

Iceland

Day 1 An early afternoon departure from Asheville (or your preferred airport) and arrive in Iceland the next morning.

Day 2 We will be met by our driver and taken to the famed Blue Lagoon for a relaxing hot bath then into Reykjavik where we enjoy a guided tour of this modern capital city before heading 1.5 hours east to the beautiful Hotel Ranga near Hella, our base for the next 3 nights.

Day 3

After breakfast we will travel the Golden Circle to tour Thingvellir, the town where the first meeting of the Icelandic Parliament was held in AD 903. From there we'll continue to the hot springs at Geysir. After lunch, we'll travel on to view the spectacular Gullfoss waterfall.

Overnight Hotel Ranga.

Day 4

We will follow the spectacular eastern coastline and explore the sites where the first Irish missionaries first settled some 200 years ago.

Overnight Hotel Ranga.

Day 5

Today we will head for Vik, South Iceland's beautiful coastal town. We will walk the black sand beaches and look for puffin nests in the cliff walls. The Eldhraun lava field makes for some great photos. We'll visit Skogar, the village that is home to Skogafoss, one of the most impressive waterfalls in the country. We'll visit the Lava Center and make a final stop at Seljalandsfoss - a waterfall that literally plunges over the side of a mountain, then overnight near Hofn at the Fosshotel Glacier Lagoon.

Day 6

It is a day to marvel at the landscape, as we follow the twisting shoreline over fjords and pass through immense lava fields and huge glacial valleys. We will stop at Lake Jokulsarlon, a glacial lagoon filled with floating icebergs. We'll spend some time exploring the glacier at Vatnajokull National Park. Overnight Fosshotel Glacier Lagoon.

Day 7 This morning we'll explore the east coast as we head to Akureyri. Along the way we will see thundering Godafoss, the 'Waterfall of the Gods' and Lake Myvatn, known for its geological wonders and active bird life. The day ends with a relaxing soak in the Nature Baths hot springs before heading to the Icelandair Hotel Akureyri.



Lake Jökulsárlón

Day 8 This morning we'll enjoy a short hike through the lava labyrinth at Dimmuborgir and look for the famous trolls that are said to lurk among the rocks. We'll visit geothermal area that features bubbling mud pots and steaming sulfur vents. We will not want to miss Dettifoss, Europe's most powerful waterfall in the northern part of Vatnajokull National Park. Overnight Icelandair Hotel Akureyri.

Day 9

Today we will meet our tour guide and head east and south to complete our circle tour of Iceland. We'll visit the Grabrok volcano crater and a natural history and seal museum. We will stop in at a turf church to learn about traditional Icelandic architecture, then cross the fjords and several mountain passes to reach Reykjavik for our final night in Iceland.

Day 10

A private coach takes us to the airport for our flight home. Globe Treks will return you to your door.

