

The Arctic - Iceland Circumnavigation: Helicopters, Glaciers and Volcanoes | Ultramarine

Trip Code
ACQEICIR
Departure



Introduction

Explore the untamed beauty of Iceland on a 12-day circumnavigation aboard the Ultramarine, combining the power of nature with immersive adventure. Journey by ship, zodiac, coach and helicopter to discover waterfalls, lava fields, puffin colonies, volcanoes, and glaciers - Including iconic sites like Kirkjufell and Vatnajokull National Park. This one-of-a-kind expedition offers a rare chance to cross the Arctic Circle and witness Iceland's raw wilderness beyond the usual tourist routes.

Itinerary

DAY 1: Arrive in Iceland

Arrive at the international airport in Keflavik, and transfer independently to your included hotel in Reykjavik, which is about 40 minutes away. Depending on your arrival time, you may wish to explore Iceland's fascinating capital. Plenty of cultural and historical landmarks are located right near the walkable city center.



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Departure

27/07/2026

Duration

12 Days

Locations

Iceland - The Arctic

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Departure

27/07/2026 West Snæfellsnes Peninsula

Duration

12 Days The scenic Snæfellsnes Peninsula in West

Locations Iceland is renowned for its diverse

landscapes, glaciers, mountains, lava fields,

geothermal areas and ruggedly beautiful

coastlines. Often referred to as “miniature

Iceland” or “Iceland in a nutshell,” the

Snæfellsnes Peninsula, while not vast, is a

microcosm of all of the natural wonders and

dramatic landscapes you’ll see throughout

Iceland. This exciting day begins with

guests disembarking Ultramarine and

traveling by coach bus—with local guides

and members of our expedition team—to

visit the lonely Kirkjufell (“Church

Mountain”), which rises from the sea as a

dramatic backdrop for Kirkjufellsfoss

waterfall—undoubtedly the most

photographed location in all of Iceland.

Kirkjufell may be extra familiar to fans of

“Game of Thrones” in which the mountain

appeared as one of the landmarks beyond

“The Wall.” The tour of the peninsula may

also include visits to some of the tiny,

beautiful villages that dot the peninsula.

The majority of these small settlements, the

most notable of which include Arnarstapi,

Grundarfjörður and Stykkishólmur, are

located on the northern side of the

peninsula, where communities rely on the

rich fishing grounds of Breiðafjörður Bay.

Tourism and fishing drive the local

economy. You’ll also be able to stretch your

legs on a short walk along a craggy but

undemanding foot path along coastal cliffs

that offers views of the Arnarstapi rock

arch, also known as Gatklettur, formed from

massive basalt columns. A section of this

short trail passes through a lava field, a

signature Icelandic experience. Other

highlights of today’s outing include a visit to

the Bjarnarhöfn Shark Museum, and an

Icelandic food tasting experience. You can’t

leave Iceland without sampling hakarl

(fermented shark).



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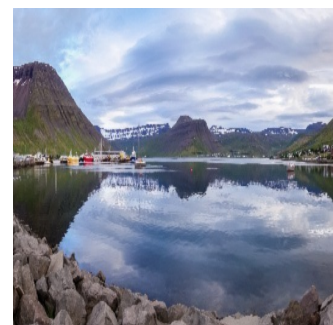
Departure

27/07/2026 DAY 4 - The Westfjords - Day 4 to 6

Duration

12 Days

Each region of Iceland has its own appeal for nature seekers, birding enthusiasts and history lovers, and the seldom-visited Westfjords, where the land meets the sea in the most dramatic fashion, is no exception. Often referred to as “Iceland’s best-kept secret,” this rugged peninsula at the country’s remote northwestern tip is rife with fjords, and mountains that slope gracefully down to the sea. We’ll spend our time exploring the fjords and shores of Iceland’s oldest region, enjoying its kaleidoscope of diverse land and seascapes. Here, tumbling cliffs and gushing waterfalls alternate with colorful beaches, and rolling green hills lead up to high moorlands dotted with rocky outcrops, small lakes, and the occasional shaggy Icelandic sheep or pony grazing in the distance. A few modest outposts of civilization, in the form of small fishing communities nestled along the fjords and shores of the Denmark Strait, face out into the mighty Atlantic—keeping alive a maritime heritage going back to the Viking days.



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Departure

27/07/2026 Northern Iceland - Day 7 & 8

Duration

12 Days

Iceland is truly a land of contrasts. This becomes increasingly evident over the next two days as our coach follows the iconic

Iceland: The Arctic

Diamond Circle route. You'll soon learn that

the north of Iceland, with its long valleys

and peninsulas, is interspersed with

mountains, lava fields, and smooth hills

carved out over time by the unceasing river

flow. Many firsttime visitors to the region

are surprised to discover that the deep and

numerous indentations along the northern

coasts are alternately lush with

vegetation—or completely barren. Your

sense of awe will be intensified as we

approach the Arctic Circle and the

captivating brilliance of the midnight sun.

Prepare to be overwhelmed by some of the

most impressive waterfalls in Europe:

Dettifoss (unrivalled in its thunderous roar),

the historic Goðafoss (also known as

“Waterfall of the Gods”) and the beautiful

Aldeyjarfoss (which cascades 20 meters

over a wall of hexagonal basalt columns).

