Iceland Walking Adventure

Trip Code: SGIR

Version:

WALK & TREK	SELF-GUIDED	LEISURELY
		3



HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the Snaefellsnes Peninsula, the epitome of Icelandic landscape
- Relax in the warm geothermal waters of the Sky Lagoon
- Pique your senses as you experience the Hengill volcanic area
- Hike to the Glymur Waterfall and Iceland's most famous mountain, Kirkjufjell

AT A GLANCE

- 6 days walking and sightseeing
- Daily departures
- Join at Keflavik Airport

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE

Introduction

Experience Iceland in all its glory, away from the crowds and at your own pace, on this fantastic self-guided walk and drive holiday. Arriving in the Land of Fire and Ice, your first stop will be the Sky Lagoon where an authentic Icelandic geothermal bathing experience will set the tone for the rest of your week. Spend time exploring the vibrant capital, Reykjavik, with its photogenic architecture and many enticing restaurants, before heading for the Snaefellsnes Peninsula - a mini Iceland within Iceland! Experiencing its diverse landscape of glaciers, mountains, lava fields, and black volcanic beaches, you will soon be captivated by this wild land. You will have the opportunity to hike to the mysterious Djupalonssandur beach where the power of volcanic lava meets the force of the Atlantic, to the breathtaking Kirkjufjell with its cascades, and to the thundering Glymur Waterfall.

Of course no trip to Iceland is complete without a visit to the Golden Circle, and in true KE style your walks will veer away from the crowds so you can experience this fantastic region like a local. Geology will spring to life and your senses will be awoken as you walk through the geothermal region of Hengill Volcano and stand in awe on the Reykjanes Peninsula as nature's masterpiece is created before you in the form of fresh lava fields and incredible patterns of rope lava. Ending your trip on a high, you return to Reykjavik for the final evening of your Icelandic adventure. Unless, that is, you choose to stay a little longer in the city and take advantage of the endless list of day trips in the region - whether you fancy whale watching or visiting the famed Blue Lagoon. If you'd like to extend your trip, just ask our Sales Team for details.

Is this holiday for you?

If you love to have time in the city seeing the sights, then retreating from the crowds and into wild landscapes, then this is the trip for you. If you are fascinated by the power of nature and geology, then this is also the trip for you. With time spent unwinding with an authentic Icelandic bathing experience, and time in the hustle and bustle of Reykjavik, you will then leave the crowds behind to hike on the Snaefellsnes Peninsula and explore the Golden Circle, where you will have the perfect balance of culture and wild escapes. Plus, with the flexibility to arrange your own choice of hire car and a selection of walks of around 3-6 hours from which to choose each day, you can enjoy this fantastic region your way and at your own pace.

Itinerary

Version:

Holiday Information

What's Included

- All accommodation as described
- Tourist taxes (around 2-5 Icelandic Krona per person per night)
- Meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Self-guided information pack containing your map and route notes
- Pure Pass entrance to Sky Lagoon (minimum age: 12)
- GPX tracks supplied

What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Travel to / from Keflavik Airport
- Visas (if applicable)
- Some meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Hire car and fuel for the hire car
- Any car parking charges
- Personal equipment
- Any additional activities/excursions indicated as optional

Your Self-Guided Pack & Route Notes

Each self-guided holiday comes with comprehensive route notes and a map or pocket guidebook of the area you are exploring. The route notes contain information about the places you will visit and the local transport you might need, along with the detailed route notes for your daily walks or cycle rides. We even include some tips for the best places to stop for lunch.

You can expect to receive your Self-Guided Pack containing your route notes, a map or guidebook, and all your relevant documents, no later than 3 weeks before your holiday start-date. We will send your documents using a signed-for courier so that you can track your package and know that it is safely on its way to you. For bookings of more than 4 people we will send an additional Self-Guided Pack. If you do not need this additional pack please inform our Sales Team. Your pack will be sent to the lead booker, so please remind them to pack it before setting off.

Should your self-guided trip be part of a longer adventure requiring you to leave home more than three weeks before your holiday start-date, please inform our Sales Team so that we can make alternative delivery arrangements.

Car Hire

This holiday has been designed to give you the ultimate flexibility and independence with arranging your own hire car.

There are numerous car hire agencies in Iceland, with offices available at Keflavik Airport. Arranging your car independently, you can choose the type of vehicle you prefer, the number of drivers required, and the level of excess protection desired. Car hire brokers such as Zest Car Rental are a good resource for comparing rental deals. We highly recommend that you pre-book your hire car so that it is ready to collect on arrival.

Our sales team would also be happy to provide you with a quote for car hire through our preferred partner, Zest Car Rental. If you choose to arrange your hire car through KE, you would benefit from financial protection of your full holiday package.

