



## LAND OF FIRE & ICE

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Tailor-Made Journeys, Suggested Itineraries



Europe, Iceland



7 days from AU\$12,035 pp



Private

## Journey Overview

With its rugged, volcanically active terrain, few countries showcase the activity of Mother Nature better than Iceland. Its landscapes are jaw-dropping, with dramatic fjords, mountains, volcanoes, geysers and waterfalls aplenty. Stay in intimate boutique properties that range from a log cabin-style lodge to a sophisticated Art Deco city hotel and enjoy fine, seasonal Icelandic cuisine.

### Journey Highlights

- Admire breathtaking landscapes under the glow of the Midnight sun
- Sink into the mineral-rich waters of the Blue Lagoon
- Watch rainbows dance above the majestic two-tiered Gullfoss waterfall
- Explore the Thórsmörk valley by super jeep
- Hear the legend of the Reynisdrangar basalt sea stacks
- Savour seasonal Icelandic cuisine



# Itinerary

## **Day 1: Arrive Reykjavik**

Arrive into the Icelandic capital where you are met and transferred to the hotel.

***Hotel Borg***

## **Day 2: Reykjavik**

Compact and stylish, Reykjavik is easy to navigate. A private city walking tour includes the 19th century Parliament House, Reykjavik Cathedral, the impressive steel and glass-framed Harpa concert hall, and the whimsical Hallgrímskirkja church, which towers over the city. This afternoon, head to the mineral-rich geothermal Blue Lagoon, where the waters are said to have wonderful healing qualities. Be sure to take a relaxing and rejuvenating dip in the warm milky-white waters before returning to the city.

***Hotel Borg | Meals: BL***

## **Day 3: Reykjavik - Golden Circle - Hella**

Today is a tour of the Golden Circle, Iceland's foremost attraction, with its stunning landscapes, powerful geysers and extraordinary waterfalls, including Gullfoss, Iceland's most famous, which plummets 32-metres down to the canyon below. Visit Thingvellir National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the only place in the world you can view both the North American and European tectonic plates.

***Hotel Ranga | Meals: BL***

## **Day 4: Hella - South Shore - Hella**

Head out this morning to explore some of the most beautiful spots on Iceland's South Shore: jaw-dropping waterfalls, black sandy beaches, the basalt sea stacks of Reynisdrangar, the 60-metre high Seljalandsfoss waterfall which flows from the famous Eyjafjallajökull glacier, and Skógafoss waterfall, widely considered Iceland's most beautiful.

***Hotel Ranga | Meals: BL***

**Day 5: Hella - Landmannalaugar - Hella**

Take a super-jeep trip today across lava fields, black ash and scoria deserts to Landmannalaugar, passing Hekla volcano en route. This region is breathtaking, with black ridges and contrasting mountains of green, red, yellow and orange. Highlights include the Ljótípollur crater lake and an opportunity to take a dip in the Landmannalaugar natural pools.

***Hotel Ranga | Meals: BL***

**Day 6: Hella - Thórsmörk - Reykjavik**

A dramatic adventure today, travelling into the rugged Thórsmörk valley by super-jeep. Surrounded by high mountains, majestic glaciers and birch woods, it is a truly breathtaking part of the world. On several short hikes, you'll explore Thórsmörk's chief attractions, including the crater glacier, Gígjökull, the narrow canyon of Stakkholtsgjá with its beautiful waterfall, and the Seljalandsfoss and Gljúfrabúi waterfalls.

***Hotel Borg | Meals: BL***

**Day 7: Depart Reykjavik**

Transfer to the airport for departure flight.

***Meals: B***

# Map



## Accommodation

### Hotel Borg, Reykjavik



Hotel Borg is a 4\* boutique hotel in the heart of Reykjavík. It overlooks the central square of Austurvöllur, with a variety of cafes, restaurants and shops all on the doorstep. The Borg is a landmark in Reykjavik, built in 1930 and restored to its original Art Deco style, the hotel is a showcase of sophistication. Period black and white custom-made furniture and fittings are coupled with modern amenities including flat-screen satellite TV, complimentary wi-fi and Phillippe Starck bathrooms with heated marble floors.

The Borg Restaurant is a stunning mix of vintage and modern with hand-crafted cocktails and outstanding cuisine.

#### Why we like it

- Art Deco landmark in the heart of the city.
- 99 rooms and suites combine old-world elegance with modern design touches
- The Borg restaurant provides delicious Nordic cuisine and has established itself as one of the best in the city
- Superb service



## Hotel Ranga, Hella



Hotel Ranga is a luxury countryside hotel and the only four star hotel in South Iceland. Offering all the facilities and services of a modern resort, the Ranga is located about an hour from the capital of Reykjavik, in the middle of the south's stunning natural scenery. Around the hotel you'll find many of the island's main attractions, such as Mt Hekla, the famous volcano, several glaciers and the Westman Islands. It's perfect for visits all year round for a true taste of the 'real' Iceland. Located on the banks of Iceland's premiere salmon river, the hotel's restaurant naturally makes good use of the local produce, offering inspired Nordic cuisine with a hint of French and Italian flair.

The accommodation is comfortable and homely, but we love the suites for their eclectic design. Designed and themed around the continents, you may be in Iceland but in your suite you could find yourself in Asia, Australia or Antarctica. The Africa suite is a particular favourite, with its zebra stripes and traditional ceiling. We can arrange with the hotel to have your room set up exactly to your requirements on arrival, whether that's a bath bomb or a birthday cake, and the hotel will even wake you up (gently, of course) should the Northern Lights make an appearance.

### Why we like it

- Consistently voted one of the best hotels in the world due to its unique location
- Master suites are designed and themed after each of the seven continents
- Most rooms have Jacuzzis overlooking the river or Mt Hekla volcano
- The restaurant has an excellent reputation for using mostly local organic produce
- Very well stocked bar and lounge area, perfect for relaxing





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