



Discovering Our Planet Together



# Iceland & Greenland: A Nordic Discovery

*Explore a Less-Traveled Side of Northernmost Europe on a Unique Integrated Itinerary*



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## Trip Details:

# Iceland & Greenland: A Nordic Discovery

**Days**  
14 Days /  
Jul-Aug

**Price**  
From  
\$1995  
(+Air)

Explore a Less-Traveled Side of Northernmost Europe on a Unique Integrated Itinerary

Did you know much of Iceland is green and Greenland is icy? Delve into the distinctions on a rare adventure that combines the two, far afield of conventional routes. Start with Iceland's black sand beaches and thundering waterfalls, then head into the Highlands, a vast, bold landscape scoured by glaciers, rent by deep canyons, and rarely trod by visitors. In Greenland, where the scale and drama of our raw Arctic environs may be even more striking. Keep watch for whales as we travel by helicopter and boat to Nat Hsb's private Base Camp Greenland on the rarely visited east coast. On Sermilik Fjord, in view of the Greenland ice sheet, massive icebergs in fantastical shapes crowd the frigid waters, which we explore via Zodiac and kayak. Meet local Inuit people and learn about subsistence living in one of the most remote and stunning places on Earth.

## Trip Highlights

Climb into Iceland's little-visited interior to witness dramatic rhyolite mountains, rocky gorges, braided glacial rivers, and the massive Laki Crater system

At the foot of glaciers spilling from the Greenland ice sheet, weave among icebergs in mighty Sermilik Fjord, look for whales and scout for seals on ice floes

In one of the wildest spots on Earth, our exclusive Base Camp Greenland features heated tent cabins, warm beds, hot showers and chef-prepared meals



**Trip Details:**

**Days**  
14 Days / Jul-Aug

**Price**  
From \$19995  
(+Air)

## Iceland & Greenland: A Nordic Discovery Itineraries

Explore a Less-Traveled Side of Northernmost Europe on a Unique Integrated Itinerary



### 2026 Itinerary

The 5-night Iceland portion of our trip explores the volcanic landscapes, waterfalls and geothermal features of the South Coast and little-visited interior Highlands before flying to Greenland for a further week of Arctic exploration.



### 2027 Itinerary

In 2027, the 5-night Iceland portion of our itinerary operates in reverse and also includes in-depth exploration of Fjallabak Nature Reserve in the Highlands in our customized 4x4 vehicles. The Greenland portion is identical.



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## Itinerary At A Glance

### Day 1

Keflavik, Iceland / Reykjavik

### Day 2

South Shore—Lava Center / Waterfalls / Dyrholaey Peninsula / Kirkjubaejklaustur

### Day 3

Fjadrargljufur Canyon / Private Laki Crater 4x4 Tour

### Day 4

Exploring Iceland's Central Highlands

### Day 5

Gjain / Commonwealth Farm / Hjalparfoss / Reykjavik

### Day 6

Lava Tunnel / Seltun Geothermal Area / Fly to Kulusuk, Greenland / Tasiilaq

### Day 7

Tasiilaq—Valley of Flowers & Town Tour

## 2026 Itinerary

Explore a Less-Traveled Side of Northernmost Europe on a Unique Integrated Itinerary

### Day 1: Keflavik, Iceland / Reykjavik

Arrive at Keflavik International Airport where you are met on arrival and transferred to our hotel in Reykjavik, about a 45-minute drive. If you arrive early, you may store your bags at our conveniently located hotel while you explore this compact, walkable city on your own. This evening, join our Expedition Leader for a welcome dinner with an orientation to all the adventures that lie ahead in this geological wonderland.





### Itinerary At A Glance

#### Day 8

Tasiilaq / Private Boat to Nat Hab's Base Camp Greenland

#### Days 9 - 11

Base Camp Greenland—Exploring Sermilik Fjord by Zodiac, Kayak & on Foot

#### Day 12

Base Camp Greenland / Helicopter or Boat to Kulusuk / Coastal Walk

#### Day 13

Private Glacier Walk / Kulusuk Town Tour & Drum Dancing / Keflavik

#### Day 14

Keflavik / Depart

### Day 2: South Shore—Lava Center / Waterfalls / Dyrholaey Peninsula / Kirkjubaejarklaustur

Explore Iceland's south coast today, an area known for its volcanic black sand beaches and countless waterfalls. We are in the region affected by the powerful 2010 eruption of Eyjafjallajokull volcano, an event brought to life at the Lava Center, which features interactive exhibits depicting the colossal natural forces that have created Iceland over tens of millions of years. Our knowledge of Iceland's dynamic geology is enhanced as we learn about the eruptions and lava flows, rift systems, faults and glacial floods that make the island a showcase of volcanism. The center introduces us to the UNESCO Katla Global Geopark plus Iceland's elaborate monitoring system for surveying volcanoes and earthquake zones.

Continuing along the south coast, we visit several thundering waterfalls, including powerful Skogafoss and Kvernufoss. A stop at the Dyrholaey Peninsula, famous for the massive rock arch eroded from the cape, is one of Iceland's best places to view Atlantic puffins, with a large migratory colony found here. Other prolific birdlife include eider ducks, and there are broad views of the South Coast's black sand beaches. Another highlight is Reynisdrangar Rocks, a trio of columnar basalt sea stacks. Legend holds that they were formed after two trolls were out fishing in a three-masted ship. When the trolls did not return to their cave before sunrise, they and their vessel turned into needles of stone, since trolls cannot tolerate daylight. Here, we'll have a chance to walk on the famous black sand beach before continuing to our hotel in Kirkjubaejarklaustur for dinner and to spend the night.

### Day 3: Fjadrargljufur Canyon / Private Laki Crater 4x4 Tour

Our day begins with an early hike at Fjadrargljufur Canyon, a narrow, serpentine gorge contained by 300-foot-high vertical walls covered in bright green moss. Walking along the rim, we look down into its shadowy depths where the twisting, silver Fjadra River flows. Continuing into the Highlands, an exciting adventure unfolds as we board Nat Hab's custom 4x4 to follow a rugged mountain track across several rivers to reach the Laki Crater system atop a vast plateau. While this 15-mile line of craters is one of Iceland's most impressive geological features, it's not easy to reach and thus rarely visited. The series of craters, fissures and lava formations emerged when the Skaftareldar volcano erupted in 1783, with catastrophic consequences for the people of Iceland. Tens of thousands of livestock were killed, and more than 10,000 individuals—about 25% of the population at that time—died in the massive eruption. We spend several hours in this dynamic terrain, hiking through the austere landscape, peering into craters from dramatic overlooks, and stopping at two spectacular waterfalls, Skaftarhreppur and Fagrifoss, where Vatnajokull Glacier is visible on a clear day. Return to Kirkjubaejarklaustur for dinner and a second night.



