

Tour highlights

This fabulous itinerary, with a full three weeks in Iceland, travels anti-clockwise around this unique and beautiful Viking wonderland, the Land of Ice and Fire. Marvel at the spouting geysers, bathe in soothing thermal pools, walk out to glaciers and drive through fertile farming valleys overshadowed by ancient volcanoes. As if that were not enough, a weekend stop-over in the quiet archipelago of the Faroe Islands is also included.

The longest days of the year spent in the Land of the Midnight Sun.

Whales and puffins cruise, less than forty miles from the Arctic Circle.

Reykjavík City Tour and visit to the Reykjavík 871±2 Settlement Exhibition.

A long weekend on the remote archipelago of the Faroe Islands, in the heart of the North Atlantic's warm Gulf Stream.

Tour group get-togethers Two or three to be arranged while on the tour, with the exact nature and dates to suit the tour group.

# Tour itinerary

## T Day 1

1745 Depart Harwich aboard DFDS luxury ferry Dana Sirena. Overnight aboard Dana Sirena.

### T Day 2

1300 Arrive Esbjerg on Danish west coast. Drive to Ribe (20 miles).

Evening welcome meal at a restaurant 200m from your site. Option to walk into historic Ribe for the Nightwatchman's torchlit rounds of the town at 2200. Overnight at Ribe campsite.

Drive up the Jutland peninsula to Hirtshals (210 miles via motorway) on the north coast. You could visit the original Legoland at Billund on the way. Overnight at Hirtshals campsite.

#### **T** Day 4 - 5

0900 Depart Hirtshals aboard Smyril Line luxury cruise ferry Norröna. Stay aboard for a brief stop at Tórshavn, Faroe Islands.

2 Nights aboard Norröna.

#### **T** Day 6 - 9

0730 Arrive Seyðisfjörður in east Iceland. Take your time on the longest day to drive to Lake Mývatn (127 miles) via the valley of Jökuldalur and the Möðrudalsheiði plateau heath. Side trips include Lake Logurinn or a hike to Hengifoss

Day 7, 1700: a real treat, with an evening whales and puffins cruise, starting from Húsavík, about one hour's drive from lake Mývatn and less than 40 miles south of the Arctic Circle.

There is also ample time to enjoy the very

many attractions of the Lake Mývatn area. Visit Krafla, the site of eruptions as recent as the 1980s, the Námaskarð solfataras, the nearby local thermal pool, Dimmuborgir Lava Labyrinth or the craters at Skútustaðir. Be sure to visit Dettifoss, one of Iceland's mightiest waterfalls, and the horse-shoe shaped canyon of Ásbyrgi and even prettier waterfalls.

4 Nights at Lake Mývatn campsite.

### Day 10

Head to Hrafnagil (65 miles) via Goðafoss, Waterfall of the Gods. A short side trip up the Eyjafjörður fjord to the turf farm of Laufás is well worthwhile. The city of Akureyri, 'The Capital of the North, includes a botanic garden and some good shopping, including a factory outlet for Icelandic woollens.

Overnight at Hrafnagil campsite.

There is plenty of time for you to take over your route today, via the famous turf house museum at Glaumbær to Blönduós (112 miles).

Overnight at Blönduós campsite.

# T Day 12 - 13

A gorgeous, long drive, through the Laugarbakki area and over Laxárdalsheiði heath, then along Hrútafjörður fjord or via the mountains, and on to the Snæfellsnes peninsula north shore (169 miles). Follow lovely coastline along Skógarströnd, stop off at the charming



#### What's included

Return ferry crossings for vehicle and towed unit (vehicle up to 6m long, towed unit up to 8m long, but combined up to 11m long and 2.5m height only), or for motorhome (up to 6m long and 3.5m high); plus two passengers. DFDS Harwich-Esbjerg (outside two-berth twin cabin – limited availability, two-berth inside cabins available at a small reduction). Smyril Line Hirtshals-Tórshavn-Sevðisfjörður (outside two-berth twin cabin: two-berth bunk cabins may be available at a small reduction), including weekend

- stopover in the Faroe Islands. Other units, dates or cabins on request and subject to availability and supplements
- Tour group activities: Whales and dolphins cruise; Reykjavik City Tour and Settlement Exhibition: two or three escorts' tour group suppers or other gatherings to suit the group; three course Welcome Meal in Ribe; Farewell Buffet Meal aboard Norröna
- Pitch fees with hook-up where available on these simple sites

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(73 miles). Two nights here means you can further get the most out of the incredible coast and glacier region fringing the huge Vatnajökull ice cap. Quad biking, glacier activities and many other trips can be booked from the site. 2 Nights Höfn campsite.

#### T Day 25

Meander past Lónsvík Bay, with its outwash plain and barrier islands, then via the cliffside roads and fjords, to the little port of Djúpivogur (62 miles). Overnight at Djúpivogur campsite

#### Day 26

Continue winding along the coast and fjords. The Stone Museum of Petra, in the tiny Stöðvarfjörður, is full of colourful, sparkling Icelandic semi-gemstones, with a lovely

vðisfjörður

Djúpivogur

garden. Circle around the fjords and drive over Fagridalur pass to Egilsstaðir (89 miles). Overnight at Egilsstaðir campsite.

