



Discovering Our Planet Together



# Fire & Ice: An 8-Day Sail Around Iceland

*Get a 360° View on the Land of Fire & Ice on a Full-Circle Expedition Cruise*



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## Trip Details:

### Days

8 Days / May–Aug

### Price

From \$8946

### Physical Requirements

Easy to Moderate

# Fire & Ice: An 8-Day Sail Around Iceland

Get a 360° View on the Land of Fire & Ice on a Full-Circle Expedition Cruise

Iceland contains some of Earth's most fascinating geological features, from glaciers and geothermal springs to boiling mud pots, columnar sea cliffs and stark lava fields of austere beauty. Geologically young, Iceland is located on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, a tectonic plate boundary of intense activity with many volcanoes—hundreds, in fact. Most famously, Eyjafjallajökull erupted in a massive explosion in 2010, sending ash sky-high and fiery molten rock coursing over the landscape. Add in gushing waterfalls, summer wildflowers, whales, seabird colonies and other wildlife, and you've got one of the world's most captivating nature destinations. Iceland's Viking heritage and thriving arts culture add even more appeal to this diverse island nation on edge of the Arctic Circle. Experience it all when you make this full circuit by expedition ship!

## Trip Highlights

Explore remote and less-visited corners of Iceland, including the Westfjords, Westman Islands and the puffin colony at Borgarfjardarhofn

Survey lava fields, wander black sand beaches, peer into volcano craters, float among icebergs in a glacier lagoon, and gape at Godafoss, Iceland's largest waterfall

Search for Arctic fox, scout for whales and dolphins, and pass steep volcanic cliffs home to millions of nesting seabirds, including Atlantic puffins





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## Itinerary At A Glance

### Day 1

Keflavik, Iceland / Reykjavik—City Tour / Embark Ship

### Day 2

The Westfjords

### Day 3

Siglufjordur—Herring Museum

### Day 4

Husavik / Godafoss / Lake Myvatn or Asbyrgi Canyon

### Day 5

Bakkagerdi / Borgarfjardarhofn—Puffin Colony

### Day 6

Djupivogur—Jokulsarlon Glacier Lagoon or 4x4 Exploration

### Day 7

Westman Islands—Surtsey & Heimaey

## Fire & Ice: An 8-Day Sail Around Iceland Itinerary

Get a 360° View on the Land of Fire & Ice on a Full-Circle Expedition Cruise

### Day 1: Keflavik, Iceland / Reykjavik—City Tour / Embark Ship

Arrive at Keflavik International Airport and transfer to Reykjavik, Iceland's capital, about a 45-minute drive. Lying less than two degrees below the Arctic Circle, Reykjavik is the world's northernmost capital. Its high latitude location provides 22 hours of sunlight at high summer, with the near-perpetual light creating a lively, energetic atmosphere. Explore on your own today, before boarding your expedition ship late this afternoon, with dinner served aboard.





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### Itinerary At A Glance

#### Day 8

Reykjavik—Disembark / Depart

### Day 2: The Westfjords

Lying just south of the Arctic Circle, the far-flung Westfjords embrace Iceland's most northwesterly point. Exceptionally remote and peaceful, much of this corner of Iceland can only be accessed on foot or by sea. Erik the Red, father of Leif Eriksson, was among the first in a thousand-year line of settlers who survived on a peninsula here, living on herring and seabird eggs. Hike or kayak along the base of a fjord to views of a dramatic waterfall. Enter the fjord network of Isafjardardjup to discover a wealth of wildlife, including whales, seals and huge colonies of nesting seabirds. Land at Vigur Island, a birder's paradise home thousands of species, including puffins, black guillemots, Arctic terns and eider ducks. The walkable island has only a handful of inhabitants—a farmer and his family. For years, they have collected down from resident nesting ducks' nests and sold it for cushions and duvets. We'll stop by the Eider Farm to learn about the traditional process of collecting and cleaning down.\*

*\*Visit subject to nesting seabird season and not available on all dates.*

### Day 3: Siglufjörður—Herring Museum

Today we call at Siglufjörður, a small town on Iceland's north coast, which was the center of the country's once-thriving herring industry in the mid-20th century. Stop at the Herring Museum, which focuses on the wealth once provided by these small silver fish and how they were processed. Though the museum receives relatively few visitors in this remote location, it is the largest marine and industrial museum in Europe and has received the European Museum of the Year award. Our visit includes a salting demonstration and tasting. Though the herring are mostly gone today, the town's economy is still fishing-based. Then we join the local forestry association for a conservation-focused field tour this afternoon in their local woods, learning what it takes to maintain and develop a forest in Iceland.