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### Day 4: Exploring Iceland's Central Highlands

Few visitors to Iceland get beyond the well-trodden routes along the coast, but we devote a full day to exploring a wild tract of its high inner recesses. Traveling into the remote highlands by 4x4, we stop first for a trek to Ofaerufoss waterfall. The only way to see this dramatic two-tiered cascade is on foot, where hikers are rewarded with a view of the 130-foot-high falls as it drops down a stark basalt face covered in thick green moss. The waterfall pours into the Edlgja Chasm, a broad volcanic canyon formed after huge fissure eruptions in the Myrdalsjokull region in the 10th century. The vivid colors of the vegetation on the canyon walls make this landmark even more spectacular.

After a picnic lunch, explore Landmannalaugur, one of Iceland's most distinctive regions in terms of both geology and natural beauty. Accessible only by 4-wheel-drive, this vast region lies next to the jet-black Laugahraun lava field, a massive expanse of dried magma that originally formed in an eruption in 1477. Landmannalaugar itself is made up of windswept rhyolite mountains, a silica-rich rock that appears in a spectrum of colors including shades of red, pink, green, blue and yellow. The region is also known for its natural geothermal baths. With two guides, we are able to divide our group by physical ability level, to offer a suitable hike for all guests. Continue to Sigoldugljufur, a dramatic canyon also called the Valley of Tears for its sheer number of waterfalls that pour from its walls. Reachable only via primitive 4x4 roads, this rarely visited feature is renowned for its otherworldly feel, a fantasy landscape of rockbound walls, vivid turquoise water and abundant green vegetation. Spend tonight at a hotel near the Highlands.



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### **Day 5: Gjain / Commonwealth Farm / Hjalparfoss / Reykjavik**

Beginning our journey back to Reykjavik today, we stop first at Gjain. On the edge of the highlands in the uppermost part of Thorsardalur Valley, this is an exquisite little fairyland where visitors often say they feel the presence of Iceland's mythical elves and trolls. The cave-riddled landscape, covered in lush, lime-green vegetation, is shaped by columnar basalt, delicate volcanic tuff formations, and several small waterfalls that pour into clear pools, feeding the Rauda River coursing through the small canyon. Although Gjain was featured in the popular television series *Game of Thrones*, it remains a largely unknown secret to most Iceland travelers.

Our next stop is Commonwealth Farm at Thjorsardalur, a reconstructed farmstead based on the excavated farmhouse that was buried under volcanic tephra in an eruption in 1104. Use your imagination as we tour the site to picture into what life was like in Iceland in medieval times. Continue to Hjalparfoss, a conjoined pair of waterfalls where the rivers Fossa and Thjorsa meet. The two rivers fall at about a 45-degree angle from each other, and their cascades merge as they tumble into a serene blue pool. The lava field this feature falls from was created in one of the many eruptions of the nearby Hekla volcano. Hekla is one of Iceland's most active, unpredictable and explosive volcanoes, so ferocious that it earned the nickname "Gateway to Hell" after a particularly violent eruption in 1104, when onlookers thought the Earth had opened up and Hell was exposed. Birds seen flying around the crater were believed to be souls swarming around the entrance to the fiery underworld.

Once we return to our hotel in Reykjavik, we'll say farewell to our Iceland Expedition Leader as we meet our Greenland guide team at an orientation and dinner hosted by your new Expedition Leaders for the second portion of your adventure.



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## Day 6: Lava Tunnel / Seltun Geothermal Area / Fly to Kulusuk, Greenland / Tasiilaq

It's time to head to Greenland today! But more of Iceland's volcanic dynamism is on display before we depart late this afternoon. First, we have a private tour of the Raufarholshellir Lava Tunnel to witness the inner workings of an ancient volcanic eruption that happened 5,200 years ago. Inside the lava tube—one of the longest in Iceland at 4,500 feet—learn the origins of the vibrant colors and intriguing rock formations. Then we head down the Reykjanes Peninsula to explore Seltun, one of Iceland's most important high-temperature geothermal areas. Lying on the fissure zone of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge separating the Eurasian and North American tectonic plates, this seething landscape is pocked with boiling mudpots and hissing fumaroles belching steam. Following the boardwalk through the animated landscape where mineral deposits have created colorful sediments, we smell the pungent odor of sulphur in the air. The Reykjanes Peninsula is one of Iceland's most active volcanic areas, with seven separate eruptions occurring in 2024 alone.

Continue to Keflavik, returning to Iceland's international airport where we board our flight to Kulusuk, Greenland. As we approach, get a preview of the magnificent scenery to come, with icebergs drifting below and perhaps even a chance to spot a whale from the air, if you've got a window seat. From Kulusuk, make a scenic transfer by helicopter or boat to Ammassalik Island, landing in Tasiilaq, the small administrative center of East Greenland. Tasiilaq's collection of charming wooden houses painted in bright primary colors surveys King Oscar's Harbor, surrounded by pointed peaks iced with glaciers. The town of 2,000 is a hub for outdoor adventure, from hiking and kayaking in summer to dog sledding and glacier skiing in winter. Most of East Greenland is uninhabited, however, except for a handful of small subsistence hunting communities. Greenland's east coast is often called "the back side" by those on the west, where most of the population, its capital and institutions are located. East Greenland's people had no contact with the outside world till the beginning of the 20th century, and that isolation has fostered a distinct and resilient culture. Our introduction to Greenland begins here where Arctic wilderness and traditional lifestyles meet. Once we check in to our hotel, we gather for dinner, surveying the 180-degree view of the town below and mountains beyond.



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### **Day 7: Tasiilaq—Valley of Flowers & Town Tour**

Though interior Greenland is covered by a massive ice cap, a few habitable areas exist around the bays and coastal islands, and the region we visit enjoys a surprisingly mild and dry summer climate. Set out this morning with our Expedition Leader to explore the area around Tasiilaq on foot, hiking into the Valley of Flowers above the scenic bay that fronts the town. Bring your camera: the ice-clad gneiss and granite peaks provide a striking backdrop for waterfalls and small lakes fringed by northern wildflowers in season. After lunch, we head into town to learn more about the region's history and contemporary daily life here. The small Ammassalik Museum is a highlight, showcasing Greenlandic Inuit culture and traditions. Its collection featuring East Greenlandic masks, kayaks, sleds, tools, beadwork, old and new tupilak figures, and works by local artists. This afternoon, we'll also hear firsthand experiences from a local resident, sharing personal perspectives on daily life and year-round subsistence in this remote Arctic realm.

