

THIS IS IT WELCOME 2020





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Welcome to the Arctic North Iceland

North Iceland has a population of 36 thousand, including the capital Akureyri, a town of 19 thousand people. Akureyri is the largest town outside Reykjavík, offering service to the whole of North Iceland. Due to the distance to the next big town it offers service equivalent to a small city. Hotels and guesthouses, restaurants, culture and arts and lively music scene. North Iceland is also well know for a number of historic coastal towns, each with its own character that builds on the history and culture of the locals.

North Iceland lies just south of the Arctic Circle with Hraunhafnartangi being the northernmost point of the Icelandic mainland and Grímsey island crossing the Arctic Circle. One of Iceland's most visited places is the Lake Mývatn region with hot springs, craters andd amazing lava formations. Geothermal bathing is very popular, with the Nature Baths at Mývatn, GeoSea at Húsavík and the Beer Baths in Árskógssandur being the higlights. A large section of Vatnajökull National Park lies in North Iceland. There are several interesting places to visit in the park such as Dettifoss. Europe's most powerful waterfall. Hlióðaklettar. Ásbyrgi, Askia and Iceland's newest lavafield Holuhraun that is 80 times bigger than the lavafield from Eyjafjallajökull eruption. Whale watching is a unique experience in Eyjafjörður or Húsavík the whale watching capital, where you will be surrounded by birds and beautiful scenery, while observing dolphins and minkes, humpbacks or even blue whales. Seals can be observed throughout the year in their natural environment, either from land or by boat around Hvammstangi and the beautiful Vatnsnes peninsula where you also find the Hvítserkur sea cliff. North Icelanders are known for their pride and pure spirit. They love playing outdoors and this can easily be seen in the wide variety of outdoor activities available, from quiet meditation and historic walks to mountain skiing, snowmobiling, hiking, birdwatching, horseback riding and enjoying local food or folk museums to name a few. In North Iceland you'll find two touring routes, the Arctic Coast Way and the Diamond Circle which you can read more about on the next pages of the guide.

This book is divided into chapters giving you information on all the activities available so please go ahead and start your amazing adventure in North Iceland.

Visit North Iceland

Visit North Iceland is the official marketing office for tourism in North Iceland. Activities focus on promotion of North Iceland via www.northiceland.is and social media, by publications, press visits and participation in trade shows. The goal of Visit North Iceland is to strenghten the image of North Iceland and promote it as the ideal tourist destination for visitors to Iceland, thereby enabling companies to grow tourism in North Iceland in a sustainable way.

Questions or comments? Please send us an email to info@northiceland.is

#NorthIceland @NorthIceland







How to use the book!



Symbols:

√ Telephone

区 E-mail

Open: All year:

Summer:

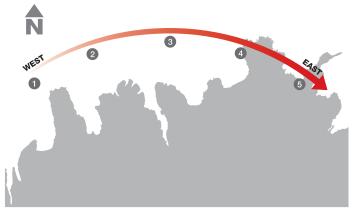
Winter:

& Wheelchair Access

Vakinn – the official quality and environmental certification for Icelandic tourism

Birdwatching

Official member of the Arctic Coast Way



To help you plan your journey each chapter is organised in geographical order from West to East as shown by the arrow.



What to expect?

North Iceland offers mild winter temperatures, with shorter daylight that is however amazing due to the magical combination of the snow and the sun rising low. In the night, the moon and northern lights can be playful, offering a magical show. May to August is mostly mild and often sunny days with bright summer nights when the sun never sets.

Weather conditions can quickly change during the day so be prepared. Wear warm wool clothes with a wind and waterproof jacket. Layers are easy to adjust if the weather changes. In winter hats, gloves and good shoes are a must, preferably boots with good soles. Temperatures during summer can range from 5-25°C and from -15 to 10°C in winter.

How to get to North Iceland:



From Reykjavík, two airlines offer schedules flights several times per day; Air Iceland Connect to Akureyri and Eagle Air to Húsavík. From Akureyri, flights are available to Grímsey with Norlandair and to Þórshöfn with Air Iceland Connect/Norlandair



www.airicelandconnect.com | www.eagleair.is | www.circleair.is





Within North Iceland and to Akureyri town from Reykjavík, scheduled buses and bus tours are available every day. The public transportation system connecting towns in Iceland is called Strætó or www.bus.is. A number of car rentals operate in North Iceland. If you wish to rent a car, road conditions are generally good, though snow and ice may occasionally hinder driving in winter, and highland roads may remain closed through early summer. Check conditions at www.road.is. The distance from Reykjavík to Akureyri is about 380 km.



The ferry Norröna, www.smyrilline.com, travels from Hirtshals, Denmark, via the Faroe Islands to Seyðisfjörður East Iceland. Travellers from Europe can bring their own vehicles on the ferry.











Weather and road conditions:

Weather and road conditions in Iceland can change dramatically at short notice, so it is important to check the webpage of The Icelandic Road Administration www.road.is for road conditions and distances.

Icelandic Met Office weather forecast and Aurora forecast: en.vedur.is

Emergency:

Ambulance - Fire - Police: Tel: 112

Road Conditions: Tel: 1777



The official source for safe adventure in Iceland

Safetravel.is is the official source for safe adventure in Iceland. You can leave your travel plans with Safetravel and check their website or information monitors for weather alerts and warnings. The Icelandic Association for Search & Rescue runs the project Safe Travel, your official source for safe travel in Iceland and offers you to send the information needed to start search or rescue, in case something happens while you're on your trip; safetravel.is

Tourist Information Centres:



Blönduós, Glaðheimar Tourist Information and camping Blönduós, Melabraut 21 northiceland.is +354 820 1300 or +354 690 3130 gladheimar@simnet.is All year Sauðárkrókur Tourist Information Sauðárkrókur, Aðalgata 21 visitskagafjordur.is +354 588 1238 info@skagafjordur.is All year















Sustainable travel in North Iceland

Sustainable tourism might be a challenge, but it is also an opportunity, and tourism in North Iceland takes this responsibility seriously. Developing sights and attractions in remoter areas opens up new perspectives, encouraging local people to find a livelihood in their home regions, thus helping to reduce rural migration.

Increased all-year-round services may even encourage families to return from the capital to their original rural areas, bringing back life to remoter villages.

Iceland is rich in natural resources such as clean air and pure water and the tourism companies strongly emphasize treating nature with the utmost respect. The priority is always trying to keep interventions in nature as low as possible. It is strongly recommended to use reusable bottles and drink tap water, which is perfectly safe in Iceland, instead of buying water in single use plastic bottles.

An ever-larger number of local tourism companies are investing in sound environmental practices such as CO2-neutral transport, recycling conservation and cooperation with ecological research. For example, several whale watching companies offer carbon-neutral tours, using renewable energy sources or planting trees. There is also a special code of conduct among the whale watching companies, where they keep a safe searching and approaching zone, as well as a special caution zone around the whales where propellers are stopped.

The use of regional products is a growing focus in the catering trade where the motto has become "From producer to customer", not just for the quality of food but also for shorter transportation and support of local farmers.



ICELANDIC PLEDGE

I PLEDGE TO BE A RESPONSIBLE TOURIST.

WHEN I EXPLORE NEW PLACES, I WILL LEAVE THEM AS I FOUND THEM.

I WILL TAKE PHOTOS TO DIE FOR, WITHOUT DYING FOR THEM.

I WILL FOLLOW THE ROAD INTO THE UNKNOWN, BUT NEVER VENTURE OFF THE ROAD.

AND I WILL ONLY PARK WHERE I AM SUPPOSED TO.

WHEN I SLEEP OUT UNDER THE STARS, I'LL STAY WITHIN A CAMPSITE.

AND WHEN NATURE CALLS,
I WON'T ANSWER THE CALL ON NATURE.

I WILL BE PREPARED FOR ALL WEATHERS,

TAKE THE PLEDGE AT INSPIREDBYICELAND.COM

INSPIRED**™ICELAND**





Travelling the Arctic Coast Way means leaving the common routes behind you and going off the beaten track to discover some of the most remote places in Iceland; a unique adventure following 900 km of coastal roads close to the Arctic Circle.

Here, where volcanic land meets icy ocean, nature's force has carved a coastline of wild and pure beauty. The route includes six peninsulas reaching far out in the ocean, taking you from black sandy beaches to spectacular cliffs, along glacial river deltas and fjords to high mountains. Going one step further into remoteness, five beautiful islands offer unforgettable experiences and you might even want to straddle the Arctic Circle. Each of the little towns along the way tells unique stories about life on the edge of the Arctic.

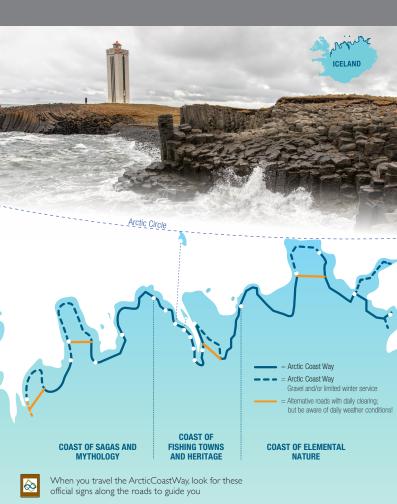
In springtime, the migrating birds arrive and ring in the summer with their vibrating calls. You will discover some of the best bird watching places in Iceland and boat tours take you to unforgettable encounters with friendly whales and charming seals.

Narrow roads, very often gravelled, follow the shoreline where the ocean meets the endless horizon or you can switch to roads carved up into steep mountains. Please be aware of different road conditions, depending on the season of your travel. You will feel the elemental power of the ocean, and its influence on the ever-changing weather. In a storm roaring rollers crash onto the shore, while you enjoy the cosi-ness of a café or relaxing in your accommodation. In sunshine, however, the ocean turns a Caribbean blue and walking barefoot on the beach will be a tempting idea.

You are free to slow down and indulge yourself, as you discover the wonders of the Arctic Coast Way. Moving to the rhythm of waves and wind, feel a surge of energy on stunning hikes and meet friendly people who will make you want to return again and again. The dramatic shifts of light from midnight sun to Northern Lights and the seasonal palette of colours from winter's pristine white to autumn's fiery tones offer you a different perspective each time, with new adventures awaiting you

Hero Experiences

There are countless activities and experiences where you can discover awe-inspiring landscapes and immerse yourself in a different way of life. But some experiences offer authentic and exclusive activities and adventures rarely found anywhere else. They are the cream of the crop for an unforgettable tour on the ArcticCoast Way. We call them the Hero Experiences! Please find more information on the next page, and on www.arcticcoastway.is



HERO EXPERIENCES





Sailing the Edge of the Arctic

There is nothing like sailing at the Arctic Circle during Summer Solstice.

Live and sail onboard the award-winning electric sailboat Opal for 3 days and 2 nights. Set sails from Husavik harbour to explore the remote Islands and majestic coastline at the Edge of the Arctic. Experienced crew will guide you along to discover the hidden treasures and historical settlements of the north. All meals onboard are cooked and inspired by local traditions and ingredients

Seaside Bites and Icelandic Cuisine

Meet other food lovers in this half-day workshop and taste and learn about Icelandic cuisine and its connection with Icelandis unique natural history. Your hosts share their expertise and teach you all about using natural and wild food and the raw ingredients that can be found in northern climes. They will explain how food, in bygone days, was preserved for the long winter and how modern Icelanders still use this traditional food with a modern twist.





From Cod to Bacalao – from the ocean to your plate

Learn firsthand all about salted cod that always played an important role in Icelandic culture. Join a small group in traditional Icelandic oak boat. It is your turn to cast the lines and hook your own catch of Atlantic cod or haddock. Back on land, you follow your catch into Ektafiskur and prepare ready-to-cook salted cod products. After catching the cod and learning how to process it into bacalao you take the last step; enjoying a tasty dish of salted cod.



Take a step back in time to the Herring Era

At the Herring Era Museum you will have a chance to join the herring girls in their bright yellow skirts as they gut and pack herring into wooden barrels, gossiping and shouting to the dockworkers. A local accordion player will make sure to set the right atmosphere as the herring girls sing along - followed by a dockside ball where we can all join in and dance! Enjoy a guided tour around the museum and taste different types of herring and the Icelandic rye bread - all washed down with traditional Icelandic schnapps Brennivín.

Meet Icelandic sheep and learn about sustainable food

Join your hosts who run a sustainable farm in one of the most remote corners of Iceland and experience a different rhythm of life. You visit the sheep with their lambs and perhaps have the chance to bottle-feed one of these home-bred lambs. You can observe (and perhaps assist in) the training of sheepdogs, learn all about sustainable products, and enjoy helping the farmers to prepare traditional meals with products from the farm.



Arctic Trip page 121

Arctic Snorkeling with Puffins

Puffins are often referred to as "clowns of the sea". On Grímsey Island, the only community in Iceland located on the Arctic Circle, you have the unique chance to witness the bustle and commotion of these agile little "clowns" not only in the air but also underwater, as they are perfect divers. Snorkeling in the ocean by the Arctic island is a unique adventure and – depending on the weather – you might even snorkel across the Arctic Circle!



Diamond Circle

The Diamond Circle can be described as a magnificent circuit of 250km in the Northeast of Iceland, which includes some of the most stunning sights and spots for unearthly landscapes.

The Diamond Circle has 5 key destinations which include the historical and picturesque Goðafoss, the unearthly blue and green landscapes of Lake Mývatn nature paradise, the uncontrollable white energy of Dettifoss the most powerful waterfall of Europe, the crescent-shaped wonder of Ásbyrgi canyon and Húsavík the buzzing whale capital of Iceland with the deep blue seas ahead.

The Diamond Circle offers even more. Discover the astonishing valley of Vesturdalur with the bizarre rock formations of Hlióðaklettar; the otherworldly volcanic fields of Krafla, the geothermal area of Hverir and the black lava formation at Dimmuborgir.

On the Diamond Circle, you could even find some of the hidden corners and forgotten spaces which are just as surprising as the most famous ones: The beautiful Tjörnes peninsula which hides fossils and bird nests, the lush valley of Hólmatungur and the lesser-known locations around Mývatn such as the circular explosion crater Hverfjall and the turquoise warm pool in Grjótagjá.

When travelling around the Diamond Circle road you have a unique opportunity to experience one of the most geologically active areas in the world. Iceland exists because of the unusual amount of upwelling mantle material called a "hot spot" located beneath the plate boundary where the North American and Eurasian plates are diverging. The Diamond Circle is located exactly where this is happening in the North Iceland, called the Northern Volcanic Rift Zone. The plates are constantly spreading at an average rate of 9,7 mm in each direction a year. The Diamond Circle is thereby growing larger by almost 40 mm per year or 0,7 mm every week!

diamondcircle.is













Borõeyri - northiceland.is



Borðeyri, one of the smallest villages in Iceland, is a former important trading and commercal village on the west coast of Hrútafjörður, the longest fjord of Húnaflói Bay. In the era of Icelander's export of sheep to Europe, and the emigration of Icelanders to America, Borðeyri was an important harbour. The service in Borðeyri consists of a guesthouse, camping site and car repair garage.

