

# Tailored Civilized Adventures

# ICELAND

## What is a Tailored Civilized Adventure?

*Special Celebrations • Personalized Getaways*

**Travel when you want, for as long as you want, and with whom you choose to.** We excel at creating thoughtful itineraries to exciting international destinations, and we can help you design your own Civilized Adventure.

**Where do you start?** Talk to us! Tell us what you'd like to do on *your* dream trip and let us do the rest. Working together, we can create a completely custom, tailored trip that showcases your special interests.

The cornerstone of any Civilized Adventure is our own passion for exploring the world and experiencing what a country or area is all about. We bring that passion to over 15 years of trip-planning experience. Let us combine our experience with your dreams to result in your very own **trip of a lifetime.**

## Why ICELAND?

*Dramatic Scenery: Fjords, Glaciers & Craters • Whales, Birds • Viking Heritage*

This tiny country has a big impact on anyone who visits it. Often called the land of "fire and ice", you can walk on a glacier in the morning and soak in a hot spring by lunchtime. You'll see truly vast glaciers, thundering waterfalls, ancient and new volcanoes, and experience sweeping, open wilderness. If you love open spaces and ever-changing topography, Iceland will intrigue you. Jeep tours can take you into

the highlands; boat trips can take you to bird-lined cliffs or whale watching. In the capital of Reykjavik you can enjoy museums showcasing art, history and heritage, as well as fine dining. Our **Sample Itinerary** is a self-drive option. Roads are good and well marked and any of our clients who have tried this have really enjoyed the experience. A fully guided option is also available.



Seljalandsfoss (foss = falls). Only 500m off the road, you can actually walk behind them!



Sea stacks at Reynisdrangar near the black sand beach ...rated as one of the best island beaches in the world by Islands Magazine.

## Sample Itinerary - Self-drive ICELAND:

*Local assistance • Maps & Detailed driving itinerary • Freedom & Flexibility*

You can modify this self-drive option to increase your time in any area, decrease driving time, or to meet other special interests (eg. Hiking, birding). This can also be converted to a fully-guided trip, as shown in our pricing section on page 2. Recommended season: May 1 - Sept. 30.

**Day 1: REYKJAVIK.** On arrival you'll be met and transferred to the capital city of Reykjavik. Gather supplemental information from our local representative. Afternoon at leisure. Explore this manageable city on foot and dine at one of many excellent restaurants.

**Day 2 (~200km): THE GOLDEN CIRCLE (B).** Get your car this morning (3 levels of car type to choose from; see pricing on P. 2). Over the next 10 days you'll circumnavigate Iceland, averaging just over 200km each day. You should have lots of time to take in the natural splendour of your surroundings.

Drive to the Hvalsvollur area. See some of the Iceland's best-known natural phenomena: Pingvellir National Park (where parliament was founded in 930AD), Gullfoss waterfall (the Golden Waterfall, 32m drop into a narrow canyon) the great Geysir, and Kerio, a 55m

deep volcanic crater that formed over 3000 years ago.

**Day 3 (~180km): ROCKS, WATERFALLS, and a BLACK BEACH (B).** Drive to the town of Kirkjubaejarklaustur. See waterfalls (Seljalandsfoss and Skogafoss), the rock formations of Dyrholaey (a rock arch jutting into the sea and home to a huge bird colony), the sea stacks called Reynisdrangar (where you may see puffins), and the black sand beach south of Vik, Iceland's southernmost village.

**Day 4 (~200km): THE GREAT GLACIER (B).** Start the day at Skaftafell National Park (interesting hiking trails, including a short hike to the beautiful Svartifoss waterfall). Continue to the glacial lagoon Jokulsarlon, where you can take a thrilling boat ride between the bergs formed by the calving glacier (payable locally). End your day at the tiny fishing village of Hofn.

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## Sample Itinerary - Self-drive ICELAND - continued

**Day 5 (~250km): FJORDS (B).** Traverse the eastern fjords to Egilssatoir area. On the way, stop at Lake Lagerfjot, said to be home to a lake monster!

**Day 6 (~166km): LAKE MYVATN (B).** Drive to one of Iceland's largest lakes in an area of staggering scenery, including views from the 410m high Namaskard pass, volcanic craters, lava fields and bubbling mud flats. Enjoy a relaxing dip in the hot springs at Myvatn Natur Bath (admission included).