Rental conditions will vary according to the provider; these will be presented with your quote. General terms and conditions for hire can be found here: https://www.zestcarrental.com/terms/

As a minimum service level, car rental arranged through KE would come with:

- Excess protection
- Top-up insurance
- Unlimited mileage
- Breakdown assistance

Upgrades such as additional days' hire, automatic transmission, or electric or hybrid vehicles can also be requested (subject to availability).

You can also find answers to frequently asked questions and further information about car hire here

Self-Guided Families

Our Self-Guided Holidays are perfect for your next family holiday and are suitable for children of all ages.

Our partner hotels and accommodations are able to provide cots for young children, and some offer family rooms. We can also arrange hire of children's bikes and tag along bikes for most of our self-guided cycling trips and with trips such as Lake Constance and the Danube offering routes on designated cycle paths you can rest assured in keeping your family safe.

As a parent we trust that you know your own child's capabilities, so please read the itinerary details to ensure the distances covered each day are suitable for your family. If this is a first time walking or cycling holiday for your family, a centre-based trip is a fantastic option as it allows you to easily opt out of a day's walking if a day of building sand castles, swimming in the pool, or visiting museums is calling instead.

Please discuss this further with our Sales Team who will be happy to assist in picking the best trip for your family.

Joining Arrangements & Transfers

The trip starts and ends at Keflavik Airport. All of our self-guided holidays are sold on a Land Only basis, allowing you the flexibility to choose the travel method that best suits you. The nearest airport for this trip is Keflavik Airport, which is well-served with many departures from UK regional airports. There are numerous car rental agencies available at Keflavik Airport - pre-booking your hire car is highly recommended.

Meal Plan

This trip is on a bed and breakfast basis to allow you the most flexibility during your holiday.

Special Diets

Whilst we can cater for vegetarians, albeit sometimes with a more limited choice, we cannot always provide for special diets. Due to the nature of some of the trips that we operate and the countries in which we operate them, it can be very hard (and sometimes impossible) to cater for a wide range of dietary choices and you may have to supplement your meals with food/snacks from home. If you have specific dietary requirements please do speak to our sales team and they will be able to advise you whether or not we will be able to offer your specific choice. Please note that we are unable to provide separate menus and cannot accept liability for any problems arising from special dietary requirements or intolerances.

Food & Water

Water from the taps is perfectly drinkable on this holiday - please use this to fill your personal bottles for your daily activities. We do not encourage the purchase of single-use plastic bottles.

Icelandic food is heavily influenced by its Scandinavian neighbours and won't disappoint even the more avid foodies. As a nation that historically struggled to grow fresh produce, it will come as no surprise that the staples of the nation's cuisine are meat, fish and dairy produce, although the days of having to preserve fresh produce are a thing of the past.

You can look forward to simple, hearty, delicious dishes such as flatkaka med hangikjoti (flatbread with smoked lamb), the perfect dish for fuelling a day adventuring. Freshly caught langoustine, cod and haddock are feature prominently and are highly recommended - in fact, Icelandic fish and chips will even give the British a run for their money! Or perhaps sample kjotsupa, a traditional hot lamb soup, perfect for warming on those cooler days.

For the braver diners, the Icelanders have some unique dishes for you to sample such as hakarl (fermented shark), svid (sheep's head), and hrutspungar (pickled or fermented ram's testicles) . These dishes aren't for everyone but are age-old traditions here in Iceland.

Of course, we cannot forget to mention skyr, perhaps Iceland's most famed dairy product. Often classified as a cheese, it is in fact a deliciously thick yet light yoghurt and will be often seen in your breakfast selection in a range of flavours.

For those with a sweet tooth, be sure to sample to popular kleinur, a yummy twisted doughnut, or bragdarefur, a popular ice cream treat which requires you to choose 3 additional ingredients from a selection of sweets and fruit which are then mixed into the ice cream - a popular base flavour being rugbraudsis (rye bread ice cream). We recommend you to order a small one, as these tasty ice cream treats can often be ginormous!

Accommodation

On this trip you will stay in a selection of fantastic 3-star hotels and guesthouses and one 4-star hotel, all chosen for their great locations and connections to their local area. In Reykjavik you will stay in the city centre, enabling you to enjoy all it has to offer, before hitting the road to the wild coast where you can enjoy watching wildlife from your hotel. Then, you will head towards the national parks to enjoy the remote locations of Thingvellir and Hverageroi, all the while staying in comfortable hotels with trendy Scandinavian styling and warm hospitality, along with car parking. Each hotel and guesthouse offers a great breakfast buffet, and most have on-site restaurants too.

It is possible to arrange additional nights' accommodation in Reykjavik before or after your trip if you wish to have a little more time exploring the city. Please speak to our Sales Team for more information.

Baggage Allowance

For this holiday you should take one piece of luggage and a daypack. Luggage with wheels is useful for this holiday.

For international flights please check your baggage allowance with your airline.

Please also consider the luggage capacity of the type of vehicle you choose to hire.