### **Day 8: Tasiilaq / Private Boat to Nat Hab's Base Camp Greenland**

Depart by boat for Nat Hab's private wilderness Base Camp, located on the east side of Sermilik Fjord. Our destination is near the tiny village of Tinit, which we'll visit during our stay. This hilltop hamlet is one of the most picturesque outposts in East Greenland, surveying a panorama of Sermilik Fjord littered with huge icebergs, with the Greenland ice sheet in view beyond. Behind the town, glacier-clad peaks rise over a mile high, jutting up like sharp black teeth through the ice. Tinit is home to fewer than a hundred hardy people who live a subsistence lifestyle, fishing and hunting amid the constantly shifting ice.

Keep an eye out for whales as we travel, as they are often seen in these waters when ice conditions permit. The area is filled with evidence of ancient habitation, including graves and ruins of old Inuit sod house foundations, and it is an evocative place to learn more about Inuit history and lore. Reaching Base Camp Greenland, we find ourselves in one the most remote places on the planet. After settling in to our private tent cabins, sit down for coffee or tea in the yurt where we have an orientation to our environs, followed by a gear fitting to prepare for our Arctic adventures ahead. After lunch, our first exploratory venture is likely to include a paddle among the small icebergs and calm waters of our protected bay if weather permits. Then we'll gather for dinner and a lecture to acquaint us with the region's natural history. Through presentations and personal visits during our stay, we also learn about Greenland's cultural heritage and aspects of modern life. Traditional Inuit identity remains dominant in East Greenland, and we share an authentic encounter with this enduring ancient culture that still exists in close harmony with nature.



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## Days 9 - 11: Base Camp Greenland—Exploring Sermilik Fjord by Zodiac, Kayak & on Foot

The landscape along Greenland's isolated and rarely visited east coast is dramatic. Great fjords indent the coastline, penetrating far into sheer-sided mountains capped by the world's second-largest ice sheet—and Sermilik Fjord is the mightiest of them all. The 60-mile-long "iceberg highway" is primarily fed by the highly active Helheim Glacier, the fastest-flowing tidewater glacier on Greenland's east coast. Our base camp provides a safe and comfortable outpost from which to explore this vast expanse of wild terrain just below the Arctic Circle. Beyond our location at the mouth of a glacial valley, the wider region is dotted with a few isolated villages where Greenlandic Inuit people have thrived for centuries in this uncompromising Arctic environment. In varied encounters, we learn about their culture and how they are retaining their traditions while adapting to contemporary life in the 21st century.

On Zodiac excursions, navigate among a flotilla of blue icebergs in an array of wild shapes, some as big as buildings. While marine life sightings are sporadic, we sometimes see seals and less frequently whales. The latter are found seasonally in these waters, and when ice conditions permit—if we are lucky, we might catch a glimpse of a fin, minke or humpback, all of which are occasionally present. Guided sea kayaking is also an option for an eye-level view on the frigid waters and bobbing ice. Ashore, choose among walks and hikes of varying physical demands as we traverse the mountainsides and wander near glaciers that wind down from the Greenland ice sheet. This huge ice mass—second in size only to Antarctica—stretches more than 1,500 miles from north to south, is nearly 2 miles deep at its thickest point, and covers 80 percent of the island. Learn about the crucial role the ice sheet plays in regulating Earth's climate, and see with your own eyes how rapidly it is being affected by a warming climate.

Long hours of summer daylight allow for extensive exploration. Witness the effect of geological forces on naked bedrock, and walk atop patches of tundra. Amid fields of Arctic cotton grass and miniature berry bushes, look for Arctic fox and birdlife including ptarmigan, northern wheatear, and possibly gyrfalcon. Each evening, we retreat to Base Camp for creative meals freshly prepared by our accomplished chef. After dinner, gather for interpretive presentations by our naturalist Expedition Leaders, who share their extensive knowledge of Greenland's geology, glaciology, ecology and human history. And, though the sun gleams late into the evening just below the Arctic Circle, a good night's sleep is in order to refuel for the next day's adventures. Wrapped in profound silence in our isolated cabins, we're sure to get it. On our late-season departures, we may even have a chance to see the northern lights, if the aurora is active in the darkening night sky.



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### **Day 12: Base Camp Greenland / Helicopter or Boat to Kulusuk / Coastal Walk**

Our day begins with a last morning activity from Base Camp, which may be a hike over the tundra in search of wildflowers, or another option, depending on the weather. Then it's time to begin the journey back to more civilized climes, as we first make our way back to Kulusuk by helicopter or boat, depending on conditions. On the return trip, survey jagged peaks and huge U-shaped valleys gouged by glaciers, forever awed by the grandeur of Greenland. On arrival in Kulusuk, we check in to our hotel surrounded by more of East Greenland's imposing mountains—the small town is a well-known gathering point for adventurers and scientists heading out to the ice sheet. This afternoon, we'll make an exploratory walk around Kulusuk before dinner.

### **Day 13: Private Glacier Walk / Kulusuk Town Tour & Drum Dancing / Keflavik**

This morning, we board a boat to head out for a half-day glacier walk excursion. In addition to large chunks of ice calved from glaciers that feed the region's fjords, we may also see tabular icebergs—oceangoing slabs of ice, some of which have been drifting for months, driven down the coast by the strong East Greenland Current. Reaching a small island, we disembark to walk on a glacier, surrounded by spectacular views of fjords and mountain ranges. Atop its rough surface, examine unique formations such as moulin, which are whirlpool-like shafts in the ice. Walking farther, we reach a vantage point for a full view of the glacier's face.

Returning to Kulusuk, it's time to celebrate our extraordinary adventure over a farewell lunch at the hotel. In the afternoon, we'll explore the town and witness a private performance of traditional Greenlandic drumming and dancing, followed by our flight back to Iceland's Keflavik International Airport, arriving late this evening. We spend the night at an airport hotel nearby to facilitate easy connections for tomorrow's onward departures.

### **Day 14: Keflavik / Depart**

A transfer is included from the hotel to Keflavik International Airport to meet departing flights.