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### Day 4: Husavik / Godafoss / Lake Myvatn or Asbyrgi Canyon

Land at Husavik this morning, Iceland's oldest settlement and the site of the first house built on the island. It's also our gateway to the geological wonders of Iceland's northern reaches. Depart for a full day of overland exploration, first visiting one of the largest waterfalls in Iceland, Godafoss, the "waterfall of the gods." The dramatic cataract plunges 40 feet over an ancient lava cliff shaped like a horseshoe, stretching 100 feet across. We also visit Lake Myvatn and environs, the most geothermally active area in Iceland. Lake Myvatn fills the remnant of a crater formed during a massive eruption 2,300 years ago, and the region around it is an introduction to world-class field geology. On display in the dynamic environment are various volcanic features, including pseudo-craters, lava formations, steam vents and hot springs. The lake is also one of the premier birdwatching areas in the world, with marshes providing habitat for huge numbers of migratory birds during the summer, with more than 115 species on view. Alternatively, choose an adventurous hike in Asbyrgi Canyon, filled with waterfalls and said to be formed from the hoof of the Norse god Odin's eight-legged horse. Or stay along the coast for slower-paced activities including forest bathing, bird watching and a soak in the GeoSea bath.

### Day 5: Bakkagerdi / Borgarfjardarhofn—Puffin Colony

Located on the little-visited northeast shore of Iceland, Bakkagerdi is a tiny hamlet of about 100 people that is known as the Puffin Capital of Iceland. Walk across boardwalks for unobtrusive views of these colorful icons of Icelandic wildlife, watching them nest in their burrows and emerge to fly and fish. In addition to this most famous and charming member of the auk family, we also see many other seabird species like kittiwakes, fulmars and common eiders that inhabit the rocky cliffs above the fjord. Once you have plenty of close-up photos, you may wish to take an invigorating hike up to a panoramic vista of Borgarfjordur Eystri, regarded as one of Iceland's most wild and beautiful fjords. Surrounded by the Dyrfjoll Mountains, which rise more than 3,700 feet from the sea, the region is renowned for its stunning hiking terrain. Or choose a backcountry mountain bike adventure to remote overlooks and magnificent vistas. Whatever you do, keep an eye out for the "hidden people" reputed to live here: according to local folklore, Bakkagerdi and environs are home to a very large population of elves.



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### Day 6: Djupivogur—Jokulsarlon Glacier Lagoon or 4x4 Exploration

Djupivogur, on Iceland's east coast, is our port of call, with a choice of excursions. For the first option, we drive south to the foot of the vast Vatnajökull Ice Cap and Jokulsarlon Glacier Lagoon. Vatnajökull is Europe's largest ice mass, covering over 3,000 square miles and averaging more than 1,400 feet thick. In 2008, Vatnajökull Glacier and its magnificent surroundings were declared Iceland's largest national park, covering 13% of the country's terrain. Few places in the world exhibit the effects of such a wide range of natural phenomena, where ice and fire compete to shape a landscape honed by the combined forces of rivers, glaciers, volcanoes and geothermal activity. Guests who choose this excursion will examine the snow-covered surface of the ice cap up close before continuing to the large ice lagoon of Jokulsarlon for a boat ride among the flotilla of glittering blue icebergs that drift across the lake's surface. Fed by Vatnajökull Glacier, the lagoon began to form in the 1950s and has grown every year, as the pace of glacial melting accelerates, and the ice tongue recedes to reveal ever more water. In this regard, the glacial lagoon offers a living laboratory for observing the effects of global warming. As the chunks of ice calve into the lagoon, they slowly melt and float out to sea, where the ocean waves may drive them back onto the black volcanic sand that forms the beaches of Iceland's south coast. The second excursion option is a 4x4 vehicle journey into some of the secluded valleys and remote waterfalls in the countryside around Djupivogur, with a chance to hike to the black sand beaches near the town center.

### Day 7: Westman Islands—Surtsey & Heimaey

Overnight, our ship has rounded the southern side of Iceland to reach the Westman Islands. Formed by undersea volcanoes between 5,000 and 10,000 years ago, the islands comprise one of the planet's youngest archipelagos. We cruise past the newest island, Surtsey, which was formed by volcanic action from 1963 to 1967. The world witnessed its creation on film, and Surtsey was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site from its birth, providing the world with a pristine natural laboratory in which to observe how plant and animal life colonize new land. We call at Heimaey, the largest and only populated island in the Westmans. Half the town on the island was destroyed by lava flows from Eldfell Volcano in 1973, which nearly closed off its harbor. An emergency operation to cool the advancing lava with sea water held it at bay. We visit the volcano crater, where the earth is still hot, and survey impressive views of the broad area once engulfed by lava.

