

Discovering Iceland in Hella & Reykjavík

with Michigan Alumni Travel

JULY 14 - 19, 2022



Iceland's dramatic and captivating landscape beckons visitors with its sprawling glaciers, towering mountains, bubbling hot springs, and thundering waterfalls. This 6-day expedition is perfect for discovering the essence of Iceland's geology within a concentrated area. Explore key sites on "The Golden Circle" and the Reykjanes Peninsula, and gain deeper insight at museums, educational centers, and even an operational geothermal power plant. Iceland's unique cultural heritage adds an extra dimension to the program, with opportunities to meet locals, hear traditional Icelandic folklore, visit a greenhouse farm, and explore the capital of Reykjavík.

PROGRAM **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Explore Iceland's iconic geologic features, including waterfalls, mud pools, fumaroles, and geysers, complete with a hike on the Sólheimajökull Glacier.
- Walk along the Mid-Atlantic Ridge in Pingvellir, the meeting point of two tectonic plates and also the original meeting site of the Alþingi, the world's oldest parliament.
- Learn about traditional folklore during a reading of an Icelandic saga, a genre considered to be among the world's greatest literature.
- Take a relaxing dip in a geothermally heated river at Reykjadalur, whose name means Steam Valley.





ITINERARY

B,L,D = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

JULY 14 - IN FLIGHT

Depart the U.S. for your overnight flight to Iceland.

JULY 15 - HELLA

Upon arrival into Reykjavík, you will be met at the airport by your guide. Receive a program orientation en route to Viking World, where you'll have breakfast. Next, drive to the southernmost tip of the Reykjanes Peninsula to visit Iceland's oldest lighthouse and the Gunnuhver geothermal mud pools before continuing to the Bridge Between Continents. The Reykjanes Peninsula is an area of volcanic rock and lava with numerous clefts and gorges. It lies on the margin of the Eurasian and North American tectonic plates and is directly connected to the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. Along the shore, low cliffs alternate with sandy beaches where ocean waves sweep unhindered onto the coast. Stop at the Krýsuvík Geothermal Area to witness raw natural power in a moonscape of bubbling sulfuric mud pools and steam vents, then drive along the shores of Lake Kleifarvatn, which is reputedly home to a monster recorded in folk tales throughout the centuries. This evening, enjoy a reading of traditional Icelandic folklore and short talk on Iceland's unique geology and environments. Overnight at Stracta Hotel. (BLD)

JULY 16 - HELLA

Today explore what is known as the Golden Circle, starting with a visit to Gullfoss. Translated as Golden Falls, it is one of the most impressive waterfalls in Europe, with thousands of tons of icy water thundering majestically into a deep canyon. Complete your Golden Circle exploration with visits to the Geysir area, with its numerous hot springs, fumaroles and geysers, and Pingvellir, site of the world's oldest democratic parliament and the dividing fault line between two of the earth's tectonic plates. Here is one of the few places on earth where you may physically witness a plate tectonic boundary showcasing the separation of plates. During your explorations, visit Friðheimar farm, where you will learn how geothermal energy is used for greenhouse heating, while enjoying an amazing lunch. Throughout the day, enjoy field talks on the unique phenomena of this region of Iceland. *Overnight at Stracta Hotel. (BLD)*

JULY 17 - HELLA

Head east and start the day by visiting the new Lava Centre in Hvolsvöllur to explore the largest interactive and high-tech educational exhibition of volcanic activity in Europe. This is an impressive center offering ample opportunities to delve into a variety of volcanic topics and interpretation. Your next stop is at Skógafoss Waterfall, one of the country's largest waterfalls. Next, enjoy an adventurous glacier walk on the Sólheimajökull Glacier with professional guides to discuss the glacial ice and peer into a world not often seen (all gear is provided). During this easy to moderate glacier walk, you will explore the wonderland of ice sculptures, water cauldrons, ridges, and deep crevasses. Next visit the Dyrhólaey Reserve for a hike with views of the black sand beaches, basalt needles, and hexagonal basalt columns. If weather permits, continue down to Reynisfjara Beach for a closer look. Overnight at Stracta Hotel. (BLD)

JULY 18 - REYKJAVÍK

Depart Hella to Hveragerdi. If weather permits, enjoy a morning hike from the outskirts of Hveragerdi to the Reykjadalur Valley, taking in the magnificently ethereal surroundings dotted with hot springs and bubbling mud pools. The hike continues down through Reykjadalur, whose name means Steam Valley, where you can enjoy a natural bath in a warm river. In the afternoon, stop at the Hellisheidi Power Plant (as a capstone to the importance of renewable energy), where you will get information on how Icelanders use their geothermal energy by producing hot water for central heating, swimming pools, and electricity. Continue to Reykjavik for a farewell dinner. *Overnight at Center Hotel Laugevegur. (BLD)*

JULY 19 - FAREWELL!

After breakfast discuss the global importance of Iceland with a lecture on climate change by a local scientist from the University of Iceland. Then transfer back to your hotel to gather your belongings, have lunch, and head to the airport for your flight home. (BL)



LAND **PRICING**

\$3,875 per person

Based on 10 participants. Single supplement is \$485.

