

# North Iceland

**AKUREYRI AIRPORT**  
North Iceland Airports

From Reykjavík, two airlines offer scheduled flights to Akureyri (airicelandconnect.is) and Húsavík (eagleair.is). Flights are available from Akureyri to Grímsey island (norlandair.is) and Akureyri to Þórshöfn (airicelandconnect.is / norlandair.is). Direct connecting flights are to Akureyri from Europe and USA (icelandair.is).



Summer 2019 • The Official Tourist Guide  
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- Safn Museum
- Áhugaverður staður Place of interest
- Sundlaug Geothermal Pool
- Tjaldsvæði Campsite
- Ferja / Bataferðir Ferry / Boat Tours
- Viti Lighthouse
- Selaskoðun Seal Watching
- Köfun Scuba Diving
- Gönguleið Hiking
- Hvalaskoðun Whale Watching
- Golfvöllur Golf
- Fjallaskiðaferðir Alpine Ski Touring
- Þrylkskiðaferðir Heli Skiing
- Flúðasigling River rafting
- Fuglar Birds
- Hestar Horses
- Stangveiði Fishing
- Vatnajökulsþjóðgarður Vatnajökull National Park

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## 1 Arctic Coast Way

The Arctic Coast Way leaves the much-travelled routes behind and guides visitors off the beaten track to explore the northern edge of Iceland so close to the Arctic Circle. It is not just about driving but welcomes you to a route with stories and experiences around every curve and over every hill. It invites you to slow down and unwind, and is not measured in milestones but in unexpected moments that will make visitors wish to return again and again.



## 2 Hvítserkur

A 15 m high monolith just off shore on the eastern side of Vatnsnes peninsula. Many bird species live on the rock and leave their mark which is evident in the whiteness of their droppings.



## 3 Kolugljúfur

In Víðidalur valley, the river Víðidalsá flows by the farm Kolugil down into a magnificent gorge, Kolugljúfur. The powerful waterfalls the gorge creates, Kolufossar, are named after the Troll-woman Kola.



## 4 Hveravellir

A unique nature reserve situated on the Kjölur route through the middle of 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.



## 5 Drangey

Drangey: This rocky island in Skagafjörður is a flat topped mass of tuff, rising almost 200 metres 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.



## 6 Skagafjörður, Glaumbær Folk Museum

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.



## 7 Grímsey/Hrísey

Grímsey/Hrísey: Grímsey is the northernmost point of Iceland, while Hrísey is in the middle of Eyjafjörður. On each island, the population is less than one hundred people but there are millions of birds. Find puffins in Grímsey and ptarmigan in Hrísey, and many more species. Flights to Grímsey are available from Akureyri, and the Grímsey ferry sails from Dalvík, and the Hrísey ferry sails from Árskógssandur.



## 8 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 Icelandic Sagas where Þorgeir the Lawspeaker threw his symbolic likenesses of the old Nordic gods into the waterfall.



## 9 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.



## 10 Lake Mývatn

Mývatn: In the Lake Mývatn region, located on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, the most interesting sights are of a volcanic or geothermal nature, the centrepiece being the 37 km² lake Mývatn itself. Places of interest include the pseudo craters at Skútustaðir, Höfði peninsula, Dimmuborgir lava formations, Hverfell crater, Hverir hot spring area, Krafla volcanic area and Mývatn Nature Baths. The area is also considered one of the best bird watching locations in Iceland.



## 11 Dettifoss in Jökulsárgljúfur

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



## 12 Ásbyrgi

Ásbyrgi is a densely wooded horse-shoe shaped canyon in Öxarfjörður where you find numerous hiking tracks. Ásbyrgi is part of the Vatnajökull National Park. The national park reaches from highway 85, by Ásbyrgi, south to Dettifoss, covering an area of 120 km².



## 13 Askja

Askja is a 50 km² caldera in the Dyngjufjöll mountains. In an eruption in 1875, an area of 11 km² on the south-eastern side of Askja caved in to form Lake Öskjuvatn, which is 217 m in depth making it the deepest lake in Iceland, and, to the north of it a tephra crater known as Víti (Hell).



## 14 Langanes

Langanes: A narrow peninsula, where a rough road leads to Fontur at the tip of the peninsula, where you'll find steep sea cliffs known as Skruvíkurbjarg and Skálabjarg. The Langanes peninsula is known for its rich birdlife and excellent birdwatching spots, where it is possible to watch the Northern Gannet and Brünnichs Guillemot from land.



## 15 Diamond circle

Diamond circle: A 260km circuit of magnificent scenery. Húsavík is the biggest town on the circle, with whale watching being the main attraction. The nature highlights include Ásbyrgi canyon, Dettifoss waterfall, the Lake Mývatn area, and Goðafoss. The road from Dettifoss to Ásbyrgi is a narrow gravel road, cautious driving is advised.




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