Population 30



Laugarbakki - visithunathing.is



Laugarbakki is close to Ring Road No. I, on the east bank of Midfjarðará river. According to the Saga of Grettir the Strong, horse fights were performed on the river banks, at Langafit. The former boarding school now houses a new hotel. Other services provided at Laugarbakki include a crafts workshop and a farmers market with handicrafts and local food inspired by the Saga Age, a fuel station, camping ground and overnight facilities. From Laugarbakki, the road leads to the highland region Arnarvatnsheiði heath.

Laugarbakki 55

3 Hvammstangi - visithunathing.is



Hvammstangi town is on the eastern coast of Miðfjörður and is the center for sealwatching in the Vatnsnes peninsula, starting at The Icelandic Seal Centre and seal watching tours by boat. The town's commercial history spans more than 100 years and among services are the Museum of Local Trade, also housing a crafts gallery, wool factory shop, super-market, restaurant, camping site, cafés, a hotel, guesthouses, diner and a fuel station, as well as a health care center and a geothermal swimming pool.

Population 573



Blönduós - northiceland.is



Blönduós is on the eastern coast of Húnaflói bay, 245 km from Reykjavík, and a popular stopover for travellers on Highway I. The town is a good base for tours in the Húnaflói area and straddles the river Blanda, surrounding Hrútey Island. Hrútey, protected as a country park, is blessed with a wide variety of vegetation and birdlife. A trusty pedestrian bridge takes you over to the island which is an excellent place for outdoor exercise or a relaxing break. The Handcraft and Textile Museum are located in Blönduós. Other services are a hotel, guesthouses, and self catering accommodation as well as a camping site, restaurants, cafés, diner and a fuel station, super-market, garages, health care center and a geothermal swimming pool.

Population 867

TOWNS & VILLAGES | along



Skagaströnd - northiceland.is



Skagaströnd is on the east coast of Húnaflói bay. Walking paths on Spákonufellshöfði and Spákonufell mountain provide a stunning view of sea and shoreline. The local prophecies center. offering an exhibition, storytelling and fortune telling, focuses on Þórdís the fortune-teller, the first named inhabitant of Skagaströnd. At Nes Artist Residency, international artists come to stay and work. The main economic activity used to be fishing industry, and the village still boasts an important fishing and commercial port. Other services are overnight facilities, restaurant, café, local museum, camping site, grocery store, mini-mart and fuel station, garages and a geothermal swimming pool.

Population 443

Sauðárkrókur - visitskagafjordur.is



Sauðárkrókur is Skagafjörður's largest population centre and services the local municipality. Skagafjörður is often named the Cradle of Icelandic Horsemanship and boasts of the highest rate of horses per capita in Iceland. Horseback riding tours are available in and around Sauðárkrókur. Tindastóll Ski Area is popular for the whole family during wintertime. In Sauðárkrókur you will find the interactive exhibition, I 238 The Battle of Iceland, and the 360° virtual reality exhibition, Puffin & Friends. A lengthy beach leads straight from town, from where you can enjoy the view overlooking the islands Drangey and Málmey and Þórðarhöfði Peninsula. Daily boat trips to Drangey are available during the summertime. Other services in Sauðárkrókur are an information centre, accommodation options, a campground, restaurants, bakery, pubs, diners and fuel stations, specialty stores and a supermarket, garages, as well as a health care center, a swimming pool and a nine-hole golf course.

Population 2,612

7 Varmahlíð - visitskagafjordur.is



Varmahlíð is a small village on highway one in Skagafjörður. There are several recreational options in Varmahlíð and the surrounding countryside, such as river rafting down the canyon of a Skagafjörður glacial river, horseback riding tours, hiking trails, and farm visits. Popular tourist attractions in the area are the local heritage museum at Glaumbær, which occupies a 17th – century turf farmstead and exemplifies how Icelanders lived in earlier times, and Víðimýri Church, built of turf in 1834, which is acclaimed as one of the prettiest reminders of traditional Icelandic architecture. This small community provides several accommodation options, a campground, an information centre and local handcraft store, a restaurant, a family friendly swimming pool with water slides, a diner and fuel station, and a grocery store.

Population 132

8 **Hólar** - visitskagafjordur.is



Hólar in Hjaltadalur is one of Iceland's best-known historical sites and was, for centuries, an Episcopal see. Hólar Cathedral is the oldest stone church in Iceland, constructed in 1763. The church is built with red sandstone from the mountain Hólabyrða. Historically important in are on display at the church. The church tower is 27m long and stands beside the church. Hólar is the home to Hólar University which specializes in equine studies, aquaculture fish biology, and rural tourism. In Hólar you will also find The Icelandic Horse History Centre, Auðun's House, Gamli Bær, and The Beer Centre of Iceland. Hilking paths attract travelers to Hólaskógur forest. Services include accommodation options, a campground, a restaurant and a swimming pool. **Pobulation 93**



Hofsós - visitskagafjordur.is



Hofsós is a peaceful seaside village on the Eastern shore of Skagafjörður, with over 400 years of history. The lower town near the harbour is perfect for a stroll. In Hofsós you will find the The Emigration Center, an exhibition about the mass migration of Icelanders to North America in the late 18th century, and an extremely impressive swimming pool with a view overlooking the fjord. Not be missed on your visit to Hofsós are the amazing basalt formations, which are located on the coast just below the town at Staðarbjargavík. A few minutes from Hofsós you can step into the past and visit the old times at The Vintage Auto Museum. Services in Hofsós include accommodation options, cosy restaurants, a grocery store, a fuel station, and a campground.

Pobulation 142

Siglufjörður - visittrollaskagi.is



Siglufjörður stands by a fjord of the same name, on the Tröllaskagi Peninsula between Skagafjörður and Eyjafjörður, only 77 km from Akureyri town. Harbor conditions are very good and Siglufjörður has always been a fishing town. For years it was the largest herring centre in Iceland. The Icelandic Herring Era Museum is the largest maritime and industrial museum in Iceland. It is housed in three different buildings and gives us an idea of how herring fishing took place and how the silver of the sea was processed. An II km long tunnel was opened in the autumn of 2010, which connects Siglufjörður directly to its sister town of Ólafsfjörður and to the Eyjafjörður region, creating a very popular tourist destination. The ski area in Siglufjörður is often called the Icelandic Alps, providing the visitors with steep slopes and unique ocean view. Services in Siglufjörður are various overnight facilities, restaurants, cafés, museums, a diner and fuel station, super-market and garages, a health care centre and a geothermal swimming pool. Population 1,184

11 Ólafsfjörður - visittrollaskagi.is



Ólafsfjörður was first settled in the beginning of the 19th century. A charming town in an area of spectacular natural beauty. The still waters of Lake Ólafsfjörður often mirrors the town, its surrounding mountains and the sky above. The Ocean is enticing a growing number of surfers, enjoying the thrill of riding the waves, and skiers looking for varied cross-country skiing opportunities or off-piste adventures. There is a swimming pool, and an excellent Natural History Museum - Pálshús. In Ólafsfjörður is also very flourishing cultural life with galleries and workshops, several restaurants, Café and hotels, a 9-hole golf course and outdoor swimming pool Population 787

12 Dalvík - visittrollaskagi.is



Dalvík is a fishing town, on the west coast of Eyjafjörður fjord, 40 minutes drive from Akureyri, famous for its annual event the Great Fish Day held in August each year. The ferry to Grímsey island plies from the harbour in Dalvík. Recreation is versatile throughout the year. Besides short and long hiking trails there is whale watching, bird watching, sea angling, skiing, heli-skiing, geothermal swimming pool and horse rental. The area is rich in culture with a local museum, art exhibitions and local galleries. Accommodation is available in a hotel, guesthouses, cabins and hostels. For dining there are café's and restaurants. The Information centre is located in Berg cultural house at the centre of Dalvík. Other services are fuel station, super-market, health clinic and pharmacy, garages and a hardware store.

Population 1,381



13 Hrísey - hrisey.is



The island of Hrísey with its small fishing village is a beautiful natural attraction in Eyjafjörður fjord, often called the pearl of Eyjafjörður only 35 km from Akureyri. The island has a rich birdlife and serveral hiking paths. Amongst other tourist attractions on the island are a tractor sightseeing trip in a hay wagon and a museum about shark fishing and the local history. Hrisey is also known as the tranquil energy point where you can recharge your batteries with the mysterious power emerging from the great Mount Kaldbakur on the mainland. Service includes overnight facilities, restaurants, shop and geothermal swimming pool with good access to sea swimming. Scheduled ferry crossing are from the village Árskógssandur to Hrisey every two hours from 7 am and the trip takes about 15 minutes.

Pobulation 167

Árskógssandur - visittrollaskagi.is



Árskógssandur is a small village located in Árskógsströnd on the west coast of Eyjafjörður, about 20 minute drive from Akureyri. Scheduled ferries ply to Hrísey Island from the harbour at Árskógssandur. It is a lovely litle town with economy based on fishing and tourism. Recreation on offer includes a tour to the local brewery and a dip into the new Kaldi Beer Spa.

Polulation: Árskógssandur 107

15 Hauganes - visithauganes.is



Hauganes is a small village located at Árskógsströnd on the west coast of Eyjafjörður, about 20 minute drive from Akureyri. It is a lovely litle town with economy based on fishing and tourism. Recreation on offer includes whale watching and a visit to Baccalá bar and production. For those interested in camping there is a camping place on site. Here you will find the highly popular hot tubs down by the black beach of Sandvík.

Population 118

16 Hjalteyri - northiceland.is



Hjalteyri is on the western shore of Eyjafjörður. This used to be one of the centers of the herring industry in the early 20th century. Art exhibitions and performances in the old herring factory have become popular. In Hjalteyri there is a diving centre and a stunning view over the ocean. Whale watching is offered from the harbor. On the shore, you can relax in a hot tub that is open for visitors.

Population 43



Akureyri - visitakureyri.is



Akureyri is the biggest town outside the capital area and frequently called the Capital of the Shining North, with reference to the midnight sun in the summertime and northern lights during winter. It is the service base for North Iceland and bustles with rich cultural life all year round, and flourishing restaurants and cafés. The town itself is a popular destination for travelers and a good starting point for day tours and excursions. Up to four domestic flights and two scheduled busses a day ensure good connection between Akureyri and Reykjavík. A stroll through the picturesque old town and lovely town centre is popular, visiting the blooming botanical garden or one of the many museums in town. You can also go whale watching, visit the swimming pool with its hot tubs and sauna, or have a go at the northernmost 18 hole golf course in the world. With less than an hours drive you will find many of Iceland's most beautiful natural wonders, such as Goðafoss waterfall, Lake Mývatn, the Nature Baths and the islands of Hrísey and Grímsey. Above Akureyri is Iceland's most popular ski resort Hlíðarfjall.

Pobulation: 18,769



18 Hrafnagil, Eyjafjarðarsveit - northiceland.is



Hrafnagil is a cosy little community in Eyjafjarðarsveit, within a heart's breath of Akureyri. It has a great geothermal pool, a service centre for visitors and boasts of the well-known annual August event, Arctic handcraft and design. The Christmas garden is located at Hrafnagil along with a great camping area. Hrafnagil rests in the beautiful countryside of Eyjafjarðarsveit which offers many other great attractions such as the Sverrir Hermannsson's Sundry Collection, a cow shed cafe, stunning scenery and several beautiful old churches. In fact, while the valley is approximately 40km at length, the average length between churches is only about 6 km. There are also several places to hike and dine in Eyjafjarðarsveit along with craftsmen, yoga stops, hostels and other overnight facilities.

Pobulation: 272

19 Svalbarðseyri - northiceland.is



Svalbarðseyri is situated on the eastern shore of Eyjafjörður, overlooking Akureyri. It is a predominantly agricultural community, with farming and related food industries. The main tourist attractions are the Icelandic Folk and Outsider Arts Museum, and the vantage points overlooking Akureyri. Services are overnight facilities and a geothermal swimming pool.

Population: 36 I



Grenivík - northiceland.is



Grenivík is located in a cove of the same name on the eastern shore of Eyjafjörður fjord. The small fishing village, which began to develop during the first decade of the 20th century, grew significantly after a new harbour was constructed in 1965. Among services to be found in Grenivík are overnight facilities, restaurant, horse rental, kayaking, a fisheries museum, old turfhouse Laufás, Kaldbakur snow cat tours and a geothermal swimming pool with stunning ocean view.

Pobulation: 30 I

21 Grímsey - grimsey.is



In the last few years Grimsey Island has become ever more popular as a destination. It is the northern most settlement in Iceland and those who go there can actually cross the Arctic Circle which passes straight through the island. You can even get a certificate, confirming that you have crossed the Arctic Circle. The small island is 41 km off the north coast of Iceland and the economy there is mainly based on fisheries. It is one of the best places to enjoy the midnight sun during summer and is ideal for bird watching, where the main attraction is the puffin (from mid April till beginning of August). A ferry from Dalvík connects Grímsey (3 hours) and flights are offered from Akureyri (25 minutes flight). Service includes Rib safari tours from Húsavík. Services in Grímsey are overnight facilities, restaurant, mini-market, a café and guided sightseeing walk and various tours such as snorkeling with puffins.

Population: 6 I

22

Laugar - northiceland.is



Laugar is a small community which has sprung up in the active geothermal area of Reykjadalur valley. It has a district school which also serves as a summer hotel. Guesthouses and other types of accommodation can be found in the vicinity. At Laugar you will also find a restaurant, grocery store, fuel station and geothermal swimming pool.

Population 115



Húsavík - northiceland.is



Húsavík, on the eastern shore of Skjálfandi Bay,provides a variety of services for the neighbouring communities. According to the Landnámabók, eng. Book of Settlement, Húsavík was the first place in Iceland to be settled in 870 AD. The most famous landmark in town is the wooden church built in 1907. Being a part of the Diamond Circle, Húsavík is known for whale watching tours in Skjálfandi Bay and often referred to as the Whale Watching Capital. Up to 23 species of whale, including the Blue Whale, as well as large colonies of puffins can be found in the bay. The Húsavík Whale Museum exhibits a 25m long skeleton of a Blue Whale. Other museums are worth a visit, both folk museums and exploration museum. Services in Húsavík are different types of accommodation, restaurants and cafés, a brewery, a swimming pool and campsites as well as a golf course and skiing area on the outskirts of town. A newly opened sea bath that is spectacularly located on the cliffs, offering magnificent views on the bay and uses hot sea water. Húsavík is located short distance from many natural attractions such as Ásbyrgi, Mývatn, Dettifoss and Hljóðaklettar. It is serviced by Húsavík airport, with up to 2 flights per day with Eagle Air.

Population 2,323





24 Mývatn / Reykjahlíð - visitmyvatn.is



The Mývatn region is one of the highlights in North Iceland, known for its geothermal activity and the exceptional beauty of its natural phenomena. Reykjahlíð is a small village by Lake Mývatn, where all major services are provided such as a supermarket, bank, post office and health care center. Birdlife by the lake is abundant boosting the Barrow's Goldeneye and Harlequin Duck among other species. Sigurgeir's Bird Museum is one of the locations worth visiting, as well as the Mývatn Nature Baths, a geothermal bathing lagoon with water temperature of 36-40°c. Lofthellir cave is a unique natural phenomenon to visit all year round, and in the winter time it is possible to go on a snowmobile tour and cross country skiing. At Christmas, be sure to be on the lookout for the Yule Lads at Dimmuborgir. Around the area are also many popular hiking routes. There is a large variety of accommodation available in the Mývatn region, as well as restaurants and cafés. Mývatn is on the Diamond Circle. Population 500



Kópasker - northiceland.is



Kópasker is a fishing village on the eastern shore of Öxarfjörður. The village is a service center for the farms in the area and the economy revolves mainly around meat processing and nearby fish farming as well as fisheries. Services in Kópasker are overnight facilities, grocery store, café and the Earthquake Centre with special focus on an earthquake of great magnitude which shook the region in 1976 and hiking trails showing the effects of earthquake activity on nature. Also a local museum, a mini-mart, and car repairs. In Kópasker visitors have good access to seals in their natural environment and the name of the town actually refers to baby seals.