## Itinerary At A Glance

### Day 1

Keflavik, Iceland / Reykjavik

### Day 2

Fjallabak Nature Reserve

### Day 3

Exploring Iceland's Central Highlands

### Day 4

Fjadragljufur Canyon / Private Laki Crater 4x4 Tour

### Day 5

South Shore—Dyrholaey Peninsula / Waterfalls / Reykjavik

### Day 6

Lava Tunnel / Seltun Geothermal Area / Fly to Kulusuk, Greenland / Tasiilaq

### Day 7

Tasiilaq—Valley of Flowers Walk & Town Tour

## 2027 Itinerary

Explore a Less-Traveled Side of Northernmost Europe on a Unique Integrated Itinerary

### Day 1: Keflavik, Iceland / Reykjavik

Arrive at Keflavik International Airport where you are met and transferred to our hotel in Reykjavik, about a 45-minute drive. If you arrive early, you may store your bags at our conveniently located hotel while you explore this compact, walkable city on your own. This evening, join our Expedition Leader for a welcome dinner with an orientation to all the adventures that lie ahead in this geological wonderland.





### Itinerary At A Glance

#### Day 8

Tasiilaq / Private Boat to Nat Hab's Base Camp Greenland

#### Days 9 - 11

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#### Day 12

Base Camp Greenland / Helicopter or Boat to Kulusuk / Coastal Walk

#### Day 13

Private Glacier Walk / Kulusuk Town Tour & Drum Dancing / Keflavik

#### Day 14

Keflavik, Iceland / Depart

### Day 2: Fjallabak Nature Reserve

The rugged landscape we encounter today is a living showcase of the colossal natural forces that have created Iceland over tens of millions of years. Our knowledge of its dynamic geology is enhanced as we learn about the eruptions and lava flows, rift systems, faults and glacial floods that show the power of fire and ice. It's all on display as we head into the remote highlands of central Iceland for a full day of exploring the backcountry by 4x4. Moving inland from the lush coast, witness a rapid change in vegetation as we enter the mountains. Here in the southern sector of Fjallabak Nature Reserve, we find a striking landscape of rugged peaks in an array of shapes, forms and colors, the rock palette tinted by rhyolite and obsidian. A blanket of green alpine moss and lichen adds a bright accent, while black sand expanses lend contrast, filling the gaps between jagged ridges, volcanic summits and dramatic canyons. At times, the setting is evocative of a moonscape, stark and breathtaking. The region is laced with braided riverbeds, which we cross multiple times. A view of Myrdalsjokull Glacier—one of Iceland's largest, which conceals Katla, one of its most active volcanoes—is a highlight. While Fjallabak is a popular hiking destination, we're still mostly alone here, rarely encountering other people or vehicles.

### Day 3: Exploring Iceland's Central Highlands

Few visitors to Iceland get beyond the well-trodden routes along the coast, but we explore more of its high inner recesses in our custom 4x4 vehicle today, starting with Sigoldugljufur, a dramatic canyon also known as the Valley of Tears for the number of waterfalls that pour from its walls. Reachable only via primitive roads, this rarely visited feature is famous for its otherworldly feel, a fantasy landscape of rock walls, turquoise water and bright green vegetation. Continue to Landmannalaugar, one of Iceland's most distinctive areas for geology and natural beauty. Accessible only by 4-wheel-drive, this vast region lies next to the jet-black Laugahraun lava field, a massive expanse of cooled magma that originally formed in an eruption in 1477. On foot, we explore this evocative landscape comprised of windswept rhyolite mountains, a silica-rich rock that appears in a spectrum of colors including shades of red, pink, green, blue and yellow. The region also abounds in natural geothermal baths. \

After a picnic lunch, make a short hike to Ofaerufoss waterfall. The only way to see this dramatic two-tiered cascade is on foot, where walkers are rewarded with a view of the 130-foot-high falls as it drops down a stark basalt face covered in thick green moss. The waterfall pours into the Edgja Chasm, a broad volcanic canyon formed after huge fissure eruptions in the Myrdalsjokull region in the 10th century. The vivid colors of the vegetation on the canyon walls make this landmark even more spectacular.



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### **Day 4: Fjadrargljufur Canyon / Private Laki Crater 4x4 Tour**

Our day begins with an early hike at Fjadrargljufur Canyon, a narrow, serpentine gorge hemmed in by 300-foot-high vertical walls covered in green moss. As we walk along the rim, look down into its shadowy depths where the silver Fjadra River winds below.

Returning to the Highlands, another exciting 4x4 adventure unfolds as we follow a rugged mountain track across several rivers to reach the Laki Crater system atop a vast plateau. While this 15-mile line of craters is one of Iceland's most impressive geological features. And because it's not easy to reach, it is rarely visited. The series of craters, fissures and lava formations emerged when the Skaftareldar volcano erupted in a massive explosion 1783. Tens of thousands of livestock were killed, and more than 10,000 people died—about 25% of Iceland's population at that time. We spend several hours in this dynamic terrain, hiking through the austere landscape, peering into craters from dramatic overlooks, and stopping at two spectacular waterfalls, Skaftarhreppur and Fagrifoss. On a clear day, we can Vatnajokull Glacier. Continue to Kirkjubaejarklaustur to spend the night.

### **Day 5: South Shore—Dyrholaey Peninsula / Waterfalls / Reykjavik**

Making our way back to Reykjavik, we follow Iceland's South Coast, known for its volcanic black sand beaches and countless waterfalls. Dyrholaey Peninsula, famous for its massive rock arch eroded from the cape, is one of Iceland's best places to view Atlantic puffins, with a large migratory colony found here. Other seabirds abound, including eider ducks. We'll have a chance to walk on the famous black sand beach Reynisdrangar Rocks, a trio of columnar basalt sea stacks. Legend holds that they were formed after two trolls were out fishing in a three-masted ship. When the trolls did not return to their cave before sunrise, they and their vessel turned into needles of stone, since trolls cannot tolerate daylight. Other highlights include the thundering waterfalls of Skogafoss and Kvernufoss, where the force of nature is utterly palpable. Late this afternoon we return to Reykjavik, where we have dinner and spend the night prior to our departure for Greenland tomorrow.



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## Day 6: Lava Tunnel / Seltun Geothermal Area / Fly to Kulusuk, Greenland / Tasiilaq

It's time to fly to Greenland today! But more of Iceland's volcanic dynamism is on display before we depart late this afternoon. First is a private tour of the Raufarholshellir Lava Tunnel to witness the inner workings of an ancient volcanic eruption that happened 5,200 years ago. Inside the lava tube—one of the longest in Iceland at 4,500 feet—learn the origins of the vibrant colors and intriguing rock formations. Then we head down the Reykjanes Peninsula to explore Seltun, one of Iceland's most important high-temperature geothermal areas. Lying on the fissure zone of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge separating the Eurasian and North American tectonic plates, this seething landscape is pocked with boiling mudpots and hissing fumaroles belching steam. Following the boardwalk through the animated landscape where mineral deposits have created colorful sediments, we smell the pungent odor of sulphur in the air. The Reykjanes Peninsula is one of Iceland's most active volcanic areas, with seven separate eruptions occurring in 2024 alone.