Price includes:

- 4 nights' accommodation
- 13 meals (5 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 4 dinners)
- Non-alcoholic beverages with meals
- Sightseeing and activities as described, including entrance fees
- Private vehicle transportation
- Full-time guide for duration of the program
- All tips and gratuities
- Luggage handling, one bag per person
- Departure tax
- Carbon offset

<u>Price does not include:</u> international airfare, airport transfers for individual flight schedules, trip cancellation insurance, gratuities for hotel housekeeping staff, drinks purchased on own, items of a personal nature.

Final payment due no later than: Mar. 31, 2022

ACTIVITY LEVEL

EASY-MODERATE: Participants should be able to walk at least 2-3 hours over some uneven and potential slippery surfaces without difficulty and should be able to ascend or descend 50 stairs consecutively. Physical activities typically last for at least 2-3 hours at a time.



MICHIGAN ALUMNI TRAVEL | RESERVATION FORM

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RESERVE RISK-FREE!

Your deposit is fully refundable up to 95 days before departure when you book by 12/31/21.

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	I/we request an air upgrade to I request a single room at extra cost (limited availability).						
Note: The undersigned has General Terms and Conditio		ivities for the above-referenced	tour, and agrees that th	eir signature(s) below rep	resent(s) their acceptance of th	1е	
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Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Holbrook Travel, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Holbrook Travel. Final payment is due 105 days prior to departure (check or credit card).

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a deposit represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Not Included in Your Tour Price International airfare from your departure city; costs of passports; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; communications charges; and trip cancellation insurance. Additional baggage fees levied directly by the airline(s) may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

International Air Transportation Estimated airfare: \$775 from Detroit to Reykjavík. Holbrook Travel offers group airfare and ticketing. Group transfers between the airport and hotel are included in your program cost. A note about online airfare: Occasionally, you may be able to find airfares online that are listed at a lower cost. In general, individual fares lack the flexibility of group airfare and often require immediate purchase. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. Please note that seat assignments on your international flight are usually done at airport check-in. Holbrook Travel is unable to guarantee any seat assignments. Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and departure fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, booking the tour "Land Only" is available. We recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Michigan Alumni Travel and Holbrook Travel, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.

Cancellations, Changes and Refunds If you must cancel your tour, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your notification. All cancellations need to be submitted in writing to Michigan Alumni Travel. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: Cancel 105 days or more before departure: \$100 charge; Cancel 104-0 days before departure: no refund. Please note that we will not refund the cost of any unused portion of your tour package. We will not charge a fee for any changes made to your reservation outside of 95 days before departure. From 94 to 30 days before departure, if you make any changes to your reservation, a \$100 per person administrative fee will apply, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by airlines, hotels, or other third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. No changes to your reservation can be made within 30 days of departure. If due to unforeseen circumstances Holbrook Travel cancels your tour, you will receive a complete refund of all payments you have made to us.

Health and Medical Issues We welcome all travelers, but request that you be in good health to participate on a Holbrook Travel tour. All of our tours involve a reasonable amount of walking (typically two to three miles per day). You must be able to get on and off motorcoaches on your own. We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that our itineraries cannot accommodate wheelchairs. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical condition or behavior, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other tour members. In that event, Michigan Alumni Travel and Holbrook Travel assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour. For the convenience of the majority of our travelers, Holbrook Travel has a no smoking policy on all tour buses. We will arrange sufficient rest stops so those who wish to smoke may do so.

Required Information Upon reservation, you must provide your full name as it appears on your passport, date of birth, and gender (for details, please visit tsa.gov). In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, or if you use a different passport than originally cited, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue. A passport valid for at least six months after the completion of your tour is required for U.S. citizens on this tour.

Responsibility The liability of Alumni Association of the University of Michigan (AAUM) as sponsor, and Holbrook Travel Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. AAUM and Holbrook Travel, Inc. purchase transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, their employees, agents, servants or representatives. AAUM and Holbrook Travel, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise line, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality and may change due to factors such as government regulations, water levels, or weather conditions. The services of any IATA and ATC carrier may be used in connection with these tours. The participant understands that if he/she books special low cost airfares with penalties, and cancels the reservation, he/she is responsible for any penalties incurred from the airline.

ASSOCIATION'S DISCLAIMER

The Association is not the Tour Operator. The Association is not responsible for changes of flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or car-rental reservations, delays, losses, injuries, inconveniences, cessation of operations, airline or tour operator bankruptcies, acts of God, or any other event beyond our control. The Association acts only as an independent contractor and not as a principal, agent or joint venture for the airline, hotel, car-rental company, cruise line and/or tour operator named in brochure. As a result, the Association is not responsible for their acts or omissions. The Association acts only as agent for the participants with respect to travel services, and it shall not be responsible for changes of flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or other reservations, injury, damage, loss of baggage, accidents or for the acts or defaults of any person or entity engaged in conveying participants or in carrying out other arrangements of the tour. Further, the Association shall not be responsible for losses or additional expenses of the participant due to sickness, weather, strike, civil unrest, acts of terrorism, quarantine, acts of God, or other causes beyond its control. The Association shall not be responsible for alteration in the itinerary as deemed necessary for carrying out the tour and the right is reserved to substitute hotels of similar quality. The right is further reserved to cancel and tour prior to departure, in which case the entire payment may be refunded without further obligation on its part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of the tour should such person's health, actions or general deportment impede the operation of the tour or the rights or welfare of the other participants. No refund will be made for the unused portion of any tour.