You'll be equally awestruck by the

spectacular Kolugljúfur and Jökulsárgljúfur

gorges, the rocky sea stacks of Hvítserk and

Stórákarl, the horseshoe-shaped Ásbyrgi

Canyon, the geological wonders of Mývatn

and the lava fields of Dimmuborgir—which

appeared in numerous scenes in “Game of

Thrones.” Anticipate some surreal moments

at Hverir, where you'll witness bubbling

mud pots and geothermal vents, and

likewise at Skútustaðir, where you'll

encounter pseudocraters, volcanic features

formed not by eruptions but by steam from

underground. You can also fulfill a polar

milestone on this voyage by crossing the

Arctic Circle. In fact, you'll get to visit the

small island of Grímsey (population: 70),

which is the only part of Iceland that lies

within the Arctic Circle. Expect to see large

populations of puffins. While the stunning

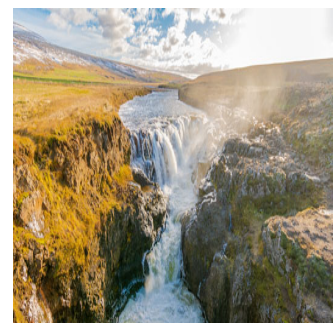
scenery will prompt you to reach for your

camera over and over again, we invite you

to stand still for a moment, put down your

device, and simply embrace the wonder of

this enchanting landscape.



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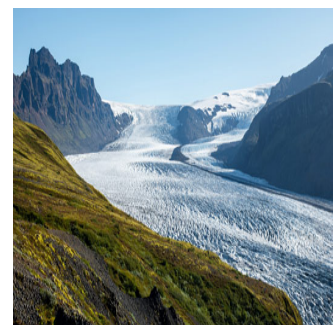
27/07/2026

Duration

12 Days East Iceland - Day 9 & 10

Locations

~~Iceland~~ The Arctic
East Iceland is characterized by fantastic scenery, featuring deep narrow fjords, and tall mountains. The region is home to the country's largest forest (Hallormsstaðaskógur), lush farmlands and plenty of streams and mountains. Thanks to the abundant fjords and their natural harbors, picturesque fishing villages line the coast. Iceland's biggest rhyolite (volcanic) formations—those easily accessible from an inhabited area—are found around the village of Borgarfjörður Eystri, while impressive magma chambers filled with colorful mineral deposits can be visited along the eastern coast. In the summer months, the east of Iceland becomes a creative hub for artists and young people from Iceland and abroad. You'll have opportunities on these two days to view some of this stunning scenery during a heli flightseeing adventure (weather permitting, of course), and during a coach excursion to Vatnajökull National Park, with its abundance of glaciers (notably Vatnajökull), volcanoes, waterfalls and geothermal springs. Plentiful activities await us in the park: we'll travel to Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon, a stunning glacial lake; explore the spectacular icebergs at Jökulsárlón; spend time at black sand Diamond Beach; and take a guided glacier hike in Skaftafell area.



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27/07/2026 The Westman Islands

Duration

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DAY 12: Disembark in Reykjavik

You'll disembark in Reykjavik, Iceland's bustling capital, at the end of your journey. If you have booked postexpedition accommodation, we provide a transfer to a central downtown location.



Inclusions & Details

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Accommodation
Duration
12 Days
Locations
Iceland, The Arctic

Hotel & Cabin On Board Ship

INCLUSIONS

Leadership throughout your voyage by experienced Expedition Leaders, including shore landings and other activities
All zodiac transfers and cruising as per the daily program
All shore landings as per the daily program
Shipboard accommodation with daily housekeeping
All meals, snacks, soft drinks and juices on board throughout your voyage
Free beer, standard wines, spirits, and cocktails during bar service hours and dinner
Complimentary coffee, tea and cocoa available around the clock
Formal and informal presentations by our Expedition Team and guest speakers as scheduled
A photographic journal documenting the expedition
A pair of waterproof expedition boots on loan for landings and zodiac cruising excursions
An official parka to keep
Hair dryer and bathrobes in every cabin
Complimentary Wi-Fi service on one device permitting basic internet browsing, email, posting on social media and voice applications
All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the program
All luggage handling aboard the ship

Inclusions

EXCLUSIONS

International airfare
Arrival and departure transfers in Reykjavik
Passport and visa expenses
Government arrival and departure taxes not mentioned above
Meals ashore unless otherwise specified
Baggage, cancellation, interruption and medical travel insurance - Strongly recommended
Excess-baggage fees on international and domestic flights
Mandatory waterproof pants for zodiac cruising, or any other gear not mentioned
Laundry, bar and other personal charges unless specified
Phone charges may vary by location
Voluntary gratuity at the end of the voyage for shipboard staff and crew
Additional overnight accommodation
Adventure options not listed

Difficulty Rating

2 (Light Adventure)

Single Surcharge

A single supplement surcharge may apply and is subject to availability. Please [contact us](#) for more information.

Notes

Prices are based on per person, quad/triple/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.

Price Dependent upon

Departure date, fuel surcharges, cabin category, currency fluctuations, seasonality and availability.

Sustainability