Continue to Keflavik, returning to Iceland's international airport where we board our flight to Kulusuk, Greenland. As we approach, get a preview of the magnificent scenery to come, with icebergs drifting below and perhaps a chance to spot a whale from the air, if you've got a window seat. From Kulusuk, make a scenic transfer by helicopter or boat to Ammassalik Island, landing in Tasiilaq, the small administrative center of East Greenland. Tasiilaq's charming wooden houses painted in bright primary colors survey King Oscar's Harbor, surrounded by pointed peaks iced with glaciers. The town of 2,000 is a hub for outdoor adventure, from hiking and kayaking in summer to dog sledding and glacier skiing in winter. Most of East Greenland is uninhabited, however, except for a handful of small subsistence hunting communities. Greenland's east coast is often called "the back side" by those on the west, where most of the population, its capital of Nuuk, and its main institutions are located. East Greenland's people had no contact with the outside world till the beginning of the 20th century, and that isolation has fostered a distinct and resilient culture. Our introduction to Greenland begins here where Arctic wilderness and traditional lifestyles meet. Once we check in to our hotel, gather for dinner in the dining room, with a 180° view of the town below and mountains beyond.



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### **Day 7: Tasiilaq—Valley of Flowers Walk & Town Tour**

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### **Day 8: Tasiilaq / Private Boat to Nat Hab's Base Camp Greenland**

Depart by boat for Nat Hab's private wilderness Base Camp, located in the Sermilik Fjord complex on Greenland's ragged east coast. Our destination is across a bay from the tiny village of Tinit, which we'll visit during our stay. This hilltop hamlet is one of the most picturesque outposts in East Greenland, surveying a panorama of Sermilik Fjord littered with huge icebergs, with the Greenland ice sheet in view beyond. Behind the town, glacier-clad peaks rise over a mile high, jutting up like sharp black teeth through the ice. Tinit is home to fewer than a hundred hardy people who live a subsistence lifestyle, fishing and hunting amid the constantly shifting ice. Keep an eye out for whales as we travel, as they are often seen in these waters when ice conditions permit. The area is filled with evidence of ancient habitation, including graves and ruins of old Inuit sod house foundations, and it is an evocative place to learn more about Inuit history and lore.

Reaching Base Camp Greenland, we find ourselves in one the most remote places on the planet. After settling in to our private tent cabins, sit down for coffee or tea in the communal yurt where our Expedition Leader gives an orientation to our environs, followed by a gear fitting to prepare for the Arctic adventures ahead. After lunch, our first exploratory venture is likely to include a paddle among the small icebergs and calm waters of our protected bay, if weather permits. Then we'll gather for dinner and a lecture to acquaint us with the region's natural history. Through presentations and personal visits during our stay, we also learn about Greenland's cultural heritage and aspects of modern life. Traditional Inuit identity remains dominant in East Greenland, and we share an authentic encounter with this enduring ancient culture that still exists in close harmony with nature.



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## Days 9 - 11: Base Camp Greenland—Exploring Sermilik Fjord by Zodiac, Kayak & on Foot

Greenland's isolated and rarely visited east coast is a landscape filled with drama. Great fjords indent the coastline, penetrating far into sheer-sided mountains capped by the world's second-largest ice sheet—and Sermilik Fjord is the mightiest of them all. The 60-mile-long "iceberg highway" is fed primarily by the highly active Helheim Glacier, the fastest-flowing tidewater glacier on Greenland's east coast. Our Base Camp provides a safe and comfortable outpost from which to explore this wild expanse just below the Arctic Circle. Beyond our camp's location at the mouth of a glacial valley, the wider region is dotted with a few isolated villages where Greenlandic Inuit people have thrived for centuries in this uncompromising Arctic environment. In varied encounters, we learn about their culture and how they are retaining their traditions while adapting to contemporary conditions in the 21st century.

On Zodiac excursions, navigate among a flotilla of blue icebergs in an array of wild shapes, some as big as buildings. While marine life sightings are sporadic, we sometimes see seals and less frequently whales. The latter are found seasonally in these frigid waters, and when ice conditions permit—if we are lucky, we might catch a glimpse of a fin, minke or humpback, all of which are occasionally present. Guided sea kayaking is also an option for an eye-level view on the bobbing ice. Ashore, choose among walks and hikes of varying demand levels as we traverse the mountainsides and wander near glaciers that wind down from the Greenland ice sheet. This huge ice mass—second in size only to Antarctica—stretches more than 1,500 miles from north to south, is nearly 2 miles deep at its thickest point, and covers 80% of the island. Learn about the crucial role the ice sheet plays in regulating Earth's climate, and see with your own eyes how rapidly it is being affected by a warming climate.

Long hours of summer daylight allow for extensive exploration. Witness the effect of geological forces on naked bedrock, and walk atop patches of tundra. Amid fields of Arctic cotton grass and miniature berry bushes, look for Arctic fox and birdlife including ptarmigan, northern wheatear, and possibly gyrfalcon. Each evening, we retreat to Base Camp for creative meals freshly prepared by our accomplished chef. After dinner, gather for interpretive presentations by our naturalist Expedition Leaders, who share their extensive knowledge of Greenland's geology, glaciology, ecology and human history. And, though the sun gleams late into the evening just below the Arctic Circle, a good night's sleep is in order to refuel for the next day's adventures. Wrapped in profound silence in our isolated cabins, we're sure to get it. On our late-season departures, we may even have a chance to see the northern lights, if the aurora is active in the darkening night sky.



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### **Day 12: Base Camp Greenland / Helicopter or Boat to Kulusuk / Coastal Walk**

Our day begins with a last morning activity from Base Camp, which may be a hike over the tundra in search of wildflowers, or another option, depending on the weather. Then it's time to begin the journey back to more civilized climes, as we first make our way back to Kulusuk by helicopter or boat, depending on sea and ice conditions. On the return trip, survey jagged peaks and huge U-shaped valleys gouged by glaciers, forever awed by the grandeur of Greenland. On arrival in Kulusuk, we check in to our hotel surrounded by more of East Greenland's imposing mountains—the small town is a well-known gathering point for adventurers and scientists heading out to the ice sheet. This afternoon, we'll make an exploratory walk around Kulusuk before dinner.

