

Family Iceland Adventure

Trip Code: FIE

Version: FIE Family Iceland Adventure



MULTI ACTIVITY



FAMILY



LEISURELY



HIGHLIGHTS

- Whizz past icebergs on a zodiac tour of Fjallsarlón glacier lagoon and walk with crampons on a glacier
- See geology in action: lava tunnels, hot springs, boiling mud cauldrons, steaming vents, black sand beaches and more!
- Enjoy Whale-watching, puffin spotting, kayaking and soaking in the famous Blue Lagoon

- Discover the Golden Circle of Gullfoss, Geysir and Thingvellir

AT A GLANCE

- 7 days Multi-activity
- Join at Reykjavik

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

- 7 Breakfasts
- 4 Dinners
- 3 nights Hostel
- 2 nights Guesthouse
- 2 nights Cabin

[VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE](#)

Introduction

This active family holiday in Iceland is an unforgettable experience filled with adventure, wildlife, folklore, and visiting its tremendous geological scenery. We begin our holiday north of Reykjavik, in the Snaefellsnes Peninsula, with a walk along the cliffs and sandy beaches spotting seals. We see the iconic mountain of Kirkufell, made famous in Game of Thrones.

Moving southwards our attention focuses on the Golden Circle tour including the majestic waterfall of Gullfoss, the spouting water at Geysir and the ancient parliament at Thingvellir. Our holiday ramps up with an enjoyable kayaking session and seeing puffins. At Fjallsarlón we take to the water on a zodiac in the glacial lagoon. The ice formations and icebergs are stunning and exude a mystical blue aura as we travel through the water. We then don crampons and walk on the ice of the glacier in Vatnajökull National Park – this is day you and the children will never forget!

It's then all about the lava fields, steam spouts and boiling mud cauldrons as we pass through the Krysuvik Geothermal Area. We have a lovely soak and unwind in the surreal Blue Lagoon before travelling back to Reykjavik. Our last day packs a punch, as we sail out for a morning whale-watching. Possible sightings include minke and humpback whales, porpoises and dolphins. Along our journey through Iceland we learn about how environmental changes are affecting the glaciers and wildlife, and how we can take positive steps for the future.

With its breath-taking landscapes, natural wonders, and endless activities, this holiday in Iceland is perfect for active and adventurous families looking create memories that will last a lifetime.

Is this holiday for you?

Suitable for children from 8 years

On this family holiday we have many outings where we will take short walks, for example along a beach or on a boardwalk over lava fields.

Some of the accommodation is simple and has shared bathroom facilities.

You and your children should be able to swim. Safety equipment such as lifejackets and warm floating jackets are provided on the zodiacs and kayaking activities.

No experience is required for kayaking and single and double kayaks are provided. The minimum age for kayaking is 6 years old.

Warm floatable overall suits are also provided (on request) on the whale-watching trip. These are to ensure you and the children are warm and can enjoy the whales to the max. There is also an inside section on the whale-watching boat.

Walking with crampons on the glacial ice is brilliant fun – it requires no experience, but you need walking boots to attach the crampons to. The minimum age for walking on the glacier in crampons is 8 years old.

Itinerary

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DAY 1

Arrive into Keflavik Airport. Transfer to Reykjavik.

Arrive at Iceland's Airport Keflavik. From here we take the Flybus to Reykjavik. This simple journey (which pre-purchased tickets) gives us our first flavour of the island, its friendly people and some of the volcanic rocky landscape that will surround us this week.

Overnight Reykjavik.



Accommodation
Hostel

DAY 2

Snaefellsnes Peninsula. Exploring cliffs, beaches, waterfalls and Game of Thrones Kirkjufell.

After breakfast we meet our guide and have a briefing about our exciting and action packed holiday in Iceland. We set off to explore the Snaefellsnes Peninsula. Lying northwest of Reykjavik, and as its nickname 'Little Iceland' suggests it's packed full of geological attractions: a volcano, glacier, lava fields, craters, waterfalls, beaches and much more! Our tour of the peninsula takes us for walks along white sandy beaches and up on the cliffs to see the rock formations of Arnarstapi as we are watched by inquisitive seals bobbing in the surrounding waters.

We hear the tales of strength of the sailors who lived on Djupalonssandur beach and we see the mountain Kirkjufell (made famous in 'Game of Thrones') and the nearby stunning waterfalls. The Snaefellsjokull glacier and volcano are spectacular, and are the entrance to the Earth's core as described in Jules Vernes famous book 'Journey to the Centre of the Earth'!

Our first day is full of folklore and volcanic features which gives us a great flavour of this unique country. We will also have realised how amicable and smiley the Icelandic people are.

We overnight on the Snaefellsnes Peninsula.

Total driving time 4 hours.

