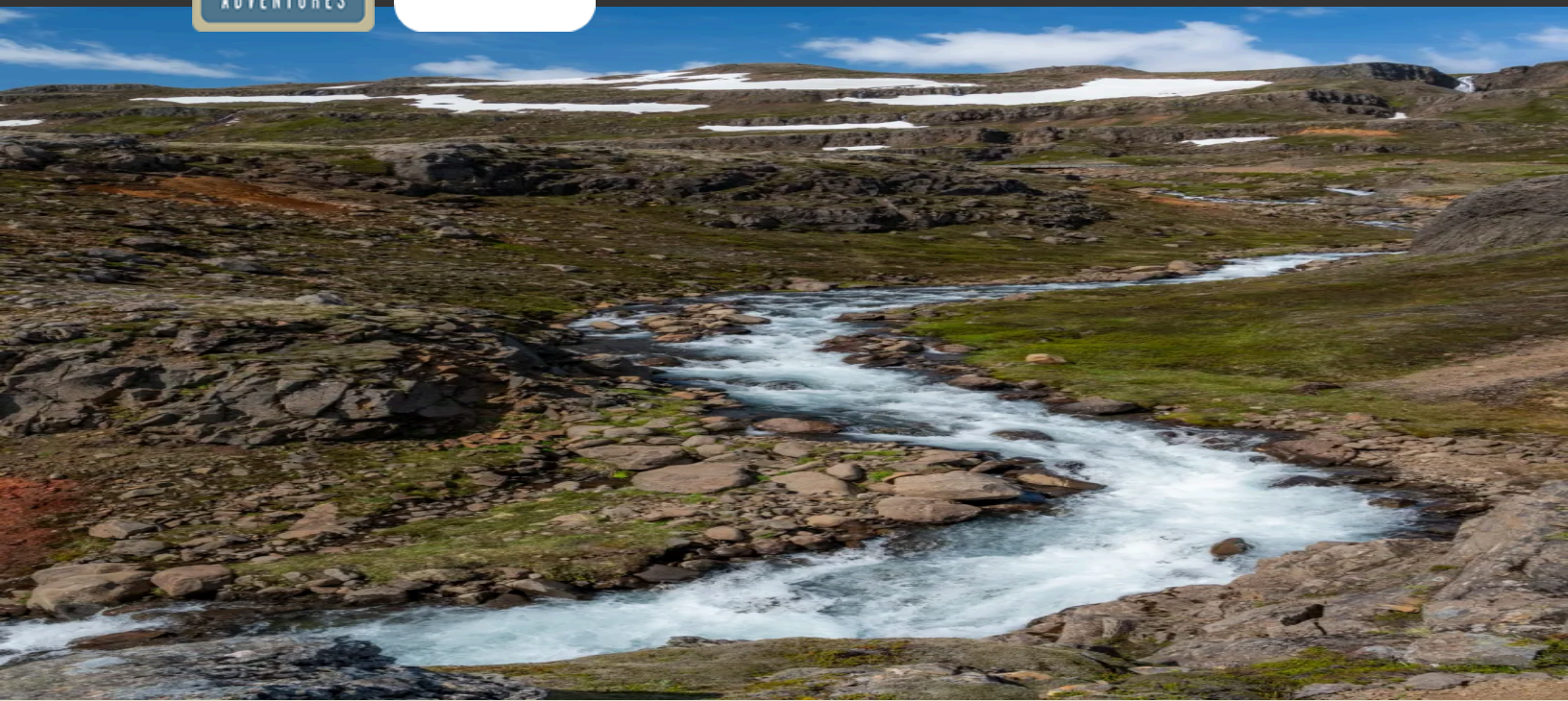




Discovering Our Planet Together



Ultimate Iceland Photo Expedition

*An In-Depth Photography Adventure via Chartered Scenic Flight, Private Boats
& 4x4 Overland Travel*



