

MULTISPORT

# ICELAND

Spectacular South & Glacier Lagoon



*Classic*  
JOURNEYS



“Classic Journeys provides unbeatable access to experiences around the globe.”

— *Travel + Leisure*

## Waterfalls, Auks & Ice Caves

Iceland is rich with more cinematic landscapes and incredible experiences per square inch than anywhere. Game of Thrones doesn't even do it justice! Think waterfalls, glaciers, black sand beaches and lava fields covered with insanely green spongy moss. For every ice cave, there's a geothermal pool. The Northern Lights curtain the night sky. Activities range from tectonic snorkeling to horseback riding, spectacular coastal and countryside walks to puffin watching. And true to Classic Journeys style of travel, your guides are dyed-in-the-wool native Icelanders, descended from shark fishermen and 9th century Vikings! So, you get true connections to local culture...not to mention the expertise that assures you'll get away from the crowds to experience Iceland at its very best. On several days we offer you a choice of activities — think of it as “choose your adventure” — all at no extra cost. And at the end of every day in this amazing land, you'll nestle into some of the country's finest luxury hotels, and refuel with world-class Atlantic-and-farm-to-table cuisine. If you love adventure travel, welcome to paradise!

## DAY 1

## REYKJAVIK / ÞINGVELLIR NATIONAL PARK

- Go tectonic snorkeling at Silfra...

OR

- Hike in Þingvellir National Park

Right after you meet in Reykjavik, your Iceland adventure gets off to a fantastic start, as you choose your adventure — hiking boots or flippers. Each offers an unforgettable way to experience Þingvellir National Park. If you choose flippers, get ready for a snorkeling experience like no other. Slip into an insulated wetsuit (also called a 'dry suit') and flippers, then slide into the waters between the Eurasian and American tectonic plates. In this calm ribbon of water, the glacial melt is so clear that you can see down 100 feet and you have the distinct sensation of floating in midair! You can count on us to provide all of the equipment you need, along with the guidance and help of experienced outfitters. You don't need to be an experienced diver or snorkeler to take the plunge. Awesome doesn't begin to describe it.

Choose boots and a technicolor hike is waiting for you. A deep tectonic rift valley bisects the national park (also a UNESCO World Heritage Site), which also contains the country's largest natural lake and lava trails covered in springy bright green moss. The vistas are vast, and as you explore the park's trails with your guide you're fully immersed in the tumbled wilderness that's so unique to Iceland. Hard to believe, but this region was also the site of the world's oldest parliament, founded by Vikings in the year 930.

At day's end, settle into your luxury manor house hotel on a farm that's been owned by the same family for seven generations. After dinner, you may want to start a nightly ritual of enjoying the midnight sun in the summer months and checking the pitch-black skies for signs of the Northern Lights the rest of the year.

**OVERNIGHT: SKALAKOT****MEALS: D**

## DAY 2

## SKÁLAKOT FARM

- Walk through sheep meadows to a waterfall

- Go for a horseback ride on the beach...

OR

- Take a coastal walk

OR

- Hike to see Viking ruins

Our hosts Jóhanna and Mummi are proud of their family farm, and you'll see why this morning. We'll join them for a walk on some beautiful trails out to the sheep barn where you'll often find lambs. There's a waterfall nearby too. It's far off the beaten track, quiet but for the rush and roar of the waters and your hike takes you to it.

The afternoon offers a pair of terrific multisport activities and an opportunity to choose your adventure. One of the family's passions is the breeding of short, sturdy, shaggy Icelandic horses. So you can saddle up for a ride that gives you a feel for how Icelanders have traveled their land for centuries. You'll actually wade across a lake, then ride on a beach with the North Atlantic on one side and a majestic mountain range on the other.

Prefer your own feet to horses' hooves? There's also incredible coastal walking to be done nearby as well if you prefer. Or, if you don't mind a drive, we can make for a trail that starts at a cape and climbs the slopes of Horleifshofdi to the top of the headland. The views are remarkable of course, but you'll also have a chance to explore some spectacularly-sited Viking ruins. In the summer breeding season, it's also home to a colony of Atlantic Puffins that make their nests by burrowing into the grassy hillsides.

Back at the hotel, you may want to join in the Icelandic tradition of a hot tub soak or hang out by the fireplace.

