



Horses



North

Around the Volcano

A short ride over mountains, through valleys and past hot springs

Classic South Iceland landscape
Hotel Accommodations during ride
...2018

You'll travel over mountains, into lush hidden valleys, through glacial streams with marvelous vistas. It's a great way to see how Iceland's horse is well suited to its homeland. Off the horse, you'll enjoy the outfitter's comfortable farm hotel with a night afterwards in Reykjavik, too!

Day 0:

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

Day 1:

Welcome to Iceland!

Riders will arrive at Keflavik International Airport and then take the Flybus shuttle to the BSI bus terminal in Reykjavik. You can check your bags, grab some breakfast, and then set out explore a bit of Iceland's capital city. Around 5:30 PM the outfitter will pick you up at the BSI bus terminal and take you to their farm, about an hour outside of the capital. The tour group meets over dinner and is given details of the tour ahead. Spend the next 3 nights in the comfortable Hotel Eldhestar.

Day 2:

Hveragerdi-Kolvidarholl

You'll start the day by getting to know the horses in the paddock. After an early lunch you'll follow the old route to Hellisheidi, riding across the moor to the volcano Hengill and over the lava field Kristnitokuhraun. You'll ride over lava which came from the eruption of Hengill during the year 1000; the same year Iceland officially became Christian. Legend calls the eruption the revenge of the old gods Thor, Odin and Freya. You'll ride on the track between lava and hills ("milli hrauns og hlidar") down to Kolvidarholl, which has been a rest stop on the trail for centuries. The horses will stay there and you'll go back to the hotel, after a 21 km ride, lasting about 4 hours.

Day 3:

Kolvidarholl-Nesjavellir

The day starts by riding below the mountains Husmuli and Hengill. Soon you'll dismount and lead the horses through the narrow cleft to the lush grasses of Marardalur, the Valley of Horses. Then you'll ride through Dyrifjall (Door-Mountain) and at the top be rewarded with a great view over Lake Thingvallavatn. From a geological perspective this area is quite unique, being where the North American and European continental plates are drifting apart. It's played a major role in Iceland's history, being the site where the ancient government of Iceland met for hundreds of years. Heading off the mountain, riders come down to the geothermal area at Nesjavellir and again leave the horses to rest, as you return to the hotel, after riding 30 km in 6-7 hours.

Around the Volcano

Winding over mountains, through valleys and hot springs

Short tour in the volcanic South
Hotel Accommodations during ride
2018

Day 4:

Villingavatn-Reykjadalur-Hveragerdi

The day starts with a ride up a mountain, which offers a view of both Thingvallavatn, and also Skjaldbreiður, an extraordinary shaped mountain that is always capped with snow. Then it's down to the shimmering volcanic lakes at Kattatjarnir. Next you'll ride to a steep path of lava down to the valley Reykjadalur - or Valley of Steam. Your reward for all this riding is a dip in the warm stream running through the valley - you control the temperature by moving up or down the stream! Then it's back down to Hveragerdi where the tour ends. After saying good-bye to the horses, riders head back to Reykjavik where you'll be dropped at your hotel (an upgrade for Horses North clients). Often riders all go out to one of Reykjavik's many good restaurants for a last dinner together, (but it's not included in the price!).

Day 5:

Home again!

The tour officially ends this morning after breakfast. You can continue exploring Iceland or, if your trip is over you can take the Flybus shuttle out to the airport later in the day. You could take a bus that will give you a few hours visit to the Blue Lagoon on the trip to the airport.

The Around the Volcano Tour runs 8 times in 2015. The 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.

Travel Dates & Prices 2018

These are travel dates for the tour - we can also arrange for earlier or later travel.

Price for May - September 2018
\$2724 per person double occ,
\$3124 single occupancy

Leave US	Return US
Wed May 16	Mon May 21
Wed May 24	Mon May 28
Wed July 4	Mon July 9
Thu Aug 30	Wed Sept 5
Sat Sep 8	Thu Sept 13

2018 PRICES

Finer Print: Price includes round trip airfare from the US east coast * airport transfers and any pre and post ride accommodations. The ride itself includes 4 days, 3 nights and 3 riding days, with safety helmet and rain gear.

Accommodations and Meals: all nights during the ride will be in comfortable rooms at the Hotel Eldhestar with private bath, TV, wifi and access to a hot tub. For your Reykjavik night you will be in a 3 star hotel, with private bath. Most meals are included -an Icelandic breakfast buffet, a packed lunch on the trail and dinner with a starter, entree and lots of vegetables. Desert and drinks can be purchased at the hotel.

***Flights** Price includes round trip airfare, including fuel surcharge and US departure taxes to Iceland, from Icelandair's east coast gateways - *BOS. JFK, Newark, PHL Washington Dulles and Orlando. We can also book flights from Icelandair's other gateways: 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 on your arrival day, dinner on your last night back in Reykjavik, lunch on your arrival and departure day, and any additional travel or services needed.

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. We welcome phone calls or email about prices and any other details.

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