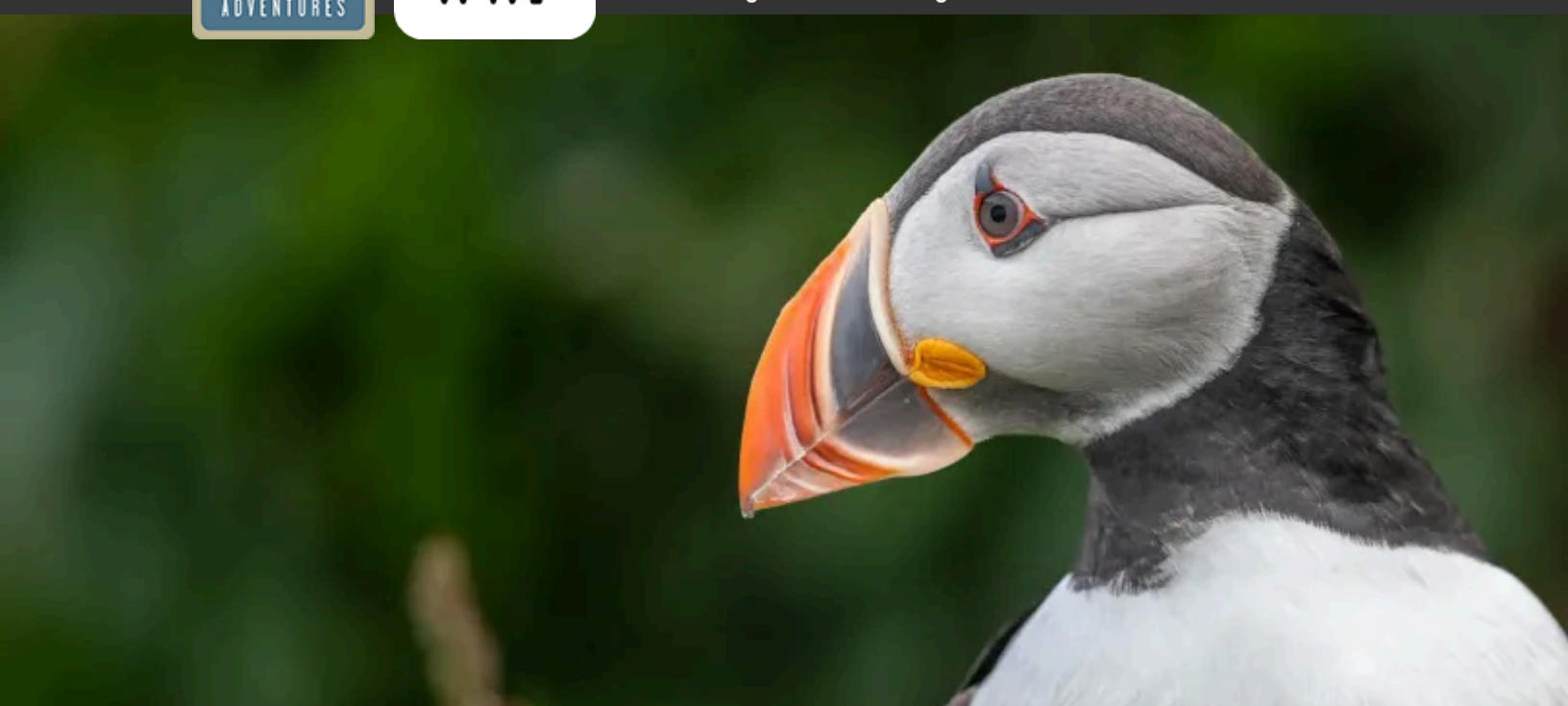
Discovering Our Planet Together

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Discovering Our Planet Together



Trip Details:

Days

12 or 13
Days / Jul &
Aug

Price

From
\$18395
(+Air)

Ultimate Iceland Photo Expedition

An In-Depth Photography Adventure via Chartered Scenic Flight, Private Boats & 4x4 Overland Travel

As a destination for the passionate nature photographer, Iceland stands alone. No other place offers such a mix of geological drama, wild beauty and intense contrasts in such a compact space. This small island nation tucked just beneath the Arctic Circle rests on the intersection of two tectonic plates—creating a dynamic environment of volcanic and glacial forces that have sculpted the raw landscape. Iceland abounds with wondrous photography subjects: stark mountains, lava fields covered in velvety moss, glittering black sand beaches, steaming craters, iceberg lagoons, and ice-fed rivers that thunder over basalt cliffs in raging waterfalls. Watch for the Arctic fox traipsing over the tundra, and shaggy Icelandic horses grazing in lush pastures filled with wildflowers. Offshore, whales ply the fjords and seabirds nest in noisy colonies, including the world's largest population of Atlantic puffins. Experience it *all* -- there is no Iceland photo adventure to match this one!