#### Day 27

An early start over the pass from Egilsstaðir and back to Seyðisfjörður (16 miles), to once again join Norröna. 1000 Farewell to the Land of Ice and Fire, as we

depart Seyðisfjörður aboard Norröna for the Faroe Islands. Overnight Aboard cruise ferry

#### T Day 28 - 29

0300 Arrive Tórshavn, on the island of Streymov in the Faroe Islands, A gentle early morning drive to Skáli, on Eysturoy, via the Nesvík-Oyrabakki bridge (36 miles). Settle in and catch up with a nap, or start to explore the Faroe Islands. 2 Nights at Skáli campsite (any units reliant on pegging will instead be booked into a Tórshavn campsite).

### T Day 30 - 31

Explore the Faroe Islands or relax in Tórshavn. It may be possible to stay on site until the evening sailing check-in in Tórshavn (36 miles). 2230 Depart Faroe Islands. Day 30, evening: Farewell buffet meal aboard Norröna. 2 Nights aboard cruise ferry Norröna.

0700 Arrive Hirtshals and take your time to drive south to Esbjerg (215 miles). 1845 Depart Esbjerg aboard Dana Sirena. Overnight aboard Dana Sirena

# **T** Day 33

1200 Arrive Harwich. Depart

Good English is widely spoken, Wi-Fi is widely available and throughout Iceland credit cards are a normal form of payment, even for a

coffee or a beer, so you need very little cash indeed.

Iceland is a unique adventure! The itinerary for the iceiand is a unique adventure! The inherary for the tour is to be viewed as an overall guide and not necessarily a firm day-to-day programme, as the tour needs to be flexible to take into account natural events or other circumstances that may necessitate changes to the intended schedule.

Your Club Tour Escorts

Geoff & Jennie

Dawson

fishing village of Stykkishólmur, and don't miss the fascinating shark curing museum at Bjarnarhöfn.

Explore the end of the peninsula – the lava fields, Djúpalónssandur beach, the Þúfubjarg cliffs and the Arnarstapi basalt columns where many kittiwakes nest.

2 Nights at Grundarfjörður campsite.

#### T Day 14 - 17

Cut across the peninsula via the impressive Gerðuberg basalt columns, and on to the village of Borgarnes. Take a side trip up the lovely Hvítá valley from Borgarfjördur. (163 miles). Visit the Deildartunguhver thermal spring power station, and on to Hraunfossar where an array of small waterfalls tumbles out of the lava. Return along the Hvalfjörður fjord to Akranes. Day 15, 0900: coach pick-up from the campsite for a two-hour city tour of Reykjavík, including the Reykjavík 871+2 Settlement Exhibition, followed by free time in Reykjavik until coach departure for the site at around 1730. Days 16 and 17 are at leisure. Visit the Reykjanes peninsula's Bessastaðir church, or Krísuvík's steam vents and boiling mud pools, or take a dip in the famous Blue Lagoon hot springs. Try Pingvellir National Park, seat in 930 of the world's first parliament, and where the Eurasian and North Atlantic plates pull apart - take a walk across the continental divide!

4 Nights at Akranes campsite.

T Day 18 - 19

Travel on into Iceland's Golden Circle, including Gevsir where the geyser Strokkur erupts

every few minutes (90 miles). Explore the mighty Gullfoss waterfalls - also among Iceland's most beautiful - and the lovely valley of Þjórsardalur. Visit the excavated ruins and reconstruction of the farm of Stöng and the nearby twin falls of Hjálp, or the falls at Háifoss. 2 Nights at Geysir campsite.

Akranes

REYKJAVÍK ■

Gevsi

Hámragarða

A very pretty journey to the Seljalandsfoss and Skógafoss falls area, where you could also visit the Skógar Folk Museum (72 miles).

Overnight at Hámragarðar campsite.

# T Day 21 - 22

Continue along the astonishing south coast, via black beaches and outwash plains, lava fields, Dyrhólaey's puffin cliffs, basalt columns, and Núpsstaður's tiny chapel, to Skaftafell glacier (175 miles). Guided walks may be available on the glacier. Enjoy the Skaftafell National Park drive to the tongue of Svínafellsjökull glacier or walk to Svartifoss waterfall.

2 Nights Skaftafell campsite.

# **T** Day 23 - 24

Continue to the wonderful Jökulsarlón glacier lagoon – look out for seals, and maybe take a lagoon boat trip - and on to the port of Höfn

### What's not included

- Personal expenditure including for example food (other than meals specifically included in the price), drinks with meals that are included in the price, fuel, tolls, tips.
- **Personal Insurance** (which is compulsory) and Vehicle Breakdown Insurance must be taken out prior to leaving the UK. See pages 136-139 of our European Camping Holidays 2012 brochure for details.

### Please note

• Icelandic and Faroese sites are very simple and sometimes a pitch may be shared. On a few sites you may have shared, or no, electricity, but there is far more daylight than darkness on this Midnight Sun tour. An eye mask and ear plugs may keep out sunlight and birdsong during normal sleeping hours. Most roads on the site to site itinerary are sealed. The further off the main roads you go, the more unsealed roads there may be. but both types of road in the tour itinerary are suitable for motorhomes and caravans.

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