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Aurora Chaser Iceland (*Tuesday*)

7 Nights / 8 Days

1N Reykjavik / 2N Borgarnes / 1N Selfoss / 2N Vik / 1N Reykjavik

DAY 01: ARRIVE IN KEFLAVIK/KEFLAVIK - REYKJAVIK

Arrive in Keflavik. You will be transferred by Flybus shuttle bus from Keflavik Airport to your hotel in Reykjavik where you will spend the night. You will be provided with ideas how to explore Iceland's capital on your own.

Overnight in Reykjavik.

DAY 02: BLUE LAGOON, LIGHT HOUSES AND AURORA HUNT

After breakfast, at 0900 hrs, you will meet your tour guide and explore the **Reykjanes peninsula** with its many unusual geological features and moon-like landscapes. You will stop for 3 hours at the famous Blue Lagoon for a soak in its warm geothermal water. You will continue to the **Reykjanes folk and maritime museum**, located in a natural paradise, showing items which were essential for the livelihood on both land and sea. Next door to the museum are two beautiful light houses, surrounded by amazing ocean view. During the two hours journey to West Iceland, your expert tour guide will provide you with information about the Northern Lights and will teach you how to take photos of this natural phenomenon. After dinner, you will join a torch walk into the darkness, soak in the hotel's outdoor hot tubs and check if the Northern Lights are visible. These spectacular sky-light shows are also known as the Aurora Borealis and are frequently seen in Iceland from September through April on clear and crisp nights. White and green are usually the dominant colours of **Northern Lights** but sometimes there are considerable color variations. They are ephemeral, however, sightings are not guaranteed. (BD)



Overnight in Borgarnes.

DAY 03: ICE CAVE EXPLORATION AND BORGARFJORDUR SAGA VALLEY

After breakfast, you will be taken by bus and an 8-wheel drive monster truck to **Langjökull glacier** - Iceland's second largest glacier, for a once in a lifetime adventure deep inside one of the world's largest man made ice caverns. The caverns are composed of an extensive system of tunnels and chambers that stretch close to 300 metres into the solid ice cap towards a breath taking natural ice cave at the heart of the glacier.



Making your way inside the glacier, you are able to explore various nooks and chambers and see a huge ice crevasse. As you walk further along the tunnel, the ice gets older and its colour gradually changes from white to deep-blue. You will also explore **Borgarfjordur** which is known as the Saga valley because of its many important historical events. You will get a chance to visit **Deildartunguhver** - Europe's most powerful hot spring which produces 180 liters per second of water that is nearly boiling - 97° Celsius. **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. In the evening, you will step into the hotel garden in search of the Northern Lights followed by relaxing in the geothermal outdoor hot tubs and a hot cup of chocolate or tea. (B)

Overnight in Borgarnes.

DAY 04: GOLDEN CIRCLE, SNOWMOBILE TOUR

After breakfast, you will travel along the Hvalfjörður fjord and reach **Thingvellir National Park** - a UNESCO World Heritage site. You will travel the Golden Circle route and reach **Gullfoss** - a double waterfall that tumbles 34 meters into the Hvítá river and attracts tourists and travellers in summer and winter. After a simple Icelandic lunch you will join a snowmobile tour (two persons sharing a snowmobile) on the nearby Langjökull glacier.



Afterwards visit the Geysir geothermal fields - we will see a steam rising from the Strokkur geyser as we arrive. There is a variety of hot springs and bubbling pools. The original geyser is now dormant but has been replaced by Strokkur "the Churn" which erupts at 5-10 minutes intervals. After dinner, you will look out for northern lights from the hotel garden and experience the true Viking winter wonderland amidst the peace and stillness of rural Iceland. (BLD)

Overnight in Selfoss.

