



## Horses



## North

# Autumn Colors Northern Lights

*Striking stark beauty in a corner of this planet that has been experienced by only a lucky few. Riding in different directions and into different landscapes with the added excitement of a chance of seeing the Aurora Borealis.*

**Mountain huts and farm houses**  
**7 days/5 riding**

**...2016**

**This tour highlights one** of our favorite areas - northern Iceland - and it's based on a lovely northern farm, where you can watch and take part in some of autumn traditions as well as riding out for a last look at the mountainous landscape before winter really settles in.

### Day 0:

Travelers from North America leave for Iceland on an overnight flight with an early morning arrival at Keflavik Airport in Iceland.

### Day 1:

After arriving at Keflavik International Airport the Flybus shuttle will take riders into the Reykjavik airport, for a dramatic 45 minute flight to Akureyri, the "capital" of northern Iceland. Here the folks from Polar Hestar will pick up riders for a short drive to their farmhouse Grytubakki for dinner and a good night's sleep.

### Day 2:

After breakfast, riders will meet the horses for a little introductory ride. You'll head towards the Gljufura river, around Höfði mountain. The views over the beautiful fjord and Hrisey island are breathtaking. Continue to Grenivik, the little fishing village, and from there along the Látrarströnd coast. The North Sea is greeting you! Ride above steep cliffs, through luxurious meadows, clear brooks and impressive valleys. On the way you'll see an old farmstead where

the young horses of the local farmers spend the summer. The intense autumn colors are early signs of the coming winter. You'll return to the farm the same way. After 4-5 hours in the saddle, you'll be back to Grytubakki for dinner and overnight where coffee and cakes are waiting as your reward.

### Day 3:

After breakfast, riders will saddle up and ride down and leave for a 2 day tour. You'll ride into the river valley of Fnjóská. On both sides of the river some of the mountains are up to 3000 feet high. Continue along the southern part of the valley, passing murmuring brooks, mossy hills and little forests in autumnal colors. Cackling geese are sitting in flocks at the bank of the river, preparing themselves for the journey South. They are going to spend the winter in warmer areas, but will come back to Iceland in the spring when the days are longer. Overnight at Hjarðarholt farmhouse. A nice hot pot awaits you for a relaxing evening. Ideal spot to watch for Northern Lights!

### Day 4:

After breakfast you'll catch the horses and ride back to the farm on high ground along the slopes of Draflastadarfjall. Today you'll have a beautiful view over the Eyjafjörður fjord where the Fnjóská river flows into the sea. On the way home you'll ride to Helguholl, the holy hill. People in the area say that there is a ship full of gold from the old vikings under the hill. If somebody tries to get the gold, all churches that are visible from the hill will burn down. Coffee and cakes at Grýtubakki. After coffee you'll be driven to the famous Goðafoss waterfall, which has played an important role during the Christianization of Iceland.

### Day 5:

Today you leave for the mountains. Your destination is the shepherd hut Gil at the end of the valley Trölladalur. From the highest point at Leirðalsheiði you have a fantastic view over the fjord Hvalvatnsfjörður and the open polar sea. Dinner and overnight at Grýtubakki.



# Autumn Colors - Northern Lights

## *Northern valleys and changing seasons*

After dinner you will go for a walk under stars, and hopefully see some of the dancing northern lights. A wonderful experience far away from civilization and all the electric lights of the cities.

### **Day 6:**

After breakfast you'll saddle up and leave this beautiful place to ride to Grytubakki. Along the way you will see some of the thousands of sheep that have spent the summer up in the mountains. They are on their way back home, knowing that soon everything will be under snow. Supper and reminiscences at Grytubakki.

### **Day 7:**

After breakfast riders will be taken back to Akureyri, for flights to Reykjavik, and on to Keflavik to fly back home, or... on to further explorations in Iceland.

**Accommodations** on the Autumn Colors Tour are traditionally Icelandic. You'll need to bring towels, soap and shampoos. A sleeping bag, bed and mattress will be provided. The farmhouses, mountain huts and cabins where you'll sleep are all warm and clean. Typically there are several beds per room, and in huts there may be one big room. Most will have shared bathroom facilities.

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**Meals** will be family style with lots of typical Icelandic cuisine which features fish, dairy products, lamb, and potatoes. Vegetarians can be accommodated with advance notice. We'll send you a gear list that provides tips for packing, as well as info on converting money and electricity, weather advice (no guarantees, though) and other useful stuff.

### **Travel Dates for Autumn Colors**

Autumn Colors runs 3 times in 2016. Below are travel dates -- we'll be happy to arrange for an earlier departure or later return. Your arrival day in Iceland is always a transfer day, which allows you to rest from the short night of sleep on the flight, before you start riding on the second day.

**2016**  
**Sunday, Aug 28- Sunday, Sept 4**  
**Saturday, Sept 10 - Saturday, Sept 17**  
**Saturday, Sept 17 - Saturday, Sept 24**

### **Price\***

The price for this 7 day ride is **\$3121** per person.

## Horses North, LLC

[www.IcelandAdventure.com](http://www.IcelandAdventure.com)  
[www.HorsesNorth.com](http://www.HorsesNorth.com)

## Mountain huts and farm guesthouses Dramatic Northern Beauty 7 days/5 riding 2016

**Finer Print: Price includes** international airfare from the US east coast\*, and airport transfers. Also included are flights to and from northern Iceland, most transfers, accommodations in guest and farm houses with shared baths, all meals, as well as rain gear, and safety helmets.

**\*Flights Price includes** round trip airfare, including fuel surcharge and US departure taxes to Iceland, from Icelandair's east coast gateways - Boston, New York, Newark and Washington Dulles International. We can also book flights from Icelandair's other gateways: Minneapolis, Denver, Seattle, Portland, Anchorage, Toronto, Edmonton, and Halifax, which may add to the price. Not all gateways have daily departures but we can arrange additional nights accommodations before or after your tour.

**\*Not included** are Travel Insurance, breakfast and lunch on arrival day, lunch and dinner on departure day, and any additional travel you choose while in Iceland.

**Finest print.** Please note that our tour prices are subject to revision until you book your tour by making a deposit. The prices listed on print material may not be the latest available price. Our contract rates for air aren't always available as we get close to travel dates. While we make every effort to keep prices on our webpages and their PDFs up to the minute, things can change quickly. We welcome phone calls or email about prices and any other details.

**Decisions, Decisions!** Also included are flights to and from northern Iceland, most transfers, accommodations in guest and farm houses with shared baths, all meals, as well as rain gear, and safety helmets are also included.

Trying to pick out a tour?

Click to our Tour Tree at <http://www.icelandadventure.com/tree.html> to see some of the differences between the various kinds of tours we offer in Iceland. Send us an e-mail or call with questions!