Pobulation 121

26

Raufarhöfn - northiceland.is



Raufarhöfn, the northernmost village in Iceland, sometimes referred to as the Arctic Cirle Village, is on Melrakkaslétta peninsula with the Arctic-Circle lying just off shore. The fishing industry has been the village's main economic activity and during the herring years in the middle of the 20th century this was a flourishing community. Today, Raufarhöfn is adapting to changing times with an increased focus on catering for tourists offering a restaurant, a café, a grocery store, guided walks, lake fishing, bird watching and access to flourishing wildlife in Melrakkaslétta. Among services there are a hotel, guesthouses, a shop, car repairs, camping, an indoor swimming pool and a health care center. The Arctic Henge, a unique stone sculpture with a stunning ocean view is under construction and already well worth visiting.

Pobulation 168



Þórshöfn - northiceland.is



Pórshöfn is a fishing village on the eastern shore of Þistilfjörður, providing services to the surrounding countryside. Direct flights to Þórshöfn from Akureyri are all year round. Services provided in Þórshöfn are overnight facilities, restaurant, supermarket, handicraft gallery, campsite, car rental, a bank and post office, health care center and swimming pool. Visitors can enjoy guided walks, adventure guides for children focusing on surrounding area or a visit to Rauðanes in Þistilfjörður fjord where market hiking trails are found. Þórshöfn is a gateway to the bird watchers paradise Langanes with special focus on Skoruvíkurbjarg cliff and Fontur where you find a bird watching platform "at the end of the world".

Population 369



Bakkafjörður - northiceland.is



Bakkafjörður is a small fishing village on the south coast of the fjord of the same name. A good harbour, makes fishing from small vessels and fish processing the main economic base. From Bakkafjörður, boat trips and sea angling is possible, and marked hiking paths are available. Good walking route takes you to the isolated farm Steintún and from there to the Digranes lighthouse that stands in an adventurous location. Sevices are guesthouse, shop and campsite.

Population 69



The Icelandic Horse

NATURE HIGHLIGHTS





NATURE HIGHLIGHTS **#**

Vatnsnes



Vatnsnes peninsula possesses a highly diverse wildlife, many natural wonders, hiking trails steeped in the history of the area, and a beautiful environment. At Vatnsnes is one of the largest seal colonies in Iceland, where seals have been protected for many years. Colonies are to be found at Illugastaðir, Svalbarð, Osar and Hvítserkur. The Icelandic Seal Centre (Selasetur Íslands) is located at Hvammstangi. For those who enjoy walking, there are many excellent hiking paths in Vatnsnes.

2 Hvítserkur



A 15m high monolith just off shore on the eastern side of Vatnsnes peninsula, only 26 km from the Ring Road nr 1. Many bird species live on the rock and the leaving of their mark is evident in the whiteness of their droppings. Good seal spotting at the estuary of Sigriðarstaðir lake, south of the rock.

3 Kolugljúfur



In Víðidalur valley, the river Víðidalsá flows past the farm Kolugil. Below the farm, the river makes its way peacefully down into a magnificent gorge, Kolugljufur. Kolufossar, the powerful waterfall tumbling down the gorge takes its name from the Troll-woman Kola. It is a breathtaking experience to watch the peaceful Víðidalsá plunge over the edge of the rocks to create this magnificent waterfall. Onsite you will find a signboard providing local information and history.

4 Borgarvirki



Borgarvirki is a volcanic plug and stands at 177 m above sea level dominating the surrounding landscape. It is a unique natural phenomenon which has, however, been altered by human hand over the centuries; for example, the Icelandic Sagas tell us that, in earlier times, Borgarvirki was used as a military fortress.

5 Vatnsdalshólar



This is a cluster of hills of various shapes and sizes in the mouth of Vatnsdalur valley and spread over 4 km². Thought to have been formed by a catastrophic landslide, Vatnsdalshólar are considered to be one of the three "innumerable" phenomena in Iceland, together with the lakes in Arnarvatnsheiði and the islands in Breiðafjörður in the west. The last execution in Iceland took place at Þrístapar in Vatnsdalshólar, 12th of January 1830.

6 Spákonufellshöfði



Spákonufellshöfði west of Skagaströnd village offers a variety of hiking routes. This is a popular destination for people wanting to enjoy nature where the ocean, diverse bird species and the majestic circle of mountains stimulate the senses. Spákonufellshöfði offers a view of mountains and valleys to the south and north, as well as to the Strandir area across the panoramic Húnaflói Bay. A brochure about Spákonufellshöfði is available in shops and restaurants in Skagaströnd.

Kálfshamarsvík



Kálfshamarsvík is a small cove in the northern part of Skagi peninsula, with unusual, beautifully formed sea cliffs of columnar rock, created about 2 million years ago. At the beginning of the 20th century, fishing boats plied the waters and there was a small community of about 100 inhabitants at Kálfshamarsvík. However, by around 1940 the village had become deserted.

8 Arnarvatnsheiði



Arnarvatnsheiði is a large green, lake-studded landscape in the highland area, south of Húnaflói. It extends for 80km south to the glaciers of Einíksjökull and Langjökull. This is a popular trout fishing venue in wild, lonely nature. 4WD track.

9 Hveravellir



A unique nature reserve situated on the Kjölur route deep in the west highlands between the glaciers Langjökull and Hofsjökull. Hveravellir ranks among the most beautiful geothermal areas in the world with smoking fumaroles and hot pools with sky-blue boiling water. Only passable in summer.

NATURE HIGHLIGHTS **#**

10 Drangey



This rocky island in Skagafjörður is a flat-topped mass of tuff, rising almost 200 meters out of the ocean. The cliffs serve as nesting sites for millions of sea birds and have been used throughout Iceland's history for egg collection and bird netting. Grettis Saga recounts that both Grettir and his brother Illugi lived in Drangey for three years and were slain there. The island can only be ascended at one spot. Boat tours to the island from Sauðárkrókur.

11 Hjaltadalur



It is in Hjaltadalur valley that one of Iceland's best-known historical sites, Hólar, is situated. Hólar was the northern bishopric from I106 as well as the educational capital of the north. The current Cathedral at Hólar was consecrated in I763. The University in Hólar has been operated since 1882. Pleasant hiking trails and an aquarium.

12 Héðinsfjörður



Héðinsfjörður is a deserted fjord, 6 km in length, that cuts into the Tröllaskagi peninsula between Siglufjörður and Ólafsfjörður. This area, with its lake, majestic mountains and hills, is a popular destination for hiking and other outdoor activities. The sister towns belonging to Fjallabyggð community, Siglufjörður and Ólafsfjörður, are connected by a tunnel that cuts through Héðinsfjörður and was opened in October 2010.

13 Tröllaskagi



A rugged peninsula between Skagafjörður and Eyjafjörður. A maze of mountains, rivers and miniature glaciers. Ideal for hiking in the summer and for extreme winter sports in winter. Tröllaskagi is the most popular destination in Iceland for ski touring and heli skiing. Guided tours and maps available.

14 Ólafsfjörður Lake



The still waters of Ólafsfjörður Lake often mirror Ólafsfjörður town, its surrounding mountains and the sky above. Occasionally a trout breaks the surface, as a reminder of what is up and what is down in this mysterious mountain retreat. The lake has a long-lived reputation for mystery, not least because both fresh-water and salt-water fish are caught in it.

15 Grímsey Island



Grimsey is the northernmost point of Iceland, situated on the Arctic Circle. It is home to less than one hundred people, one million seabirds and one of the biggest puffin colonies in Iceland. It is a great place to enjoy the midnight sun around summer solstice. A ferry serves the island from Dalvík and flights are provided from Akureyri.

16 Hrísey



Hrísey is Iceland's second largest island. It is covered with vegetation, being, for the most part, flatland which only rises to 110 metres above sea level at its highest point. The island is a well known paradise for bird watchers and the most abundant of all birds on the island is the ptarmigan. In the village there is a relatively new swimming pool to tempt the visitor, and also the chance to do a spot of sightseeing from the trailer of a tractor. The crossing between Hrísey and Árskógssandur takes about 15 minutes one way, and the ferry, Sævar, runs every two hours.

7 Svarfaðardalur nature reserve



A natural wetland with walking/hiking routes and educational trails. Excellent places for bird watching but over 30 species of birds can be found. Bird observation points.

NATURE HIGHLIGHTS

18 Hlíðarfjall



Akureyri's ski centre at Mt. Hlíðarfjall is surrounded by high mountains ranging from 1,000 to 1,538 metres above sea level. The ski slopes are 5 km up the mountain from the town of Akureyri and for nearly 40 years, this has been one of the prime skiing areas in Iceland. The hallmarks of Hlíðarfjall are high quality snow, extensive cross country tracks and exciting ski slopes with a breathtaking view of Eyjafjörður. The ski area is open from the end of November until end of April every year.

19 Kjarnaskógur



An attractive woodland on the southern outskirts of Akureyri. The area has a 7 km lit trail in addition to a vast network of backcountry tracks, plus a specially designed mountain bike trail. Playground, picnic areas, restrooms and a volley ball course. When weather permits, up to 10 km of trails trimmed for cross country skiing. Varied birdlife, and a bird watching shelter at Hundatjörn. Campsite at nearby Hamrar with easy access to the woodland.

20 Laugafell



An oasis in the barren expanse between the glacier Hofsjökull and Vatnajökull. The site is about 25km to the west of the best known highland route "Sprengisandur". On the north-western slopes of the mountain Laugafell, bubbling hot geothermal springs present a pleasant contrast to the surrounding coldness. Three mountain huts are open in the summer, with kitchen facilities and a nice geothermal nature pool outside.

2 Fjörður



The peninsula between Eyjafjörður and Skjálfandi Bay is a paradise for hikers. Two 4WD tracks lead to the north of the peninsula, one to Hvalvatnsfjörður and the other to Flateyjardalur. No services, but camping allowed in specific areas.

22 Goðafoss



The "Waterfall of the Gods" is in the glacial river Skjálfandafljót, just off the Ring Road by Fosshóll. The name of the waterfall refers to an incident in one of the Sagas where Thorgeir the Lawspeaker, threw his symbolic likenesses of the old Nordic gods into the waterfall.

23 Aldeyjarfoss



In upper Bárðardalur valley in the glacial river Skjálfandafljót, one of Iceland's most photogenic waterfalls flows over a layer of intriguing basalt columns. More basalt patterns can be seen in the shallow canyon above the falls.

24 Sprengisandur



The most common highland route in Iceland crossing from north to south. The route is a 4WD track across rivers and rough terrain. On a clear day the view of the glaciers is magnificent and the vast interior is an unbelievable sight. Only passable in summer:

25 Mývatn



The Mývatn basin sits squarely on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. Mývatn, Iceland's fourth largest lake 37 km² in area, has a shoreline deeply incised by numerous small creeks and is speckled with about 50 islands and small islets. The Mývatn region is famed for its birdlife on and around the lake, as the area is favoured by diverse species of duck and wetland birds. Indeed, Mývatn is considered one of the best birdwatching locations in Iceland. Craters and volcanoes have sculpted the landscape of the Mývatn region, many of which are famous attractions and spots of special interest; places to visit include the pseudocraters at Skútustaðir, Höfði peninsula, Dimmuborgir lava formations, Hverfjall crater, Hverir hotsprings, Krafla volcanic area, Lofthellir cave and the Mývatn Nature Baths.

26 Tjörnes



A stubby peninsula between Skjálfandi bay and Öxarfjörður bay. Layers of fossil shells and lignite can be found on the coastal cliffs down from Ytri-Tunga farm on the western side of Tjörnes. Colonies of puffins and other sea birds nest on the cliffs along the eastern coast. The bird colonies are accessible by the road marked "Tungulending".

NATURE HIGHLIGHTS

Ásbyrgi



This is one of the wonders of nature, a well forested horseshoe shaped canyon in Öxarfjörður. Ásbyrgi is part of Jökulsárgljúfur within the Vatnajökull National Park. In the immediate neighbourhood of Ásbyrgi, you will find a visitors' information centre, shop, golf course and camping, as well as many diverse hiking tracks.

28 Jökulsárgljúfur



Declared one of Iceland's National Parks in 1973 and now part of Vatnajökull National Park, Jökulsárgljúfur extends from Ásbyrgi to Dettifoss along the canyon of Jökulsá, one of the most powerful glacial rivers in Iceland and the second-longest, 206km.

29 Dettifoss



Has the greatest volume of any waterfall in Europe, 500 cubic metres of water per second plunging over the edge. Dettifoss is 45m high and 100m wide. A pleasant hiking trail, 34km in length, winds along the canyon from Dettifoss to Åsbyrgi. Camping possible in Vesturdalur.

30 Selfoss & Hafragilsfoss



Selfoss and Hafragilsfoss are not far from Dettifoss. Selfoss is a little way upstream, and is a small waterfall with a drop of around 10 meters. The walk there is about one kilometers, but it is better to drive to Hafragilsfoss which is downstream from Dettifoss, falling 27 meters into a deep canyon.

31 Melrakkaslétta



A remote headland between Öxarfjörður and Þistilfjörður. Renowned for the natural splendour of its spring and summer nights, its large number of lakes and the rich bird life it supports. On the western side is the red coloured, 73m high rock formation Rauðinúpur. Further north the small peninsula Hraunhafnartangi is the northernmost point of the Icelandic mainland, being only 3km south of the Arctic Circle.

32 Rauðanes



The cape Rauðanes is located south of Viðarfjall mountain, midway between Raufarhöfn and Þórshöfn. This small but scenic peninsula is endowed with offshore sea stacks, an exposed rock face called Stakkatorfa, caves and steep cliffs which are home to numerous nesting birds.

33 Langanes



A narrow peninsula between Pistilfjörður and Bakkaflói shaped like a goose with a very large head. A rough road leads to Fontur at the tip of the peninsula which is characterised on the northern and southern shores by steep sea cliffs known as Skoruvíkurbjarg and Skálabjarg. The Langanes peninsula is known for its rich birdlife, and excellent birdwatching spots such as the bird watching platform over Stóri-Karl cliff, where it is possible to watch the Northern Gannet and Brünnichs Guillemot from land.

34 Herðubreið



Mt. Herðubreið on the Öskjuleið Route is a 1,682m high table mountain. It is the national mountain of Iceland and often called the "Queen of Icelandic Mountains". There is a hiking trail to the top of the mountain, but due to loose rock this route is difficult and steep, requiring extreme caution.

35 Askja



Askja is a 50km² caldera in the Dyngjufjöll mountains in Vatnajökull National Park. In an eruption in 1875, an area of 11km² on the south-eastern side of Askja caved in to form Lake Öskjuvatn, and a tephra crater known as Vfti (Hell) north of it.The area is still very geologically active, with the last eruption in 1961.