**Day 7 (~185km): LAKE MYVATN & AREA (B).** Explore Asbyrgi Canyon, an enormous horseshoe shaped depression flanked by 100m high cliffs. Nearby is Dettifoss, the most powerful waterfall in Europe with a drop of some 44m into a canyon. Return to the Myvatn area for the overnight stay.

**Day 8 (~103km): WATERFALL OF THE GODS (B).** Drive to Akureyri, known as the 'capital of the north'. On the way, stop at Godafoss - the waterfall of the Gods. The drive is very short today, so you can relax in Akureyri, a town of 17,000+ people.

### Accommodations

Iceland offers a loose star-rating system, however many fine hotels or guesthouses are not rated at all as they simply don't fit into any rigid judging criteria.

Generally, **Comfort Level hotels** are of the 3-star level and have private bathroom, phone, TV, and a desk.

**Day 9 (~391km): GEOLOGICAL MYSTERIES (B).** Drive past the peculiar hill formations of Vatnsdalholar, the canyon waterfall of Kilugljufur, and visit the Glaumbaer folk museum, where you can learn about local culture. You'll stay in the Stykkisholmur area on the Snaefellsnes Peninsula.

**Day 10 (~190km): OCEAN VIEWS (B).** Experience the unique Snaefellsjokull Glacier (believed by many to have healing powers) and its surrounding National Park. Guided walks and snowmobile tours are available. Marine wildlife lovers may go whale watching from Olafsvik. (Note: whale watching is also possible from Reykjavik. Season April-October. "Best time": June-August. Fee: ISK5500).

**Day 11 (~275km): to REYKJAVIK (B).** Visit the largest hot spring in Europe in the Borgarfjorur valley, drive inland to look at one of Iceland's largest lava tube caves (Surtshellir), and as you approach Reykjavik you'll see Hvalfjordur fjord.

**Day 12: HOMEWARD (B).** Take the FlyBus transfer service to the airport.

**Quality Hotels** are a step up, and they may offer room service and laundry service. These might fall under a 4-star rating, however outside of Reykjavik there are really very few 4-star hotels. A Quality program will choose the best available hotels for each area.

# 2010

### INCLUSIONS:

- Professional consultation services
- Complete pre-departure information
- Accommodation (11 nights) on a twin-share basis with continental breakfast. Single? You can have your own room for a single supplement.
- Rental car of your choice with unlimited mileage, CDW and VAT for 10 days
- Meals as listed (B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner)
- Meet & Greet transfer from Keflavik Airport to hotel in Reykjavik
- Information meeting with our local travel consultant
- Entrance fee to Myvatn Nature Baths
- Map of Iceland and detailed itinerary
- Visitor's Key to Iceland: detailed reference guide (roads/history/natural features)
- Info booklet on driving in Iceland
- Free use of mobile phone and 500ISK worth of calls
- 24-hour emergency service
- Fly-bus transfer on departure
- Taxes and service fees
- Civilized Adventures daypack.

### EXCLUSIONS:

- International flights
- Domestic scheduled flights
- Airport departure taxes
- Items of a personal nature (laundry, drinks, etc.)
- Meals not mentioned
- Optional travel insurance
- Gratuities to local staff (porters, guides, drivers)
- Any activities and excursions not specified
- Any increases in cost due to circumstances beyond our control (i.e. airfare or fuel increases/surcharges, fluctuations of currency, park fees, taxes, etc.)

Prices quoted are in US\$ as of Feb. 25 '10 and are subject to change.

## For our Sample Itinerary

	<b>ADULT, sharing, per person</b>	<b>Car Type B</b>	<b>Car Type C</b>	<b>Car Type G</b>
	Comfort Hotels; self-drive	US\$ 2399	US\$ 2550	US\$ 3510
	Quality Hotels; self-drive	US\$ 2890	US\$ 3040	US\$ 4010
<b>2010</b>	Cost is per person, based on a minimum of 2 people travelling together.			
	Season: May 1 - Sept. 30, '10			
	Car type B = Toyota Corolla/VW Golf or similar Car type C = Toyota Corolla Wagon or similar Car type G = Suzuki Grand Vitara XL7 or similar			

