

Lewis & Clark College Discover Iceland August 13 – 21, 2018

Arranged by **Iceland Travel**: Margrét Sigurjónsdóttir – margrets@icelandtravel.is

Led by Liz Safran, Associate Professor of Geological Sciences, Lewis & Clark College,
safran@lclark.edu

Accompanied by Emily Decker, Senior Associate Director of Alumni and Parent Programs,
emily@lclark.edu

Planned Itinerary Details

*Please note that this itinerary is subject to change due to weather and/or road conditions.

Day 1: Aug. 13, 2018 Arrival in Iceland (Breakfast, Dinner included)

Arrival transfer from airport. Your guide will meet you at the airport and take you to the Viking World Exhibition for an entry and breakfast. After a filling breakfast, the group will be taken to Reykjavík, where you will have a city sightseeing tour (no entries included) before you will be dropped off at your hotel. Note that check-in at the hotels does not start until 2pm at the earliest.

Explore Reykjavík, the largest municipality in Iceland. Ingolfur Arnarson, the first settler of Iceland, built his farm on the peninsula where Reykjavík stands today. The town got its name “Smokey Bay” after the columns of steam that rose from the hot springs in the area and made such a deep impression on the first settlers.

Reykjavík offers a multitude of restaurants and/or coffee-houses, making dinner a great way to get better acquainted with Iceland's capital.

Group Dinner – included in a nearby restaurant.

Overnight stay in Reykjavík.

Highlights:

Reykjavík, Hallgrímskirkja, Tjornin, The Sun Voyager, Perlan, Parliament House, The Blue Lagoon

Day 2: Aug. 14, 2018 Day in Reykjavík (B)

Part of this day will be planned by Hjordis Magnusdottir and Benedikt Hoskuldsson both L&C class of 1983. Our plans for the day are still in the works, but we'll likely spend the morning together with Hjordis and Benedikt hearing from local experts in the energy and environmental fields. Lunch with additional local L&C alumni is also a possibility. Your afternoon/evening will be on your own to explore Reykjavík. We'll communicate the final plan once we have all the pieces in place.
Lunch (perhaps) and dinner on own

Day 3: Aug. 15, 2018

Westman Islands (B, D)



Breakfast at your hotel. The first stop today will be at Seljalandsfoss waterfall, where you can walk behind the waterfall. Travel along the farmlands of the south coast to Landeyjahofn harbor. After arriving at the Bakkafjara pier, we will take a 30 minute ferry ride to the Westman Islands. The destination is Heimaey Island, the largest of the Westmans and the only inhabited one. Visit the island's Stórhöfði Point with its fantastic views over the area. During mid-May through the beginning of August, it is also possible to see puffins here. Take a walk up to the crater of a volcano that erupted only three decades ago. Visit Eldheimar Museum and explore the flora growing in the new lava field. Afternoon is at your leisure to explore the island on your own.

Overnight in the Westman Islands.

Group Dinner in a nearby restaurant – included.

Highlights:

Seljalandsfoss, Vestmannaeyjar, Eldheimar Exhibition

Day 4: Aug. 16, 2018

Adventures in Westman Islands (B)

Breakfast at hotel. Today, we are going to explore the islands more and start by doing a 2 hour tour around the islands, get to know its history, local stories and interesting facts.

We will have an optional tour of the following:

Ribsafari: 1 or 2 hour trips – see prices below

Circle Boat Tour: 30 minute or 1.5 hour trip – see prices below

Free time with the following possibilities:

Swimming

Walking on own

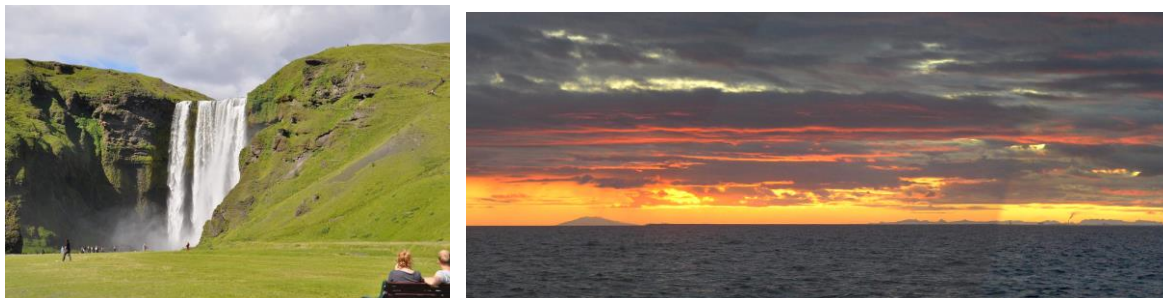
Saeheimar Aquarum - <http://www.saeheimar.is/en>