Trip Highlights

In rarely visited Borgarfjörður Eystri, spend a half-day photographing one of the world's largest Atlantic puffin colonies, bustling with the whimsical, charming seabirds

On an exhilarating small plane flight over Skaftafell, get a rare angle on Iceland's winding glaciers, vast braided rivers, and an inactive volcano that is the country's tallest mountain

Via Super Jeep in Fjallabak Nature Reserve, veer off the standard track into a volcanic wilderness of diverse colors, moss-covered mountains and glacier-carved canyons



Discovering Our Planet Together



Trip Details:

Days

12 or 13 Days / Jul & Aug

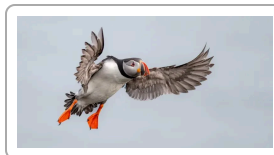
Price

From \$18395

(+Air)

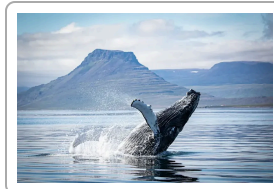
Ultimate Iceland Photo Expedition Itineraries

An In-Depth Photography Adventure via Chartered Scenic Flight, Private Boats & 4x4 Overland Travel



2026 Itinerary

Our 2026 itinerary is very similar to 2025, including a selection of remote and varied settings and subjects. In place of the Lake Myvatn region on our 2025 itinerary, we have added an extra day of 4x4 exploration in the highlands focusing on the dramatic and colorful Landmannalaugur region.



2027 Itinerary

We've refined our 2027 itinerary to add a day in the Westman Islands, including a RIB marine safari and visit to a puffin colony (a total of two on this trip); we've added back a day in the Lake Myvatn geothermal area; and we've extended our Skaftafell aerial photography flight from one hour to two hours.



Discovering Our Planet Together



Itinerary At A Glance

Day 1

Keflavik, Iceland / Reykjavik

Day 2

Egilsstadir / East Fjords—
Mjoifjordur

Day 3

Lagarfloit Valley / Borgarfjordur
Eystri—Puffin Photography /
Private Marine Safari

Day 4

4x4 Exploration of the East
Highlands / Egilsstadir

Day 5

East Fjords / Vestrahorn &
Eystrahorn / Jokulsarlon

Day 6

Skaftafell Flightseeing / Svinasfell
Glacier / Diamond Beach

Day 7

Fjallsarlon Glacier Lagoon—
Private Zodiac Cruise / Exploring
the South Coast

2026 Itinerary

An In-Depth Photography Adventure via Chartered Scenic Flight, Private Boats & 4x4 Overland Travel

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 at a local restaurant, with an orientation to all the photography adventures that lie ahead in this geological wonderland.





Discovering Our Planet Together

Itinerary At A Glance

Day 8

Katla Geopark / Reynisdrangar
Rocks / Waterfall Photography

Day 9

Fjallabak Nature Reserve

Day 10

Landmannalaugur—Sigöldugljúfur
Canyon

Day 11

South Coast Waterfalls / Strokkur
Geyser / Thingvellir National Park
/ Reykjavik

Day 12

Reykjavik / Keflavik / Depart

Day 2: Egilsstaðir / East Fjords—Mjóifjörður

Fly this morning to Egilsstaðir, the largest town on the little-visited east side of Iceland where we spend the next three nights. Our first destination is one of the most photogenic of the East Fjords, the slender finger of Mjóifjörður, which means "narrow fjord." Carved out by successive ice ages and protected from the elements along the outer coast, the water is often calm as glass, making for beautiful reflection photography. We occasionally spot whales in the fjord as well. This is one of the most remote destinations in Iceland, accessed by a road that is open for only about four months a year, when it is snow-free. The steep, winding gravel road that descends to the sea extends to the end of the 11-mile fjord. Mjóifjörður's setting at the head of the fjord is stunning, surrounded by an amphitheater of waterfalls. A highlight is Klifbrekkufossar, a seven-step cascade that terraces down through a rugged chasm carpeted with green vegetation. A trail hugs the side of the waterfall, allowing access to varied angles and closer views.

***Please note:** The Eclipse Specialty departure in August 2026 will stay one more night in Reykjavik to view the eclipse. Travelers will fly to Egilsstaðir on Day 3, visiting Mjóifjörður upon arrival and forgoing Lagarfljótt Valley, Borgarfjörður Eystri and the marine safari due to migratory bird patterns.*

Day 3: Lagarfljótt Valley / Borgarfjörður Eystri—Puffin Photography / Private Marine Safari

Travel inland today for an in-depth exploration of scenic Lagarfljótt Valley. We stop for photos of Lagarfljótt Lake, where local lore holds that a sea monster inhabits its waters. We are surrounded by an evocative wild, rural landscape, offering opportunities to photograph Icelandic horses, rarely seen waterfalls, and impressive canyons.