Meals: **B D**



Accommodation
Guesthouse

DAY 3

Ice Cream and 'The Golden Circle' visiting Geysir, Gullfoss and Thingvellir.

Today we visit some of the 'must-see' places on an Iceland holiday, and make it fun for the children. Geysir, the famous geyser, but currently inactive, has given its name to all the geysers in the world..luckily it's brother 'Strokkur' spouts a full force of water every few minutes, to everyone's hilarity!

'Foss' in Icelandic means waterfall, and we visit the beautiful Gullfoss before driving to Thingvellir National Park. This stunning geological area, was the home of the first Iceland Parliament, which we can see ruins of, but also we observe the separation of the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates - essentially how land is made - a true live geography lesson. We finish the day with a visit to a dairy farm and enjoy some excellent homemade ice cream.

We overnight in the Thingvellir/Golden Circle area.

Total driving time 3-4 hours.

Meals: **B D**



Accommodation
Guesthouse

DAY 4

Kayaking, puffins, black sand beaches and waterfalls.

Our morning starts with kayaking along the peaceful rivers and lakes here in the South Coast. This idyllic activity is so tranquil whilst being physical and the session is always a favourite for children and adults alike. We might paddle past some of the little Icelandic ponies as we journey downstream. To be at water-level is a different perspective of the landscape. It is suitable for children and beginners, single and double kayaks are provided as well as life jackets.

Continuing our journey along the south coast we stop at Skogafoss, which at 60m high is one of the largest in Iceland, and can be said to be the most beautiful. Due to the spray from it's cascade usually a rainbow is present when the sun is shining.

Further along the road is the black sand beach at Vik. Here we can see the 'petrified trolls'...legend states they turned to stone at sunrise. The impressive basalt landscape and formations is exciting in this area. Our final stop is the puffin colony at Dyrholaey. These iconic birds are so much fun to observe. Puffin couples dig tunnels for their eggs and usually return to the same burrow year after year, so great care is

taken not to damage any of these fragile puffin homes. Our guide will give us lots of information about the birds and habitats.

Our adventure day comes to an end at our accommodation near Vik for the next 2 nights.

Total driving time 2 hours.

Meals: **B D**



Accommodation
Cabin

DAY 5

Ice and more ice! Iceberg boat tour on Fjallsarlon Glacial Lagoon and walking on the glacier at Vatnajokull National Park.

It's all about ice today. This is such a great day and you'll be talking about the experiences and memories for years to come. Our first glimpse of the stunning glacial lagoons is at Jokulsarlon where we see the icebergs floating around in the lagoon with the backdrop of the snowy mountains. These icebergs break off the glaciers on a regular base and we spend some time photographing the ice which can look a magical blue in certain light.

At the nearby Fjallsarlon Glacial Lagoon we are kitted out with lifejackets and warm jackets and board the zodiac (a small motor boat) for an iceberg experience on the lagoon. We travel through the icy-waters getting a close up view of the icebergs and the glacier. Our informative boat guide will give us interesting information about the glaciers, ice and how climate change is effecting the area. This lagoon is slightly off the beaten track, leaving us with more personal experience with this extreme of nature.

After some lunch we make our way to Vatnajokull National Park for another icy experience. We board our super jeep and ride up to the edge of the glacier. We can often see large areas of stunning flowering purple lupin along the route to the glacier. Our guide helps us fit the supplied crampons, which easily fit on any sturdy walking boot. We are then on the ice. It's so much fun for children and grown-ups! We safely walk on the glacier and learn so much about the ice and how these glaciers are formed. It's an unforgettable experience.

After our icy day we return to our accommodation for the night and a good night's sleep after all the fresh air.

Meals: **B D**



Accommodation
Cabin

DAY 6**Waterfall walk, boiling mud, steam vents, lava fields and the Blue Lagoon.**

As we head back in the direction of Reykjavik we stop at the waterfall of Seljalandsfoss where we have some fun trying to keep dry as we walk along a path behind the water. This water comes from the Eyjafjallajökull glacier, associated with the volcano of the same name whose ash cloud grounded flights in 2010.

We then continue along the road to the Krysuvik Geothermal Area and then for a walk along the boardwalks to see the newest pieces of land in the country, created in 2022 as the lava bubbled out of the ground. Here we see boiling mud cauldrons, active hot springs and the world's largest blowing steam vent.

This afternoon we visit the one of the best spas in the world, the famous geothermal Blue Lagoon. It is known for its warm milky blue water and healing properties due to the silica and minerals present. We relax and unwind in this surreal environment in the warm waters of lagoon. After our soak we transfer to Reykjavik for a last couple of nights in the capital city.