Meet in the late afternoon for a visit at the Brothers Brewery to taste the beer of the year in Iceland. The Brothers Brewery is the first of its kind brewery on Westman Islands. They focus on using local ingredients such as thyme and a seaweed called dulse. The brewery is operated by four "brothers" and they made their mark on the brewing industry when they won the esteemed "Beer of the Year" award in 2016. The beer that won is called "Togarinn", it is an Imperial Stout and it is dedicated to one of the local sailors from Vestmannaeyjar. ***The minimum age requirement is 20 years old.**

Dinner on own

Day 5: Aug. 17, 2018 South Shore - Skogar – Vik (B, D)

Powerful Volcanoes – Folk Museum – Black sand beaches



Breakfast at your hotel. Take the ferry back from the Westman Islands and travel further on along the south coast. Pass numerous glacial rivers en route to Skogafoss waterfall. A famous folk museum is nearby, showcasing the buildings and daily life of Icelanders in the past centuries. This part of Iceland is home to the new Lava Centre, an interactive, high-tech educational exhibition depicting volcanic activity, earthquakes and the creation of Iceland over millions of years. After a visit to the Lava Centre, continue on to the black sands of Reynisfjara beach. Here you can witness the powerful waves and amazing basalt column features carved by the power of the sea.

Drive back to Hveragerdi for a dinner and overnight

Group dinner and overnight stay in Hveragerdi for one night.

Highlights:

Eyjafjallajökull, Skogafoss, Skogar Museum, Reynisdrangar Cliffs, Vik

Day 6: Aug. 18, 2018 Golden Circle – Borgarfjörður (B, L, D)

Breakfast at your hotel. Today head for the Geysir hot spring area to see the famous great Geysir as well as Strokkur, a hot spring that spouts every few minutes. Travel onwards to Gullfoss, one of Iceland's most impressive waterfalls. The next stop is Thingvellir National Park, where the Viking-age parliament met for centuries on the shores of Iceland's largest lake. This is also where you can see the meeting point where the European and North American tectonic plates meet. After some time to explore Thingvellir we will continue onwards to historical Borgarfjörður. Along the way, you'll view the **Hraunfossar falls**, created by ancient lava flows. Nearby is the beautiful blue **Barnafoss** (the Childrens' Falls).

Visit at the Fridheimar Horticultural Center includes a light lunch

Dinner and overnight at Hótel Húsafell

Highlights:

Gullfoss, Geysir

Day 7: Aug. 19, 2018

Snæfellsnes Peninsula (B, D)



The main attraction of the **Snæfellsnes Peninsula** is, without a doubt, **Snæfellsjökull** glacier, a beautifully-shaped strato-volcano at the very end of the peninsula. The glacier, along with its surrounding unspoiled natural wonders, is the setting of **Jules Verne's novel *Journey to the Center of the Earth***. It is also one of the seven most energy-filled sites on Earth, according to New Age beliefs. **Búðir** is a very impressive area, where you can walk in a unique landscape with a mixture of sandy hills, black lava and yellow beaches. **Arnarstapi** offers a great opportunity for a walk along the sea cliffs, where you can see spectacular columnar rock formations that are nesting places for seabirds. Then head on to **Djúpalónssandur's** black-pebbled beach, before the tour continues around the scenic peninsula and on towards Hótel Húsafell again.

Duration: 10 hours.

Dinner and overnight at Hótel Húsafell

Day 8: Aug. 20, 2018 Into the Glacier – Krauma – Reykjavík (B, L)

This incredible adventure gives you the rare chance to walk into a glacier and look into its very heart. The **Into the Glacier** experience was developed in 2015 as a way to educate people about how glaciers are formed. The focus is on education, environmental protection and safety.

We will drive to the edge of **Langjökull glacier**. When you reach Langjökull glacier, it will be time to board an 8-wheel glacier truck that will take you on an adventurous journey to the entrance of the ice cave.

During the excursion within the glacier itself, you will see colours of blue you never knew existed and learn how glaciers hide the secrets of history.

Duration:	8-9 hours total, approximately 2.5 hours on the ice.
Difficulty:	2 out of 5 – Rated as Easy.
Age Limit:	No age limit.
Bring with you:	Warm outdoor clothing, waterproof jacket and pants. Good hiking shoes and sunglasses recommended.
Minimum passengers:	10
Maximum passengers:	68 in one group.

