



THE LAND OF FIRE & ICE

MARCH 25TH - 30TH 2021

Iceland, the Land of Fire and Ice is a country full of contrasts. From natural hot springs to top-notch spas, spectacular scenery to art museums, this unique land is the perfect place to relax, recharge, and explore. Legends say that the ancient gods themselves guided Iceland's first settler, Ingolfur Arnarson, to make his home in Reykjavik ("Smoky Bay"), named after the geothermal steam he saw. Today this geothermal energy heats homes and outdoor swimming pools throughout the city – a pollution-free energy source that leaves the air outstandingly fresh, clean and clear.

On this exciting getaway, you will experience the best of both the city life and the countryside. We will start in the capital city, Reykjavik, to sample the city's vibrant culture and learn about the region's Viking heritage. Reykjavik is also renowned as one of Europe's hottest nightspots, where the action in the friendly pub and club scene lasts right through the long winter nights.

We then travel north, up the west coast, to spend two nights in the Icelandic countryside. Characterized by extinct (and sometimes active!) volcanoes and cascading waterfalls nearly everywhere you turn, the geological forces that created this extraordinary island are dramatically on display.

You will dine on Icelandic specialties, including delicious seafood, ocean-fresh from the morning's catch, highland lamb, and unusual varieties of game. Bathe in the hot springs, and explore the natural wonders of Iceland on this adventure to the *LAND OF FIRE & ICE*.



THE COST OF THIS ITINERARY, PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY, IS:

BOSTON OR NEW YORK DEPARTURE:	\$2980
LAND ONLY:	\$2290
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT	\$ 450

Airfares are available from many other cities. Please call for details.

THE FOLLOWING SERVICES ARE INCLUDED:

- AIRFARE:** Round-trip airfare from Boston or New York, including all customs fees and airport taxes
- HOTELS:** 4 nights' accommodation in first class hotels including all hotel taxes and service charges
- COACHING:** All ground transportation as detailed in the itinerary
- MEALS:** 4 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 4 dinners
- GUIDES:** Discover Europe tour guide throughout
- ENTRANCES:** Entrance fees to all sites as detailed in the itinerary

Please note that travel insurance is not included on this tour. Insurance information will be mailed to each registrant on receipt of deposit.





THURSDAY, MARCH 25TH - Evening departure from your chosen gateway city, aboard your direct Iceland Air service to Iceland. **Overnight: Plane**

FRIDAY, MARCH 26TH - Early morning arrival in Iceland; you will be met at the airport and escorted to your hotel in Reykjavik, where a sumptuous breakfast buffet awaits. This morning you tour Reykjavik for a wonderful introduction to Europe's smallest capital city! The tour covers the Old Town, the shopping districts, the Parliament, Hofdi House, Hallgrim's church, the Harpa concert hall and much more! Most hotels know that Americans arrive early and will do everything possible to help us check in upon arrival. However, this is not always possible and if the rooms are not ready, you will store

your luggage and go off on the city tour. When you return to the hotel after free time for lunch, you will then be able to go to your rooms and take a short nap before you gather for an introductory talk followed by dinner at the hotel. **(B, D) Overnight: Reykjavik**

SATURDAY, MARCH 27TH - Your excursion today takes you along the south coast of the island. At Vík, you'll make a stop at the black volcanic beach south of the village - from here you can view the rock formations Dyrhólaey and Reynisdrangar. After a stop for lunch, you visit the fairytale-like Seljalandsfoss waterfall, where you can experience walking right behind the misty cascade, and the gorgeous 60-metre high Skógafoss waterfall, just a short drive down the road. Heading back to Reykjavik, you'll stop at the renowned Fjoruborðið restaurant in the village of Stokkseyri, where you'll enjoy a traditional Icelandic lobster feast (more like Langoustine than Maine lobster). **(B, D) Overnight: Reykjavik**



SUNDAY, MARCH 28TH - This morning you head north out of the city and drive around the coast, following the shores of Hvalfjörður (literally the Whale Fjord) and inland to Reykholt. Here you stop to marvel at the Deildartunguhver natural hot spring (the largest in Europe) and then visit the new Krauma Geothermal Spa, where you will have time to have lunch and to soak in the natural hot spring waters. From here it is a short drive to your hotel, where you will have the opportunity to relax before dinner. **(B, D) Overnight: Borgarnes**

MONDAY, MARCH 29TH - You spend the day today on the Snæfellsnes Peninsula, home to the Snæfellsnes National Park and the Snæfellsnes Glacier. You'll experience the amazing birdlife, the lush valleys and lava fields that make up this area of unique natural beauty. You'll drive around the peninsula, exploring Drítvík Cove, Lónrangan Cliffs as well as Hellnar and Arnarstapi Cliffs with its bursting bird-life and the small villages on the coast. You'll stop in Stykkishólmur, a picture-perfect fishing village overlooking Breiðafjörður Bay. Here, you can take a walk up the small hill overlooking the harbour, Súgandisey, for a wonderful panoramic view of the town, sea and surrounding mountains. You might like to try and test your strength at the stones of the black volcanic beach of Djúpálónssandur like the seamen in past times. You'll return to your hotel for dinner. **(B, D) Overnight: Borgarnes**

TUESDAY, MARCH 30TH - This morning you drive south, passing the city of Reykjavik and take a tour of the exotic, moonlike Reykjanes peninsula. This is one of the newest parts of the country and is still growing! Here you will see pools of boiling mud, the air heavy with the smell of sulfur, and active fumaroles. Reykjanes is the only place in the world where the North Atlantic Ridge rises up above sea level. We'll stop in the thriving fishing port of Grindavik and enjoy a traditional fisherman's lunch (fish and chips!) here before continuing to the nearby airport for return flights to the U.S. **(B, L)**

Key to included meals: B - breakfast, L - lunch, D - dinner