Meals: **B**



Accommodation
Hostel

DAY 7**Whale watching and museum visit. Free afternoon in Reykjavik.**

This morning we set off on our boat to see if we can spot these magnificent creatures in the seas around Iceland. Around Iceland the waters are often frequented by minke whales, humpback whales, harbour porpoises and white beaked dolphins, and it is likely that we will see one or more of these species this morning. The tour we join follows responsible whale watching guidelines. The large boat is sturdy and has an inside section to shelter on cold days. Back on shore we visit the Whales of Iceland Exhibition. Here we can get the true scale of these whales with life size models of a blue whale and 22 other species. This interactive experience allows us to learn about the effects of noise pollution and human influencing factors on the sea life, and what we can do to minimise these effects.

This afternoon is free to explore Reykjavik. The iconic church, Hallgímiskirkja, is worth seeing and walk around the Old Harbour offers shops and cafes to relax in. There is also a thermal swimming pool at Laugardalur that might be of interest active children and parents. There is also a 'flyover Iceland' experience where you watch an aerial film whilst suspended in the air which includes special effects such as wind, mist and scents! Or you might be interested in the huge 3D map of Iceland can be found in the City Hall. Whatever you decide to see this afternoon you will enjoy this vibrant city.

We join together in the evening to enjoy a final meal with the group, and with Reykjavik's thriving food scene you find some delights.

Meals: **B**



Accommodation
Hostel

DAY 8

Departure day.

The holidays ends after breakfast. Flybus tickets from Reykjavik to the airport are included.

Meals: **B**

Holiday Information

What's Included

- A professional and qualified tour leader
- Flybus airport transfers on arrival and departure
- All accommodation as described
- Meals as described in the Meal Plan
- All land transport required by the itinerary
- All activities and excursions mentioned unless specified as 'optional'

What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Some meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Any additional activities/excursions indicated as optional
- Tips
- Miscellaneous personal expenditure - drinks and souvenirs etc

Important Notice

Travel on the Karakoram Highway

We encourage you to read the up to date Travel Advice on the [FCDO website](#). Currently, the FCDO warns against travel on the Karakoram Highway (KKH) between Mansehra and Chilas.

We generally manage to avoid travel on the KKH by flying from Islamabad to Skardu and from Skardu or Gilgit back to Islamabad. However, if a flight is cancelled we are obliged to make this journey by road and in this case we prioritise the route via the Babusar Pass which avoids the section of the KKH between Mansehra and Chilas. Rarely, when the Babusar Pass is closed, we may have no alternative but to drive through the section referred to in the FCDO advice.

We have been taking groups to Pakistan for over 35 years and have never had any problems on this road. In actuality, the journey along the Karakoram Highway is spectacularly scenic and an epic experience which has been enjoyed by hundreds of KE clients.

Joining Arrangements & Transfers

TRAVEL TO YOUR DESTINATION

If flying from the UK there are low cost airlines available to the start and from the end of your holiday.

To benefit from full financial protection, ease your holiday planning, and avoid dealing with airlines, we can book scheduled flights from the UK as part of a flight inclusive package. Scheduled flights are usually more expensive than low cost alternatives, however potentially less stressful if your flight is cancelled or delayed. If you book flights through KE Adventure Travel we will offset the carbon of your flight.

The group will meet at the accommodation in Reykjavik.

Included are pre-purchased return tickets for the 'flybus'. This travels from Keflavik Airport to central Reykjavik (approx. 1hr 15mins) and back. This is an easy journey and gives you flexibility to book flights which suit your requirements.

Hotel contact details and an emergency number will be provided with your booking confirmation.

Meal Plan

All breakfasts and 4 dinners are included.

Food & Water

Water is drinkable from the taps on this holiday. Please fill your personal bottles for your day in the morning. We do not encourage the purchasing of single use plastic bottles.

Breakfasts are usually continent style with bread and jams. Icelandic skyr yoghurt is normally available, maybe with some local bilberries if they are in season. Oatmeal or porridge is also a popular breakfast, and we might also be able to find waffles for breakfast in a few places.

For lunches the guide will stop at a suitable establishment where either the everyone can buy their own lunch or picnic, depending on the activity of that day.

Dinners which are provided are balanced and healthy sourcing local produce as far as possible. We might enjoy cod, salmon, lamb with salads, rice or pasta. In the restaurants there is also a selection of regular meals such as burgers, pizzas, chips etc.

Special Diets

Whilst we can cater for vegetarians, albeit sometimes with a more limited choice, we cannot always provide special diets. Due to the nature of some of the trips that we operate and the countries in which we operate them, it can be very hard (and sometimes impossible) to cater for a wide range of dietary choices and you may have to supplement your diet with food/snacks from home. If you have specific dietary requirements please do speak to our sales team and they will be able to advise you whether or not we will be able to offer your specific choice. Please note that we are unable to provide separate menus and cannot accept liability for any problems arising from special dietary requirements or intolerances.

