJÖKULL GLACIER (280 km/174 mls)

Today's program is all about glaciers, ice and icebergs. We travel to Jökulsárlón, a glacial lagoon filled with floating icebergs, and we explore the extraordinary site and might see seals swimming in arctic waters. You can walk on the black sandy beach where large icebergs get stranded. In the afternoon we visit the tiny turf church at Hof and spend time at Europe's largest national park, which has Iceland's highest mountains, an alpine environment, and Europe's largest glacier. In the evening enjoy a film presentation about the Northern Lights as part of the Northern Lights Academy 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.

Fosshotel Nupar, outside Kirkjubæjarklaustur, Southeast Iceland, simple 3-star, excellent location outside light pollution for northern lights watch

Oct 8: SOUTH SHORE, REYKJAVÍK & BLUE LAGOON (370 km/230 mls)

From Kirkjubæjarklaustur we head across the Eldhraun lava field to the village of Vík, where we make a photo stop. The black lava beach with high bird cliffs and pounding waves is very impressive. Further west we reach the high but narrow Seljalandsfoss waterfall which plunges from the mountain. In the afternoon we return to Reykjavik and have about 2-hour leisure time to explore Iceland's capital on our own, visit museums, do some shopping or simply rest after all this touring. In the evening we get to soak in the famous Blue Lagoon, followed by an Icelandic dinner at the Northern Light Inn Hotel and followed by one last nocturnal tour to seek more Northern Lights. Around midnight we reach Reykjavik for one last night. Centerhotel Arnarhvoll, Reykjavik, 3-star plus - <https://www.centerhotels.com/hotel-plaza/>

Oct. 9 DEPARTURE

Bus transfers from your accommodation in Reykjavík to Keflavík Airport.

Delta Airlines

Oct. 9 Flt. #246 departs Reykjavik 10:55 am arrives JFK 12:58 pm

Oct. 9 Flt.#041 departs JFK 6:05 pm arrive LAX 9:35 pm on Oct. 9

Daily driving: Total mileage without airport transfer is about 1.585 km (983 miles) which is an average of 265 km (164 miles) per day. You spend about 3,5 hours per day on the bus, depending on road conditions, traffic and daily distances. On some days the driving might be longer than on some other days.

NOTE: Itineraries may be subject to change due to weather conditions

TRIP PRICE INCLUDES:

- Roundtrip airfare from LAX to Reykjavik on Delta Airlines (all airline taxes)
- Roundtrip bus transfers from airport to hotel
- Seven nights double Occupancy
- After arrival a visit to the museum Viking World and breakfast
- Daily breakfast
- Fully escorted 6-day bus tour with an English-speaking guide
- 7-nights accommodation in comfort tourist-class hotels including breakfast
- Fjord Cruise on Breiðafjörður fjord including light lunch (day 3)
- Visit to traditional shark curing farm (day 3)
- Hot Spring Tasting with geothermally cooked bread and eggs (day 4)
- Visit to Icelandic horse stables & geothermal greenhouse (day 4)
- Visit to multimedia presentation at Eyjafjallajökull Volcano Information Center (day 5 or 7)
- Entrance fee to Skógar folk museum and turf houses (day 5)
- Entrance with towel at Blue Lagoon (day 7)
- 3-course farewell dinner at the panoramic pearl restaurant (day 7) + if weather conditions are good, followed by last northern lights tour
- Northern Lights Academy program during 6 evenings with a combination of lectures, presentations, film, guided Northern Lights searches and midnight refreshments
- Use of winter & Northern Lights Explorer equipment: simple non-slip snow & ice grippers spikes for shoes and a flashlight that is helpful when walking in the dark and operating your photo camera at night

Does Not Include:

- Extra costs for lunch and dinner – lunch approx \$24 and dinner at hotels around \$52

For additional information contact: Marc New Horizon Tours (805)499-Skii

RESERVATION AND CANCELLATION POLICY

To confirm a reservation a \$250 deposit is required. A second payment of \$400 is due June.15, 2018. Final payment is due Aug.15, 2018. Cancellations prior to May 15 will be charged \$100. Cancellations from May 15 to Aug.14 will be charged \$300, cancellations from Aug.15, 2018 to Aug.31,2018 will be charged \$1,000 and cancellations after Aug.31,2018 will have no refund unless a replacement is found. Name change fee on tickets is \$150.

There is a \$15.00 charge for all returned checks. We recommend trip cancellation insurance.

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