

THE ARCTIC - ICELANDIC MOSAIC | LE BELLOT



INTRODUCTION

Discover the majestic landscapes of the Icelandic West Coast during this 8-day Ponant cruise. You can expect to see vast glaciers, vertiginous fjords, volcanoes and boiling geysers. Iceland offers a kaleidoscope of wild and romantic landscapes as well an abundance of wildlife such as Atlantic puffins, Northern gannets, Arctic terns, Minke whales, humpback whales and Icelandic horses. Travel along the coast to Grundarfjordur Bay, see Kirkjufell and all its unique charm, a small hard-to-reach island full of basalt columns and the only inhabited island in the Westman archipelago. A magnificent journey full of wonders and mystical sites.

GREEN POINTS!

- ☑ Ponant fleets are awarded the international "Clean Ship" label which proofs their reduced environmental impact
- ☑ Refrigerant gas is used for ac and refrigeration units which minimizes impact on the greenhouse gas effect and has no impact on the ozone layer
- ☑ Water reduction is implemented by reusing water supplies such as bath, kitchen, laundry for washing external decks
- ☑ All wasted is separated and sorted on board
- ☑ Dynamic positioning systems are use to drop anchor in sensitive marine environments, to minimise damage coral reefs and protecting the seabed.
- ☑ Marine gas oil is used where possible as an alternative to heavy burning gas fuels.

ITINERARY

TRIP CODE

ACPOIM

DEPARTURE

23/07/2023, 30/07/2023,
06/08/2023, 22/06/2024,
27/07/2024, 03/08/2024

DURATION

8 Days

LOCATIONS

Iceland



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DAY 1: Embarkation in Reykjavik

Please note embarkation is scheduled between 4 and 5PM with departure scheduled for approximately 9PM. Iceland’s capital stretches along the edge of a vast bay in the west of the country. Perlan, the “Pearl of Reykjavík”, a museum located on ‘Oskjuhlíð hill, offers a panoramic view of the lush, green landscapes. A little further, one can easily spot the signpost showing the way to the evangelical Hallgrímskirkja church, and to the historical centre where one can stroll along the Skólavörðustígur and the Laugavegur, two lively streets with charming small shops. For some relaxation just outside of the city, visitors have the opportunity to visit the Reykjanes peninsula and its famous thermal lagoons of the Blue Lagoon.



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DAY 2: Grundarfjörður

This secret boreal hideaway is located at the foot of the Kirkjufell, on Snaefellsnes peninsula. Arriving by boat means you’ll get a closer view of the lava-stone rock standing like a sentinel at the entrance to the bay; Grundarfjörður lies sheltered behind this cone-shaped rock. A stone’s throw from the jetty, crystal clear waters, tundra and beaches give onto the cerulean waters of Breiðafjörður. Scattered with its emerald-coloured lawns, this town, with its buildings that merge into the surrounding countryside, will most certainly win your favour.



DAY 3: Grimsey Island

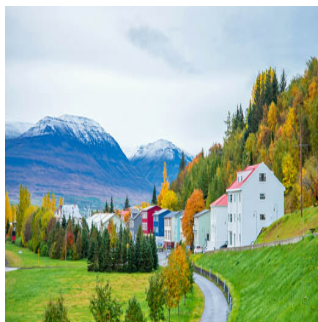
Grimsey is the northernmost island of Iceland surging from the Arctic ocean, with the Arctic circle running through the island. Its contrasted contours are surprising. From Grímseyjarhreppur, the island’s only town located on the west coast, then heading due south, you can take in the beauty of the hillsides, lushly carpeted with moss and grass. On the rest of the coastline, imposing basalt cliffs inhabited by sea birds stand proud.



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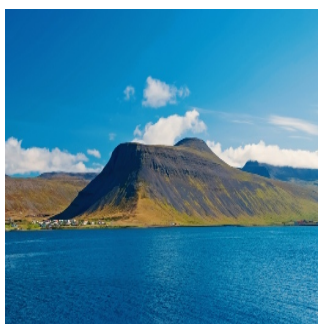
DAY 4: Akureyri

The elegant city of Akureyri is located very close to the Arctic circle, tucked away in the Eyjafjörður fjord. It displays a stunning palette of colours: blue waters in the harbour, bronze mountain ash on the squares and brightly-coloured houses in the historical centre. As you walk along the cobbled streets, you'll come across rows of terraces with wooden furniture. A vast stairway cut into the hillside leads up to the emblematic feature of the town, namely the Akureyrarkirkja church. The very beautiful botanical garden made possible by a microclimate offers the opportunity to discover the Icelandic flora as well as plants from all over the world.