### **Day 13: Private Glacier Walk / Kulusuk Town Tour & Drum Dancing / Keflavik**

This morning, board a boat to head out for a half-day glacier walk excursion. In addition to large chunks of ice calved from glaciers that feed the region's fjords, we may also see tabular icebergs—oceangoing slabs of ice, some of which have been drifting for months, driven down the coast by the strong East Greenland Current. Reaching a small island, we disembark to walk on a glacier, surrounded by spectacular views of fjords and mountain ranges. Atop its rough surface, examine unique formations such as moulin, which are whirlpool-like shafts in the ice. Walking farther, we reach a vantage point for a full view of the glacier's face.

Returning to Kulusuk, we celebrate our extraordinary adventures over a farewell lunch at the hotel. In the afternoon, we'll explore the town and watch a private performance of traditional Greenlandic drumming and dancing. Then it's time to fly back to Iceland's Keflavik International Airport, arriving late this evening. We spend the night at an airport hotel nearby to facilitate easy connections for tomorrow's onward departures.

### **Day 14: Keflavik, Iceland / Depart**

A transfer is included from the hotel to Iceland's Keflavik International Airport to meet departing flights.



## Accommodation Details:

[Hotel Klaustur](#)  
[Hotel Highland](#)  
[Hotel Angmagssalik](#)  
[Base Camp Greenland](#)  
[Hotel Kulusuk](#)  
[Park Inn by Radisson Reykjavik Keflavik Airport](#)  
[Hotel Reykjavik Saga](#)

For detailed descriptions, visit [nathab.com/europe/iceland-greenland-nature-adventure/accommodations](http://nathab.com/europe/iceland-greenland-nature-adventure/accommodations)

# Iceland & Greenland: A Nordic Discovery Accommodations

Explore a Less-Traveled Side of Northernmost Europe on a Unique Integrated Itinerary



### Hotel Klaustur

Set amid the region's dynamic nature between two of Iceland's most famous glaciers, Vatnajökull and Myrdalsjökull, Hotel Klaustur is a contemporary boutique hotel conveniently located on Iceland's Ring Road.



### Hotel Highland

Located at the edge of Iceland's most active and impressive volcanic area, Hotel Highland is the last outpost before entering the rugged and remote highlands, known for dramatic landscapes, glaciers, geothermal activity and expansive lava fields.



### Hotel Angmagssalik

Perched high above the seaside village of Tasiilaq in remote East Greenland, 30 simple yet comfortable rooms offer guesthouse-style ambience with stunning views from a spacious contemporary lounge.



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### Base Camp Greenland

A singular, exclusive refuge of rustic Arctic luxury surrounded by raw wilderness. Eight heated safari-style tent cabins offer exceptional comfort and amenities for these ultra-remote environs.



### Hotel Kulusuk

The only lodging in this small and traditional Inuit community, Hotel Kulusuk enjoys a scenic perch on Greenland's rocky east coast, with views of Apusiaajik Glacier and Isikajia Mountain.



### Park Inn by Radisson Reykjavik Keflavik Airport

Located in Keflavik just ten minutes from the airport, the hotel provides a convenient landing spot for our final night, with easy access for departing flights.



### Hotel Reykjavik Saga

This elegant new 4-star hotel in the heart of Reykjavik features sleek contemporary design elements and is just steps from all the city center attractions.



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## A Rare Combo Itinerary You Won't Find Anywhere Else

For adventure travelers looking to combine a trip to Iceland and Greenland on an itinerary that showcases less-visited destinations, this unique adventure fills that bill. Explore Iceland's dramatic south coast and rarely visited central Highlands, then head north to experience the rugged Arctic beauty of East Greenland in complete comfort, surrounded by some of the most remote wilderness on Earth.

### **1 An Exclusive Itinerary That Gets You Where Others Don't Go**

Only Natural Habitat Adventures offers this combination itinerary, featuring some of Iceland's most remote and striking landscapes, then continuing to Greenland's east coast, a virtually unvisited realm of vast fjords, huge icebergs and views of the Greenland ice sheet. While other outfitters offer trips to Greenland, most go to the west side, which is where the bulk of the population lives.

### **2 A Rare Exploration of Iceland's Volcanic Central Highlands via Custom 4x4**

With our in-depth expertise, we take you far afield of conventional Iceland routes and deep into the remote Highlands to see glaciers, gorges, dozens of rarely seen waterfalls, and more. Traveling via our own custom 4x4 mini buses with 35-inch tires to navigate backcountry terrain, we reach striking sights that few get to see, including the Laki Craters, a 15-mile chain of craters, fissures and lava formations that emerged when the Skaftareldar volcano erupted in 1783.

### **3 A Seamless Route with Convenient Round-Trip Connections from Reykjavik**

Our adventure begins and ends in easy-to-reach Reykjavik (with flights in and out of Keflavik International Airport). All the connections and logistics are taken care of, meaning you can immerse yourself fully in this grand adventure without worrying about complex arrangements.

### **4 The Only "Luxury" Base Camp in Greenland**

Constructed in 2015 and still without competitors, our Arctic expedition camp offers comforts you'd never expect in this exceedingly remote sector of Greenland, including hot showers, private toilets and chef-prepared gourmet meals. From camp, we have access to close-up views of the Greenland ice sheet by Zodiac. Our location near the edge of Sermilik Fjord grants us an eye-level vantage on huge icebergs floating by, and we often see whales and seals in the frigid waters.



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## 5 A Small-Group Wilderness Immersion

Just 13 travelers can be accommodated on this adventure, giving you a sense of solitude in the wilderness and personal attention from our guides. It's a markedly different way to experience Iceland – avoiding tour buses and crowded routes – and Greenland this way, rather than with hundreds of other travelers aboard a big cruise ship, all going ashore together.

## 6 An Authentic Encounter with Contemporary Greenlandic Culture

In addition to our time at Base Camp, we spend time in Kulusuk; Tasiilaq, the capital of East Greenland; and the tiny village of Tinit, a 20-minute boat ride from camp. Learn about East Greenland's history and culture on walks, personal visits and a tour of the town museum in Tasiilaq. Most visitors never get to these remote communities, but we are able to meet local Greenlandic Inuit people, appreciate their enduring traditions, and gain insight into the challenges and rewards of modern life in the Arctic.

