



THE BEST OF SOUTH & WEST: 10 DAY TOUR

Prepared for Nathan Lake traveling in August 2026

For a real Icelandic vacation, consider our best-seller tour – the Snæfellsnes and South Coast in 10 Days tour. Snæfellsnes being one of the most spectacular places in Iceland combined with the rough landscapes of the South creates a combination not to be missed. This self-drive holiday package gives an opportunity to see the perfect cone-shaped mountain Kirkjufell, fishing villages of the West, the Vatnajökull National Park, Jökulsárlón the glacier lagoon just to name a few. On the way, you will have a great opportunity to get acquainted with Icelandic Sagas and you will see all the major natural attractions including volcanoes, Geysers, and waterfalls. Last not not least you will have a chance to witness one-in-life experience – a total solar eclipse in Iceland for the first time since 1954. If you are keen on fully enjoying your vacation in Iceland, we are sure that this is the perfect tour package for you.



Itinerary:

August 5th, Day 1: Góðan dag Reykjavík!

Welcome to Iceland! After landing in Keflavik International airport, you will be transferred to your accommodation in the city centre. On your way to Reykjavik, you will see endless lava fields and moon-like landscapes. After you have checked into your accommodation, you can explore some landmarks of the city like the Perlan building, Hallgrímskirkja Church and Harpa – Music & Conference centre. In the evening, the restaurants of Reykjavik will welcome you and afterwards, the bars are open until 1:00am during weekdays and 04:00am at the weekend. Overnight in the heart of Reykjavik. Overnight in the heart of Reykjavik.

Sites recommended in Reykjavik:

- Hallgrímskirkja church
- National Museum
- Laugavegur shopping street
- Harpa concert and conference center
- Old harbor of Reykjavik
- and more

Optional activities:

- [Whale watching](#)
- [Helicopter tour](#)



August 6th, Day 2: The Golden Circle with Gullfoss Waterfall and Geysir Strokkur

Today, your adventure starts for real! You will pick up your rental car and Start the day by driving back south and head to the amazing Þingvellir National Park. Driving there, you have a choice between taking the underwater tunnels again or doing a small detour via Hvalfjörður route, where you will find the amazing Glymur waterfall. Þingvellir is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, rich with its incredible natural beauty and history. There you can see how the Eurasian and North American tectonic plates are diverging. On the Golden Circle tour, your next stop is the Strokkur geyser, which gushes a column of water up to 30 meters high. Continue to Gullfoss, recently voted one of the 10 most beautiful waterfalls of the world. From there, make your way towards the south coast, passing through beautiful Icelandic lush farmlands. Make sure to stop at Kerið, a volcanic crater displaying its green-bluish water. Stay overnight in the Hvolsvöllur area.

Approximate driving distance: 198 km/ 123 miles

Highlights of the day

- Þingvellir National Park
- Gullfoss waterfall
- Geysir
- Kerið
- and more

Optional activities:

- [Snorkeling in Silfra fissure](#)
- [Diving in Silfra fissure](#)



August 7th, Day 3: Adventurous South Coast

This day will take you along the beautiful south coast of Iceland. Shortly after leaving the Hella/Hvolsvöllur area, you will reach the spectacular Seljalandsfoss waterfall. Take the opportunity to enjoy a 360° view of the waterfall, as it is possible to walk behind it. Above, you will have a very good view of Eyjafjallajökull volcano, famous for its 2010 eruption. Next on your map is the majestic Skógafoss, which is an impressive 60 meters high waterfall. If interested, visit the Skógar Folk museum where you can see reconstructed turf houses and ancient artifacts on display. From there, continue to Dyrhólaey and Reynisfjara beach, with its black sand and stunning cliffs and basalt columns. Stay the night in the area of Vík or Kirkjubæjarklaustur.

Approximate driving distance: 150 km/ 90 miles.