General Information

Passport & Visas

Europe

Your passport must meet 2 requirements. It must be:

- less than 10 years old on the day you enter (check the 'date of issue')
- valid for at least 3 months after the day you plan to leave (check the 'expiry date')

For the latest details on visiting countries within the EU or the European Economic Area (EEA), please check the UK Government website

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders.

A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required**,** and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

For other nationalities, please refer to your own Government website for the latest information.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents including vaccinations and health certificates *(see Health & Vaccinations below),* **and visas for your holiday.** Please ensure that you check the FCDO for the latest advice for **each country visited** before travel.

Visa Iceland

UK and USA passport holders do not require a visa for short stays.

Health & Vaccinations

Vaccinations:

You should be up to date with the routine vaccinations recommended in the UK for overseas travel.

You must also contact your doctor or travel clinic to check if there are specific vaccinations or other preventive measures that you need for the area you are visiting, in good time before you are due to depart.

Please ensure you are looking at the recommendations for all countries visited on your holiday plus recommendations for any borders you cross.

On holidays to more remote areas you should also have a dental check-up.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents including vaccinations and health certificates.

Please check the FCDO and Travel Health Pro. For all of your intended destinations for up-to-date advice.

Severe Allergies:

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips.

Currency

The unit of currency in Iceland is the Icelandic Krona.

Preparing for your Holiday

The advantage of a self-guided walking holiday is that you decide the pace. However, getting some additional exercise before coming on an active holiday makes a lot of sense and the fitter you are the more enjoyable your walks will be. You should be aerobically fit and comfortable with walking 3 to 6 hours for consecutive days. Hill walking, with a good amount of ascent and descent, is the best training. Running, cycling and swimming are also good for developing cardiovascular fitness and stamina.

Climate

Despite its location on the edge of the Arctic Circle, Iceland is not the cold country we sometimes imagine. The island benefits from the influence of the Gulf Stream, which bathes its south, west and north-west coasts, giving the country a temperate oceanic climate (relatively mild winters and relatively cool summers). In Reykjavik, average temperatures sit between 0 and 12 degrees centigrade in January, and at around 12 degrees centigrade in July. The rains are more abundant in the south than in the north. As for the winds, they are very frequent and sometimes strong. The only thing certain about Icelandic weather is that it is extremely changeable, so you should be prepared for four seasons in one day, although generally it is warm and sunny in summer.

From May to mid-August it barely gets dark at night, allowing you to make the most of your trip - however if you are a light sleeper it may be worth packing an eye mask to help you sleep.

Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's **'Travel Aware'** campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that before travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at travelaware.campaign.gov.uk and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. All other nationalities should check their government websites for relevant information.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates directly from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

Books

Iceland - Lonely Planet

Iceland - Rough Guide

How Iceland Changed the World - Egill Bjarnason

Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our Travel Insurance page for further information and to get a quote.

Equipment Information

Self Guided Equipment List

- Hiking boots with good-grip soles

- Hiking socks
- Long / short hiking trousers
- Functional base layer top and leggings
- T-shirts
- Fleece / extra warm layer
- Windproof jacket
- Waterproof jacket
- Waterproof trousers
- Hat, gloves, and neck gaiter
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Sunhat
- Small first aid kit inside your rucksack
- Water bottle or hydration pack
- Mobile Phone (ensure your data package covers your destination)
- Power bank
- Waterproof phone cover
- Camera (and batteries / memory card)
- Reusable sealable picnic boxes for picnics

- Reusable cloth bag for shopping to avoid the use of plastic bags
- Walking poles
- Headtorch with spare batteries
- Personal wash kit
- Your self-guided route notes
- Rucksack (approx. 20L)

Land Only Information

Please note that our 'from' price listed is based on 4 persons on twin or double occupancy, however we can quote for any number of travellers including solo travellers - contact our Sales Team for a quote.

This holiday requires a hire car to be arranged independently. There are several rental agencies available in Iceland, with desks at Keflavik Airport. Our sales team can also provide a quotation for car hire if required.

All of our self-guided holidays are sold on a Land Only basis allowing you the flexibility to choose the travel method which best suits you. You may even wish to make this holiday part of a bigger adventure or pair it with one of our other holidays. We can arrange additional nights' accommodation before or after your self-guided trip - please ask our Sales Team to find out more about this.

Please DO NOT book your flights before you have received your booking confirmation and your deposit has been taken.

Our Sales Team will also be happy to provide you with a quote for scheduled flights from your nearest regional airport (where possible). Flight prices are subject to change depending on availability and seasonality. Flight prices will only be confirmed to you when all services have been arranged and confirmed for your requested dates.

Why Choose KE

Why KE?

We are the only UK tour operator offering this fantastic exploration of West Iceland, Reykjavik, and the Golden Circle. By designing this as a hike and drive itinerary, hiring a car will give you the ultimate flexibility in experiencing the many options available on this trip.

Please Note This document was downloaded on 26/11/2026 and the trip is subject to change