**OVERNIGHT: SKALAKOT****MEALS: B, D**

## DAY 3

## GLACIER HIKING

- Hike through scenic countryside

- Experience a glacier on an expertly guided walk

Fuel up at breakfast this morning. You're off on a big, invigorating and utterly unforgettable day of hiking on Solheimajokull Glacier. You'll start with a walk on some cinematic trails to reach the terminal face of the glacier. Then, with the assistance of our friends who are local glacier experts, you'll buckle on crampons and grab an ice axe before stepping onto the glacier itself. (Of course, we'll provide all of the top-notch equipment you need at no extra cost.)

Your guides know everything about the glacier. With them, you have chances to explore the caves and crevices all carved into the ancient aquamarine ice. Unlike tourists who venture a few steps onto the ice just to say they've done it, you'll go beyond the fringe and away from the crowds to experience the mind-bending scale and solitude most people never come close to. You'll even stop for a glacier picnic!

Later, enjoy a rest as we take an afternoon drive through spectacular coastal and mountain scenery. Your destination: an iconic modern Iceland hotel located — where else? — between two glaciers!

**OVERNIGHT: GLACIER LAGOON****MEALS: B, L, D**

## DAY 4

## DIAMOND BEACH / GLACIAL LAGOON

- Walk on a black sand beach

- Enter a glacial ice cave...

OR

- View icebergs from a Zodiac

On summertime departures, you'll board a Zodiac to get more up-close and personal with the bergs. With their shallow drafts, the boats can venture close to the floating sculptures and you can even get up to the face of the glacier to learn how the icebergs are calved. In the months of November to March, you'll go ice caving on Vatnajokull Glacier. You'll drive to the "snout" of the glacier, gear up, and enter to explore one of the large caves that form at the base.

## DAILY ITINERARY

### ICELAND | SPECTACULAR SOUTH & GLACIER LAGOON | MULTISPORT

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By now, you'll be well accustomed to the peculiar fact that many of Iceland's beaches are inky black sand, the product of volcanic basalt crushed to fine sand over the millennia. This afternoon, strike out for a walk on Diamond Beach along Glacier Lagoon, punctuated occasionally by small marooned icebergs. The ones on the beach look like diamonds. And the icebergs floating just offshore are blue, not white! Melting and wind erosion carve them into fantastical shapes.

Be sure this evening to give yourself a final chance to soak in the deep quiet and showy skies of Iceland, before or after dinner.

**OVERNIGHT: GLACIER LAGOON**  
**MEALS: B, L, D**

## DAY 5

### THE REYNISDRANGAR / BLUE LAGOON

- See one of Iceland's most famous offshore landmarks
- Ease into a steamy soak at the Blue Lagoon...

All week, you've seen and heard what a big part that mythology and legend play in Iceland culture. There's no better example than the Reynisdrangar, three sharp black pillars that burst from the waves offshore. Legend has it that they're really three trolls who stayed out too late and got turned to stone by the morning sun. It's one of those places where the geology is at least as interesting as the mythology. A coastal walk puts you in a perfect position to enjoy the anecdotes from your guide and the Instagram-worthy photos.

Returning to Reykjavik, you'll end an immersive Icelandic week in the famed Blue Lagoon, a steaming lake filled with almost 2.5 million gallons of neon blue geothermal water.

Like the Icelanders who love to relax here, you'll go in for a soak in water that fills the air with swirling clouds of steam. There's a spa. (You can get a massage floating in the water.) Most of the lagoon is no more than three feet deep, so you can move around at will. And the people watching is fantastic.

If daylight allows in the summer months, there's an option to instead choose a hike with your guide up the tongue of a magnificent lava flow to the top of a volcano. Arriving at the summit, you'll not only see into the crater, you'll see more than 20 other volcanos in the landscape around you!

Energized, full of experiences and stories, you'll celebrate a final night with your guide and fellow explorers over dinner at one of Reykjavik's award-winning Atlantic and farm-to-table restaurants.

**OVERNIGHT: REYKJAVIK**  
**MEALS: B, D**

## DAY 6

### REYKJAVIK

- Explore Iceland's capital at your leisure
- Extend your stay or make your way home

You've had a full week of adventure. So, it's your choice to sleep in this morning, explore Iceland's capital at your leisure, enjoy some shopping or make your way on your own schedule to Reykjavik airport for flights home.

**MEALS: B**

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## Tour Hotels



### Skalakot Manor Hotel

With gables that echo the nearby mountains, this family-owned manor hotel is a cozy and luxurious retreat. Rooms are decorated in true Icelandic style. The exceptional restaurant features local specialties from Arctic char to homemade bread.