DAY 05: KERID VOLCANO AND GLACIER HIKE

After breakfast, you will be taken out along the South coast. The first stop is at the explosion crater called **Kerid** which is filled with water and resembles an ancient amphitheatre. You will continue to **Skogafoss** waterfall which is 60 meters high and one of the most impressive waterfalls in the country. In the afternoon, you will be taken on a glacier walk. The Solheimajokull glacier tongue extends from the great Myrdalsjokull glacier, down to the sandy plains of the Icelandic south coast. The spectacular surroundings are marked by rugged and majestic rock formations thoroughly shaped by the glacier. On this fun, safe and easy to moderate glacier walk, you will get to explore the wonderland of ice sculptures, water cauldrons, ridges and deep crevasses on the breath-taking **Solheimajokull glacier**. While enjoying all the features of the glacier and its spectacular surroundings, you will learn more about the behaviour of glaciers and their impact on nature. No technical requirements are needed for the tour as an experienced glacier guide will teach you how to use basic glacier equipment, such as crampons and an ice axe which are provided for glacier walk tours. Duration of this activity is about 3 hours in total, about 90 minutes on the ice and about 30 to 40 min walk (one-way) from the parking lot to the glacier edge itself. Minimum age for the glacier hike is 10 years. You need to bring warm clothing, rain gear and hiking boots. After a 2-course dinner, you will join a torch walk to the black lava beach and look out, if the auroras are across the sky. (BD)



Overnight in Vik.

DAY 06: VATNAJOKULL NATIONAL PARK AND JOKULSARLON GLACIER LAGOON

After breakfast, a long drive will bring you to **Jokulsarlon** - a glacial lagoon filled with floating icebergs, and you will explore the extraordinary site and might see seals swimming in arctic waters. You can walk on the black sandy beach where large icebergs get stranded. In the afternoon, you will spend time at Europe's largest national park, which has Iceland's highest mountains, an alpine environment, and Europe's largest glacier. In the evening, enjoy a film presentation about the Northern Lights as part of the Northern Lights educational program. Beware of not going to bed too soon or you may just miss out one more chance of seeing the Northern Lights shimmering and dancing across the night sky. (B)



Overnight in Vik.

DAY 07: SOUTH SHORE, REYKJAVIK AND NORTHERN LIGHTS BOAT TOUR

After breakfast, from Vik, you will travel to **Reynisfjara**, a black lava beach with high bird cliffs and pounding waves. Further west, you will reach the high, but narrow **Seljalandsfoss** waterfall which plunges from the mountain. In the afternoon, you will return to Reykjavik for a short city tour and some leisure time to explore Iceland's capital on your own, visit museums, do some shopping or simply rest after all this touring. Enjoy a

farewell dinner at Gourmet restaurant, followed by a 2 to 3 hours Northern Lights hunt by boat to escape from the city lights. Around midnight, you will return back to your hotel. (BD)



Overnight in Reykjavik.

DAY 08: DEPARTURE DAY

After breakfast, you will be transferred by Flybus airport shuttle to Keflavik Airport. (B)

INFORMATION

INCLUSIONS:

- ❖ 3*/ 4* Accommodation as per itinerary (subject to availability) at the time of booking or similar.
- ❖ Includes 7 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch and 4 2-course dinners, 5 Midnight refreshments meals as per itinerary (B= breakfast, L= lunch, D= dinner).
- ❖ Arrival and departure airport transfer by FLYBUS Plus shuttle (no guide)
- ❖ Fully escorted 6-day bus tour with an English speaking guide
- ❖ Entrance fee at Reykjanes folk and maritime museum
- ❖ Entrance with towel at Blue Lagoon
- ❖ Monster truck tour and Ice Cave exploration on Langjokull glacier
- ❖ 1 hour snowmobile tour during day
- ❖ Glacier hike in South Iceland
- ❖ Admission to Kerid volcano crater
- ❖ Northern Lights boat tour (no refund if cancelled - but bus tour offered if weather conditions are suitable)
- ❖ Northern Lights program during 6 evenings with a combination of lectures, presentations, film and guided searches for the Northern Lights
- ❖ Use of winter and Northern Lights explorer equipment: simple non-slip snow and ice grippers spikes for shoes and a flash light that is helpful when walking in the dark and operating your photo camera at night