NATURE HIGHLIGHTS **38**

36 Kverkfjöll



Kverkfjöll is a big massif in Vatnajökull National Park, lodged between two tongues from the main glacial cap of Vatnajökull glacier. One of Iceland's most powerful high-temperature geothermal areas is located in Kverkföll at a height of some 1,700m. By the edge of the icecap is an ice cave of particular interest, about a 3 km drive from the mountain lodge.

37 Holuhraun lava



Iceland's freshest lava Holuhraun is found at the north edge of the glacier Vatnajökull (Dyngiyiökull). The eruption in Holuhraun, which started the 29th of August 2014 and stopped on the 28th of February 2015, was eight times bigger than the well known Eyiafallajökull eruption in 2010. The eruption left over 85 km² of lava that can now be seen by taking guided jeep tours to the area. The new landscape is approached as possible, according to permission and safety precautions from time to time. On the way to Holuhraun, visitors also get to know the beautiful and rural highland landscape of North Iceland.



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Northern Lights

Northern Lights can be seen in North Iceland from the end of August to mid-April. Enjoy the clear skies by simply looking upwards towards those dancing, flickering veils of light in green, white or red, or take a guided northern lights tour to excellent observation and photography locations. These tours can include a visit to geothermal bathing areas, evening boat tours, snow cat tours or sightseeing in unique locations. The chances of seeing the Northern Lights are 66% during a three nights stay in North Iceland, and 90% for a five nights stay.

The Northern Lights – also called Aurora Borealis – are among the most spectacular shows on earth, frequently seen in North Iceland and its surroundings on clear and crisp nights. The Northern Lights occur high above the surface of the earth where the atmosphere has become extremely thin, at an altitude of 100-250 km. This phenomenon occurs in the outermost layer of the atmosphere, created by electrically charged particles that make the thin air shine, not unlike a fluorescent light. The Northern Lights can be seen in aurora belts that form 20-25 degrees around the geomagnetic poles, both in the north and the south.

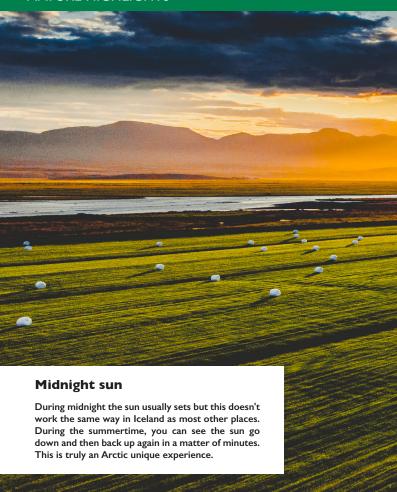
What causes this spectacular phenomenon, so characteristic of our Northern Lights here in Iceland? Well, electricity is the answer — and of course it all goes back to the sun. Tiny particles, protons and electrons caused by electronic storms on the sun (solar wind) are trapped in the earth's magnetic field where they begin to spiral back and forth along the magnetic lines of force – circle around the magnetic pole, so to speak. While rushing around endlessly in their magnetic trap, some particles escape into the earth's atmosphere where they begin to hit molecules and these impacts cause the molecules to glow, thus creating the auroras.

White and green are usually the dominant hues but sometimes there are considerable colour variations, as the pressure and composition of the atmosphere varies at different altitudes. At extremely high altitudes where the pressure is low, there tends to be a reddish glow produced by oxygen molecules when they are struck by the tiny particles of the solar wind. At lower altitudes, where there is higher pressure, the impact-irritated oxygen molecules may glow with a greenish tinge and sometimes there is a reddish lower border created by particles colliding with nitrogen molecules in the immediate vicinity.

The phenomenon is easily explained by modern science. What our ancestors may have thought when they gazed into the brightly-lit winter sky is quite another matter. But by all means don't let any scientific explanation spoil your appreciation of the beauty of the Northern Lights. They are a truly impressive spectacle, whatever their cause.



NATURE HIGHLIGHTS





HISTORY AND CULTURE ?







HISTORY AND CULTURE ??



Saga Trails:

Every town has museums representing many different aspects of life in Iceland. The culture and way of life from past centuries is commemorated in historical museums showing artefacts of olden days, mostly relating to the traditional occupations of agriculture and fishing. Natural science museums focus on representative samples and noteworthy characteristics of Iceland's geology, flora and fauna. Many museums will open up on request.

The Sturlung Trail in Skagafjörður.

Although the Age of the Sturlunga Saga was marked by acts of cruelty and gruesome battles, the events have an air of adventure. sturlungaslod.is

Icelandic SagaTrail Association.

info@sagatrail.is | sagatrail.is



Hvammstangi, KIDKA Wool factory shop

One of the biggest woolfactories in Iceland producing beautiful and high-quality products sold all over Iceland. If you stop by in Hvammstangi you are welcome to take a look in the factory and see for yourself how the sweaters are made.



♦ Hvammstangi, Höfðabraut 34

m kidka.com

3 +354 451 0060

☑ kidka@simnet.is





4 Blönduós, Þingeyrakirkja Church

Pingeyrakirkja was built in the years 1864 – 1877 by Ásgeir Einarsson farmer. The church has remained in its original making and was built from Icelandic stone with 95 cm thick walls.



Blönduós, Þingeyri farm

morthiceland.is

+354 895 4473

hunavatnshreppur@hunavatnshreppuris

Summer + by appointment



The Textile Museum in Blönduós exhibits a unique collection of homemade wool and textile items. It also exhibits beautiful Icelandic national costumes and artistic embroideries along with many of the tools and equipments used to produce them.



Blönduós, Árbraut 29

textile.is

) +354 452 4067

▼ textile@textile.is

Summer §



HISTORY AND CULTURE



6 Blönduós, Hitt og Þetta Handverk - Gallerí

Handcraft made by locals.



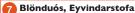
📤 Blönduós, Aðalgata 8

facebook.com/hittogthettahandverk

) +354 862 0474

All year





A theme exhibition on the lifes of the most famous and notorious outlaws in Iceland, the couple Eyvindur and Halla, who challenged the authorities for 40 years, and always escaped the claws of justice.



Blönduós, Norðurlandsvegur 4

eyvindarstofa.is

🔰 +354 453 5060 or +354 898 4685

🔀 info@bogs.is

🦺 All year





Árnes is the oldest house in Skagaströnd that still stands, built in 1899. The museum shows facilities and living conditions in the early 20th century.



Skagaströnd

skagastrond.is/arnes.asp

) +354 861 5089

dagny@marska.is

🤲 Summer + by appointment



Skagaströnd, Spákonuhof-Museum of Prophecies

Exhibition on Þórdís the Fortuneteller, that features interesting information on prophecies and fortune telling, Visitors can have their fortune told and palms read on request.



Skagaströnd

spakona.is

+354 861 5089 or +354 452 2726

☑ dagny@marska.is

Summer + by appointment



🕠 Sauðárkrókur, Puffin and Friends

Explore the nature of the north. Puffin & Friends 360° is a show about the puffin in Skagafjörður and how global warming has affected the life cycle. The exhibition will be unique in the country with a combination of virtual reality, set up and videos.



💠 Sauðárkrókur, Aðalgata 24

puffinandfriends.com

) +354 845 1590

contact@puffinandfriends.com

🕻 All year



🚹 Sauðárkrókur, 1238: Battle of Iceland

At 1238: The Battle of Iceland you can experience Iceland's bloody history and the most famous Icelandic Sagas, Sturlung Era, in an immersive interactive exhibition and virtual reality.



💠 Sauðárkrókur, Aðalgata 21

1238.is

) +354 588 1238







For more than half a century the Skagafjörður Heritage Museum has presented an exhibition in the turf farmhouse of Glaumbær. Within the authentic buildings, everyday tools are displayed in their natural environment, bearing witness to vanished times and the daily activities of people in Iceland's past.



💠 Skagafjörður, Glaumbær

glaumbaer.is

+354 453 6173

byggdasafn@skagafjordur.is

Summer + by appointment



HISTORY AND CULTURE ?



ß Skagafjörður, Víðimýrarkirkja - Víðimýri Church

The old turf church on site dates from 1834 and is considered on of the purest and most beautiful examples of traditional Icelandic architecture.



Skagafjörður, Víðimýri

natmus.is +354 849 5674

byggdasafn@skagafjordur.is

Summer + by appointment



For sale; Handmade local art and craft from leather, hides and wool from the farm. from Skagafjörður. Meat and other products straigtht from the farm.



<₽► Skagafjörður, Stórhóll

runalist.is

+354 453 8883 / +354 823 2441

runalist@runalist.is

Summer + by appointment

Skagafjörður, Lýtingsstaðir Horses and Heritage

The Old Stable was built in the authentic way from turf. The exhibition tells the story about the farm and how horses in Iceland were kept in the past Audioguide in 4 languages available.



📤 Skagafjörður, Lýtingsstaðir

lythorse.is

+354 453 8046 / +354 893 3817

info@lythorse.is

All year



🚹 Skagafjörður, Kakalaskáli

Go back in time and learn about one of the largest battles of Iceland "Haugsnesbardagi" in 1246 from an expert in the Sturlunga Saga, Sigurður Hansen.



Skagafjördur, Kringlumýri

facebook.com/kakalaskali

+354 899 2027

kakalaskali@gmail.com

By appointment

🕧 Skagafjörður, Hólar in Hjaltadalur

Hólar in Hjaltadalur is among Iceland's most remarkable historical and cultural sites. Historical trail through the area. Educational centre since 1106.



Skagafjördur, Hólar in Hjaltadalur

molar.is

+ +354 455 6333

booking@holar.is

All year



18 Skagafjörður, Hólar, The Icelandic Horse History Centre

An international centre for research, knowledge and education about the Icelandic horse.



Skagafjördur, Hólar in Hjaltadalur

sogusetur.is

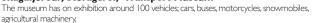
) +354 455 6345

☑ sogusetrid@gmail.com

🗱 Summer + by appointment



19 Skagafjörður, Stóragerði, Transport Museum





- 🃤 Skagafjörður, Stóragerði Farm
- storagerdi.is
 - +354 845 7400
 - ✓ storagerdi@simnet.is
 - Summer + by appointment



🙉 Hofsós, The Icelandic Emigration Centre

Illustrates the history of the Icelandic exodus to America in the 19th century.



- 💠 Hofsós, by the harbour
 - mofsos.is
 - +354 453 7935
 - hofsos@hofsos.is
- Summer + by appointment



HISTORY AND CULTURE 2



Siglufjörður, Herring Era Museum

The Herring Era Museum in Siglufjörður - Awarded maritime museum where the 'glory days' of Iceland's herring fisheries and industry are brought back to life. Winner of the Micheletti Museum Award 2004.



Siglufjörður, Snorragata 10

sild.is

+354 467 1604

safn@sild.is

Summer + by appointment





Frida lost her job at the bank in Siglufjordur in 2015. Her husband had the idea to open a café at her studio, which she opened in 2016 and produces chocolate and exhibits her art.



Siglufjörður, Túngata 40a

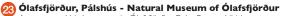
frida.is

+354 467 1117

frida@frida.is

All year





A nature and bird museum in Ólafsfjörður. Polar Bear exhibition.



Ólafsfjörður, Strandgata 4

palshusmuseum.com

+354 466 2255 or +354 848 4071

fjallasalir@gmail.com







The museum has three departments; focusing on regional aspects, natural science and also includes exhibits on a number of famous people from the community.



📤 Dalvík, Karlsrauðatorg

dalvikurbyggd.is/byggdasafn

+354 460 4928 / 892 1497

hvoll@dalvikurbyggd.is





Dalvík, Berg Cultural House Local culture house. Facilities for art exhibitions, concerts, meetings and conferences.

Dalvík, Goðabraut

dalvikurbyggd.is/berg

354 460 4930

berg@dalvikurbyggd.is

All year



Exhibition and items related to shark fishing as well as the history of Hrísey, in a house built in 1885-1886. Location for tourist information in summer.



Hrísev Island

hrisey.is | visitakureyri.is

+354 695 0077

hrisey@hrisey.net

Summer + by appointment



Hrísey Island, The Memorial Museum of Alda Halldórsdóttir The home of Alda, born in 1913, the interior of which shows in a unique way a typical working class home of that era where the past meets the present.



Hrísey Island

hrisey.is | visitakureyri.is

+354 695 0077

hrisey@hrisey.net

By appointment



Producer of Bakkalao or salted cod. The history of the company. production process and tasting, as well as a restaurant.



Hauganes

ektafiskuris

+354 466 1016 elvar@ektafiskur.is

All year





HISTORY AND CULTURE ু গ





Life and challenges north of the arctic circle.



facebook.com/intothearctic +354 895 7704

intothearctic@simnet.is

All year



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Akureyri, The Icelandic Aviation Museum

Museum relating to the history of Icelandic aviation.



flugsafn.is

+354 461 4400

flugsafn@flugsafn.is





Akureyri, The Akureyri Industrial Museum

The museum was founded to commemorate the industrial heritage of Akureyri and exhibits machinery tools of various trades and manufactured products from last century.



📤 Akureyri, Krókeyri

idnadarsafnid is

All year

+354 462 3600

idnadarsafnid@idnadarsafnid.is



Ł

😥 Akureyri, Akureyri Art Museum

The museum is located in the heart of Akureyri, by the Art Street (Listagil). Various exhibitions are offered throughout the year.



Akureyri, Kaupvangsstræti 8-12

listak.is

+354 461 2610

listak@listak.is



















whalemuseum.is info@whalemuseum.is +354 414 2800 Hafnarstétt 1, 640 Húsavík



HISTORY AND CULTURE ?



Akureyri, The Akureyri Museum

Local history of Akureyri from 19th century to modern times in modern exhibitions.



Akureyri, Aðalsstræti 58

www.akmi.is.is

+354 462 4162 minjasafnid@minjasafnid.is

All year



🔼 Akureyri, Davíðshús

A memorial museum of one of Iceland's most beloved poet, Davíð Stefánsson. His living guarters are preserved in the same condition as when he lived in the house 1944-1964.



📤 Akureyri, Bjarkarstígur 6

minjasafnid.is

+354 462 4162

minjasafnid@minjasafnid.is





🔼 Akureyri, Nonni´s House Museum

Childhood home of the writer and Jesuit priest Jón Sveinsson, Nonni, in one of Akureyri's oldest buildings.



Akureyri, Aðalstræti 54

akmus is

+354 462 4162

minjasafnid@minjasafnid.is







(6) Akureyri, Public Park and Botanical Garden

One of the northernmost botanical gardens in the world. Opened in 1912; the Botanic section was added in 1957. About 6,600 alien taxa growing in the garden in beds and nursery. Approx. 430 species of the native taxa.



Akureyri, Eyrarlandsvegur 30

lystigardur.akureyri.is

+354 462 7487

lystigardur@akureyri.is







🙀 Akureyri, Húni II, Historic Oak Boat

The renovated 130 ton oak fishing-boat built in Akureyri in 1963, serves as a historic monument to the Icelandic boat and fishing industry.



Akureyri, Torfunefsbryggja

huni.muna.is

+354 699 1950 or +354 848 4864

✓ steinipje@simnet.is

Summer + By appointment



(R) Akureyri, Toy Museum

Relive your childhood in a doll-like house full of toys from last century.