### Day 8: Reykjavik—Disembark / Depart

Our circumnavigation of Iceland is complete today as we return to Reykjavik to disembark. After breakfast, a transfer to Keflavik Airport is included to meet homeward flights.





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### Accommodation Details:

#### National Geographic Explorer

For detailed descriptions, visit [nathab.com/adventure-cruises/iceland-nature-cruise/ships](http://nathab.com/adventure-cruises/iceland-nature-cruise/ships)

## Fire & Ice: An 8-Day Sail Around Iceland Accommodations

Get a 360° View on the Land of Fire & Ice on a Full-Circle Expedition Cruise



#### National Geographic Explorer

The newly renovated ice-class polar expedition vessel accommodates 148 guests in 81 outside cabins, all with private facilities, plus the most innovative tools for exploration above and below the sea.





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## Sail with the World Leader in Small-Ship Conservation-Focused Cruising

We're proud to offer a worldwide slate of Adventure Cruises through our partner Lindblad Expeditions. Nat Hab joined forces with Lindblad in 2016 to expand our mutual collection of nature adventures. Founded in 1958 by Lars-Eric Lindblad, the company pioneered eco-conscious expeditions for "citizen explorers" and today is the world leader in conservation-focused small-ship cruises.

### 1 Small Ships for Closer Nature Encounters

Lindblad's expedition ships offer an intimate, up-close experience of Iceland's coast and islands. The small size of our National Geographic ships grants access to narrow fjords and secluded bays that big cruise ships can't reach, while full stabilization and state-of-the-art technology provide supremely safe passage. Guests also enjoy personal interactions with naturalists, guides and crew.

### 2 Tap More than a Half-Century of Maritime Expertise

This comprehensive Iceland nature cruise offers an expedition-style experience with a crew and staff who are veterans of Arctic waters. As pioneers in commercial polar cruising, Lindblad draws upon more than 50 years of experience, assuring safety and a thorough immersion in some of the world's most remote wild places. Aboard Lindblad's ships, you'll sail with a highly experienced Expedition Leader, assistant Expedition Leader and a team of naturalists with relevant specialties. A photo instructor certified by National Geographic is also on board to help you get outstanding images of Iceland's grand scenery and marine life.

### 3 Varied Activities Make Every Day a New Adventure

A host of exciting adventures led by naturalist guides reveals the rugged, wild beauty of Iceland. Motorized Zodiac rafts get us close to cliffside bird rookeries and provide access for shore landings, while a fleet of double kayaks provides an eye-level look at marine life. These sea kayaks are chosen for their stability, and even beginners will find that maneuvering them is not difficult—and instruction is provided. A custom-designed floating platform allows kayaks to be launched from most any location.

### 4 Take a Look at the World Below the Sea

An undersea diving specialist accompanies every voyage. Wearing gear to survive in frigid Arctic waters and carrying nearly 200 pounds of equipment, this specialized expedition team member shoots high-definition footage of the world beneath the waves, teeming with life. It's then shared on plasma TV screens in the ship's lounge for all to enjoy. In addition, the ship's remotely operated vehicle (ROV) can dive to 1,000 feet below the surface to capture even more imagery of the deep ocean world.



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### **5 Specialized Equipment Further Enhances Your View of Nature**

A video microscope helps naturalist guides show and explain a multitude of elements in the Arctic environment, including tiny organisms in the marine ecosystem's building blocks—like a krill's body, at 80x magnification. High atop the ship's mast, a crow's nest camera provides a 24/7, 360-degree view on our surroundings that you can watch on your cabin TV. And underwater microphones are deployed to listen in on marine mammals, offering real-time sounds of nearby whales and other life below the surface.

### **6 Travel with Experts Who are Iceland Specialists**

Your voyage features a knowledgeable team of expert interpreters who will vastly enhance your appreciation for the natural and cultural history of Iceland. Each voyage includes a senior Expedition Leader, a team of veteran naturalists, a National Geographic photographer, an undersea specialist, expert guest speakers, a video chronicler and a wellness specialist. You'll hear from a diverse slate of speakers including wildlife biologists, ornithologists, marine scientists and historians.

