

Iceland's Magical Northern Lights

Departing October 17 - 23, 2017





Highlights....

Reykjavik • Northern Lights Cruise • Golden Circle

Thingvellir National Park ● Geysir ● Gullfoss ●
 Seljalandsfoss ● Vik ● Eyjafjallajökull Volcano
 Visitor Centre ● Skogar Museum ● Skógafoss ●
 Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon ● Skaftafell National
 Park ● Vatnajökull Glacier ● Blue Lagoon

7 Days • 10 Meals: 5 Breakfasts • 5 Dinners

BOOK NOW: Double \$3,349; Single \$3,649; Triple \$3,319

Regular rates: Double \$3,449; Single \$3,749; Triple \$3,419

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change

Included in Price: Round Trip Air from San Antonio Intl, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$280 per person

<u>IMPORTANT CONDITIONS</u>: Your price is subject to increase prior to the time you make full payment. Your price is not subject to increase after you make full payment, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. Once deposited, you have 7 days to send us written consumer consent or withdraw consent and receive a full refund. (See registration form for consent.)

Day 1: Overnight Flight

Discover Iceland, a land and culture forged by fire and ice. Steaming lava fields and massive glaciers sculpt mountains and valleys, leaving thundering waterfalls and plunging fjords. In this land of many natural wonders, enjoy the rare opportunity to see the aurora borealis — one of nature's most dazzling light displays, also known as the northern lights.

Day 2: Reykjavik, Iceland - Tour Begins

Your tour opens in Reykjavik. Get acquainted with old town Reykjavik on a walking tour featuring Hallgrimskirkja church, city hall, the harbor and Reykjavik's oldest building, now home to the Kraum Icelandic design center. Tonight, gather with your fellow travelers at a popular restaurant for dinner, featuring Icelandic cuisine. Then, take an exhilarating northern lights cruise. Leave behind the bright city lights and sail into the darkness of Faxaflói Bay in search of the aurora borealis – or northern lights – one of nature's wonders. When revealed you will be dazzled by the flickering display of light bursting with color that unfolds before your eyes. *Today dinner will be included*.

Day 3: Reykjavik - Golden Circle - Seljalandsfoss Waterfall -

Travel the incredible Golden Circle, a route that encompasses many of Iceland's most renowned natural wonders. Journey to Thingvellir National Park, the nation's most historic area. Icelanders gathered here in A.D. 930 and established what is considered one of the world's first parliaments. Find yourself standing upon one of the globe's most geologically significant landscapes, Thingvellir's rugged rift valley, a UNESCO World Heritage site marking the point where the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates meet. Experience the eruptive energy of the Icelandic landscape with a stop at the geothermal fields of Geysir and Strokkur. Then, marvel at the beauty of the Gullfoss (Golden Falls) waterfall, a stunning 100-foot double cascade. Next, see the beautiful Selialandsfoss, one of Iceland's most famous and picturesque waterfalls with a walkway behind it. Continue southeast to Vik, the southernmost village in Iceland, surrounded by beautiful valleys, beaches, cliffs and mountains. After dinner, amidst the peace and stillness of rural Iceland, search for the aurora borealis - the elusive northern lights. Today breakfast and dinner will be included.

Day 4: Eyjafjallajökull Volcano Visitor Centre - Skogar Museum - Vik

Drive along the scenic south shore to the Eyjafjallajökull Volcano Visitor Centre. Learn about a family's struggle to live during and following the dramatic 2010 explosion of the infamous Eyjafjallajökull volcano that brought European flights to a halt. Visit Skogar Folk Museum which contains an outstanding collection covering all aspects of Icelandic life including farm and domestic artifacts, as well as turf-built homes. Nearby is the impressive Skógafoss waterfall, one of the largest in Iceland. Later, view Reynisfjara, a black volcanic sand beach surrounded by basalt formations, cliffs scattered with caves and rich bird life including the Fulmar, Black Guillemot, Razorbill, Gannet and various types of seagulls. See the unique natural rock formations at Dyrhólaey. After dinner, gaze at the sky in search of the northern lights, a truly spectacular sight. Today breakfast and dinner will be included.

Day 5: Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon - Skaftafell National Park - Vik

Travel to Jökulsárlón glacial lagoon, filled with floating icebergs. Explore this extraordinary landscape and perhaps see

some seals swimming in Arctic waters. Travel to Skaftafell, gateway to Vatnajökull National Park. The largest national park in Europe, Vatnajökull is known for having Iceland's highest mountains; an Alpine environment; and the Vatnajökull glacier, Europe's largest. After dinner, continue searching for the shimmering northern lights dancing across the night sky. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

Day 6: Vik - Blue Lagoon - Reykjavik

Drive to the Reykjanes Peninsula, known for its rugged landscape, lava fields, numerous hot springs, and home of the Blue Lagoon. Take a dip in the pleasantly warm, mineral-rich waters of the geothermal pool, located in the middle of a dramatic lava field. Return to Reykjavik for your farewell dinner and overnight stay. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

Day 7: Reykjavik - Tour Ends

Depart for home with many incredible memories. *Today* breakfast will be included.

Experience St! ______ The Northern Lights

Each year, during the winter months, travelers journey to Iceland and venture out into the dark to see the magical but elusive northern lights (aurora borealis). This natural phenomenon is the product of collisions between electrically charged particles from the sun that enter the earth's atmosphere; the results are spectacular! Streaks of colorful light appear across the sky. The colors can vary from white to pink or purple and, most commonly, green. It is known that the best time to witness the lights in Iceland is from late September to mid-April, when the nights are the longest. This light show is truly dazzling and worth the pursuit.

YOUR ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day	1	Overnight Flight
Day	2	Centerhotel Plaza, Reykjavik
Day	3 - 5	Hotel Katla Hofdabrekka, Vik
Day	6	Centerhotel Plaza, Reykjavik

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Please Note:

Book Now rates valid until Apr 18, 2017, valid on air inclusive packages only.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

To complete your tour, we <u>include</u> roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your <u>own air</u>, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at prescheduled times.

The northern lights are in the Northern Hemisphere from September through April and only visible when the sky is clear and free of clouds. As this tour is weather dependent, sightings of the northern lights are not guaranteed. Because they are a winter event, you need to be prepared to walk and wait outdoors while looking for them. It is recommended that you wear sturdy non-slip snow footwear and warm clothing including thermals, hat, scarf and gloves. You should also bring a flashlight which is helpful in the dark and when operating your camera at night. Using a tripod is recommended for taking the best photos.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

Hotel check-in on your day of arrival is 3:00 p.m. Rooms may not be available prior to that time

The days and order of sightseeing may change to best utilize your time on tour.

Buses, which may not be lavatory equipped, may be used on this program. In this case, frequent stops are made during travel periods.

Museum visits and shopping may be affected by observance of religious or local holidays.

Due to flight schedules, a post night may be required in some Iceland Air gateway cities (at an additional cost). Please inquire at time of reservation.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

This tour includes moderate physical activity. The itinerary blends some longer days with shorter days and more leisure time. Walking tours, as well as walking slightly longer distances, up stairs or on uneven walking surfaces should be expected.

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279

For more information contact

Anne Englert • UTSA-Alumni Association • (210) 458-4133

anne.englert@utsa.edu • alumni@utsa.edu