Akureyri, Aðalstræti 46

akmus.is

) +354 462 4162

minjasafnid@minjasafnid.is



Summer





HISTORY AND CULTURE ??





Exhibits telling the history of motorcycles in Iceland.





motorhjolasafn.is

All year

+354 866 3500

motorhjolasafn@motorhjolasafn.is



Ł

Akureyri, Hof Cultural and Conference Center

Hof is a cultural building designed for music and other performing arts, as well as top-notch facilities for conferences, meetings and exhibitions.



Akureyri, Strandgata 12

mak.is

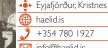
+354 450 1000

mak@mak.is All year



Eyjafjarðarsveit, Hælið The Great White Plague Center

A visual exhibition about loss, sorrow and despair but also about hope, serenity and lust for life.



+354 780 1927

info@haelid.is







A museum and shop open all year round, about Christmas and the traditional Icelandic Yule Lads.



Eyjafjarðarsveit, Slétta

esveit.is

+354 463 1433 jolagard@simnet.is

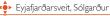
All year





Byjafjarðarsveit, The Sverrir Hermannsson's Sundry Collection

A private collection of thousands of small everyday objects.



esveit.is/smamunasafnid

) +354 463 1261

Summer + By appointment

Ł

🚹 Eyjafjörður. Safnasafnið - The Icelandic Folk Art Museum

Founded in 1995 by Níels Hafstein and Magnhildur Sigurðardóttir. The collection consists of over 3000 works by native, outsider and folk artists and close to 200 works by modern artists.



- 💠 Eyjafjörður, Svalbarðsströnd
- folkart.is
- +354 461 4066
- safngeymsla@simnet.is
- 以 Summer



Eyjafjörður, Laufás heritage site and museum

Authentic rectory and church from 1853-1882 in a picturesque site.

- 💠 Eyjafjörður, Laufás Farm
- akmus.is

+354 463 3194/+354 462 4162

Iaufas@minjasafnid.is

Summer + by appointment



6 Grenivík, Fisheries Museum

Fishing Museum Grenivík was opened on 16 July 2009. It at the site of the old baiting shed Hlíðarendi, one shed remains of those settlements were for operators in Grenivík in the first half of last century.



💠 Eyjafjörður, Grenivík

grenivik.is

+354 864 5524

⊠ bjornai@internet.is

Summer + By appointment



HISTORY AND CULTURE ??





Gjóska is an Icelandic design company run by the teacher and textile designer Birna Kristín Friðriksdóttir and her husband the farmer Guðbergur Egill Eyjólfsson





Fnjóskadalur, Brúnagerði

gioska.is

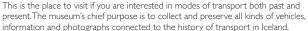
+354 863 3112

gjoska@gjoska.is All year



Ł







vstafell.is

+354 464 3133 or +354 861 1213

sverririfelli@gmail.com

Summer + By appointment



49 Greniaðarstaður Old Farmhouse

The farm of Grenjaðarstaður dates back to Iceland's settlement. The picturesque turf house that currently exists was one of Iceland's largest and people continued to live in it until 1949



Aðaldalur, Grenjaðarstaður

husmus is

+354 464 3688

safnahus@husmus.is

Summer





Exhibition of Sigurgeir's bird collection, consisting of hundreds of birds and egg specimens.



Mývatn Ytri-Neslönd

fuglasafn.is +354 464 4477

fuglasafn@fuglasafn.is

All year





51 Húsavík, Whale Museum

A comprehensive museum on whales, their habitats and way of life. Now exhibits a 25 m long skeleton of a Blue Whale that drifted to a beach in Skagi.



+ Húsavík, Hafnarstétt I

whalemuseum.is

+354 414 2800

info@whalemuseum.is

All year



52 Húsavík, District Cultural Center, Museum House

A general museum of nature, industry and culture in the district of Þingeyjarsýsla. Winner of The Icelandic Museum Award 2012.



💠 Húsavík, Stóragarði 17

husmus.is

) +354 464 1860

safnahus@husmus.is







Dedicated to the history of human exploration, the main exhibition features photographs and artifacts from the Apollo Astronaut Training near Húsavík in 1965 and 1967.



Húsavík, Héðinsbraut 3

explorationmuseum.com

+354 463 3399

Marill@bookiceland.is

🧱 All year





In an old beautiful yellow house and pretty turf houses, 23 kilometres from Húsavík is a folk museum. There you can travel through Icelandic time from settlement to the present.



💠 Tjörnes, Mánárbakki

morthiceland.is

+354 864 2057 or +354 898 0424

manarbakki@visir.is

Summer + By appointment



HISTORY AND CULTURE



病 Kópasker, Snartarstaðir Library and Local Folk Museum

A diverse selection of handicrafts in the farming community, together with a library and a collection of photographs.



💠 Kópasker, Snartastaðir

husmus.is +354 465 2171

✓ safnahus@husmus.is

Summer



56 Raufarhöfn, Arctic Henge

Harnessing the Midnight Sun $a\overline{t}$ the Arctic Circle, the Henge is inspired by the cosmos and dwarf-lore of the ancient eddic poemVöluspá. The Arctic Henge is under construction.



Raufarhöfn

northiceland.is

+354 465 1233

arctichenge@gmail.com







Iceland is the only country in the world where Leader Sheep exists. You find collections of pictures, stories, and information about the Leader Sheep.



💠 Þórhshöfn, Svalbarð, Þistilfirði

forystusetur.is

) +354 852 8899

✓ forystusetur@forystusetur.is







The priests cottage, Sauðaneshús was built in 1879. Today it houses a heritage exhibition, information center and a café where national refreshments are available. The house is a part of The National Museum Historic Buildings Collection.



🌵 Þórshöfn, Sauðanes

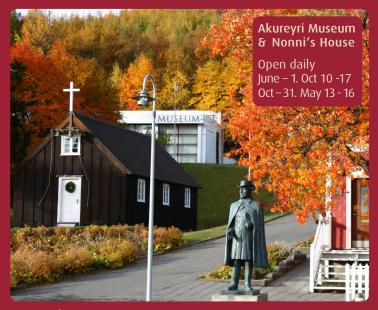
husmus.is

) +354 468 1430

xafnahus@husmus.is









AKUREYRI MUSEUM Nonni's House

Family friendly local history museum. Discover Akureyri from the 19th century to the present day. Various short-term exhibitions. Annual Christmas exhibition. Hands on experience.

Nonni's House is one of the oldest in town containing the story of a 12 year old boy who lived there and became a world famous writer of children's books at the beginning of the 20th century publishing books even in Chinese.

Easily reached by foot from The Botanical Gardens and Town center. Free buses nr. 5 / 6.

Pass to 5 museums.

FREE Wife



ACTIVITIES **3** Travel Agencies

In Iceland there are many professional travel agencies licenced by The Icelandic Tourist Board, offering their services to tourists travelling in Iceland all year round. If you need any help in planning your vacation in North Iceland, summer or winter, please contact any of the many licensed travel agencies listed here in alphabetical order.



Brekkulækur, Arinbjörn Jóhannsson, Erlebnistouren

A licensed travel and tourist office on a farm which has been owned by the same family for the past 100 years. Gentle tourism in harmony with people and nature.



<♣> Húnaflói Brekkulækur

abbi-island is

+354 451 2938

 brekka@nett.is 🕻 All year



Ferðaskrifstofa Akureyrar

A travel agency offering various travel services to groups and individuals. The only travel agency outside the Reykjavík area that has an IATA licence.



<**ô**► Akureyri

aktravel.is

+354 460 0600

aktravel@aktravel.is

All year



Fjallasýn Rúnars Óskarssonar / Arctic Nature Experience:

Specializing in providing various choices of transportation and guided tours to individuals and groups on tours across the country, particularly in the Northeast. We provide our services all seasons and for different sizes of groups. Flexibility is our strength. Fjallasýn provides a shuttle service to and from Húsavík Airport and other selected locations such as Mývatn, Akureyri, Hraunhafnartangi and Vatnajökull National Park."



Húsavík

fiallasyn.is

+354 464 3940 info@fjallasyn.is

All year





Geo Travel

Family run tour operator located by Lake Mývatn. Lofthellir Ice & Lava Cave tour, Super Jeep tours to Askia Caldera, tailor made private tours & snowmobiling Tours.



◆ Mývatn, Geiteyjarströnd

geotravel.is

+354 464 4442

info@geotravel.is

🕻 All year



ACTIVITIES 3 Travel Agencies

Hestasport - Activity Tours

Offers a wide variety of short and long horseback riding tours. Our tours are suitable for fanatical horse enthusiasts, but also for first-time riders. Our guests are welcome to also book one of our cottages.



Varmahlíð, Vegamót

riding.is

+354 453 8383

info@riding.is All year

Hike and Bike

An adventure and activity oriented company by Lake Mývatn. Selection of guided hiking and mountain-biking tours in North-East Iceland. Tours for people of all levels of ability.



<ô> Mývatn. Revnihlíð

hikeandbike.is

+354 899 4845

info@hikeandbike.is

All year



Icelandic Adventures

A travel agency and a tour operator which offer all kinds of day tours from Akureyri and Mývatn. We specialize in Snowmobile tours, Ice fishing tours, Horse Riding, River Rafting, Fishing Tours, Sightseeing Tours by car or airplane, Snowcat Tours and many more.



Akureyri.

icelandicadventures.is

+354 660 1642 or +354 779 2220

info@icelandicadventures.is

All year





Inspiration Iceland

Specialised in Wellbeing, Health, Yoga and Husky dogsledding tours.



Akureyri, Knarrarberg

inspiration-iceland.com

+354 865 9429

info@inspiration-iceland.com



All year





Lýtingsstaðir Riding Tours

Short riding tours for all levels of experience and multi day tours for experienced riders. Farm holidays for the whole family. Horses & Heritage presentation. The Old Stable exhibition.



Skagafjörður, Lýtingsstaðir

lythorse.is

+354 453 8064 or +354 893 3817

info@lythorse.is

All year



Mundo

Mundo focuses on education, culture, diversion and training for workplaces, schools, teachers or a group of friends who like content based trips and travelling from the inside.



Siglufjörður, Lækjargata 10

mundo.is

.) +354 561 4646

margret@mundo.is

🚺 All year



Nonni Travel

A sustainable awarded travel agency, est. 1989. All private tours available for individuals and groups of all sizes. Located by the town square in Akureyri.



🃤 Akureyri, Brekkugata 5

nonnitravel.is

+354 461 1841

nonni@nonnitravel.is





North Sailing

The whale capital of Iceland is waiting! See whales and puffins in their natural habitat. Join an authentic sailboat or go fully Carbon-Neutral on our completely silent, electric boat!



<.p>◆ Húsavík by the harbour

northsailing.is +354 464 7272

info@northsailing.is

All year



ACTIVITIES 3 Travel Agencies

North West Adventures



A travel agency in North Iceland offering exciting day tours for everyone. Our focus is on slow travel and personalized service. Come join us for a food tour, go horseback riding, birdwatching or meet the locals.



- Varmahlíð, Glaumbær
- northwestadventures.is
 - +354 867 8133
- info@northwestadventures.is
- 🖺 All year



Pólar Hestar

We are a licensed family-run company offering a wide range of short and long riding tours. The tours are suitable for beginners and advanced riders. Accommodation available.



- Grenivík, Grýtubakka II.
- polarhestar.is
 - +354 896 1879 or +354 893 1879
- polarhestar@polarhestar.is
- 🖺 All year



Saga Travel



Saga Travel is a creative and dynamic tour operator with small group guarantee for all scheduled departures. We offer day tours from Akureyri, Lake Mývatn and Reykjavik and a range of private tours, short breaks and tailor made travel experiences all over Iceland.



- <Ô≻ Akureyri, Fjölnisgata 6a
 - sagatravel.is
 - +354 558 8888
 - sagatravel@sagatravel.is
 - 🗱 All year





Saltvík

Horse farm offering riding tours and accommodation.



- Húsavík, Saltvík
- saltvik.is
- +354 847 9515
- All year





SBA Norðurleið



A bus company specialising in bus rental and offering high-grade buses. Also offers sightseeing tours from Akureyri to the natural beauty spots in the North-East of Iceland.



Akureyri, Hjalteyrargata 10

sha.is

+354 550 0700

✓ sba@sba.is

All year



Seal Travel

Travel agency located in the North West of Iceland offering various tours to groups and individuals. Experience the authentic highlights of the north with Seal Travel's unique Iceland tours and packages.



Hvammstangi, Seal Center

sealtravel.is

+354 451 2345

info@sealtravel.is







Slow Iceland

A small travel agency that specializes in nature and authentic experience tourism.



◆ Siglufjörður, Hverfisgata 5b

slowiceland.com

+354 845 4766

info@slowiceland.com

🖺 All year





Sport Tours

We operate our tours all over Iceland and offer a variety of tailor-made and activity-packed tours for groups. Private and scheduled tours for groups and individuals.



◆ Eyjafjörður / Akureyri

sporttours.is

+354 899 8000 or +354 461 2968

sporttours@sporttours.is







ACTIVITIES 3 Travel Agencies

Travel North



Destination management company operating in northeast Iceland, with special focus on walking and hiking tours in Húsavík, Diamond Circle packages and the northern region of the country in general.



- Húsavík, Garðarsbraut 5
- travelnorth.is
- +354 894 1470 info@travelnorth.is
- All year



Viking Heliskiing

Viking Heliskiing specializes in heliskiing trips in the north part of Iceland. Our headquarters are located in Ólafsfjorður and Tröllaskagi (the Troll peninsula) is our main heli-skiing area, a world class skiing area with thousands of slopes waiting for their first descents.



- <ê> Siglufjörður
- wikingheliskiing.is
- +354 846 1674
- info@vikingheliskiing.is
- All year







"AN AMAZING **EXPERIENCE !"**



ACTIVITIES 3





ACTIVITIES **3** Boat Tours • Whale Watching

Sailing out on the Atlantic Ocean, towards or even beyond the Arctic Circle is something unique. Little can compare to feeling the fresh ocean breeze whipping your face while riding the waves in search of seals or whales and watching the sea birds soaring into the sky. Sea-angling is fun and if you are lucky you might even catch some of the ocean's "silver darlings" which will doubtless taste delicious at the end of an enjoyable day.



