

# Iceland's Festival of Light!



## February 1-7, 2023



What could be better than the Northern lights, city sights, and touring the amazing landscapes of this beautiful destination? It gets even better when we visit during the Icelander's favorite "Festival of Light". In addition to touring the geysers, volcanic landscapes, and thermal pools of Iceland, we have daily events (and evenings of course) filled with local events and adventures to celebrate the wonder of light and its magnificent colors! Reserve now as this safe and happy destination is sure to sell out!

### Included in your tour:

- Round-trip flights to Reykjavik from Seattle, SFO, LAX\* \*Other gateways by request
- 5 nights 4-star hotel in with breakfast
- Welcome dinner in Reykjavik
- Blue Lagoon admission and tour
- Golden Circle guided excursion
- South Shore guided excursion
- Snafellsnes Peninsula guided excursion
- Northern lights evening excursion
- Farewell Seafood Dinner
- All airport transfers in Iceland
- Time for personal discoveries
- Licensed guide of Iceland
- Experienced USA Tour Manager
- Caring and professional travel arrangements



**\$2295 per guest**

Based on double occupancy

**Not-included:** Other meals, beverages, activities, covid testing, and tipping at guest discretion for guides, drivers.

Solo Supplement \$495

Please call us for quick quotes on trip insurance, for this or any of your travels! (800) 576-4905

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**Day 1 — Wednesday, Feb. 1 — Depart for Reykjavik!** Make your way to your gateway airport. Our afternoon departure sets us up for some evening rest on this reasonably short flight. Bring your own reindeer jerky and smoked salmon or buy on board! Food for purchase is available onboard, no included meals in economy. Really, pack a lunch!

**Day 2 — Thursday, Feb. 2 — Arrive Iceland & Blue Lagoon** Arrive early to Keflavik Airport. After passport control, we take a breakfast break at the airport to collect our thoughts and a proper coffee (and kill a little time until the Blue Lagoon opens)! After our break we head straight for the Blue Lagoon! What better way to refresh after our flight than a plunge into the warm thermal waters and spa situated in the lava fields on the way to Reykjavik? The Reykjanes Peninsula has a few geothermal areas with steam rising from mud pools and hot springs, reminding us that we are right on top of the mid-Atlantic ridge. The silica mud there is said to rejuvenate so much that people look up to 10 years younger, and the waters are so healing that sins are said to be washed away while soaking in the geothermal pools. After our luxurious swim, we continue into Reykjavik to enjoy time for lunch and orientation until hotel check-in is available. Gather tonight for our welcome dinner. (Festival events to be published) (Welcome dinner)

**Day 3 — Friday, Feb. 3 — Golden Circle** After a hearty breakfast we set out for a day of natural wonders. The Golden Circle is the perfect day trip for visitors who want to experience the power and beauty of Icelandic nature up close and personal. Taking you to the UNESCO World Heritage Site Þingvellir National Park and Rift Valley, where the Eurasian and the North American tectonic plates drift apart and the Vikings held their High Counsel Althingi in the middle of a lava field. Then visiting the Geysir Hot Spring area, a geothermal site with Europe's only erupting geyser Strokkur, which erupts every 4-5 minutes spouting steaming hot water jets towards the sky. Then on to the absolutely beautiful waterfall Gullfoss, Iceland's biggest two-stepped waterfall situated in the glacial Hvítá River flowing from the massive Langjökull Glacier. (Breakfast)

**Day 4 — Saturday, Feb. 4 — South Shore Adventure** This unique day includes often active volcanoes, in sight of massive glaciers, to beautiful waterfalls and through black sands. Visiting Seljalandsfoss Waterfall and Skógafoss Waterfall in the foothills of the great and infamous Eyjafjallajökull volcano and moving east through the volcanic sands that dominate large portions of the South Coast of Iceland. The tour goes along the Ring Road next to Mýrdalsjökull Glacier and on clear days it is possible to see the ice caps and outlet glaciers of both Eyjafjallajökull and Mýrdalsjökull. The tour goes as far east as the scenic village of Vík with its black sand beach and busy bird cliffs. Reynisfjara Beach is the southernmost tip of Iceland, and going straight out from there the next solid ground you hit is Antarctica around ten thousand miles to the south. (Breakfast)

**Day 5 — Sunday, Feb. 5 — Snæfellsnes Peninsula** The peninsula is a place where nature, history and folklore come together to form a place of rugged beauty and mysterious charm. Jules Verne used Snæfellsjökull Glacier, the volcano at the western tip of the peninsula, as the gateway in his story Journey to the Center of the Earth. It was also used as a backdrop in the film version from 2007 starring Brendan Fraser and Icelandic actress Anita Briem. Icelandic novelist and Nobel Laureate Halldór Laxness also set one of his best novels, Under the Glacier, here. The drive out the peninsula is a very scenic one, and the landscape is a wonderful symphony of extinct volcanoes, hot springs, craters, and lava fields created during volcanic activities in the distant past. Venture out tonight for our Northern Lights Quest excursion. (Breakfast)

**Day 6 — Monday, Feb. 6 — Free Day!** Your day to be your own Viking! Enjoy the many shops, galleries, and museums of Reykjavik, or strike out on your own with an Icelandic Horse ride, whale watch, or even the local flea market! USA required Covid test details TBD. (Breakfast, Farewell Dinner)

**Day 7 — Tuesday, Feb. 7 — Free morning/departure** A last morning dip in the hot springs? Salmon jerky latte? Enjoy breakfast and a morning of leisure before our afternoon flight home. (Breakfast)