

North Iceland



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



14 Northern Lights can be seen all over North Iceland.

15 Superjeep tours are offered from various locations.



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1 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.



2 Borgarvirki

Borgarvirki is a volcanic plug and stands at 177 m above sea level dominating the surrounding landscape. It is a unique natural phenomenon and has been altered by civilisation through the centuries. The Icelandic Sagas tell that in earlier times Borgarvirki was used as a fortress for military purposes.



3 Kólugljúfur

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



4 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.



5 Troll Peninsula

Possibilities for backcountry skiing, alpine ski touring, cat skiing and heli skiing are endless, with the Troll Peninsula 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.



6 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.



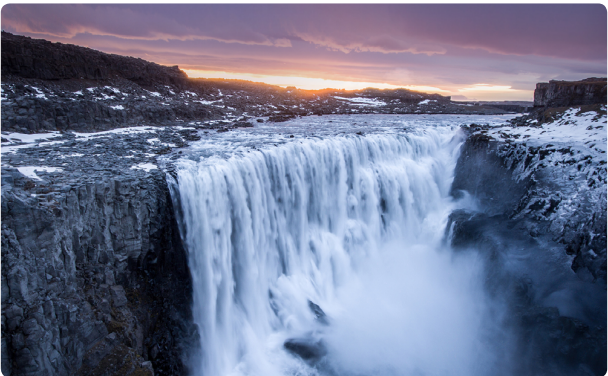
7 Goðafoss

The "Waterfall of the Gods" is in the glacial river Skjálafandajökull, 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.



8 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.



9 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.



10 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.



11 Arctic Henge

Set in Raufarhöfn, one of the most remote and northernmost villages in Iceland where the Arctic Circle lies just off the coast, the Arctic Henge (Heimskautsgerðið) is under construction. Similar to its ancient predecessor, Stonehenge, the Arctic Henge is like a huge sundial, aiming to capture the sunrays, cast shadows in precise locations and capture the light between aligned gateways.



12 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 Sko-rúvirkubjarg 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 Brünnich's Guillemot from land.



13 Ski areas

North Iceland is the number one winter destination for Icelanders. Five ski areas, including Hlíðarfjall, the country's most popular one, offer slopes and lifts of all levels with the season extending from the end of November to May. Buy the 5x5 ski pass and try them all! Facilities for cross-country skiers, with prepared trails can be found in many locations. Whether you are a beginner or an extreme skier you have the opportunity to experience a unique natural environment while skiing.



14 Northern Lights

The Northern Lights – also called Aurora Borealis – are among the most spectacular shows on earth and can frequently be seen in North Iceland from September through April on clear and crisp nights. White and green are usually the dominant colours but sometimes there are considerable colour variations, as the pressure and composition of the atmosphere change at different altitudes.



15 Snow Adventure

Super jeep and snowmobile adventure tours enable you to experience the unique highlands of North Iceland. Tours include guided tours through the rough terrain of the mountains and fjords of the North. The breath-taking beauty of North Iceland's highland wilderness will remain in your memory forever. Snowmobile tours let you breathe in fresh air while travelling through unspoiled nature and maybe even get some adrenaline running if that is what you want.

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