Boat Tours • Whale Watching



ACTIVITIES **3** Boat Tours • Whale Watching











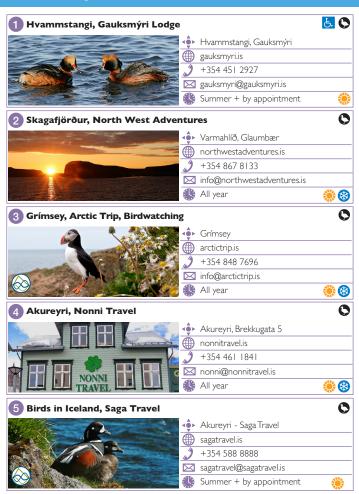


WHALEWATCHINGAKUREYRI.IS / +354 497 1000

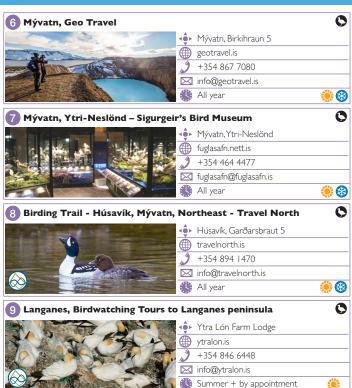
ACTIVITIES | Boat Tours • Whale Watching



Bird Watching



ACTIVITIES 🤰 Bird Watching





MÝVATN NATURE BATHS

pre-book online at myvatnnaturebaths.is

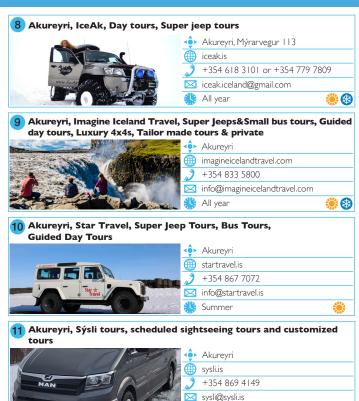
ACTIVITIES 🤰 Jeep Tours • Bus Tours • Car Rentals

Jeep/Bus tours through the rough terrain of the mountainous landscape of the north constitute the highlight of your visit to Iceland. The breathtaking beauty of North Iceland's highland wilderness will remain in your memory for ever.





ACTIVITIES 🤰 Jeep Tours • Bus Tours • Car Rentals



All year

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ACTIVITIES | jeep Tours • Bus Tours • Car Rentals

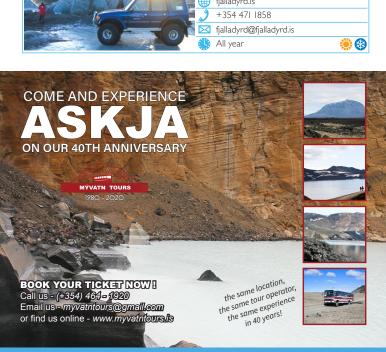


All year



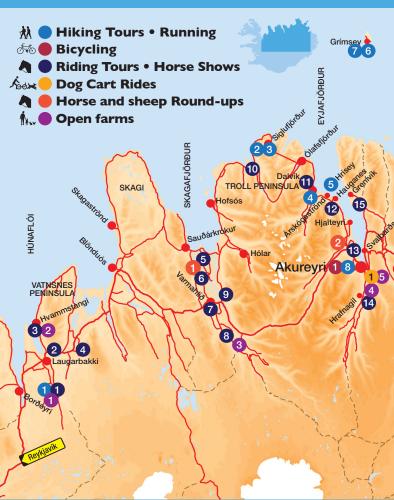
ACTIVITIES Jeep Tours • Bus Tours • Car Rentals







ACTIVITIES 3

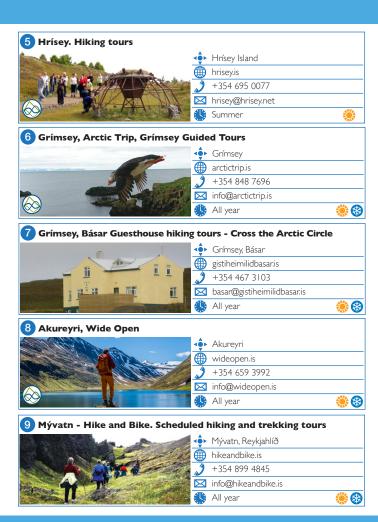




ACTIVITIES | | Hiking Tours • Running

During recent years, services relating to walking and hiking have increased significantly in North Iceland. Trail maps have been published in many areas and can be bought at tourist information centres. Just put on your hiking boots - here you will find adventure. Special hiking programmes are on offer during summer in the north of Iceland, where each district plans "hikes for the day" in their area, during a whole week.





ACTIVITIES 🤰 Hiking Tours • Running



fjalladyrd@fjalladyrd.is
All year

Bicycling

Cycling is a mode of travel which gives you the chance to be in close contact with nature all year round. Renting a bike is a great way to explore this land of fire and ice.



ACTIVITIES 3 Bicycling



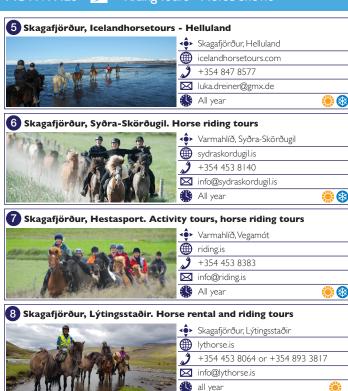


Riding Tours • Horse Shows

Riding tours for any ability, horse shows and exhibitions are widely available in North Iceland, including Skagafjörður, the centre of Icelandic horsemanship. Be sure not to miss the opportunity to experience Tölt, the unique gait of the Icelandic horse. Experiencing an autumn roundup by the owners of free-ranging horses is no less of an adventure. Sitting on the corral fence and watching the action, you will see excitement, hear singing, and find happiness in every face.



ACTIVITIES 3 Riding Tours • Horse Shows







flugumyri.com

9 +354 453 8814 or +354 895 8814

flugumyri@flugumyri.is

Summer + by appointment



10 Skagafjörður, Langhús horse tours, Guided Horse Riding Tours Skagafjörður, Langhús icelandichorse.is +354 847 8716 or +354 865 4951 icelandichorse@icelandichorse.is All year 11 Dalvík, Hringsholt, Tvistur, Horse Rental and Riding Tours Dalvík, Hringsholt tvisturis +354 861 9631 All year * 12 Eyjafjörður, Sporttours. Horse riding tours Eyjafjörður / Akureyri sporttours.is +354 899 8000 or +354 894 2967 sporttours@sporttours.is Summer + by appointment 13 Akureyri, Skjaldarvík Tours, Horse Tours, **Lessons for Kids May-September**





skialdarvik.is

+354 552 5200 skjaldarvik@skjaldarvik.is

Summer



ACTIVITIES 3 Riding Tours • Horse Shows



Eyjafjörður, Brúnir

+354 863 1470 or +354 845 8933

brunirhorse@brunirhorse.is

summer + by appointment





Grenivík, Grýtubakki II

polarhestar.is

+354 896 1879 or +354 893 1879

polarhestar@polarhestar.is









🍨 Bárðardalur, Eyjardalsá

eyjardalsa.is

+354 693 7757

booking@eyjardalsa.is





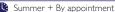




♣ Húsavík, Saltvík

saltvik.is

+354 847 9515







Sheep and Horse Round-up

Sheep Round-up, September - October

The rounding up of sheep usually occurs during the month of September in the north of Iceland. This takes place in all districts and if you are interested, please check with tourist information centres in each district for further details on time and location.

Horse Round-up, September - October

Nowhere in Iceland are more horses gathered in the round-ups than in the north. Hundreds of horses are herded into the mountains in July, then, at the end of September and the beginning of October, farmers drive both sheep and horses down from their summer pastures in the highlands to lower land - just as they have done for centuries. The main round-ups are Viðidalstungurétt in Húnaþing-vestra, Skrapatungurétt in East Húnavatnssýsla and Laufskálarétt in Skagaljörður.

Further information at www.visithunathing.is and www.visitskagafjordur.is



Dog Cart Rides



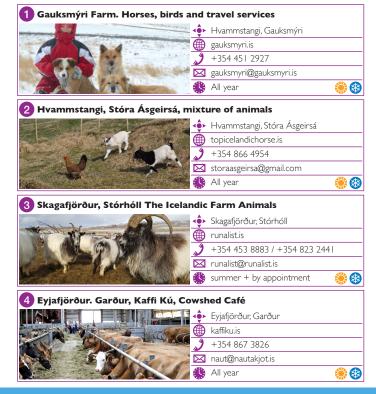


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Open Farms

In the north of Iceland, many farms are open to visitors. Farmers are pleased to allow you to visit their stables and barns and learn more about their animals.





ACTIVITIES 3





From gentle family float trips to adrenaline-pumping whitewater and remote multi-day expeditions, it is no surprise that North Iceland has gained a reputation as one of Europe's top rafting destinations. Rafting down the glacial rivers, Jökulsá Vestari or Jökulsá Austari is an ideal option. Such trips are immensely popular, since the rivers flow through unique, spectacular canyons and tempt an ever-increasing number of people to experience this challenging sport.

River Rafting



Jet Ski



Scuba Diving and Snorkeling / SUP Boarding

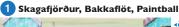
Scuba Diving and Snorkeling



SUP Boarding



Paintball



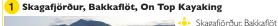


+354 453 8245 or +354 899 8245

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All year

Kayaking and Canoing



hakkaflot com +354 453 8245 or +354 899 8245

bakkaflot@bakkaflot.is

Summer



Skagafjörður, Viking Rafting, Kayaking



Skagafjörður, Hafgrímsstaðir

vikingrafting.com + 354 823 8300

info@vikingrafting.com

Summer



3 Siglufjörður, Top Mountaineering, Kayaking



Siglufjörður, Suðurgata 6

toppmountaineering.com

+354 898 4939

gesturhansa@simnet.is

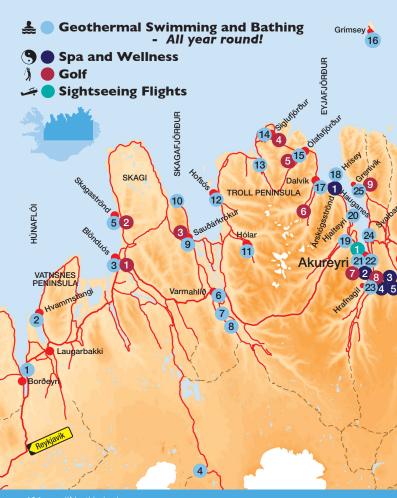
Summer

Kayaking and Canoing





ACTIVITIES 3





North Iceland is the the place to go for those who seek the ultimate bathing experience. The "musts" include the famous Mývatn Nature Baths, The Beer Spa, GeoSea seabaths and the local swimming pools. The historic Grettislaug geothermal pool, named after Grettir the strong, gives you an opportunity to relax while surrounded by the ocean and black sand beach, while looking at Drangey Iceland known for its puffins and rich birdlife. The Hofsós swimming pool is known to be one of the world's most beautiful spots to take a dip in, located on the cliffs of Skagafjörður. Geothermal hot water is in every town, so there usually is a warm swimming pool, jacuzzies, and saunas. Soaking in a hot outdoor pool after a day spent outdoors skiing or hiking is a magical experience.

Swimming pools are open all year round!

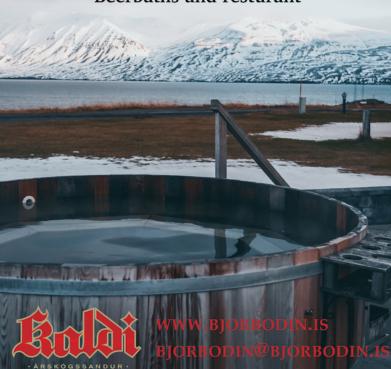
- Reykir, Geothermal natural pool Tel. +354 451 0040
- Hvammstangi, Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 451 2532
- Blönduós, Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 452 4178
- 4 Hyeravellir, Geothermal pool by the mountain hut. Tel. +354 452 4200
- 5 Skagaströnd, Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 452 2806. Open May-Oct.
- Skagafjörður, Varmahlíð Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 453 8824
- Skagafjörður, Bakkaflöt Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 453 8245
- 8 Skagafjörður, Steinsstaðir Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 453 8812
- 9 Skagafjörður, Sauðárkrókur, Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 453 5226
- 10 Skagafjörður, Grettislaug, Geothermal natural pool. Tel. +354 455 6161
- 11 Skagafjörður, Hólar in Hjaltadalur Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 455 6333
- 12 Skagafjörður, Hofsós Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 455 6070 💍
- 13 Skagafjörður, Sólgarðar Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 467 1033
- 14 Siglufjörður Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 464 9170
- 15 Ólafsfjörður Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 464 9250

- 16 Grímsey Island Swimming Pool.Tel. +354 467 3155
- 17 Dalvík Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 460 4940
- 18 Hrísey Island Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 461 2255
- 19 Eyjafjörður, Þelamörk Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 460 1780
- 20 Eyjafjörður, Hjalteyri Geothermal Jacuzzi. Tel. +354 862 2949
- 21 Akureyri, Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 461 4455 👃
- 22 Akureyri Glerárlaug, Indoor Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 462 1539
- 23 Eyjafjörður, Hrafnagil Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 464 8107
- 24 Eyjafjörður, Svalbarðseyri Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 461 2074
- 25 Eyjafjörður, Grenivík, Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 463 3218
- 26 Fnjóskadalur, Illugastaðir Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 462 6199
- 27 Hótel Edda Stórutjörnum Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 444 4890
- 28 Reykjadalur, Laugar Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 464 6308
- 29 Húsavík, Heiðarbær Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 464 3903
- 30 Húsavík, Geo Sea geothermal natural pool. Tel. +354 464 1210
- 31 Húsavík Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 464 6190
- 32 Öxarfjörður, Lundur Geothermal Swimming Pool. Tel. +354 465 2248
- 33 Raufarhöfn Swimmingpool. Tel. +354 465 2254
- 34 Þórshöfn Swimmingpool. Tel. +354 468 1515
- 35 Askja, the volcanic crater Víti, a natural crater with geothermal water

ACTIVITIES 🥦 Spa and Wellness







ACTIVITIES 🥦 Spa and Wellness



Sightseeing Flights

Lift your spirits and view the geographical wonders of the north more clearly. It is a totally different experience to see volcanoes, waterfalls and glaciers, while soaring above them in the sky.

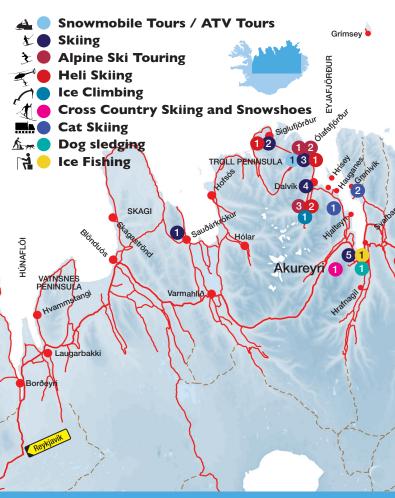


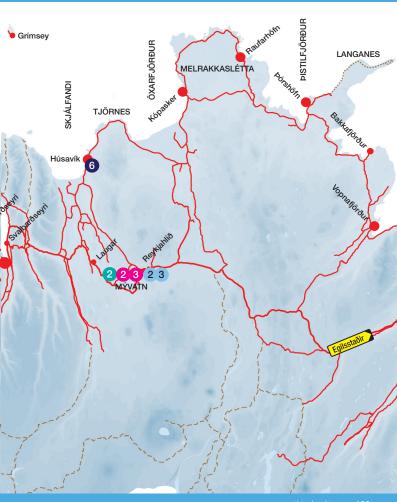
Golf

The popularity of golf has been rising steadily, as golfers manage to combine the enjoyment of sport and outdoor exercise. Many interesting golf courses can be found in the North of Iceland. The famous Arctic Open tournament at Akureyri Golf Course, the northernmost 18 hole golf course in the world, takes place around summer solstice, under the rays of the midnight sun. Come to the North and indulge yourself by taking part in a round or two of golf.