## 7 Unmatched Depth of Guiding Experience

Our Iceland guides are second to none, and our company has more East Greenland experience than any other outfitter. Nat Hab colleague Olaf Malver pioneered commercial kayaking trips on Greenland's east coast in the 1980s, including many historic exploratory paddling "firsts," and his deep expertise has placed us in an unparalleled position today. We know a nature adventure is only as good as the guide at the helm, and we provide the very best! [See Expedition Leader bios](#) and traveler comments regarding the quality of our leaders.

## 8 The Absolute Best Equipment

As part of our unwavering commitment to safety and comfort, we use the best and most up-to-date expedition Zodiacs and kayaks available, as well as top-of-the-line safety gear. Our equipment is meticulously maintained, reducing the chance for unexpected mishaps. We also provide the highest-quality Mustang expedition suits for our guests' safety and warmth while on the water. When safety counts, only the best will do—and not every outfitter provides it.

## 9 Our Quality-Value Guarantee Ensures Your Outstanding Greenland Adventure

When you travel with Natural Habitat, you receive our exclusive guarantee, clearly stating that we will meet the lofty expectations we set in our promotional materials. To our knowledge, this is the most ambitious guarantee made by any adventure travel company.

## 10 Feel Good About Your Carbon-Neutral Journey

We care deeply about our planet, as we know you do. When you travel with us, the carbon emissions from your trip are 100% offset—including your round-trip flights from home. Natural Habitat Adventures has been the world's first carbon-neutral travel company since 2007.



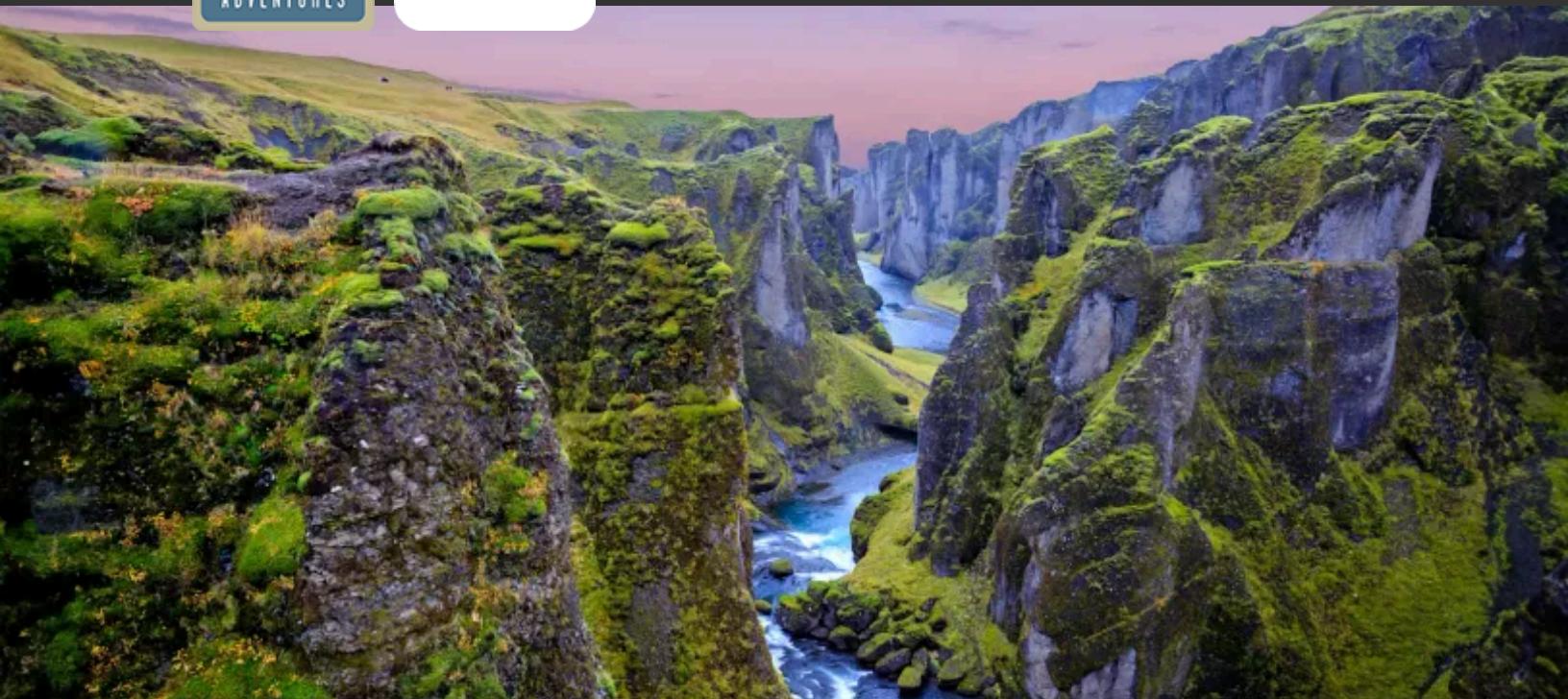
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### 11 Natural Habitat Adventures is WWF's Travel Partner

Because of our commitment to environmentally friendly travel, as well as the exceptional quality of our worldwide adventures, we have been chosen by World Wildlife Fund—the world's leading environmental conservation organization—as its worldwide travel partner, a designation that makes us exceedingly proud.



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**Dates & Pricing  
Summary:**

**Prices:**  
From \$19995  
(+Air)

**Group Size:**  
Limited to 13  
Travelers

## Iceland & Greenland: A Nordic Discovery Dates, Pricing & Info

Explore a Less-Traveled Side of Northernmost Europe on a Unique Integrated Itinerary

### 2026 Departures

Departure	Return	Notes
Jul 13, 2026	Jul 26, 2026	\$20195 USD (+internal air)
Jul 24, 2026	Aug 6, 2026	\$20195 USD (+internal air)
Aug 9, 2026	Aug 22, 2026	\$19995 USD (+internal air)

### 2027 Departures

Departure	Return	Notes
Jul 12, 2027	Jul 25, 2027	\$20495 USD (+internal air)



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Departure	Return	Notes
Jul 23, 2027	Aug 5, 2027	\$19995 USD (+internal air)
Aug 9, 2027	Aug 22, 2027	\$19995 USD (+internal air)



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## Pricing

See <https://nathab.com/europe/iceland-greenland-nature-adventure/dates-fees> for the latest pricing details.