Highlights of the day:

- Seljalandsfoss
- Skógafoss
- Skógar Folk Museum
- Dyrhólaey
- Kirkjubæjarklaustur
- and more

Optional activities:

- [Glacier walk](#)
- [Snowmobile tour on a glacier](#)



August 8th, Day 4: Vatnajökull National Park and Glacier Lagoon

Today your journey takes you to the famous Jökulsárlón – glacier lagoon. On your way there, make a stop at Foss á síðu (waterfall) and then enjoy a hike in Skaftafell, a part of the Vatnajökull National Park. We recommend a light hike to Svartifoss waterfall, that features pitch black hexagonal basalt columns and a rugged canyon. Moreover, Skaftafell is a site of enormous splendor and variations of landscape: from a lush green oasis to a mighty glacier and black sands. When you reach Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon, you will witness the impressive floating icebergs and if you are lucky, you might even spot some seals. Then, continue to the village of Höfn – the lobster capital of Iceland. Once there, we recommend you enjoy a luxurious lobster dinner at one of Höfn's gourmet lobster restaurants. Overnight in the area.

Approximate driving distance: 205 km/ 125 miles.

Highlights of the day:

- Vatnajökull National Park
- Svartifoss waterfall
- Glacier lagoon - Jökulsárlón
- Höfn
- and more

Optional activities:

- [Zodiac boat tour](#)
- [Amphibian boat tour](#)
- [Kayak tour on a glacier lagoon](#)



August 9th, Day 5: Waterfalls, Canyons & Lava

From Höfn you will turn back and drive west towards Reykjavik. On the way, you can make stops here and there, according to your preferences. You will pass Ingólfshöfði cape, where you can go on a guided bird watching tour. In Kirkjubæjarklaustur we recommend stopping by Systrafoss, a truly beautiful waterfall in the middle of the village. The story behind its name refers to the first monastery in Iceland, built there, back in 1186. A few kilometers west of Kirkjubæjarklaustur you will be passing Iceland's second-biggest lava field – Eldhraun. Near Kirkjubæjarklaustur you will also find Fjaðrárgljúfur canyon which is a beautiful sight. In the afternoon, you can meet and get to know the Icelandic horse on a horseback riding tour. Continue to the Hvolsvöllur area where you'll stay for the night.

Approximate driving distance: 350 km/ 220 miles.

Highlights of the day:

- Kirkjubæjarklaustur
- Systrafoss waterfall
- Fjaðrárgljúfur
- Eldhraun
- and more

Optional activities:

- [Bird watching tour in Ingólfshöfði](#)
- Horseback riding tour



August 10th, Day 6: Blue Lagoon and Reykjanes Hot Springs

As your holiday slowly comes to an end, it's time for you to spoil yourself and relax in the unique Blue Lagoon (optional, would need to be booked in advance). This part of the trip will give you a very good feeling of how powerful Iceland is. Drive west from your accommodation and make a left turn by the village of Selfoss, towards the coast and head for the Reykjanes peninsula; an active geothermal area with dramatic coastlines and quaint, historic towns. In Seltún (Krýsuvík) you will find boiling mud pools and colorful mountains. Take a moment to stand on the "Bridge between the Continents" which connects the American and Eurasian tectonic plates. Continue to your accommodation in Reykjavik. In the evening, we recommend enjoying a nice dinner in one of many gourmet restaurants Reykjavik has to offer.

Approximate driving distance: 150 km/ 95 miles.

Highlights of the day:

- Reykjanes peninsula
- Krýsuvík cove
- Salt-fish museum
- Grindavík
- Blue Lagoon (optional, would need to be booked in advance)
- and more



August 11th, Day 7: Towards Snæfellsnes via Borgarfjörður

After breakfast at your hotel, you will drive north, towards the mystical and powerful Snæfellsnes peninsula. Drive through the Route #1 underwater tunnel, and later, take road 50 via Borgarfjörður, which will lead you to Hraunfossar, a series of waterfalls coming from underneath the lava, and then Deildartunguhver, Europe's most powerful hot spring. Afterwards, you can visit Langjökull glacier and take a tour in the man-made ice tunnels and ice caves located in Europe's second largest glacier. You will stay the night in the West of Iceland for a good night's sleep.