### **7 We're Committed to the Planet**

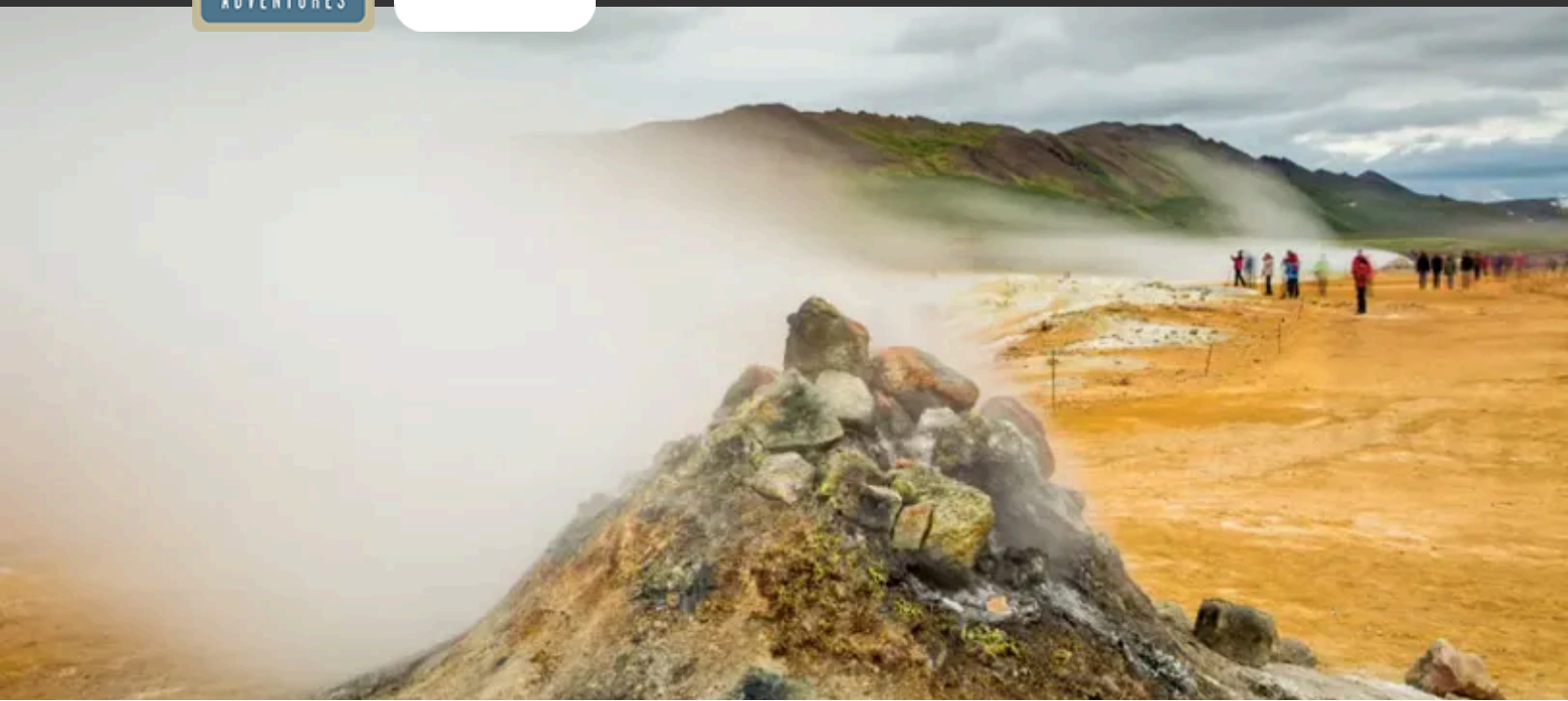
Natural Habitat Adventures is a standard-setter in eco-conscious travel. We were the world's first 100-percent carbon-neutral travel company. And we continue to break ground in adopting practices that help protect our global environment. Because of our concern for the environment, we are pleased to partner with Lindblad Expeditions for our Adventure Cruises, a company that shares our values and commitment to the planet.

### **8 Natural Habitat Adventures is WWF's Travel Partner**

Because of our environmental commitment and the outstanding quality of our adventures, World Wildlife Fund has chosen Natural Habitat Adventures as its worldwide travel partner, a designation we're very proud of! When you book your Lindblad Expeditions cruise with us, a portion of your trip fee supports WWF.



