

ARCTIC - CIRCUMNAVIGATING ICELAND - THE LAND OF ELVES, SAGAS AND VOLCANOES



INTRODUCTION

This 11-day journey offers the opportunity to explore Iceland’s beautiful and majestic wildlife, culture and scenery in depth. Set sights on waterfalls, volcanoes and glaciers as you circumnavigate the land of fire and ice. Explore the city of Reykjavik before venturing to smaller settlements wrapped in beautiful scenery that have everything from interesting museums, extraordinary waterfalls, magnificent arrays of birds to encapsulating fjords and historic volcanic lands. On this expedition you have the chance to cross the Arctic circle before visiting the ‘Land of Elves’ and Iceland’s Pompeii, ending this amazing journey back in the charming city of Reykjavik.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arriving in Iceland

Many visitors find landing at Keflavik airport enchanting. The hub seems carved out of an arctic desert, with lava stones covered in moss and haunting mountains nearby. But just 45 minutes away, Reykjavík is a charming and vibrant modern city, offering top restaurants, interesting museums and quaint narrow streets.



TRIP CODE

ACHUCI11

DEPARTURE

25/07/2020, 04/08/2020

DURATION

11 Days

LOCATIONS

Arctic



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DAY 2: Welcome to Sagaland

Stykkishólmur has beautiful and well-preserved old houses in the town centre and is surrounded by wonderful scenery. Enjoy exploring the town’s interesting museums or join optional excursions to the iconic sites of Snæfellsnes Penninsula, such as the Lóndrangar basalt cliffs or the black sandy beaches of Djúpalónssandur.



DAY 3: Patreksfjörður

Patreksfjörður is a charming settlement on the west coast of Iceland with around 660 inhabitants. The picturesque fjord offers scenic hiking trails if conditions allow. Patreksfjörður is also close to the spectacular waterfall of Dynjandi and to Látrabjarg, a renowned site for birdwatching.



DAY 4: Northwest Iceland

Our experienced captain will plan a day exploring the stunning fjords of northwest Iceland. Conditions will determine the final program and activity for the day. We might visit a small settlement, take you on hikes or launch our kayaks.



DAY 5: Remote Ruins and Natural Beauty

In 1917 Elías Stefánsson settled down in Djupavik and built a herring salting factory. Today you can still see the remains of the factory as well as only seven houses and a hotel here. We will explore the landing site, and the beautiful natural scenery surrounding it.



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DAY 6: Northern Centre

Lively Akureyri is famous for its botanical gardens and pretty traffic lights. This is the most populous community outside Reykjavík, and serves as the centre of trade, culture and services for the north of Iceland. Akureyri is close to many of Iceland's most renowned natural treasures, such as Lake Mývatn and Goðafoss waterfall.



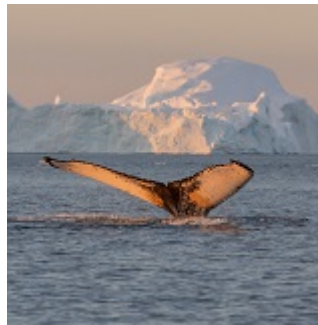
DAY 7: Step Across the Arctic Circle

We will use our tender boats to reach this green and grassy island. Grimsey is probably best known for its proximity to the Arctic Circle, which cuts across the island. You can have the chance to step across that line, North to South. During the afternoon we sail towards Husavik, where we will arrive in the evening and stay overnight.



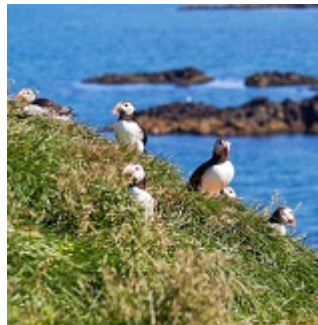
DAY 8: Whales and Birds

Húsavík is renowned for its whale watching and has several interesting museums, including of course, a Whale Museum. In the evening we will sail past the scenic Laganes Peninsula.



DAY 9: The Land of the Elves

Bakkagerdi is the main settlement in Borgarfjörður. This area is known for its natural beauty and is 'the land of the elves'. Puffin colonies abound in the fjord, making this a popular place for birdwatching. Bakkagerdi is off the typical tourist track, and offers peace, quiet and lovely views.



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DAY 10: Iceland`s Pompeii

Heimaey, or “Home Island” welcomes us for our visit. The harbour has a very narrow entrance, caused by a volcanic eruption in 1973. Most of the island has steep cliffs, is well-vegetated and provides a habitat for countless birds, including the charming puffin.



DAY 11: The End of the Adventure

Our voyage of discovery and adventure ends in Reykjavik. If you have the time, we recommend you stay a few extra days to explore fascinating Reykjavik.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation

Standard

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Inclusions

- Flight from Cambridge Bay to Edmonton in Economy Class
- Transfer ship to airport in Cambridge Bay and airport to hotel in Edmonton
- A rich program of included activities on all voyages designed to immerse you in the destinations you visit, including ice-cruising and onshore exploration with the Expedition Team.
- Professional Englishspeaking Expedition Team an international handpicked team of highly educated experts of various academic fields with profound knowledge of the region we sail in.
- Complimentary wind- and water-resistant jacket.
- Loan of boots, trekking poles, and equipment needed for optional and included activities.
- All meals including beverages (ship beer and wine, sodas and mineral water in all restaurants)
- Coffee and tea included throughout the day.
- Early riser and afternoon treat offered in addition to breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Gym, hot tubs and panoramic sauna
- Free Wi-fi on board for all guests. Be aware that we sail in remote areas with limited connection.

Exclusions:

- International flights
- Travel insurance
- Luggage handling
- Optional Excursions and Gratuities

Difficulty Rating

2 (light adventure)

Single Surcharge

Available upon request, contact us for more details.

Notes

itinerary is subject to change depending on weather conditions.

Price Dependent upon

Departure date, season & availability.

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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.

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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.

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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