



ITINERARY ICELAND

TRAVEL PLAN

**ICELAND – South coast, Fjallabak reserve,
southern glaciers**

July



Spectacular real offroad tour to discover a fantastic island, with expert guide and geologist-naturalist who will illustrate the incredible peculiarities of the area.

DAY BY DAY PLAN

DAY 1

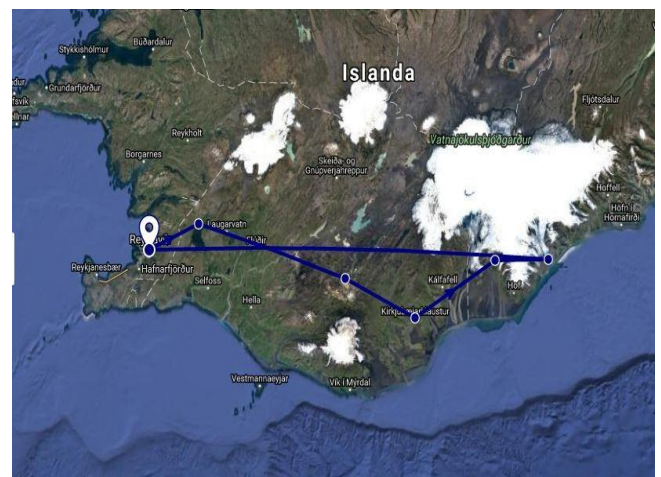
Arrival in Keflavik, transfer to the beautiful capital Reykjavik. Visit of the historic city center with a brief digression at the Congress Palace. The guides will briefly describe the stages and contents of the tour focusing on a geological description of the area.

DAY 2

First stop towards south-east and visit of the historical Pingvellir, seat of the first European parliament and probably of the world. Traveling along the western shores of the homonymous lake, and moving on the east coast, we will, at least from a geologically prospective, abandon the American plate to enter the European one, a symbolic step but that has a precise geological justification. Brief visit to one of the largest geothermal power plants in the country: methods and systems for producing energy by exploiting the enormous heat imprisoned a few hundred meters underground. Overnight in an equipped camp, possibility to swim in a hot water pool.

DAY 3

Stop at the magnificent Gullfoss waterfalls, short walk to savor their breath and then, in a few kilometers, the last beauty of the day: Gaysir, the father of all the gaysers. Visit an impressive canyon close to Gullfoss and transfer to the natural reserve of Fjallabak, the most famous in Iceland, not before having circumvented the notorious stratovolcano Hekla. With an easy but beautiful track we will enter an area considered among the most suggestive from a geological point of view, in fact it is possible to see volcanic products dating back to a few years ago. Arrival at the Landmannalaugar camp in the afternoon and swim in the suggestive natural hot pools of the campsite in front of an obsidian flow. Dinner and overnight in an equipped camp.



DAY 4



Landmannalaugar is one of the most evocative places on the island, in an area a stone's throw from Mount Hekla, full of colorful rhyolitic mountains, set between a recent obsidian flow that we will explore in a 2 \ 3 hour minitrekking: geyser, boiling mud and fumarolic activities will frame. Observation of numerous samples of different lavas and explanations of the guides. Dinner and overnight in an equipped camp.

DAY 5

Departure for the southern part of the central Arctic deserts: most suggestive of all, Skignir, a crater lake located along an incredibly regular volcanic line, black sands and slopes that run through a unique geology between volcanoes and glacier rivers. Walk before the evening to discover some strange eruptive products of Skignir ...

Dinner and overnight in a free field at the lake.

**DAY 6**

We will travel the track that leads further south, leaving the Fjallabak reserve: the track then connects to the more famous Ring Road. A few kilometers to go on the ring and then a track will make us enter the largest lava field on the planet, Laki. This is the name of a 90 km volcanic alignment and one hundred and thirty craters that put 14 cubic kilometers of lava in place in 1784, projecting a quantity of ash and sulfur dioxide that made Europe aware of climatic upheavals that brought famine and the French Revolution also known as "the year without summer". Arrival in the evening in Kirkiubayklastur, literally church floor, a strange location characterized by spectacular columnar basalts. Camp in an equipped area.

DAY 7

Further east, we will meet the famous Skaftafell natural park. Then, always in the park, a mini-trek to visit the Skaftafoss waterfalls. A 3-hour walk is possible and you can see a large portion of the coast and the glacier. Dinner and overnight in an equipped camp.

DAY 8

Traveling along the scenic ring road along the south coast, a succession of large expanses of sediment worked by glaciers, immense glacial tongues that make us imagine how the world should have been during the last ice age 10,000 years ago. Stop to see the structure of the glacier up close and visit a spectacular glacial cave. In this stretch of coast, innumerable observations and descriptions of fluvio-glacial morphology are possible, with the suggestive vision of frontal and lateral morainic systems. The day ends with the arrival in Jokursarlon, the largest lagoon carved out by glacial erosion, a breathtaking scenery made up of icebergs, seals and polar beaches facing the ocean. Field along the banks of the iceberg lagoon.



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DAY 9

Transfer to Reykiavik not before visiting the bay of Vik with its immense basalt arches on the sea and the lighthouse of the same name north of the famous Vestman islands, sunny cliffs and cliffs on the sea home to large colonies of Arctic Fratercula (puffin) , all immersed in kilometer-long black beaches. Still waterfalls in Skogar and in the evening visit of the city, the historic center, for those who prefer it "Swimming" in Iceland means making peace with the elements and Icelanders make an immoderate use of it, it can be a nice way to get to know them a little . Free dinner and overnight in a guest house.

DAY 10

Day dedicated to the visit of the capital Reykiavik, a combination of modernity and tradition, mixed with colorful houses and well-kept parks, the cathedral with the immense pipe organ, the museum of the Viking civilization, the historic center with the ancient municipal house and the headquarters of the historic summit of the détente between Reagan and Gorbachev. Recommend at least 2 \ 3 hours to the municipal swimming pool near the campsite to find out how Icelanders have learned to live with water and sometimes a really harsh climate.

DAY 11

Return flight.

THIS EXAMPLE OF ITINERARY PROVIDES

Presence of a geologist guide for the duration of the trip

Transportation as passengers on organization means

Accommodation in 2-6-bed rooms in guest houses (2 nights), where provided.

The itinerary is fully customizable

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