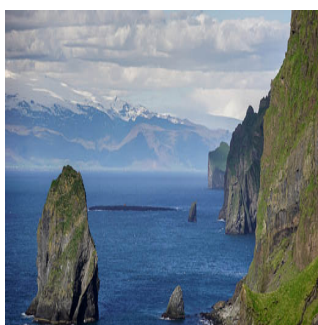
DAY 5: Isafjordur

Your ship will take you to the heart of the fjords of North-West Iceland, a wild land of lost valleys and steep cliffs, where man struggles to survive. In this very isolated region we find the Isafjörður fjord, undoubtedly one of the most beautiful in the country, mainly for its relief, forged by many very ancient basaltic flows. The town of Isafjörður, which nestles at the back of its fjord, between imposing mountains, is a delightful little town that lives exclusively from fishing. The capital of the Western fjords, its old wooden houses bear witness to its past as a major fishing port.



DAY 6: Heimaey, Vestmannaeyjar

This land seated off the southern coast of Iceland is the largest of the Vestmann islands, and is the only inhabited island in the archipelago. The steep Edfell volcanoes and the green prairies of Herjólfsdalur offer rich contrast of nature. On the Stórhöfði road, look out over grey sand beaches and cliffs carved out by the Arctic ocean. From here, you can also see the bronze landscapes of the mountaintops. You could visit Eldheimar, an ultra-modern and interactive museum which traces the volcanic eruption has experienced Heimaey in 1973.



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DAY 7: Reykjavik Excursions

This day in Reykjavik will be a day at leisure. There will be time to undertake a number of optional activities that focus on engaging with natural landscapes and the cultural heritage of the region.



DAY 8: Disembarkation in Reykjavik

Disembarkation is scheduled for approximately 8 AM. Take this time to say farewell to your fellow passengers and crew. Embrace the amazing memories you have made on this incredible journey, and gather inspiration for the journeys to come.



Inclusions & Details	
Accommodation	Cabin on board ship
Inclusions	<div> Cabin accommodation on board All meals whilst on board including snacks All scheduled landings and excursions Guiding by experienced expedition leader and team All port fees All landing fees Open bar (excluding premium brands) </div> <div> Exclusions Airlines to/from embarkation & disembarkation city Visa fees (if applicable) Travel insurance Personal expenses, such as laundry, onboard communication (telephone calls, faxes and email service) Gratuities for the crew Pre or post cruise travel expenses Optional activities, refer to optional activities section for details. </div>
Difficulty Rating	(2 Light Adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request, contact us for more details.

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Notes

Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions.

Price Dependent upon

Departure date, season and availability.

SUSTAINABILITY

Being environmentally accountable is a crucial part of our organisation. Chimu is currently striving towards using less paper, taking several initiatives to do so and tracking our progress along the way. Our goal: A paperless organisation. For this reason, all information given to you will be sent electronically. We encourage those who choose to travel with us to support our aspirations and actions and ask that you reconsider printing out documentation. To view these documents, you can download them to your iPad or portable computer before and during your trip.

Chimu is passionate and dedicated to sustainability measures and understands the crucial part sustainability plays within the tourism industry.

We use local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprint. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting. Our guides are all highly qualified (most with university degrees) or equip with many years of experience and are paid above the standard wage. Whether it be our knowledgeable local guides, locally produced meals or the transport on tour, we do not use imported goods when local products are available. We aim to minimise our impact on the environment and give as much back as possible to the communities we work in.

Ponant has a strong commitment toward sustainability. Technology is at the heart of Ponant fleet design, marine diesel oil is used as a lighter and less polluting alternative to heavy fuel oil, real-time energy consumption calculation tools are used to reduce energy consumption and dynamic positioning systems allow the vessel to remain in position without having to drop anchor in sensitive marine environments such as coral reefs. Ponant is also designing the first electric hybrid polar ship to be powered by LNG in the world. While visiting the many national parks, heritage sites, museums and landmarks our travellers are encouraged to explore whilst remaining culturally aware and sensitive. We further encourage you to buy appropriate souvenirs and discourage the buying of anything wrongfully made or taken from the environment i.e. shells and endangered species products. Information on how you can be environmentally conscious, and travel responsibly will be made available in our Travellers Guides and provided during your travels by guides and staff.

For more information on our sustainability policies, including how we are striving towards being a paperless organisation, click [HERE](#)

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