

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



INTRODUCTION

Embark on this unique expedition cruise covering the best of awe-inspiring Iceland, a majestic land that offers an abundance of nature, wildlife and settlements. 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, Reykjavik is a charming and vibrant modern city, offering top restaurants, interesting museums and quaint narrow streets.



TRIP CODE

ACHUCI9

DEPARTURE

15/06/2020, 23/06/2020,
01/07/2020, 09/07/2020,
17/07/2020

DURATION

9 Days

LOCATIONS

Arctic



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DAY 2: Welcome to Sagaland

The friendly town of 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 see the iconic sites of Snæfellsnes Peninsula such as the Lóndrangar basalt cliffs or the black sandy beaches of Djúpalónssandur.



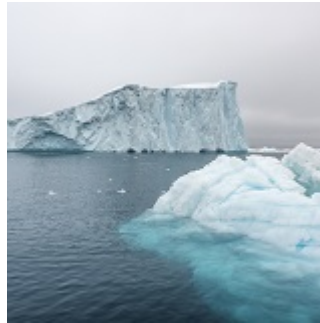
DAY 3: Patreksfjörður

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: Northern Centre

Akureyri is a lively town, famous for its botanical gardens and pretty traffic lights. It 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.



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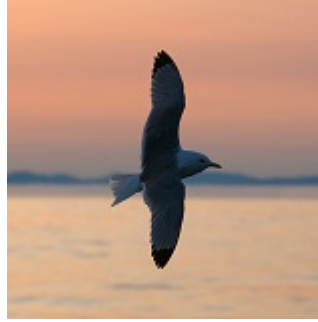
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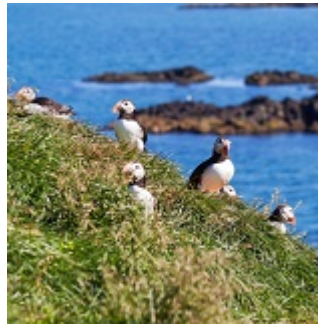
DAY 6: Step Across the Arctic Circle

We will use our tender boats to reach this green and grassy island. It 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.



DAY 7: 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.



DAY 8: 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 9: 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

- 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 English speaking 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
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.

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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 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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