**OVERNIGHT: HVOLSVÖLLUR | NIGHTS: 2**



### Fosshotel Glacier Lagoon

Remote beauty and contemporary comfort are what this hotel is all about. Situated between two massive glaciers, the property's rooms have big windows that keep you close to the stark beauty. The fine dining restaurant reflects the modern aesthetic.

**OVERNIGHT: ÖRÆFI | NIGHTS: 2**



### Alda Hotel

Situated right on Laugavegur, the city's main shopping street, this cool hotel is in the heart of the action. Rooms are decorated in clean Scandinavian style. There's a fitness center, views of mountains and sea, and even a chocolate shop.

**OVERNIGHT: REYKJAVIK | NIGHTS: 1**

## Tour Dates & Prices

Tour Dates	Price per Person	Price per Person
	Double Occupancy	Single Occupancy
March 8-13, 2020	\$5,595	\$6,390
March 22-27, 2020	\$5,595	\$6,390
June 7-12, 2020	\$5,695	\$6,590
August 9-14, 2020	\$5,895	\$6,790
September 13-18, 2020	\$5,895	\$6,790
October 25-30, 2020	\$5,895	\$6,790
December 26-31, 2020	\$5,895	\$6,690
March 7-12, 2021	\$5,695	\$6,490
March 21-26, 2021	\$5,695	\$6,490
June 13-18, 2021	\$5,995	\$6,790
August 8-13, 2021	\$5,995	\$6,890
September 19-24, 2021	\$5,995	\$6,890
October 24-29, 2021	\$5,995	\$6,890
December 26-31, 2021	\$5,995	\$6,790

Want a different date? Or your own date? Visit [CLASSICJOURNEYS.COM/PRIVATE](https://CLASSICJOURNEYS.COM/PRIVATE) to learn more about private journeys.

## Trip Essentials

**TRIP LENGTH:** 6 Days, 5 Nights

**START:** 9:00 AM Lobby of Alda Hotel, Reykjavik, Iceland

**END:** 9:00 AM Lobby of Alda Hotel, Reykjavik, Iceland Guests depart from hotel at their leisure.

**TERRAIN:** Easy to moderate on good trails and coastal paths

## What's Included

- Memorable accommodations for 5 nights
- All breakfasts, 2 lunches and 5 dinners
- Full-time experienced guide(s) who are with you throughout the trip and handle behind-the-scenes logistics
- Admissions to tastings, historic sites and other scheduled events as noted in the detailed daily itinerary
- Gratuities for hotels, meals, and baggage
- All land transportation during the trip

## Above & Beyond Benefits

- **Invisible Check-In**
- **Privileged Access Events**

READY TO BOOK?  
CLICK TO MAKE A RESERVATION

Or give us a call

1-833-387-1210

Mon-Fri 8:00AM – 5:00PM PST

[moreinfo@classicjourneys.com](mailto:moreinfo@classicjourneys.com)



### TRAVEL WORRY-FREE!

It's easy with insurance from Travel Guard. Your policy can cover trip cancellation, travel delays, lost luggage, medical emergencies, and more. If you are traveling with kids, add them to your policy at no extra cost. [Click here](#) or call 800-826-4919 for details.

### AMBASSADOR CLUB

As a Classic Journeys guest, you are invited to join the Ambassador Club after your first Classic Journeys tour. As a member, you'll have access to a [whole suite of Ambassador benefits](#) you can use immediately and as often as you like.

### ENJOY THE UNEXPECTED

When you travel with Classic Journeys, you can expect handcrafted surprises built into every trip, but some things just can't be anticipated. Unusual weather, a once-a-year festival or an unscheduled site closing will inspire us and your local guide to improvise and modify this itinerary. Likewise, the hotels named here are used on the majority of our trips, but occasionally one of them can't accommodate us. If that happens, you can count on us to let you know before departure and make sure you're in a hotel of equal or better quality. It's our goal to make your trip exceptional!

\*\*Any discount offered cannot be combined with other offers, and only applies to published (regularly scheduled public) departure dates in our catalogs or on our website.

# THE Classic Journeys Difference

## HANDCRAFTING TRIPS OF A LIFETIME.



At the end of the day, we fundamentally believe that every guest on every departure of every trip should have a trip of a lifetime. We're fortunate to play the role of well-connected friend, linking our guests with amazing guides, artisans, winemakers, hoteliers, restaurateurs, naturalists, and too many others to list here.

That's what motivates me and our team — in our La Jolla HQ and around the world — every day. Join Us!

President & Founder



## You can expect the highest standards:



### Luxurious Lodgings:

Ours include coveted properties that appear in "World's Best" and "Gold List" rankings.



