

## Tour around Iceland – June 3-12

**Day 1: Wednesday June 3:** Overnight flight to Keflavik, Iceland.

**Day 2: Thursday June 4:** Arrive in Keflavik 06:20 am. – After immigration and customs tour guides will greet the travellers. Drive to Reykjavik. (45 min.) - Breakfast – Tour to Thingvellir.



**Thingvellir National Park**

Return to Reykjavik area around 14:00pm.- Hotel check-in – Rest of day free.  
([www.hotelsmari.is](http://www.hotelsmari.is))

**Day 3: Friday June 5:** Depart hotel 09:00am and head north into Borgarfjordur. Stops will be made at numerous places such as Deildartunguhver (Europe's largest hot spring), Reykholt (historic site; [www.reykholt.is](http://www.reykholt.is)) and Hraunfossar (waterfall) [http://www.husafell.is/ensku\\_sidurnar/e\\_nagrenni/e\\_hraunfossar/e\\_hraunfossar.htm](http://www.husafell.is/ensku_sidurnar/e_nagrenni/e_hraunfossar/e_hraunfossar.htm) (right click and open hyperlink)

Borgarfjordur was settled early, the largest portion claimed by Skalla-Grimur. Many place names date back to the settlement period in Iceland.

Onwards north across Holtavorduheidi into Skagafjordur. ([www.skagafjordur.is](http://www.skagafjordur.is))

Overnight in Varmahlid. ([www.varmahlid.is](http://www.varmahlid.is))



**Hofsos**

**Day 4: Saturday June 6:** Celebration at Hofsos Emigration Centre.

Mr.Valgeir Thorvaldsson is preparing a special program which concentrates on the migration from Iceland to America. Contributions (mostly in English) to the celebration will be made by politicians, entertainers, novelists, poets and so on. In due course full details will follow.

Some significant sites will be visited in the morning but the celebration starts around noon so we will be at Hofsos around 12:00 and spend the day in the company of Icelandic friends, families and other enthusiastic Icelanders.

**Day 5: Sunday June 7:** From Skagafjordur we head east into Eyjafjordur, a very significant place in the history of emigration to America from Iceland. Akureyri is a lovely town, the biggest in the north, from which thousands of Icelanders sailed to America. We will spend the morning here, have lunch on our own in any of the fine restaurants or cafés



**Akureyri**

Depart at 13:00 and continue eastward. Soon we will enter Thingeyjarsýsla, the district from which most of the Icelandic settlers in North America originated. We make a stop at Storu Tjarnir from where Pall Thorlaksson, the founder of the North Dakota Icelandic settlement came. Drive to the beautiful Godafoss (waterfall) and to Husavik. We will stay here for a while and possibly go whale watching! ([www.husavik.is](http://www.husavik.is))

Dinner on your own at Husavik after which we drive to our hotel at Laugar. ([www.fosshotel.is](http://www.fosshotel.is) click on Laugar)

**Day 6: Monday June 8:** Lake Myvatn is just east of Laugar. We need to explore here for a while before heading onwards to Dettifoss, Iceland's mightiest waterfall. From this remarkable site the tour continues to Vopnafjordur. (look at [www.vesturfarinn.is](http://www.vesturfarinn.is) ) Many participants have roots here so considerable time will be spent in the area before heading to our hotel at Egilsstaðir. ([www.egilsstadir.is](http://www.egilsstadir.is)) ([www.hoteledda.is](http://www.hoteledda.is) )



**Glacier Lagoon**

**Day 7: Tuesday June 9:** Depart hotel in Egilsstadir and tour the area before heading into the famous east fjords. We drive down Breiddalsheidi into Breiddalur from where many left for America. Lunch at Breiddalsvik. Onwards to another small fishing village, Djupivogur. A small island, Papey is visible but here it is believed a group of Irish hermits lived when the first Norsemen came to Iceland in the 9<sup>th</sup> century. Tour continues onwards south along the sea until we reach Hofn. This is the only harbour on the south coast east of Thorlakshofn. The huge glacier, Vatnajökull towers above and will be visible the next day as well. Chances are we might head west to Glacier Lagoon for an afternoon sailing. Return to Hofn for overnight at Hotel Edda, Nesjaskoli ([www.hoteledda.is](http://www.hoteledda.is))

**note: the decision re sailing on the Glacier Lagoon this day will be made then and there. A lot depends on when the tour arrives in Hofn, how much traffic there is on the lagoon and last but not least, the weather!**

**Day 8: Wednesday June 10.** Depart hotel at 08:00 (this is the only day of such an early departure) We head west, the mighty glacier Vatnajökull towering above in the north and the Atlantic Ocean on the left. Stop at Glacier Lagoon (only if we did not sail the day before) onwards to Skaftafell National Park. The contrasts in nature are amazing; towering glaciers, birch trees on the slopes and desert sands below towards the ocean.



**Svartifoss (waterfall) in Skaftafell National Park.**

Onwards on the south coast with stops at places such as Vik, Skogar, Gullfoss and Geysir before we get to our hotel in Reykjavik.

**This is going to be a long day as we cover lots of ground with many exciting stops on the way. We may get to Reykjavik in the evening. But as always in Iceland, much depends on the weather!**

**Day 9: Thursday June 11:** Sleep in, relax in the morning, nothing planned this day. If you have friends or relatives in the area this the perfect day to spend in their company. INL Iceland will sponsor a special event (afternoon or evening) for the visitors the nature of which is yet to be determined.

**Day 10: Friday June 12: Flight home.** – Flights to North America from Iceland are in the afternoon so you will have the morning and until 13:00 on your own in Reykjavik.

Note 1: Depending on the size of the group, some nights we may have to accommodate in two different hotels! Quality of both will be the same.

Note 2: Meals other than breakfast are your own. However, in some remote areas where restaurants may be scarce, group meals such as soup & salad, tea and coffee will be ordered. Most hotels we stay at have excellent group meals at a reasonable price. These will be introduced to you once they are ready. The advantage of ordering group meals is the much better service and prize. Anyone with special food requests needs to provide information well in advance.