- Blönduós, Vatnahverfi Golf Course, 9 holes, par 70 Tel. +354 452 4980
- 2 Skagaströnd, Háagerði Golf Course, 9 holes, par 72 Tel. +354 892 5089
- 3 Sauðárkrókur, Hlíðarendi Golf Course, 9 holes, par 72 Tel. +354 453 5075
- 4 Siglufjörður, Hóladalur Golf Course, 9 holes, par 72 Tel. +354 461 7730
- Ólafsfjörður, Skeggjabrekka Golf Course, 9 holes, par 66 Tel. +354 466 26 I I
- 6 Dalvík, Arnarholt Golf Course, 9 holes, par 70 Tel. +354 466 1204
- Akureyri, Jaðar Golf Course, 18 holes, par 71 Tel. +354 462 2974
- 8 Eyjafjörður, Leifsstaðir Golf Course, 9 holes, par 27 Tel. +354 862 1610, leifsstadir.is
- Grenivík, Hvammur Golf Course, 9 holes, par 68 Tel. +354 896 9927
- 10 Fnjóskadalur, Lundsvöllur Golf Course, 9 holes, par 68 Tel. +3540020897 0760
- Mývatn, Krossdalur Golf Course, 9 holes, par 66 Tel. +354 856 1159
- Húsavík, Katlavöllur Golf Course, 9 holes, par 70
- Öxarfjörður, Ásbyrgi Golf Course, 9 holes, par 66 Tel. +354 892 2145

ACTIVITIES 3





ACTIVITIES 🦻

Winter Magic in North Iceland

North Iceland is the number one winter destination in Iceland. Seven ski areas, including Hlőarfjall the countrie's most popular one, offer slopes and lifts of all levels, the season extending from November to May. Facilities for cross-country skiers, with prepared trails can be found in many locations. Possibilities for backcountry skiing, alpine ski touring, cat skiing and heli skiing are endless, with the Troll Peninsula (Tröllaskagi) being the centre of activity. Skiing on virgin slopes all the way down to the Arctic Ocean is what characterizes this skiers' paradise where snow conditions remain favourable well into spring. Northern lights are often enjoyed in North Iceland. From end of August to April the blackness of the sky may be suddenly disturbed by dancing, flickering veils of the Northern lights, in green, white or red. The area offers locations where conditions for observation are excellent. No better spot is imaginable for re-tanking physically and mentally on a cold autumn or winter day, or after the strain of a hiking or skiing trip, than one of numerous geothermal outdoor swimming pools with its hot tubs and saunas or the natural geothermal poosl such as the famous lake Mývatn Nature baths and GeoSea baths in Húsavík.



Dog Sledging • Ice Fishing

Dog Sledging



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Ski&snowboard teaching



The ski areas in North Iceland all occupy their own niche in the region's magnificent landscape. They offer slopes and lifts suited to both children and adults, and the season can extend from mid-November to May. Outside the organized ski areas, the possibilities for backcountry skiing are endless, with the Troll Peninsula being the centre of activity. The terrain looks as though it had been specially created for Alpine ski touring, cat skiing and heli skiing, all of which are activities currently on offer for the avid skier. Skiing on virgin slopes all the way down to the Arctic Ocean is what characterizes this skiers' paradise where snow conditions remain favourable well into spring the season lasting from mid-February to the end of May. Facilities for cross-country skiers, with prepared trails can be found in many locations and also some organized cross country and alpine ski touring trips. Winter in the North offers a true family paradise, promising pleasure and spiritual renewal in the embrace of snow-covered mountains.

skiiceland.is

- Sauðárkrókur, Tindastóll Skiing Area Tel. +354 453 6707
- 2 Siglufjörður, Skarðsdalur Skiing Area Tel. +354 467 1806
- **Ólafsfjörður, Tindaöxl Skiing Area**Tel. +354 466 2527
- Dalvík, Böggvistaðafjall Skiing Area
 Tel. +354 466 1010
- **Akureyri, Hlíðarfjall Skiing Area** Tel. +354 462 2280
- 6 Húsavík Skiing Area Tel. +354 464 6199

Statistics Skiiceland

	Akureyri	Sauðárkrókur	Dalvík	Siglufjörður	Ólafsfjörður
Vertical meters	538 m	471 m	322 m	480 m	160 m
Skiable area	220 km²	II5 km²	85 km²	170 km²	20 km²
Number of ski lifts	8	3	2	4	1
Number of ski slopes	23	12	4	10	2
Total length of ski slopes	19 km	15 km	9 km	6 km	2 km

5x5 Ski Pass

This is the ski pass that serves five of North Iceland resorts: Sauðárkrókur Ski Area, Siglufjörður Ski Area, Ólafsfjörður Ski Area, Dalvík Ski Area and Akureyri Ski Area. This means that you can ski in 5 different resort for 5 days. If you want to ski at one resort for 4 days and then do another one for 1 day that's possible. The 5X5 Ski pass is available at every resort and you don't need to buy it in advance.



ACTIVITIES 🤰 Alpine Ski Touring

Alpine Ski Touring





Siglufjörður
scandicmountainguides.com

) +354 846 1674

info@scandicmountainguides.com

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Ólafsfjörður, Amazing Mountains



- 💠 Ólafsfjörður, Hrannarbyggð 15
- amazingmountains.is
- +354 863 2406
- ☑ solvilarus@gmail.com
- 队 All year



3 Dalvík, Bergmenn Mountain Guides, Alpine Ski touring



- Dalvík, Svarfaðardalur, Klængshóll
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Ice Climbing

1 Dalvík, Bergmenn Mountain Guides. Ice climbing



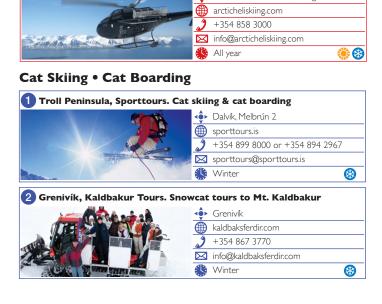
- Dalvík, Svarfaðardalur, Klængshóll
- arcticheliskiing.com
- +354 858 3000
- info@arcticheliskiing.com
 - Winter



Heli Skiing • Ice Climbing

Heli Skiing





ACTIVITIES 🤰 Cat Skiing • Cat Boarding

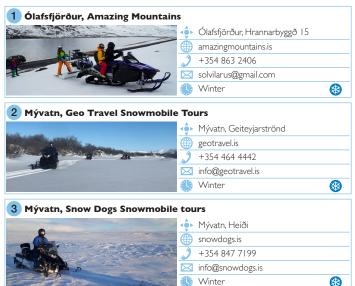
Cross Country Skiing and Snowshoes



Snowmobile Tours / ATV Tours

Snowmobile Tours / ATV Tours

Snowmobile tours provide a unique opportunity to mix adventure and sightseeing experiences together, and are a key to a great day in the north of Iceland.



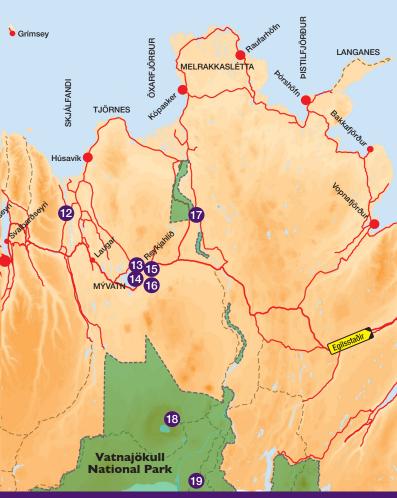




NATIONAL PARKS - NATURE RESERVES 🗽







NATIONAL PARKS - NATURE RESERVES



A large section of Vatnajökull National Park, Europe's largest National Park, lies in the north of Iceland, the canyon of Jökulsá river forming its northernmost part. There are several interesting places to visit in the park, such as Dettifoss waterfall, Hólmatungur, Hljóðaklettar, Ásbyrgi, Askja, Kverkfjöll Mountains, the lavafield of Ódáðahraun and the new lavafield of Holuhraun, which was formed in 2014-2015. For further information see www.yp.is. In the north there are also several Nature Reserves which are areas protected because of the landscape and their importance to wildlife (flora and fauna). More information on these sites below are found in northiceland.is

- 🚹 Kattarauga Vatnsdalur Valley
- Averavellir Kjölur Highland Route
- Guðlaugstungur Northwest of Hofsjökull Glacier
- 4 Hrútey Island in Blanda River Blönduós
- 5 Spákonufellshöfði Skagaströnd
- 6 Miklavatn Lake Skagafjörður
- 7 Hraun Öxnadalur Valley
- 8 Böggvistaðafjall Mountain Dalvík
- 9 Svarfaðardalur Valley Nature Reserve Dalvík
- 10 Krossanesborgir Eyjafjörður
- Eyjafjörður Fjord Giant submarine smectite cones that rise from the seafloor at a depth of 70 metres
- 12 Vestmannsvatn Lake Reykjadalur
- 13 Mývatn Lake and Laxá River
- 14 Skútustaðagígar, Pseudocraters Lake Mývatn
- 15 Dimmuborgir Lava Formations Lake Mývatn
- 16 Hverfjall Explosion Crater Lake Mývatn
- 17 Dettifoss, Hafragilsfoss and Selfoss Waterfalls in Jökulsárgljúfur Canyon – Vatnajökull National Park
- Askja Caldera, Vatnajökull National Park and Nature Reserve – Herõubreiðarlindir
- (19) Kverkfjöll Mountains, Vatnajökull National Park and Hvannalindir Nature Reserve

Birding in North Iceland

The rich bird life of North Iceland, distributed over widely varying habitats, displays a diversity seldom surpassed in Iceland and offers accessible areas for seeing species such as the Barrow's goldeneye, harlequin duck, gyrfalcon, rock ptarmigan, the great northern gannet and the guillemot. Wetlands, are famed for rich bird life, constituting an important habitat of many Icelandic breeding species, and several of the most renowned of these areas are in North Iceland.

Three Birding Trails have been mapped out for North Iceland, each one having its own character. North East Iceland, including the famous Lake Mývatn region, provides you with more species than anywhere else found in Iceland. This is one of the best duck spotting environments in the world where you easily find the Barrow's goldeneye and harlequin ducks and areas unique for their dense populations of gyrfalcon and rock ptarmigan. The steep cliffs of Skoruvíkurbjarg present the only breeding grounds of the northern gannet in mainland Iceland, as well as accessible puffin colonies in their natural surroundings, moulded by volcanic activity.

In Northwest Iceland many species of birds are accompanied by rich local wildlife. In Vatnsnes peninsula you can come up close to seals without disturbing them, either from sea or land. Skagafjörður is often named the cradle of Icelandic horsemanship as it has the highest number of horses per capita in Iceland. In Drangey Island you find a protected area with flocks of seabirds such as the puffin and Brünnich's guillemot. Gauksmýri Lake is ideal for spotting the horned grebe and the red-necked phalarope.

Eyjafjörður fjord and Tröllaskagi Peninsula are characterised by high mountains surrounding deep valleys. Birding areas include the protected wetlands of Húsabakki, calm seas for seabirds and the tranquil islands of Hrísey, Pearl of Eyjafjörður, where the rock ptarmigan behaves in an unusually tame manner, and Grímsey Island on the Arctic Circle which provides excellent opportunities for watching great flocks of puffin and other seabirds.

northiceland.is/birding



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WARM WELCOME TO THE ARCTIC NORTH

Ideally located in the North of Iceland, **Akureyri International Airport is a great gateway** to unique destinations. Close to many of Iceland's most spectacular natural wonders, the airport also offers frequent flights to Greenland, Grímsey island, Vopnafjörður and Þórshöfn.



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Summer



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5 Blönduós, Kiljan guesthouse



- 🂠 Blönduós, Aðalgata 2
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bgguesthouse@gmail.com

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asarguesthouse.is

+354 863 1515

asar@asarguesthouse.is

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eaglesnorth.is +354 663 0498

info@eaglesnorth.is

All year







- 📤 Grenivík, Miðgarðar 2
- grenivikguesthouse.is
 - +354 861 289
- grenivik@grenivikguesthouse.is
 - All year







- Fnjóskadalur, Hróarsstaðir
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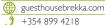
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info@myvatnaccommodation.is









Mývatn, Vogar

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info@vogahraun.is

All year







Húsavík, Saltvík

saltvik.is

+354 847 9515

saltvik@saltvik.is









Húsavík, Laugarbrekka 16

husavikguesthouse.is

+354 463 3399

info@husavikguesthouse.is







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💠 Þistilfjörður, Holt

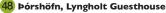
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info@grasteinnguesthouse.is









💠 Þórshöfn, Langanesvegur 12

Iyngholt.is

) +354 468 1238

🔀 lyngholt@lyngholt.is

🍦 All year







Þistilfjörður, Svalbarð

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) +354 694 8439

✓ forystusetur@forystusetur.is

All year







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13 Eyjafjörður, Sporttours, Ytri-Vík Cottages / apartments



- Eyjafjörður, Ytri-Vík
- sporttours.is
 - +354 899 8000 or +354 894 2967
- sporttours@sporttours.is
- All year



14 Akureyri Elves Apartment



- Akureyri, Möðruvallastræti 5
- inspiration-iceland.com
- +354 865 9429 / +354 846 2692
- info@inspiration-iceland.com
- All year



15 Akureyri, Pearl of the North Apartments





- Akureyri, Munkabverárstræti 33
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Akureyri, Akureyri Backpackers



- Akureyri, Hafnarstræti 98
- akureyribackpackers.com
- +354 571 9050
- akureyri@backpackers.is
- All year

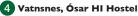


3 Akureyri, Akureyri Hostel



- Akureyri, Stórholt I
- akureyrihostel.is +354 894 4299
- akureyri@hostel.is
- All year







- Vatnsnes, Ósar
- facebook.com/osarhostel/
- +354 862 2778
- osar@simnet.is
 - Summer



5 Kópasker, Kópasker Hostel, Akurgerði 7



- Kópasker, Akurgerði 7
- hostel.is
 - +354 465 2314
- hostel@kopasker.is
- All year



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Laugarbakki, camping Tel +354 451 2987

Hvammstangi, camping

Tel +354 899 0008 or +354 615 3779

Vatnsnes, Hamarsbúð camping

Tel. + 354 451 2696

Kjölur Route, Hveravellir camping Tel +354 452 4200

Svartárdalur, Húnaver camping Tel 354 452 7110

Blönduós, Blönduból camping Tel. +354 892 3455

Skagaströnd camping

Tel. +354 848 770

Skagafjörður, Lónkot camping Tel. +354 453 7432

Skagafjörður, Sólgarðar / Akrar Tel. +354 467 1054

Siglufjörður, camping Tel. +354 464 9100

Siglufjörður, Hóll camping Tel. +354 860 8417

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Grenivík, camping Tel +354 463 3218

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Fnjóskadalur, Systragil camping

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Reykjadalur, Stóru Laugar camping

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Mývatn, Bjarg camping

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Aðaldalur, Jónasarvöllur camping

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Húsavík, Heiðarbær camping

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Húsavík, camping Tel +354 464 4300

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Asbyrgi camping, Vatnajökull National Park Tel. +354 470 7100

Öxarfjörður, Lundur camping Tel. +354 787 1312

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Þórshöfn, camping

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Highland, Nýidalur camping

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Highland, Laugafell camping Tel. +354 822 5192







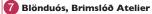


6 Víðidalur, North West



- 💠 Víðidalur, Víðigerði
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 - +354 783 9393
- □ northwesthotel@outlook.com
 - Summer







- Blönduós, Brimslóð 10a
- brimslodguesthouse.is
 - **)** +354 820 0998
- ibergthorsdottir@gmail.com
- 🗱 Summer



8 Blönduós, B&S Restaurant



- 💠 Blönduós, Norðurlandsvegur 4
 - bogs.is
- +354 453 5060
- info@bogs.is
- 🕻 All year



9 Blönduós, Kiljan guesthouse



- Blönduós, Aðalgata 2
- kiljanguesthouse.is
- +354 452 4500 or +354 697 6757
- info@kiljanguesthouse.is
- All year

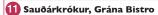


10 Sauðárkrókur, KK Restaurant



- Sauðárkrókur, Aðalgata 15
- kkrestaurant.is
 - **)** +354 453 6454
 - ✓ kaffikrokur@kaffikrokur.is
- All year











) +354 588 1238

info@1238.is
All year

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💠 Skagafjörður, Glaumbær

askaffi.is

🔰 +354 453 8855 / +354 699 6102

✓ askaffi@askaffi.is

All year



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13 Skagafjörður, Hótel Varmahlíð



Skagafjörður, Varmahlíð

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) +354 453 8170

info@hotelvarmahlid.is

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Skagafjörður, Bakkaflöt

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15 Skagafjörður, Sveitasetrið Hofsstaðir



- Skagafjörður, Hofsstaðir
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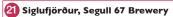
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- All year







- Siglufjörður, Túngata 40a
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 - frida@frida.is
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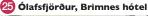






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- kaffiklara.is
- +354 466 4044
- gistihusjoa@gmail.com
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SUMMER OPENING

From 1. May - 30. September From 10:00 - 24:00 Guests are able to enter the baths until 23:30.

