

THE ARCTIC - ICELANDIC MOSAIC | LE BOREAL



INTRODUCTION

This itinerary takes you along Iceland's western coast, visiting fjords, fishing towns and volcanic landscapes shaped by glaciers and basalt cliffs. Sailing roundtrip from Reykjavík, you'll explore areas such as the Snæfellsnes Peninsula and the Golden Circle, including Álfingvellir, Gullfoss and Geysir, as well as notable sites like Goðafoss.

Wildlife is a consistent feature of the journey, with chances to see puffins, seabirds, whales and Icelandic horses along the way. Each stop includes an organised excursion, giving you time to walk among geothermal features, visit local communities or take in views of Iceland's rugged interior.

This itinerary offers a well-paced look at Iceland's natural and cultural highlights, combining coastal cruising with time ashore to explore key sites.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Embarkation in Reykjavik

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 Óskjuhlíð 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.



TRIP CODE

ACPOLBIM

DEPARTURE

14/07/2028, 21/07/2028

DURATION

8 Days

LOCATIONS

Iceland



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DAY 2: Surtsey Island

A small drop of basalt in the North Atlantic Ocean, Surtsey is a volcanic island formed by a submarine eruption that lasted from 1963 to 1967, off the Westman Islands to the south of Iceland. The island is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. To protect its virgin ecosystem against human presence, it is forbidden to land there. Only a few scientists have access to Surtsey to study the plant and animal colonisation of the island. Mosses, fungi and lichens were followed by vascular plants. Around 300 invertebrate species and 90 bird species have gradually colonised it. While sailing around Surtsey, you will enjoy a unique panorama of this extraordinary island's contours.



DAY 3: 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.



DAY 4: Grundarfjörður

This secret boreal hideaway is located at the foot of the Kirkjufell, on Snaefellsnes peninsula. Arriving by boat means you will 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.



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DAY 5: Grimsey

Grímsey 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.



DAY 6: 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 will 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 7: 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.



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DAY 8: Disembarkation in Reykjavik

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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

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| Accommodation | Cabin on board a ship |
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| <p>Inclusions</p> | <p>INCLUSIONS Cabin accommodation whilst on board Le Boreal All meals whilst on board Open bar (no premium brands) Mini bar in your stateroom (Champagne additional fee) Scheduled landings and excursions, conditions permitting (One included excursion per day and per guest is offered. Optional paid excursions are also available depending on the port of call) Guiding and lectures by expedition team Complimentary Polar expedition jacket Free use of rubber boots for shore excursions All port taxes Comprehensive pre and post voyage informational material Free WIFI</p> <p>EXCLUSIONS Airfares other than specified Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable) Travel Insurance Personal expenses such as laundry Gratuities for the crew (recommend US\$15 per person per day) Optional Activities not mentioned in itinerary City Tax Iceland: as of 01/01/2024, Iceland has reintroduced the tourist tax, newly extended to cruise passengers in response to the social and environmental impact of tourism. This tax, amounting to ISK 400 per passenger and per day spent on Icelandic territory, will be charged on board at the end of the cruise and paid to the port authorities.</p> |
| <p>Difficulty Rating</p> | <p>2 (light adventure)</p> |
| <p>Single Surcharge</p> | <p>Available upon request. A supplement surcharge may apply and is subject to availability. Please contact us for more information.</p> |

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| <p>Notes</p> | <p>Prices are based on per person, twin share. Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time. Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions.</p> <p>In rare and unforeseen situations, an operator may apply a fuel surcharge after your booking has been confirmed and paid. This is outside our control and uncommon, but transparency with our travelers is important to us.</p> <p>City Tax Iceland: as of 01/01/2024, Iceland has reintroduced the tourist tax, newly extended to cruise passengers in response to the social and environmental impact of tourism. This tax, amounting to ISK 400 per passenger and per day spent on Icelandic territory, will be charged on board at the end of the cruise and paid to the port authorities.</p> |
| <p>Price Dependent upon</p> | <p>Departure date, fuel surcharges, cabin category, currency fluctuations, seasonality and availability.</p> |

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SUSTAINABILITY