Highlights:

- 1) Chasing the Northern Lights on foot, by bus and by boat
- 2) Guided aurora hunts and Northern Light education with lectures and movies
- 3) Monster truck tour, Ice cave visit, glacier hike and snowmobile tour
- 4) Blue Lagoon
- 5) Farewell dinner at Gourmet restaurant
- 6) Small group program with maximum 20 persons

COST: From **EUR 3610** onwards Per Person in standard double room

EXCHANGE RATE: 1 EUR = 71 INR (exchange rate as on the day of payment applicable)

VALIDITY: 10th October 2017 – 10th April 2018

DEPARTURE DATES: 2017 – October 10, 17, 31; November 7, 14; 2018 – January 16, 30; February 13, 27; March 13, 27; April 3

At times there may be special deals- enquire at the time of booking.

HOTELS:

REGION	HOTELS OR SIMILAR
Reykjavik	Icelandair Hotel Natura (4*)
Borgarnes	Icelandair Hotel Hamar (3*)
Selfoss	Hotel Gullfoss (3*)
Vik	Icelandair Hotel (4*)

EXCLUSIONS:

- ❖ All flights, excess baggage fees, airport departure taxes and other relevant taxes
- ❖ Optional activities and excursions
- ❖ Drinks, tips, laundry, bottled drinking water and other personal expenses
- ❖ Medical, Travel and Baggage Insurance
- ❖ Holiday Surcharge
- ❖ Porterage at airport and hotels
- ❖ Items of a personal nature (i.e. internet, curio, laundry, beverages, etc.) unless specifically quoted for above
- ❖ Tips and gratuities
- ❖ Passport and Visa fees
- ❖ Anything not specifically quoted in the inclusions
- ❖ GST extra as applicable

NOTES:

- 1) All prices are correct at the time of printing and subject to availability.
- 2) All prices are subject to change without notice. Though care has been taken to put appropriate prices, our suppliers may increase their price depending on the availability and season. We therefore request you to allow for changes to occur before the confirmation of the final price. We will inform you about the increase or decrease in prices at the time of booking.
- 3) No reservations have been made and accommodation is subject to availability. In case of non-availability, alternate accommodation will be recommended.
- 4) There is limited day light, about 5 to 6 hours, for departures mid November to End of January. For your information the shortest day light in Iceland is on 21st December, about 4 hours.
- 5) Hotel list is subject to change.
- 6) Itineraries may be subject to change at short notice during severe weather conditions and certain outdoor activities/day trips may be cancelled during the winter season in Iceland. In these rare cases, where situations of force majeure apply, excursions/activities cannot be refunded but the local guides will try their best to find reasonable alternatives where and whenever possible.
- 7) There is a possibility that some of the nature attractions around Iceland might charge an entrance fee during the trip. These entrance fees are not included in the tour price and need to be paid by all tour members additionally on the spot, when entering any of these nature sites. Locations, amount of entrance fee, form of payment and other details are not known at the present time and are subject to change.
- 8) TOUR START: Arrival in Iceland on Tuesdays and guided bus tour starts on Wednesday at 09:00 END OF TOUR: The guided tour ends on Mondays around midnight for a last overnight in Reykjavík. Departure from Iceland is on Tuesdays.
- 9) For the snowmobile tour during day, 2 persons share the snowmobile - if required snowmobile for solo, surcharge has to be paid on spot.
- 10) For the Northern Lights boat tour, no refund if cancelled - but bus tour offered if weather conditions are suitable.
- 11) All outdoor activities are weather permitting.
- 12) Smoking is not allowed in the vehicles. Comfort stops will be made en route.
- 13) All distances and travelling times are approximate.
- 14) Peak Season Surcharge may be applicable during Xmas, New Year or during any special events.
- 15) [Namaste Tourism Terms & Conditions Apply](#)
- 16) All Payments to be made in INR, USD or EUR as per rate of exchange at the time of booking.
- 17) Any payments automatically mean adherence to the terms & conditions of Namaste Tourism and our statute.