WINTER OPENING

From 1. October - 30. April From 12:00 - 22:00 Guests are able to enter the baths until 21:30.























Local Farm Produce



Local Farm Produce

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3 Eyjafjörður, Garður, Kaffi Kú



Eyjafjörður, Garður

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Local Food

As you travel in North Iceland, you're never far from the source of your food and the stories behind it. This is a region of vast landscapes and seascapes, where small communities live at one with nature and the seasons. Their long history of self-sufficiency and respect for the natural world has produced cuisine with a strong sense of place – fresh and pure and using all the fruits of land and sea.

Whether in a cool contemporary restaurant in Akureyri or at a farm accommodation in the countryside, you'll eat freshly landed fish within hours of its catch and lamb meat of lambs that were free-roaming in the long days of summer. There will be arctic moss, herbs, berries, and mushrooms foraged in mountains and valleys. Auk from the seacliffs at the Arctic's edge. Volcano bread – baked overnight, buried in bubbling black sand heated by a hot spring. Tea made from wild angelica. Vegetables that have been grown sustainably in geothermally heated greenhouses – a natural asset of Iceland's extraordinary geology.

Preserving food is an ancient art — and it's born out of necessity in this far-flung part of the world: you'll find smoked fish on the menu, dried fish offered as a healthy snack, and fermented shark (something to be tried at least once, preferably followed by a shot of homemade schnapps). There's a fish salting factory where you can learn about the traditional methods passed down through the generations and still used today or a cabin for smoking the lamb meat.

Local food is far more than a delicious dish on a plate! There are sea angling trips and then restaurants where the chef will cook what you catch, or you go on a foraging tour while hiking in awe-inspiring nature or even learn from a local of how to cook traditional dishes or you join the old ceremony how herring was salted into barrels with the traditional songs of the herring girls.

Craft beer and breweries

North Iceland has a colourful beer history. This alcoholic drink was banned in Iceland until 1989 when the first Icelandic brewery, Viking, was set up in Akureyri. The first microbrewery in Iceland, Kaldi, was opened in 2006 in Árskógsströnd, North Iceland. You can visit five breweries from Skagafjörður to Húsavík, all of which are famed for their excellent beer brewed from pure Icelandic water. In Hólar in Hjaltadalur you find the smallest brewery in Iceland, The Icelandic Beer Centre famous for its annual Beer Festival. Today, beer tasting excursions are popular and often include other culinary experiences.

Patterned delicatessen

Laufabrauð, fried thin flatbread with beautiful carved decorations has been the signature side dish at Christmas for families in North Iceland from the 17th century. Families still have the tradition of coming together to prepare this special type of bread while enjoying the Christmas spirit. This tradition has now spread throughout Iceland.



EVENTS / FESTIVALS

Events / Festivals

- 5 Sjómannadagurinn / Seaman's day Nationwide event
- Icelandic National Day Nationwide event
- 9 The Icelandic Museum Day Celebrated in museums all over the country

Grímsey Ъ





2020 April - December

For more information about events in North Iceland visit northiceland.is



North Iceland Event Company - Everything from tailored incentives to big international events.



🕩 Akureyri, Hofsbót 4

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May 29. The Lava Run. myvatnmarathon.com



May 30. Lake Mývatn, Mývatn Marabon. visitmyvatn.is



June 4. Skagafjörður, Hólar í Hjaltadal, Beer Festival facebook.com/ bjorsetur.islands



June 7. Sjómannadagurinn / Seaman's day, on first Sunday in June, is an annual event. This day honors the fishermen in Iceland and all those who make their living from the sea. The day is celebrated in towns throughout the country.

The Great Fish Day



6 12.-14. júní - Icelandic Knit Fest is an annual knitting festival held by the Icelandic Textile Center and collaborators in Blönduós.

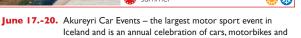


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- general motor sport vehicles from around Iceland. Races, drag racing, displays and much more, ba.is/is/english

 June 17. Icelandic National Day is a national holiday in Iceland and
- June 17. Icelandic National Day is a national holiday in Iceland and celebrates the day in 1944 that The Republic of Iceland was formed.
- June 18.-21. Sun Solstice in Grímsey Enjoy the midnight sun on the longest day of the year at the Arctic Circle. Experience extreme beauty on the Island of Grímsey and along with the midnight sun watch thousands of puffins in flight and nesting. Grímsey has one of the larges puffin colonies in Iceland, visitakureyri.is/en
- June 19.-20. Hofsós St. Johns Mass / Midsummer Celebrations An annual village celebration where the people of Hofsós host a weekend full of adventure, with a fun filled program for all the family, the weekend after St John's Mass midsummer visitskagafjordur.is
- June 22.-25. Akureyri, The Hiking week of the Touring Club of Akureyri, ffa.is
- June 24.-27. Akureyri, The Arctic Open This international golf tournament takes place yearly at the end of June around Summer Solstice on the northernmost golf course in the world, arcticopen.is
- June 27.-28. Skagafjörður, Lummudagar, Pikelet / Pankake Days. Local Culture festival, visitskagafjordur.is

EVENTS / FESTIVALS

- July 1.-4. Siglufjörður, The Folk Music Festival of Siglufjördur is a five days music event held annually at the Folk Music Center in Siglufjördur North Iceland, folkmusik.is
- July 10.-11. Hrísey Festival: Enjoy a family based festival in this beautiful island (20 min drive from Akureyri and 15 minutes ferry sailing from Árskógssandur). Hrísey is a small island in the middle of Eyfjafjörður 35 km from Akureyri with population of 170. During this weekend the islanders invite people to come and enjoy music, tractor trailer rides, taste local food among many other things, visitakureyri.is/en
- July 4. Þorvaldsdalur Terrain Run The oldest terrain run in Iceland, about 25 km north of Akureyri, thorvaldsdalur.umse.is
- July 17.-18. Akureyri, Motorcycle Days The motorbike club "Tían" organises this event, it offers a diverse programming to suit all those who have a passion for motorbikes, visitakureyri.is/en
- July 18.-21. Blönduós, Húnavaka, Local Culture Festival.
- July 18.-19. Hörgársveit, "Miðaldadagar" Medieval Trading Weekend at Gásir Each summer in July on the old medieval trading site Gásir, a medieval trading area is re-created. The interactive medieval market event takes place over four days with daily demonstrations in medieval crafts and games. The villagers are dressed in medieval costumes and can be seen demonstrating medieval crafts; spinning wool, wood carving, tanning, blacksmithing and much more. Shows of medieval sword fighting are held each day and members of the public can join in with medieval ball games and archery, gasir.is
- July 22.-26. Hvammstangi, "Fire in Hunathing" Festival for the whole family, visithunathing.is
- July 22.-26. The Big Bicycle week. Tunnel road race, from Siglufjörður to
 Akureyri, Enduro race, Townhill, Criterium and races for the
 kids as well. hfa.is
- July 24.-26. Húsavik, Mærudagar, Local Family festival, visithusavik.com



- July 25. Siglufjörður, Boating Days, a Family Festival in Siglufjörður.

 Activites for kids, free see angling and BBQ and a whole lot more, more info fjallabyggd.is
- July -August 30.-2. Ólafsfjörður, Berjadagar, Music Festival, visittrollaskagi.is
- July -August 30.-2. Akureyri, Iceland Summer Games: The event focuses on outdoor activities. Trail running, mountain running, golf, sea sports for adults and entertainment for kids, icelandsummergames.is/
- July -August 30.-2. During the "Verslunarmannahelgi", the Merchants' Weekend, the town of Akureyri hosts the event "Ein með Öllu" family festival: where live music, Tivoli and different performances fill up the streets of Akureyri.
- July -August 30.-2. Súlur Vertical: Ultra Trail Race running competition. 55k, 28km
 and 18km races, suitable for all runners. Sulurvertical.com



- August 6.-9. The Arctic Handcraft and Design Iceland in Hrafnagilshverfi.

 Spend the afternoon exploring the core of the Icelandic culture.

 esveit.is/handverkshatid/information/information-english
- August 8. Vatnajökull National Park, Jökulsárhlaupið, Dettifoss run, takes you on hiking paths through the unique natural wonders of the area, jokulsarhlaup.is

EVENTS / FESTIVALS

- 4 August 15.-16. Grenivík, Grenivíkurgleði, Local Family festival. www.grenivík.is
- August 15. Raufarhöfn, Sléttuganga Hiking in Melrakkasla. 27km guided hike, diverse and interesting route. Sauna, dinner and dance in the evening. Departure at 9:00 from Raufarhöfn
 No registration
- August 15. Skagafjörður. SveitaSæla is an agricultural show and farm fair. Fun family entertainment where everyone can find something to their liking. Music, farm zoo, dog competition, talent competition, rams show, crafts market and a wide range of companies that will be at the fair to promote and sell their products. Free admission and everyone is welcome.
- August 16. The Hólar celebration in Hjaltadal. Celebrate with old traditions, pilgrimage walks and cultural events including the Barcok Music Festival, visitskagafjordur.is
- August 28.-29. Akureyri Town festival rich of cultural events The Birthday of Akureyri is celebrated annually on the last weekend of August. The opening ceremony of the festival always takes place on Friday evening in the Botanical Garden. Every year has a special theme that everyone take part in and enjoy themselves with the locals. Some of the highlights of the event are: Opening ceremony in the Botanical garden, Spooky evening in the old town, concerts on Ráðshústorg square and events along the Artist Alley, visitakureyri.is/en
- Sept. 10.-13. Austur-Húnavatnssýsla, Skrapatungurétt, horse round-up.
 Hundreds of horses are gathered from the highlands. One of
 the largest social events of the year for the locals, northwest.is
- Sept. 26.-27. Laufskálarétt in Hjaltadalur, the most popular horse round-up in Iceland. Every year thousands of guests come to the event, visitskagafjordur.is
- Oct. 3.-4. Húnaþing vestra, Víðidalstungurétt. A popular horse round-up, visithunathing is
- Oct. 3. Raufarhöfn, The Rams Festival. Buying and selling young rams.

 Different activites related to the icelandic sheep

- Oct. 1.-4. Akureyri Ladies Days Get pink and shimmery and enjoy Ladies Days with concerts, exhibitions and various events happening around the town. Many stores and companies invite guests to enjoy a special day or evening during the weekend with a variety of art, music and light refreshments along with new fashion and products. During the weekend stores offer various discounts and organized events for women of all ages, visitakureyri.is/en
- Dec. 1.-29. Akureyri, Advent and Christmas program. Enjoy celebrations of the holiday season with colourful decorations, and bonfires and fireworks on New Years Eve.
- **December** Mývatn, during the advent Visit the Icelandic Yule Lads at Christmas in Dimmuborgir, visitmyvatn.is
- **43 44** December 8. Mývatn, Christmas Family Run, visitmyvatn.is
- December 12. Mývatn, The Yule Lads Annual Bath, visitmyvatn.is



202 I

- February Fjarðargangan cross-country skiing: Competitors come from all over, both children and adults. This year was the 35th one to be held in Ólafsfjörður. The racing tracks lie in the town, literally, and therefore Fjarðargangan is one of a kind here in Iceland. https://www.facebook.com/fjardargangan/
 - March Mývatn Winter Festival www.vetrarhatid.com
- 2 Mars-April Iceland Winter Games-A unique opportunity for skiers, snowboarders and followers to discover and experience the truly magnificent town of Akureyri close to the Arctic Circle. All kinds of winter sports; mountain hiking, skiing, snow scooters, super jeeps, northern light tours, exhibitions, concerts and much, much more. Main events take place in March, icelandwintergames, is
 - Mars-April Akureyri, Ak Extreme, Snowboarding competition, one of the biggest in Iceland. The festival takes place over, kicking of on Thursday three days and and ends on Sunday. The main event is a competition and exhibition of jumps. An enormously high ski jump ramp is built, near to the towns swimming pool, contestants have to ride a hydrolic lift to reach the top of the platform! akextreme.is
 - Apríl Mývatn, Long Friday Passion Walk, visitmyvatn.is
 - April Orkugangan Corss Country Ski Race in Húsavík
 - May Skagafjörður, Sæluvika, Annual Culture festival, visitskagafiordur.is
 - May Siglufjörður, Super Troll Ski Race, is an International Mountain Ski Race, more information star is
 - May 18. The Icelandic Museum Day. Celebrated in museums all over the country.



Located in a picturesque part of Eyjafjörður, Laufás is a renowned church site from 874-930. The current building was built in 1853-1882 and is furnished with household items and utensils from the period. It is a large building complex interconnected through corridors. You can easily imagine why ghost stories and myths come alive while walking through the house.

The oldest part of the building, and unique to Laufás, is the Brides-chamber where the women entourage prepared for the big event.

The existing church was built in 1865, among its special items is a pulpit from 1698

Visitor centre with refreshments and local handcraft - exhibtions

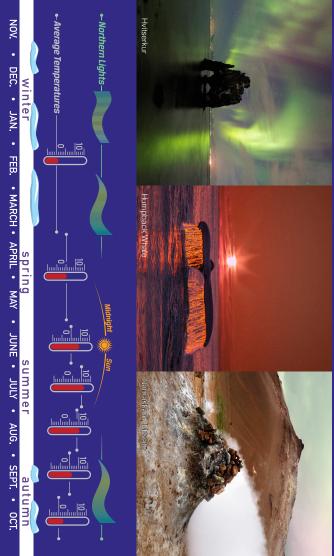
Laufás is part of the National Museums Historic Buildings Collection.

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