

## OPTIONAL PRE-PROGRAM EXTENSION TO ICELAND

4 days | Northern Iceland including Akureyri and Siglufjörður



Begin your explorations in Iceland by venturing North! Take a once in a lifetime tour to the incredible sights of the Icelandic highlands. Completely inhabitable, the highlands consist of volcanic sand, pumice and lava deserts. Mountains, volcanoes and glaciers loom over the landscape with rivers, waterfalls and oases strewn in various locations.

### DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

#### DAY 1: AUGUST 27, 2020

##### Fly to Iceland

Depart today from Denver and make your way to Reykjavik.

*Meal service is not provided on Icelandair but food is available for purchase. You might want to bring your own snacks or grab something at the airport after arrival as the first meal provided today is lunch.*

#### DAY 2: AUGUST 28, 2020

##### Arrival and flight north!

📍 Reykjavik to Akureyri

Upon arrival early this morning, the group will be met for your transfer to the **Blue Lagoon**. Kick back and just relax in the geothermal seawater and recuperate from your flight. It is incredibly relaxing and rejuvenating and a must experience activity.



*Your visit today to the geothermal spa will include entrance to the site, use of a towel, a drink of your choice, a silica mud mask treatment, plus use of slippers and robe. Other optional services are available at additional cost (water massage, etc.). They have changing rooms, showers, are handicapped accessible and have incredible service to make your stay comfortable.*

Lunch will be provided today before heading onward to the domestic airport.

Check in for your flight North. Fly to the **Akureyri** domestic airport (or another nearby airport depending on availability closer to travel) where you will be met by your extension guide.



Make the drive into Myvatn where you will check into your local hotel. On the way to the hotel, stop to see the **Goðafoss Waterfall**. The water of the river Skjálfandafljót falls from a height of 39 feet over a width of 100 feet. It is historically significant as the location where in the year 1000, after Lawspeaker Porgeir Ljósveitningagoði made Christianity the official religion of Iceland, he threw his statues of the Norse gods into the waterfall.

Mývatn Icelandair Hotel was opened in July 2018 with amazing nature at your doorstep. The hotel has free Wi-Fi, coffee & tea set, hairdryer, satellite tv and bathroom amenities. The hotel has onsite dining for your convenience.

Dinner will be provided at the hotel this evening.

**Meals:** Lunch & Dinner

**Hotel:** Icelandair Hotel Mývatn

**DAY 3: AUGUST 29, 2020****Visit the Icelandic Highlands!**

📍 Askja - Ódáðahraun - Herðubreið

Start your Askja and Holuhraun private day tour from Lake Mývatn after breakfast. Today you are headed into the highlands. There the wilderness, wide spaces, geology and natural freshwater springs are awe inspiring.

A packed lunch will be provided today as you explore.

Having a private tour to Askja Caldera means that the day is altered to your interest. The Askja tour provides numerous opportunities for extra stops and walks.

Askja Caldera region has long lured travelers into the heart of the highlands. The lunar landscape of Askja includes the open deserts of Ódáðahraun, freshwater springs of Svartá and Herðubreiðarlindir. View the incredible new lava field Holuhraun which was Iceland's largest lava flow in 230 years. As a result of this great volume of magma, the lava field is still steaming hot!



On this enlightening tour, you will focus on nature. Since this is a private tour the schedule is flexible and tailor made to your needs. This area is popular for photographers who want to take that extra time needed for the perfect photo. The hiking in Askja Caldera to Víti explosion crater is 2,5 km and takes around 35 to 45 minutes one way. Difficulty level is easy to moderate depending on snow levels and weather conditions. Once at Víti, the group will take their time and absorb the incredible atmosphere of Askja.

*Note: Have in mind that the area is in the mid-highlands of Iceland where snow can linger the better part of the summer. Bring warm clothes, waterproof jacket and pants, sunglasses, sunblock, good hiking shoes/boots for walking in snow, food and water.*

A late dinner will be provided back at the hotel this evening.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner

**Hotel:** Icelandair Hotel Mývatn

**DAY 4: AUGUST 30, 2020****Explore Mývatn & Húsavík**

📍 Mývatn - Húsavík

After breakfast, you will begin your explorations of the unique **Mývatn** area with its strange formation of lava, cold fresh water springs, boiling pools of mud and steaming volcanic ground. Lake Mývatn has a rich local culture as the area has been settled from the era of the Vikings.

Today's exploration will include stops to see the Dimmuborgir lava fields, Grjótagjá Cave, Höfði peninsula, Hverir boiling mud pools, Krafla Volcanic area, Lake Mývatn viewpoints, Lúdentarborgir crater rows and more.

A late lunch will be provided at the Vogafjós Guesthouse.



This afternoon visit **Húsavík**, a wonderful small town sometimes referred to as the whale-watching capital of Iceland. Briefly enjoy the scenic views of the arctic coastline and at Skjálfandi bay during a visit to the black sand beach.

Heading onward, stop at the Húsavík Local Micro Brewery for a taste of the latest local Husavik beer and an introduction by the brewer.

End the day with a visit to the Geosea Thermal Baths. The infinity style pools are made with naturally heated seawater from the bedrock, a once in a lifetime experience.

Return to the hotel for dinner.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner

**Hotel:** Icelandair Hotel Mývatn

**DAY 5: AUGUST 31, 2020****Fly back to Reykjavik**

After breakfast, transfer to the local airport for your flight back to the domestic airport in Reykjavik. Connect with the rest of the group that will be flying in from the U.S. today.

**Meals:** Breakfast





**HOTEL INFORMATION**

**Icelandair Hotel Mývatn**

[icelandairhotels.com/en/hotels/myvatn](http://icelandairhotels.com/en/hotels/myvatn)

Reynihlid  
Mývatn, Iceland

International number:  
+354 444 4000

Icelandair Hotel Mývatn is a new 59 room hotel, with a relaxed and simple environment. A great base to kick off your shoes and get comfortable after a long day of exploring the natural beauty and experiences in the area. The hotel’s design is innovative, emphasizing simplicity fun, curious objects, and different spaces. They have onsite dining and comfortable rooms designed with an Icelandic flair.

According to the influx of tourists that visit Iceland every year, one of the main appeals of the “land of fire and ice” is its pure and pristine nature. Icelandair Hotel Myvatn realizes its responsibility towards the environment and works by the international standard for environmental management, ISO 14001.

Icelandair Hotels continuously focuses on improving the environment without compromising its services and pleasing its guests.



**PROGRAM INFO**

**Date & Length:** 4 days August 27–31, 2020

**Extension cost:** \$3,499 per person | *Single supplement:* \$549

**Inclusions:** Group airport transfers and baggage handling, meals and activities as mentioned, all tips and accommodations based on double occupancy. Coach class flights domestic airport (bag fees may apply).

**Not Included:** Hotel incidentals and meals not mentioned.

*To participate in the optional extension, complete and return the extension registration form. Return no later than 90 days prior to departure or within five days of receiving the information.*

**Questions?** 888.747.7501 [Info@NandaJourneys.com](mailto:Info@NandaJourneys.com) [www.NandaJourneys.com](http://www.NandaJourneys.com)