### Included Activities:

You'll never be surprised with add-on fees on your activities that include snorkeling to cooking lessons.



### Local Guides:

Your guides are locals who are always at your side like well-connected friends.



### Small Group Travel:

With an average of just 10-12 guests, it's a small footprint that guarantees you access that's off-limits to larger groups.



### Amazing Cuisine:

From Michelin-starred restaurants to lunch in a farmhouse kitchen, you'll have a seat for the region's signature dishes.



### Unmatched Value:

"Excellent value" and "unbeatable access" are two of the reasons that Travel + Leisure has consistently voted us a World's Best Tour Operator.

## You'll enjoy these handcrafted travel experiences in Iceland...

- Choosing your own adventure from amazing (and included) options each day
- Exploring a glacial ice cave or viewing icebergs from a Zodiac
- Riding the famed Icelandic horses or walking along a black sand beach
- Walking - and picnicking - on a glacier
- Snorkeling in glacial water, and soaking in the famed thermal baths at Blue Lagoon

*"Atli was a great guide. He shared so many stories about Iceland (personal and historical) that I really felt like I understand the Icelandic culture."*

—Lori Singer., Chestnut Hill, MA

Let's Go!

TO RESERVE: 833.493.5038 | CLASSICJOURNEYS.COM/RESERVATIONS

You might also enjoy...



## Alaska

### Kenai Peninsula

#### Multisport

##### PICTURE YOURSELF...

- Rambling riverside, forest and coastal trails
- Spotting wildlife, waterfalls and flowering meadows
- Cruising sparkling fjords with breathtaking vistas

For more information, visit <https://www.classicjourneys.com/alaska/>.



## Canadian Rockies

### Banff & Jasper National Parks

#### Multisport

##### PICTURE YOURSELF...

- Marveling at glaciers and snow-capped peaks
- Hiking spectacular gorges with rushing waterfalls
- Sighting wildflowers and wildlife at every turn

For more information, visit <https://www.classicjourneys.com/canadianrockies/>.



## Costa Rica

### Arenal & Manuel Antonio Park

#### Multisport

##### PICTURE YOURSELF...

- Standing in a cloud of butterflies or hummingbirds
- Exploring the forest canopy on hanging bridges or by zipline
- Seeing scarlet macaws, crocodiles and howler monkeys

For more information, visit <https://www.classicjourneys.com/costarica/>.



You might also enjoy...



## Galápagos

### Island-Based Wildlife Adventure

#### Multisport

#### PICTURE YOURSELF...

- Coming face to face with giant tortoises and Galápagos penguins
- Checking off your bucket list as you spot each of the Galapagos Big Five
- Meeting the locals on a sustainable coffee plantation

For more information, visit <https://www.classicjourneys.com/galapagos/>.



## Norway

### Oslo, Jostedal & Bergen

#### Culture + Walking

#### PICTURE YOURSELF...

- Gliding through awesome fjords
- Joining a professional guide for a glacier walk
- Settling into a small village hotel surrounded by mountains and water

For more information, visit <https://www.classicjourneys.com/norway/>.

ATLI & KOMMI'S

excellent

ADVENTURE

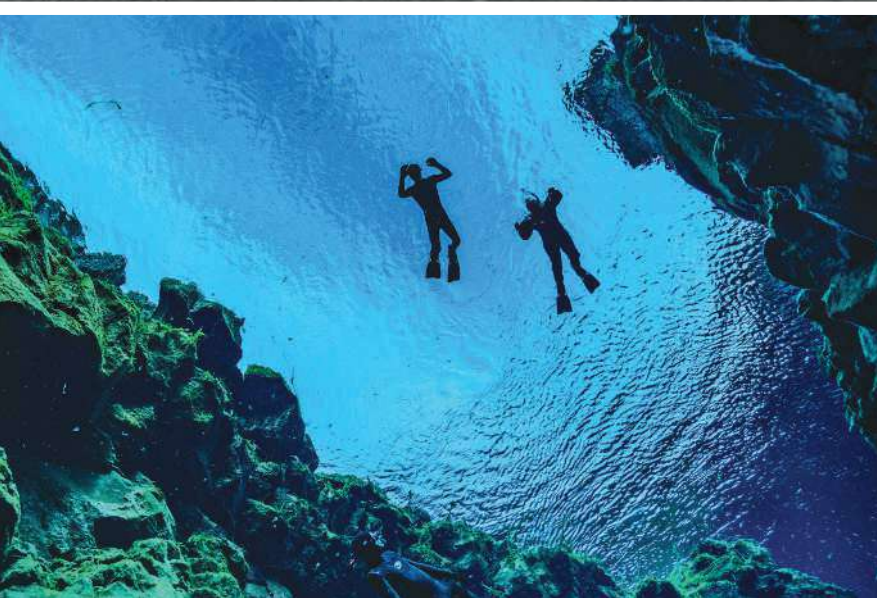
IN ICELAND, A YEAR-ROUND MULTISPORT TRIP IS  
AN ADRENALINE HIGH FROM BEGINNING TO END.