On a scenic drive through a massive valley and over a mountain pass, continue to Borgarfjörður Eystri, a fjord that is reputedly home to one of numerous "elfin communities" that thrive in Icelandic mythology. The fjord takes its name from the Icelandic elf-queen, Alfaborg, who is said to live nearby. But it is the fjord's puffin residents that capture our attention for the bulk of the day: Here we find one of Iceland's largest Atlantic puffin colonies, and we spend a full afternoon among them on a puffin photography intensive. A boardwalk weaving through the colony allows easy access, and since the puffins are accustomed to human presence, we are able to get exceptionally close shots. Then, gain another angle on puffins as we head to sea on a private RIB safari, exploring the coastline from a rigid inflatable boat. Capture shots of puffins in their cliffside dens, plus many other seabirds, seals, dolphins and possibly whales. Return to Egilsstaðir for a second night.



Discovering Our Planet Together

Day 4: 4x4 Exploration of the East Highlands / Egilsstadir

Today we head into a remote and little-traveled region of Iceland that's huge on scenic drama and very low on other visitors. Traveling in our 4x4 van, we are able to get far into the interior of the East Highlands, a desolate landscape of austere beauty. Lying in the rain shadow of Vatnajökull, this region's dry terrain is evocative of being on another planet, in stark contrast to the vibrant green expanse of the southwest highlands. Photography subjects include imposing peaks, glaciers, canyons, and braided rivers spreading like veins across broad gravel plains.

Our first destination is Hafrahvammagljúfur Canyon, a deep gorge with 650-foot walls that stretches almost 5 miles from the Vatnajökull ice cap toward the sprawling Jokuldalur Valley. We stop to get photos from various vantage points along the rim. Powerful rivers originate in this region, and we view the upper reaches of Lagarfljót as well as Jokulsa a Bru, the longest river in East Iceland, which has a vast and dynamic effect on a broad swath of the landscape including the coastline, being reshaped by the river's massive volume of silt. Eroding one of the wildest and deepest canyons in the country, the river deposits about 120 tons of silt in the delta area per hour, fed by Bruarjökull, the largest glacier tongue of the Vatnajökull ice cap.

Day 5: East Fjords / Vestrahorn & Eystrahorn / Jokulsarlon

Departing Egilsstadir, we pass through the glacial valley of Lagarfljót, then cross a mountain pass to drop into the peaceful Breiddalur Valley, with stops along the way to photograph burbling creeks, lakes and striking mountains. Continuing south, traverse classic U-shaped glacial valleys to reach the coastline of the little-visited East Fjords, which has some of the oldest rock in Iceland, with layer upon layer of basalt from ancient eruptions slowly carved away by 2.5 million years of successive ice ages. The ocean is always close as the road winds along the fjord-riven coast, unveiling rocky coves and picturesque fishing villages. Soon, we reach the Stokksnes Peninsula on the southeast corner of Iceland, where we have a chance to shoot the iconic profile of Vestrahorn. We also photograph the jagged range of Eystrahorn, a lesser-known set of peaks surveying a wild black sand beach. We spend the next three nights at a hotel near Jokulsarlon with a stunning setting on a vast coastal plain backdropped by rugged mountains.



Discovering Our Planet Together

Day 6: Skaftafell Flightseeing / Svinasfell Glacier / Diamond Beach

Get a stunning aerial perspective on some of Iceland's most dramatic scenery from a 2-hour private fixed-wing plane flight over the Skaftafell region of Vatnajökull National Park. Known for its rugged landscapes, stark mountains and vast braided rivers, Skaftafell contains about half of the Vatnajökull Glacier, Europe's largest ice cap. No roads penetrate the park's wild recesses, but our extended low-altitude flight reveals an artistic landscape, with intriguing patterns, contrasts and colors for creative imagery. Photograph the plain of Skeidarsandur (the largest glacial outwash plain on the planet), an expanse of black sand and ash sliced by braided glacial rivers that resemble an intricate network of veins. Other highlights include striking shots of the jagged expanse of Skeidarárjökull Glacier, draining off Vatnajökull, Iceland's largest ice cap, and the Laki volcano crater row, a 15-mile-long fissure in the highlands that erupted in 1783, creating a chain of 130 craters.