After a 50-minute visit within the glacier, it is time to head back towards Húsafell. We will change vehicles and move towards **Deildartunguhver**, Europe's most powerful hot spring. (This hot spring provides the energy for the communities in the area). Here we will try out the new spa resort and relax in the warm waters after the cool glacier experience. From there we move towards Hvalfjörður where we will stop at **Bjarteyjarsandur** for tastings of the farm.

Arrival late afternoon/early evening in Reykjavík.

Dinner on own.



Day 9: Aug. 21, 2018 Blue Lagoon & departure with a guide (B)

Your private coach and guide will collect you approximately 5 hours before departure. On your way to the airport, you'll stop at the Blue Lagoon where you can take a relaxing bath in the healing mineral waters before your flight. After your visit, the coach will take you to the airport in plenty of time for your check-in.



Our group has been confirmed in the following hotels:

August 13, 2018	Fosshótel Reykjavík
August 14, 2018	Fosshótel Reykjavík
August 15, 2018	Hotel Vestmannaeyjar
August 16, 2018	Hotel Vestmannaeyjar
August 17, 2018	Hótel Ör
August 18, 2018	Hótel Húsafell
August 19, 2018	Hótel Húsafell
August 20, 2018	Fosshótel Reykjavík

Included in Trip Price:

- Coach bus and local English speaking tour guide based on the above itinerary except for day 2
 - Also included transfer for both tour of the Westman islands, as well as transfers as needed there
- Accommodation in the package is based on standard rooms w/breakfast in the following hotels:
 - Fosshótel Reykjavík for 3 nights in total
 - Hotel Vestmannaeyjar for 2 nights
 - Hótel Ör – superior rooms for 1 night
 - Hótel Húsafell for 2 nights
- 5x 3-course dinners with table water, coffee/tea (one in Reykjavík)
- Entry and breakfast buffet at the Viking World Museum upon arrival
- Entry to Eldheimar Exhibition
- Local Brewery in Westman Islands – introduction and 3 beers
- Return ferry transfer to Westman Islands
- Transport for the coach to Westman Islands
- Entry fee to Skógar Folk Museum
- Glacier Hike in Sólheimajökull with professional mountain guides and gear
- Lava Center – the new exhibition in Hvolsvöllur – entry and cinema
- Introduction at Friðheimar horticultural farm including a light lunch
- Parking fee in Thingvellir and at Seljalandsfoss
- Into the Glacier transfer from Húsafell to the Glacier
- Transfer from the glacier to the ice tube
- Entry and guidance into the Glacier
- 1x lunch-box on day 6 – from Hótel Húsafell
- Entry, towel, robe at Krauma Geothermal resort
- Visit, introduction and tastings at Bjarteyjarsandur Farm
- Blue Lagoon: bathing fee, towel rental, silica mud mask and a drink on own choice
- Cost for guide and driver (accommodation and meals)
- VAT
- 24/7 Emergency phone service
- 2 persons free of charge

Prices do not include:

- Airfare
- Travel insurance (highly recommended)
- Airport transfers if not arriving or departing within reasonable time of the rest of the group
- Beverages, snack, lunches, dinners unless otherwise noted
- Room outside of normal check-in/check-out times
- Porterage at airport and hotels
- Gratuities for the guide and the driver (expected if group is satisfied with the services)
- Optional excursions, activities, museums or pre and post trips not mentioned above
- Any service not specifically listed under "included"
- Unforeseen admission to nature sites or other exhibits
- Lunch and dinner on day 2 & 9
- Dinner on day 8
- Lunches except a light lunch on day 6 and a box lunch on day 8
- Any activities other than mentioned under inclusions above

Optional activities: While visiting the Westman islands we will have the opportunity to tour the islands by boat. There are several different tour options. When you pay the final balance for the trip, you will also reserve yourself a spot on one of these tours, if you wish to participate. We list the approximate prices below for your information.

Ribboat tour in Westman Islands (adventurous ride, open air, not suitable for people with back/neck injury nor for pregnant women):

1 hour Small Island Trip	Adult: \$119 USD per person
2 hour Round Trip	Adult: \$179 USD per person

Boat Tour (calmer tour, covered area onboard available):

30 minute (Cave Klettshellir)	Adult: \$36 USD per person
1.5 hour circumnavigation of Heimaey Island:	Adult: \$72 USD per person

For further details on our Terms and Conditions and practical information, please read carefully the following links:

[Please read our "Terms and Conditions" carefully](#)
[Practical information on Iceland](#)