## Included

- **Trip price includes:** Accommodations, services of Nat Hab's professional Expedition Leaders, local guides and camp staff, all meals from dinner on Day 1 through breakfast on Day 14, select beer and wine at camp, some gratuities, airport transfers for those arriving by air on Day 1 and departing by air from Keflavik on final day, private lava tunnel tour, private glacier walking tour, gear including Mustang expedition suits for Zodiac excursions and all kayaking and glacier walking equipment, all activities and entrance fees, 4x4 transportation in Iceland, all taxes, permits and service fees.
- **Internal air includes:** Round-trip flights between Reykjavik, Iceland and Kulusuk, Greenland, transportation between Kulusuk and Tasiilaq, and transportation from camp to Kulusuk (this will be listed separately on our invoicing).

## Not Included

Travel to and from the start and end point of your trip, some alcoholic beverages, some gratuities, passport and visa fees (if any), optional activities, items of a personal nature (phone calls, laundry and internet, etc.), airline baggage fees, airport and departure taxes (if any), required medical evacuation insurance, optional travel protection insurance.



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## Important Information About This Trip

Our journey to Base Camp Greenland offers the only opportunity to encounter one of the planet's most isolated locations via luxury camping. As we head way off the grid on Greenland's remote east coast, guests must be prepared for all the vagaries that come with travel to such an isolated destination. These include inclement weather, varying ice conditions, and a scarcity of operational support, all of which makes a journey to our exclusive Base Camp Greenland an adventure in the truest sense. At times, flights may be canceled due to poor weather, routes may be closed due to changing ice conditions, and some amenities may become unavailable until a new shipment arrives. But the adventure is part of the excitement, and we will use our 25+ years of Greenland operating experience to make the best of even substantial itinerary changes, should they occur.

### *Terrain*

Terrain in Iceland is on rocky and slippery trails with roots and rocks with some elevation gain and steepness.

Terrain in Greenland is mostly off-trail and more difficult than the terrain you might be accustomed to hiking on. [Click here to see example photos of walks and hikes from our adventure.](#) We take your safety and risk management seriously. If it is determined by the Expedition Leader(s) that you are physically unfit for certain activities, you will be required to sit out or stay back at camp.

### *Medical Release Form*

**Due to the extremely remote nature of this adventure, all travelers are required to submit a medical release form prior to departure.** This form will be emailed to you approximately six months before your trip and can also be found in your Adventure Portal. It must be completed and signed by your primary care physician, confirming that you are medically cleared to participate based on the physical requirements outlined for this itinerary.

### *Meals*

Please understand that the meals at camp, while hearty and tasty, are specially planned and prepared for well in advance. Dietary requirements due to serious medical conditions or strict personal restrictions can be met, with ample notice, but must be adhered to while on the trip. If you have a restricted diet (such as gluten-free, vegan, dairy-free, etc), we recommend bringing some of your preferred snacks along with the appreciation that certain foods are limited in this part of the world, and there might not be many options at the Greenland hotels.

### *Flight Delays*

It is possible that your flight to Greenland or back to Iceland could be delayed or cancelled due to inclement weather. In these cases, we provide alternate activities and accommodations during the trip time frame.

### *Safety*

Your safety is of paramount concern to us. Toward that end, we provide highly competent guides with extensive experience in polar regions, and the very best equipment. Our guides are thoroughly trained in emergency wilderness first-aid techniques, traveling in polar bear terrain, and with maritime survival in polar waters. Ultimately, our guides make decisions with everyone's comfort and safety in mind, while trying to maximize the adventure experience for each individual. We must stress that listening carefully to your guide's instructions and directions is ultimately your responsibility and in your best interest and that of the group.

### *Specialized Equipment*



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We provide all group gear such as Mustang survival suits, kayaks and kayaking gear (dry suits, pogies, booties, PFDs) dry bags and a comprehensive first-aid kit and satellite communication devices for emergency communications. We will supply you with a comprehensive Clothing & Equipment list prior to your departure.

## Mandatory Insurance

Since the areas we travel to are remote and wild (that's why we go there!), we require that all guests have, at minimum, medical evacuation insurance for this program. This is for the safety of all guests. We require that your chosen independent insurance plan includes at least \$250,000 in medical evacuation coverage.

To protect your investment and to provide peace of mind while you travel, we also strongly recommend purchasing comprehensive travel insurance. Plans may cover everything from medical treatment to trip cancellations and delays and lost luggage. Please contact our office if you would like more information about the medical evacuation and comprehensive travel insurance policies we offer by calling 800-543-8917.

## Getting There & Getting Home

This trip begins and ends in Reykjavik. **You must arrive at Keflavik International Airport no later than 3:30 pm on Day 1** in order to be ready for a 5:30 pm welcome dinner and briefing. Upon arrival, you will be met by a Nat Hab representative and transferred approximately one hour to your hotel. For guests who come in early, recommended hotels will be included in your pre-departure materials.

**You may depart Reykjavik at any time on the final day**, though afternoon flights are recommended.

Please note: Weather delays or other unforeseen events can occur, and it is sometimes necessary to spend an extra night in Kulusuk while waiting for improved conditions. Because this does happen a few times each year, we recommend **not scheduling any important, time-sensitive events immediately after your planned return home**. Please allow a buffer in case of flight delays.

Our Natural Habitat Adventures Travel Desk can best assist with your travel reservations, as our staff is familiar with the specific requirements of this program and can help arrange the most efficient itinerary. Please call us at 800-543-8917. While we offer the best available rates to us on airfare and additional nights accommodations, you may occasionally find special web rates or lower fares online.



**Extension Details:**

**Iceland: Circling the Land of Fire & Ice**  
\$16295

**Wild Iceland Explorer**  
\$12995

## Iceland & Greenland: A Nordic Discovery Extensions

Explore a Less-Traveled Side of Northernmost Europe on a Unique Integrated Itinerary



### Iceland: Circling the Land of Fire & Ice

An immersive journey into the rugged grandeur of a land sculpted by intense geological forces. Make a full loop around Iceland on the most comprehensive nature adventure this compact country has to offer.

**\$16295 (+air)**



### Wild Iceland Explorer

In just over a week, experience highlights and hidden corners of western Iceland -- a microcosm of the country -- including the Snaefellsnes Peninsula and the remote, little-traveled highlands.

**\$12995**



**Natural Habitat & WWF: Discovering Our Planet Together**

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WWF's membership travel program is operated by Natural Habitat Adventures (Nat Hab). To date, Nat Hab has provided more than \$6 million in support of WWF's mission and will continue to give 1% of gross sales plus \$175,000 annually through 2028. WWF® and ©1986 Panda Symbol are owned by WWF. All rights reserved.