We also spend time on the ground, walking around the scenic outflow of Svinasfell Glacier, a large outlet glacier of the Vatnajökull ice field. Its surface is especially jagged, with many sharp ridges that lend drama to images, as well as its varied coloration—deep blue ice, white snow and veins of black ash left over from volcanic eruptions in centuries past. The ash patterns create remarkable abstract designs in the ice, a phenomenon not readily found anywhere else in the world.

After dinner, head to Diamond Beach, where icebergs wash up on shore to create a sparkling contrast with the volcanic black sand. The late evening light offers excellent photography conditions, with the sun's sinking rays gleaming on the scattered icebergs, littered on the beach like chunks of glass. Seals also frequent the beach, and orcas are sometimes visible offshore.

Day 7: Fjallsarlón Glacier Lagoon—Private Zodiac Cruise / Exploring the South Coast

On a private Zodiac cruise at Fjallsarlón Glacier Lagoon, we have extended time to photograph the glittering icebergs floating atop the meltwater lake. The lagoon is fed by the massive Vatnajökull Glacier, the largest in Europe. The ice cap covers more than 3,100 square miles—8% of Iceland—and the glacial tongues that flow from it calve the huge chunks of blue ice that litter the surface of the lagoons, drifting like a flotilla of whimsically shaped ships. We spend the remainder of the day exploring this exceptionally scenic region, stopping for striking shots of black sand beaches and rugged mountains as we follow the coast and hike hidden trails among terminal moraines, the end point of glaciers fed by the ice cap. Our exact itinerary is guided by weather and light, as we chase the best of both.



Discovering Our Planet Together

Day 8: Katla Geopark / Reynisdrangar Rocks / Waterfall Photography

Continuing our encounters with the fascinating geological features on Iceland's south coast, we investigate the dynamic relationship between fire and ice, examining the largest glacial outwash plane in the world. Katla UNESCO Global Geopark contains roughly 9% of Iceland's total landmass, encompassing massive glaciers and active volcanoes that have shaped the land for millennia, including the powerful eruptions of Eyjafjallajökull in 2010 and Grimsvotn in 2011. The geopark also holds glacial rivers, lakes, meadows of purple lupine, black sand beaches, vast lava fields and caverns. Lomagnupur Mountain is an impressive subject, with steep cliffs and a flat top that we may find reflected in nearby ponds.

Other subjects include the Dyrhólaey Peninsula, with its picturesque lighthouse on the most southerly point of mainland Iceland, and Reynisdrangar Rocks. Legend holds that this trio of columnar basalt sea stacks was 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. The South Coast is also known for some of Iceland's most spectacular waterfalls, and today holds an opportunity to photograph three of the largest and most famous: Kvernufoss, Skogafoss and Seljalandsfoss. Continue to our hotel outside Hella in southwest Iceland where we spend the next three nights.

Day 9: Fjallabak Nature Reserve

Today we return to the remote highlands of central Iceland with a full day of exploring the rugged interior. 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 stunning landscape to entrance photographers. Rugged peaks in an array of shapes, forms and colors flank the 4x4 track we follow, the rock palette tinted by rhyolite and obsidian. A vivid 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 and valleys. 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 Myrdalsjökull 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.



Discovering Our Planet Together

Day 10: Landmannalaugur—Sigöldugljúfur Canyon

Return today to the Highlands, this time to photograph the Landmannalaugur region via an excursion by 4x4 van. Located on the edge of the Laugahraun lava field formed by an eruption in the late 15th century, the area is renowned for its unique geology, including vibrant, multicolored rhyolite mountains, obsidian caves and geothermal hot springs. The scale of the landscape is astounding, with stark ranges rising high above glacier-carved river valleys, volcanic craters and fields of lava covered in lime-green moss. Sigöldugljúfur Canyon, also known as the Valley of Tears, is a highlight. Like a scene from a fantasy, the winding canyon is fed by spring-sourced streams that pour off its vertical walls in crystalline waterfalls, filling the turquoise river below. Previously very difficult to access, a new road constructed in 2021 now allows most 4x4 vehicles to reach this impossibly picturesque spot. We stop at various vantage points to photograph the canyon and waterfalls, as well as at other vistas of the colorful mountains and steaming geothermal features. We also visit the lush green Gjain Valley, filled with entrancing natural features including lava caves, basalt columns, waterfalls and the Rauda River. The landscape has an aura of magic about it, and Icelandic folklore holds that the valley is home to fairies and elves. Nearby Haifoss is Iceland's third-tallest waterfall and one of its most spectacular, pouring in a thundering column off a vertical basalt cliff.