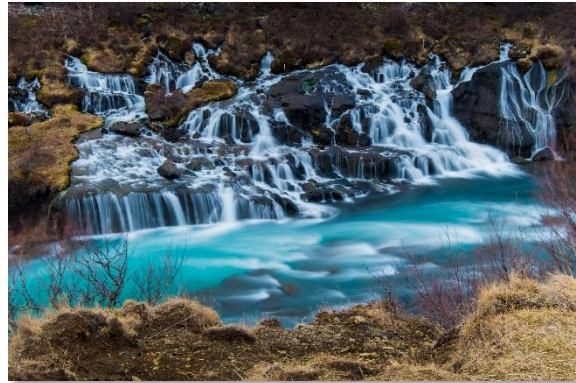
Approximate driving distance: 295 km/ 185 miles.

Highlights of the day:

- Borgarfjörður
- Hraunfossar waterfalls
- Deildartunguhver hot spring
- and more

Optional activities:

- [Into the Glacier tour](#)



August 12th, Day 8: Snæfellsnes Peninsula – Total solar Eclipse, Fishing Towns and Beautiful Beaches

In southern Snæfellsnes, you can explore places such as Sönghellir cave and the spectacular Hellnar cove. Here you can have lunch at the beautiful Hellnar café before taking a ride up to Snæfellsjökull glacier. You should also visit the famous black church – Búðir and don't forget testing your strength on the four stones at the Djúpalónssandur. In the northern part of the peninsula, visit the small towns Ólafsvík and Grundarfjörður, and the well-known, perfect cone-shaped mount Kirkjufell. Later today you will witness an unforgettable event – a total solar eclipse. During totality, the Moon completely covers the sun, revealing the sun's outer atmosphere, the corona, in a breathtaking display. The sky darkens suddenly, stars and planets become visible, and the temperature drops, creating an almost otherworldly atmosphere. This experience vastly differs from a partial eclipse, where the sun is only partially obscured, and the dramatic effects of totality are absent.

After that, you can either turn back to your hotel or decide to continue visiting the Northern part of Snæfellsnes Peninsula. If you opt for a detour, not far away from Grundarfjörður, driving east via lava fields, you will end up in Stykkishólmur. On your way there, a stop at the Bjarnarhöfn shark museum is a must. There you can taste some rotten shark meat, a traditional Icelandic delicacy. Stykkishólmur is a gate to Breiðafjörður's amazing islands. At the harbor of Stykkishólmur, you will find the dark and magnificent Norwegian House (built in 1832 as the first double story timber house in Iceland), which is now a folk museum with rather interesting objects. At the Stykkishólmur harbor, you will find a cliff with an amazing view over the Breiðafjörður fjord. You will stay overnight in the area.

Approximate driving distance: 195 km/ 120 miles.

Highlights of the day:

- Snæfellsnes Peninsula
- Kirkjufell mountain
- Bjarnarhofn – shark museum
- Stykkishólmur
- and more



August 13th, Day 9: A full free day in Reykjavik

Today you will be heading back to the capital of Iceland. Enjoy a full free day in the vibrant and lively capital city, you've earned it! Go shopping or sightseeing or simply relax at a nice cafe or in one of many outdoor swimming pools that are to be found within the city limits. Visit some of the major landmarks of Reykjavik, such as the Hallgrímskirkja church, Perlan dome, the Solar Voyager sculpture or Harpa – Music & Conference Centre. In the evening, we recommend that you award yourself with a gourmet dinner at one of many high-quality restaurants in the city. In the later hours, explore the world-famous nightlife of Reykjavik. Stay the night in the capital of Iceland, Reykjavik, near KEF airport, after dropping off the rental car.

Approximate driving distance: 178 km/ 110 miles.

Sites recommended in Reykjavik:

- Hallgrímskirkja church
- National Museum
- Laugavegur shopping street
- Harpa concert and conference center
- Old harbor of Reykjavik
- and more



August 14th, Day 10: Departure

Sadly, your Iceland vacation has come to an end. You will be transferred to Keflavik airport, in time for your departing flight. Have a safe and enjoyable trip back home! Takk fyrir/Thanks for traveling with Iceland Unlimited and we hope to see you again in Iceland!



Map of your tour:

