ESCORTED - ICELAND'S Northern Lights Adventure November 13 - 20, 2025 8 days / 7 mts

Iceland is full of surprises – for one, it isn't covered in ice! It's a stunning mix of green plains, wild volcanic scenery, beautiful coasts and lakes, spouting geysers, hot springs, mud pools and sophisticated cities. Topped off by clean, fresh air, you'll find yourself in a trance surrounded by unique natural beauty throughout the country. Enjoy the rare opportunity to see the aurora borealis — one of nature's most dazzling light displays, also known as the Northern Lights.

Come and search for the Northern Lights in some of the remote areas of Iceland for the best viewing!

Day 1: Motorcoach to Boston/Logan Airport. Overnight flight from Boston to Reykjavik.

Day 2: WELCOME to ICELAND & REYKJAVIK CITY TOUR

Your tour begins in Reykjavík, Iceland's capital city. Meet your local guide and enjoy a city walking tour. Get acquainted with old town Reykjavík on a walking tour featuring the harbor, city hall, the Parliament building, and the nearby cathedral, dating back to 1796. Then we head west to Borgarnes and learn about Iceland's earliest days at the Settlement Center. Then time on own for lunch and shopping before checking into your hotel. *Overnight: Hotel Klettur or similar*

Day 3: BORGARFJÖRÐUR SAGA VALLEY

Today we head to Borgarfjörður, known as the Saga Valley because of its many important historical events. Get a chance to climb the Grábrók volcano crater and visit Deildartunguhver, Europe's most powerful hot spring. Hraunfossar is a series of waterfalls pouring from beneath a wide lava field. Barnafoss — the Children's falls, is nearby with its own tragic tale. The afternoon includes a lecture about Northern Lights. After dinner, step into the hotel garden in search of the Northern Lights followed by a hot cup of chocolate or tea.

Overnight: Hotel Hamar or similar Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 4: GOLDEN CIRCLE, THINGVELLIR NATIONAL PARK, GULLFOSS FALLS & FRIÐHEIMAR

Travel along the Hvalfjörður fjord. The first stop is Thingvellir National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Travel the Golden

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Circle route to experience renowned natural wonders, including the explosive Geysir thermal area. There, the chef of the Restaurant Geysir invites you to taste freshly baked hot spring bread which bakes in the geothermal ground for 24 hours! On we travel to the double-cascade Gullfoss waterfall. In the afternoon, learn about the Icelandic horse, its unique qualities and history and visit a geothermal greenhouse, before reaching the accommodation in South Iceland. Tonight, step into the darkness and search for the elusive Northern Lights in the peace and stillness of rural Iceland.

Overnight: Landhotel or similar Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 5: NATURAL WONDERS OF SOUTH ICELAND - SKÓGAR MUSEUM & REYNISFJARA - EYJAFJALLAJÖKULL VOLCANO

Today we travel along the South coast. At the Lava & Volcano Exhibition Center, learn about geology and active volcanoes. Further east we visit the Skógar Museum, one of Iceland's finest folk museums, and discover its turf-built homes and artifacts. Afterward, stand in awe before the impressive Skógafoss waterfall, one of Iceland's biggest and most beautiful waterfalls. In the afternoon journey to Reynisfjara, a black lava beach surrounded by basalt formations and home to thousands of nesting sea birds. We spend two nights near Kirkjubæjarklaustur in the Vatnajökull National Park region, ideally located for Northern Lights search.

Overnight: Fosshotel Glacier Lagoon or similar

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

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A VALID US PASSPORT IS REQUIRED (must be valid for at least 6 months after return)

Day 6: VATNAJÖKULL NATIONAL PARK & GLACIER INCLUDING GLACIAL LAGOON AND DIAMOND BEACH

Today is all about glaciers, ice and icebergs. We travel to Jökulsárlón, a glacial lagoon filled with floating icebergs. Explore this extraordinary landscape and search for seals swimming in cold waters. You can walk on the black sandy beach, the so-called Diamond beach, where large icebergs get stranded. In the afternoon we visit the tiny turf church at Hof. Travel to Skaftafell National Park, gateway to Vatnajökull Glacier. Vatnajökull is known for having Iceland's highest mountains and Europe's largest ice cap. In the evening enjoy a film presentation about the Northern Lights as part of the Northern Lights Academy program. This evening continue searching for the northern lights dancing across the night sky.

Overnight: Fosshótel Glacier Lagoon or similar Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 7: SOUTH SHORE, VIK & BLUE LAGOON

From Kirkjubæjarklaustur, we head across the Eldhraun lava field to the village of Vík, where we make a photo stop. The black lava beach with high bird cliffs and pounding waves is awe-inspiring. Further west we reach the high but narrow Seljalandsfoss waterfall which plunges from the mountain. In the afternoon we get to soak in the famous Blue Lagoon. Take a dip in the warm, mineral-rich waters of the geothermal pool, located in the heart of a dramatic lava field. Return to Reykjavík for our Farewell Dinner and overnight stay.

Overnight: Hotel Klettur or similar Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 8: DEPARTURE HOME - REYKJAVIK - RETURN FLIGHT TO BOSTON

Depart for home with many incredible memories. Private transfer by bus from your accommodation in Reykjavík to Keflavík Airport. Return flight to Boston and Motorcoach home. *Meals: Breakfast*

*The Northern Lights are in the Northern Hemisphere from September through April and are only visible when the sky is clear and free of clouds. As this tour is weather dependent, sightings of the Northern Lights are not guaranteed. We will make every effort to help you experience it.

Icelandic breakfasts are continental; included dinners are of a simpler nature due to the remote locations of the restaurants.

INCLUDES:

Roundtrip Motorcoach to Boston/Logan Airport, Roundtrip air flights Boston/Reykjavik,
Deluxe Motorcoach in Iceland, Tour Guide in Iceland, 6 Nights Hotel Accommodations,
6 Breakfasts, 5 Dinners, All sightseeing and admissions per itinerary,
Friendship Tours Tour Escort

\$4399.per person twin - INCLUDING AIR!

Based on minimum 25 passengers
Based on current air rates and schedules



<u>DEPOSIT</u>: \$900 pp with reservation to secure your space. Space is subject to availability at the time of reservation.

FINAL PAYMENT: August 1, 2025

FOR RESERVATIONS: Call Barbara at Friendship Tours: 860-243-1630

CANCELLATION POLICY: If a passenger cancels from deposit date to August 1, 2025 the cancellation fee is \$700 pp; August 2, 2025 to September 1, 2025 the cancellation fee is \$1500 pp; no refunds if cancelled after September 1, 2025. All cancellation fees are plus any non-refundable airline fees.

Proof of Citizenship:

U.S. Citizens: Valid Passport required—must be valid 6 months past the return date. Non U.S. Citizens are responsible for obtaining proper documentation for travel. Friendship Tours/The Ship Shop is not responsible for passengers not having proper documentation for travel.

<u>ACTIVITY LEVEL:</u> This tour may require transporting your own suitcase a short distance from the bus to the hotel. There will also be some walking involved to get to the evening Northern Lights viewing locations, possibly over uneven terrain. This tour requires a moderate amount of walking at many of the sights involved.

<u>Trip Protection Coverage</u> is strongly recommended. Friendship Tours offers Travel Protection insurance through 2 insurance providers: NTA Travel Protection Plan and Travel Insured International. Trip Protection offers coverage for Cancellation for covered medical reasons, Interruption, Emergency Medical, Travel Delay, & more.

The AON/NTA Travel Protection Plan offers 3 levels of insurance: Basic or Enhanced or Enhanced with Cancel For Any Reason (CFAR). The Pre-existing medical condition exclusion can be waived by purchasing the Enhanced Plan within 14 days of your deposit or initial payment. The Enhanced Plan with the add-on of CFAR must be purchased within 14 days of initial deposit. CFAR allows you to cancel for any reason up to 48 priors to departure and reimburses up to 75% of your nonrefundable trip cost.

To enroll: https://nta.aontravelprotect.com Tour Operator Location #076068

OR call AON 1-800-388-1470.

Travel Insured International offers the Worldwide Trip Protection plan with the option to add upgrade benefits (available for additional cost) including CFAR when purchased within 21 days of your initial deposit. Other upgrades include Electronic Equipment, Event Ticket Fee Protection, Travel Inconvenience.

To enroll: https://www.friendshiptours.net/protection-plan Agency #18649

Premiums are non-refundable once paid. Terms & Conditions apply.

Plan details are available at https://www.friendshiptours.net/protection-plan.

Call Friendship Tours 860-243-1630 for assistance in enrolling.

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