

THE ARCTIC - CRUISING ICELAND'S WILD WEST COAST



TRIP CODE

ICITCIWC

DEPARTURE

17/08/2019, 24/08/2019

DURATION

8 Days

LOCATIONS

Arctic



INTRODUCTION

For a country named after a cold and uninviting element, you might find yourself surprised at how colourful Iceland's countryside can be. Take eight days to get personal with the northern country and it's climate as you sail from Reykjavik to stunning landscapes such as the towering Mt. Kirkjufell, the waterfalls of the Snafellsnes Peninsula, the red sandy coast of Raudasandur Beach and the seas of flowers in Pingeyri. It's a trip like no other, showing the warm, beating heart of a country with a cold exterior.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Reykjavik

Why not spend the morning getting acquainted with Iceland's capital before boarding the Panorama in the late afternoon. Savour the view of modern buildings against immense mountains as you set sail before enjoying a welcome dinner on the ship. Perhaps enjoy a post meal Brennivin (a local savoury schnapps) before bed, and get some rest during the overnight trip to your first destination.



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DAY 2: Westman Islands

Say good-morning to rocky cliffs and alight for a bus tour of these rugged islands. Visit the Eldheimar Museum, which offers insight into the devastating volcano eruption of 1973, which left huge swaths of town buried beneath layers of lava and ash. Later, watch the locals scale treacherous cliff faces while rope swinging, a traditional method of gathering bird eggs reinvented as an exhilarating sport. If you'd like, grab a "pylsa" (Icelandic hot dog) and eat while you explore before heading back to the ship for an overnight journey.



DAY 3: Akranes

From port it's a short journey to Reykholt, a town alive with geothermal activity and once home to eminent medieval scholar and politician Snorri Sturluson. Learn about this towering Icelandic figure and more at the Reykholt Museum. Then, visit the thundering waterfalls Hraunfossar and Barnafoss, and see why Sturluson imagined Iceland's cascades to be the watering holes of the gods "where joyful Odin drinketh every day." Make sure to pack a towel and bathers so you can take a dip in the Krauma thermal pools. Return to Akranes and spend the evening at sea.



DAY 4: Patreksfjordur


Travel from the small fishing town to Raudasandur Beach, where the lurid sand stretches are far as the eye can see. Explore the Latrabjarg cliffs, and perhaps spot the bold and wonderfully tame puffins that live there. Return to port and feel free to grab a kayak from the ship and explore the bay. Perhaps grab a dinner of fresh fish in Patreksfjordur with the locals, or enjoy a late night drink on deck, as the ship will be docked here overnight.



DAY 5: Patreksfjordur

Take a trip to nearby Pingeyri, a small town rich in Viking history that lays nestled beneath the tallest of the Westfjord Alps. Here you will find a festival site constructed in the Old Icelandic style, a traditional hearth surrounded by seating made from stones and grass, where you can imagine yourself as a celebratory Viking, before returning to the ship for an overnight journey.



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DAY 6: Grundafjordur

Arrive early in Grundafjordur and spend the day wandering glacier topped volcanoes in the awe-inspiring Snaefellsnes Peninsula, where you will surely work up your appetite for an afternoon cooking demonstration aboard the Panorama. Learn how to make staple dishes that have remained relatively unchanged for centuries. Maybe spend the evening reading one of the Icelandic sagas while the ship returns to the capital.



DAY 7: Reykjavik


Revisit Reykjavik during a tour from your now-familiar on-board leaders. The city is full of architecture that is almost as striking as the nearby mountains, and you may wish to explore buildings like the towering Hallgrimskirkja, a stark modern cathedral. Enjoy a farewell dinner on deck, and toast your new friends before spending your final evening on board.



DAY 8: Reykjavik

Your trip has come to an end. Say farewell to the crew and staff of the Panorama. If you have time, try one of the local eateries before returning home or continuing on your journey.




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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS	
Accommodation	Standard

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Inclusions	Meals 7 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 6 dinners Transport Small Cruise Ship Accommodation Small Cruise Ship 7 nights Included activities: - Reykjavik - Welcome Dinner - Reykjavik City Tour - Snaefellsnes Peninsula Visit - Hraunfossar and Barnafoss Waterfalls Visit - Akranes Lighthouse visit - Rauðasandur Beach Visit - Cliffs of Latrabjarg - Walk - Þingeyri Visit - Siglufjordu - Herring & Maritime Museum Visit - Akureyri - Walking Tour - Captain's Dinner
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request
Notes	Contact us for more details
Price Dependent upon	Season and availability

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SUSTAINABILITY

Chimu Adventures undertakes a number of sustainability measures within its operations including:

- 1) Only using local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprints. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting.
- 2) Where possible, using locally owned and operated boutique hotels to maximise the return to the local community.
- 3) Chimu's "Pass it on" programme has provided funding to hundreds of local community projects in Latin America. Our aim is to empower local communities, helping them to develop their own infrastructure for the future. Since 2006, we have been working with Kiva (a well-known Non-Governmental Organisation), providing hundreds of loans to local businesses all over South America.
- 4) In our pre tour information we provide a range of tips and advice on how to minimise your impact on both local environments and communities.
- 5) Chimu Adventures' offices also take a number of sustainability measures including carbon offsets for company vehicles and most staff travel. Chimu Adventure's internal

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processes are also structures to create a paperless office and to reduce waste. There are also internal programmes to help staff minimise their carbon footprint such as our staff bike purchase assistance plan which encourages office staff to commute to work via bicycle. Currently almost half of our office based staff commute to work via bicycle.

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