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## Dates & Pricing Summary:

**Prices:**  
From \$8946

**Group Size:**  
Limited to 148  
Travelers

**Physical Requirements:**  
Easy to Moderate

# Fire & Ice: An 8-Day Sail Around Iceland Dates, Pricing & Info

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## 2025 Departures

Departure	Return	Notes
Jul 29, 2025	Aug 5, 2025	From \$8140 USD <b>Aboard National Geographic Explorer</b>
Aug 5, 2025	Aug 12, 2025	From \$9044 USD <b>Aboard National Geographic Explorer</b>

## 2026 Departures

Departure	Return	Notes
May 17, 2026	May 24, 2026	From \$9124 USD <b>Aboard National Geographic Explorer</b>



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## Dates & Pricing Summary:

### Prices:

From \$8946

### Group Size:

Limited to 148 Travelers

### Physical

### Requirements:

Easy to Moderate

Departure	Return	Notes
May 24, 2026	May 31, 2026	From \$9124 USD <b>Aboard National Geographic Explorer</b>
May 31, 2026	Jun 7, 2026	From \$9124 USD <b>Aboard National Geographic Explorer</b>
Jun 7, 2026	Jun 14, 2026	From \$9224 USD <b>Aboard National Geographic Explorer</b>
Jun 14, 2026	Jun 21, 2026	From \$9224 USD <b>Aboard National Geographic Explorer</b>
Jun 21, 2026	Jun 28, 2026	From \$9224 USD <b>Aboard National Geographic Explorer</b>
Jun 28, 2026	Jul 5, 2026	From \$9224 USD <b>Aboard National Geographic Explorer</b>
Jun 30, 2026	Jul 9, 2026	From \$19351 USD <b>Aboard National Geographic Endurance</b>
Jul 5, 2026	Jul 12, 2026	From \$9224 USD <b>Aboard National Geographic Explorer</b>
Jul 9, 2026	Jul 18, 2026	From \$18956 USD <b>Aboard National Geographic Endurance</b>
Jul 12, 2026	Jul 19, 2026	From \$9224 USD <b>Aboard National Geographic Explorer</b>





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Departure	Return	Notes
Jul 19, 2026	Jul 26, 2026	From \$9224 USD <b>Aboard National Geographic Explorer</b>
Jul 26, 2026	Aug 2, 2026	From \$9224 USD <b>Aboard National Geographic Explorer</b>
Aug 2, 2026	Aug 9, 2026	From \$10129 USD <b>Aboard National Geographic Explorer</b>



### Pricing

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

### Included

Shipboard accommodations; meals from lunch on Day 1 until lunch on Day 8; alcoholic beverages (except premium brands); excursions; services of Lindblad Expeditions' Leader, naturalist staff and expert guides; use of kayaks; all port charges and service taxes; gratuities to ship's crew.

### Not Included

Air transportation; personal items such as emails, laundry, voyage DVD etc.; optional travel and/or medical evacuation insurance.

### Physical Requirements

#### *Easy to Moderate*

This is an active expedition that requires mobility and good health. In order to participate, you must be able to walk unassisted for a minimum of one mile over rough and uneven terrain including rocky trails, rocky beaches, ice and snow. To participate in excursions ashore, you must walk down a steep gangway (steel ramp with stairs) and climb into and out of rigid inflatable Zodiac rafts, which can sometimes be unstable, depending on water and wind conditions. Travel via Zodiac occurs over variable conditions and can sometimes be quite bumpy. If it's windy, you may get wet from sea spray. Travelers with back problems or other health issues that could be exacerbated by such conditions should take this into consideration and consult with your physician beforehand. Travelers must be prepared for any type of weather, including extreme conditions that may involve high winds, rain and snow. While seas are generally calm on this itinerary, it's possible we could encounter rough conditions, which may cause issues for travelers prone to motion sickness. Our ships are fully stabilized, but we recommend that you discuss preventive medication with your physician if you are susceptible to motion sickness. The ship carries a qualified physician who is available at any time in case of emergency, and whose services are provided free of charge; however, the limited infirmary carries only basic medicines and equipment.

### 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.



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## Getting There & Getting Home

You will depart from Reykjavik on Day 1. You can depart in the afternoon on Day 8.

We can best serve you by having Lindblad Expeditions' air department book your flights, since Lindblad is most familiar with the special requirements of each trip. Please call Lindblad directly at 800-397-3348. Note that while Lindblad Expeditions' air department will offer you its best available rates on airfare, you may find special web rates or better fares online.



**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.