Accommodation

We use a small guesthouses, hostels or cottages/cabins run by local farmers. The rooms are usually family rooms, sometimes with bunk beds. We sometimes have en-suite facilities, but often we will have shared bathroom facilities.

For our nights in Reykjavik we stay in a combination of hostels and guesthouses. Often these use shared bathroom facilities.

For the 1 night on the Snaefellsnes Peninsula we stay at a guesthouse with remote wooden cabins. Sometimes we are in these cabins with private facilities, other times we will be in the apartments attached to the main building, with shared bathrooms. The guesthouse and cabins have recently been built by the farmer and are located near the sea and the Snaefellsjokull volcano.

When in the Golden Circle area we stay for 1 night in a guesthouse with shared facilities near Borg in twin or double rooms, within an eco-village.

For 2 nights near Vik we are in small cabins with a large bunk bed for 2 people on the bottom and 2 at the top. Sleeping bags are provided for this night. There is a toilet in the cabin, but the hot showers are in a separate cabin.

Some of the accommodations have a kitchenette.

Families with 1 child under 12 yrs will share rooms with their grownups. This might be a twin, triple or a double with an extra bed. Families with 2 children will usually have 2 rooms or family rooms.

Please talk to us about your requirements and we will do everything to ensure that you are happy with your rooming allocation.

Guidance on Tipping

Tipping is the accepted way of saying 'thank you' to your leader. Tipping is entirely voluntary and should be dependent on good service.

Baggage Allowance

For this holiday you should take one piece of luggage, and a daypack. For international flights please check your baggage allowance with your airline.

Group Size & Holiday Status

For each holiday there is a minimum number of participants required to enable it to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to run'. You can check the trip status for each departure in 'Dates and Prices' table. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we will not cancel a trip once it has achieved this guaranteed to run status and so you are free to proceed with your international flight booking and other travel arrangements.

General Information

Passport & Visas

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders. A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents and visas for your holiday. Please ensure that you check for the latest advice before travel. For the most up to date information on entry requirements, please visit the [UK Government website](#).

Visa Iceland

UK and USA passport holders do not require a visa for short stays.

For this holiday we require a scanned copy of the main pages of your passport. Please email this to the office when your holiday is guaranteed to run.

Health & Vaccinations

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips. You will need to carry your own treatment for the allergy with you, as 'adrenaline auto-injectors' are not carried as standard by KE leaders and staff. You should inform your leader on arrival of your allergy, and let them know where you keep your adrenaline pen.

Vaccinations

You should contact your doctor or travel clinic to check whether you require any specific vaccinations.

GHIC / Medical cover

UK residents should carry a free Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC). This entitles you to state provided medical treatment when you're visiting an EU country or Switzerland. This is not a substitute for medical travel insurance which is vital when travelling overseas.

Currency

The unit of currency in Iceland is the Icelandic Krona.

Climate

Despite its location on the edge of the Arctic Circle, Iceland is not the cold country we sometimes imagine. The island benefits from the influence of the Gulf Stream, which bathes its south, west and north-west coasts, giving the country a temperate oceanic climate (relatively mild winters and relatively cool summers). In Reykjavik, average temperatures are between 0 ° C in January and 12 ° C in July. The rains are more abundant in the south than in the north. As for the winds, they are very frequent and sometimes strong. The only thing certain about Icelandic weather is that it is extremely changeable, so you should be prepared for four seasons in one day, though generally it is warm and sunny in summer.

From May to mid-August it barely gets dark at night, which is very exciting for children, and a delightful thought when booking this holiday in the UK winter!

Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's '[Travel Aware](#)' campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that prior to travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at travelaware.campaign.gov.uk and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. North Americans can also check out the U.S. Department of State website: www.travel.state.gov for essential travel advice and tips.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates direct from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

FAQ's about our family holidays

We welcome all family dynamics and we will try to accommodate you in the roomings of your choice. The only stipulation for joining a family group holiday is that 1 party member is 17yrs or under, and they are accompanied by an adult. An average group size is around 10 members in total. Further general information and FAQ's are available here: [KE Family Adventure Holidays general information](#).

Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our [Travel Insurance](#) page for further information and to get a quote.

Land Only Information

We sell this holiday on a Land Only basis allowing you the flexibility to choose the travel method which best suits you. The holiday starts at the accommodation in Reykjavik. Tickets are included and pre-purchased for the 'flybus' from/to Keflavik Airport - Reykjavik.

Why Choose KE

Why KE

We've included as many excursions and activities as possible. There is something to keep everyone entertained! Iceland is a fascinating and varied country and we want your family to experience everything it has to offer.

Please Note This document was downloaded on 20/05/2024 and the trip is subject to change