Any time your traveling companions have Vikings and shark fishermen in their bloodlines, you know that interesting things are going to happen. We just returned from scouting a new Iceland Multisport trip with our friends Atli and Kommi, the local guides who win raves on our Family and Culture + Walking Trips. As one guest put it: "I want to be with them when the Zombie Apocalypse happens."

Kommi and Atli show you the sights like nobody else. But these two Icelanders are doers, not just observers. With them in the lead, you'll get full immersion into Iceland instead of just driving the Golden Circle the way so many tourists do.

Imagine yourself in the most remote setting from "Game of Thrones" or your favorite "Star Wars" planet. That starts to come close to Iceland. Volcanoes and glaciers have done crazy things. Wavy plains of cooled lava flows wear spongy carpets of electric green moss. Geysers shoot up and waterfalls arc down off cliffs. Those glaciers shed bergs like some cosmic ice dispenser. As for the Northern Lights, "wow" isn't adequate. But just WOW.







If you crave a vacation with a variety of activities and experiences, Iceland is nirvana. Whenever Kommi or Atli would say, "Today, you can do this thing or that thing," we'd say, "Why not both?" And so it will be when you join us on this Multisport adventure. Many times, you're able to create your own adventure by choosing which activities appeal most to you.

For example, one day they ask "flippers or boots?" If you reply "flippers", you find yourself stepping into insulated wet suits to go "tectonic snorkeling." At just one spot, a gap between two tectonic plates contains a skinny lake of crystal glacial water. In water that's as clear as glass, you feel like you're floating in thin air. If you want to skip the flippers and keep your hiking boots, you can join one of the guys for an awesome walk in Þingvellir National Park. The UNESCO World Heritage Site is bisected by a tectonic valley and is cinematic beyond belief. Untamed as it is, it was also the place where local Viking chieftains started meeting in the year 930 to form the world's oldest parliament.

The lion's share of another day is spent on top of a glacier, starting with a hike to the glacier's terminal face. Specialized guides join up with crampons, ice axes and other gear, and then you make your way to the top and across the ice field. You see impressive crevasses and even tuck into the coolest picnic ever. The next day, at the "snout" of another glacier, you climb into Zodiacs and chug in close to where icebergs are calved. This is also the place where you can explore ice caves carved by glacial melt.

You can choose to ride shaggy, short-legged Icelandic horses on a black sand beach or walk along coastal footpaths to a nesting colony of Atlantic Puffins. You'll walk to a waterfall to explore it from behind. (It's nobody but you, looking out at Iceland through a roaring curtain of water.) And one of our favorite hotels is a manor house on a family farm where trails lead you through sheep meadows to Viking ruins. At the end of another day, the geothermal Blue Lagoon is the perfect spot for a long steamy float.

There are other places where you can see fjords and walk on glaciers and visit sheep farms and clamber over frozen lava and eat sensational farm-to-table meals. But nowhere else can you do it all in such a compact geographic area and have so much fun. Your trusty research team did ... and you will too!

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## IS ICELAND FOR YOU?

### WHEN ARE DEPARTURES?

Year-round, so you can go any time and in any season.

### DO YOU SEE THE NORTHERN LIGHTS?

Scientifically, the Aurora Borealis happens year-round. You're likeliest to witness it from September to April when the night sky is darker, but we've seen them on tour in August!

### HOW ARE THE HOTELS?

Luxurious and stylish! One is a family-owned manor hotel on a sheep farm. The other is a contemporary gem situated between two glaciers.

### DO YOU NEED A LOT OF EQUIPMENT?

We provide all of the important stuff for your activities — from snorkeling gear to crampons to Land Rovers!

### DO YOU EAT ICELANDIC COD THE WHOLE TIME?

Seafood of all kinds is amazing, but this is an all-round foodie destination with super inventive and flat-out delicious farm-to-table cuisine beyond anything you can imagine.



YES



NO