Day 11: South Coast Waterfalls / Strokkur Geyser / Thingvellir National Park / Reykjavik

More of Iceland's grandest waterfalls await this morning as we make our way back to Reykjavik. Bruarfoss is one of the most beautiful, where dozens of cascading streams from the Bruara River fall in a semi-circular pattern, converging again in the rushing blue river below. Our next stop is Strokkur, Iceland's most active geyser, erupting about every 10 minutes. Then, photograph powerful Gullfoss—"Golden Falls"—one of Iceland's most dramatic cataracts. It was formed during the last ice age when glacial runoff carved out a deep canyon, creating a series of drops over which the Hvita River plunges. Our final stop, Thingvellir National Park, offers an on-the-ground perspective on Iceland's geological origins. Here on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, the epicenter of where the Icelandic landscape is forming, we can actually photograph fissures where Earth's crust is separating. Thingvellir is also the site of Iceland's political founding, when Norse settlers formed the world's first parliament in 930. On this site, 30 ruling chiefs met to discuss law and order on the island and to create a government. Reykjavik is just a short drive away, and we return for a final night, including our farewell dinner.

Day 12: Reykjavik / Keflavik / Depart

Depart Reykjavik this morning for the 45-minute transfer to Keflavik Airport to meet departing flights.



Discovering Our Planet Together



Itinerary At A Glance

Day 1

Keflavik, Iceland / Reykjavik

Day 2

Westman Islands—Private RIB Safari / Coastal Walks—Puffin Viewing

Day 3

Highlands Photography—Landmannalaugur Private 4x4 Tour

Day 4

South Coast Waterfall Photography / Katla Geopark

Day 5

Skaftafell Flightseeing / Svinasfell Glacier / Diamond Beach

Day 6

Fjallsarlon Glacier Lagoon—Private Zodiac Cruise / Exploring the South Coast

Day 7

Stokksnes Peninsula—Vestrahorn / East Fjords—Egilstaddir

2027 Itinerary

An In-Depth Photography Adventure via Chartered Scenic Flight, Private Boats & 4x4 Overland Travel

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 at a local restaurant, with an orientation to all the photography adventures that lie ahead in this geological wonderland.





Itinerary At A Glance

Day 8

Lagarfjolt—Icelandic Horses /
Borgarfjordur Eystri—Puffin
Photography

Day 9

East Fjords—Mjoifjordur /
Modrudalur

Day 10

Private Highlands Super Jeep Tour
/ Hafrahvammagljufur Canyon /
Modrudalur

Day 11

Dettifoss & Selfoss / Lake Myvatn
/ Hverarond / Akureyri / Reykjavik

Day 12

Reykjavik / Keflavik / Depart

Day 2: Westman Islands—Private RIB Safari / Coastal Walks—Puffin Viewing

Depart late this morning for a rare inclusion on any Iceland itinerary: the remote Westman Islands. From Landeyjahofn, we make the 45-minute crossing to the main island of Heimaey. The Westman Islands—Vestmannaeyjar in Icelandic—were formed between 10,000 and 20,000 years ago from submarine eruptions. The land here remains very young, active and dynamic, shaped afresh with the 1973 eruption of Eldfell volcano that forced the entire Westman population to evacuate to the mainland via the islands' fishing fleet. Heimaey was covered in ash and lava as the eruption continued for months, but eventually the stalwart islanders returned to dig out their homes and settle anew. After lunch on arrival, we board a sturdy high-speed RIB (rigid inflatable boat) for a 2-hour marine photo safari, cruising to several remote islands to view colonies of northern gannets, Atlantic puffins, black guillemots, common murres and more. The northern gannet population is among the largest in the world, with 1-2% of global numbers—some 26,000 breeding pairs—nesting in the Westmans. They thrive, along with other seabirds, due to a lack of predators on the islands—most notably Arctic fox. Coastal walks offer more views of puffins and rugged volcanic scenery. After dinner, return to the mainland by ferry and check in to our hotel late this evening, where we spend the next two nights.

Day 3: Highlands Photography—Landmannalaugur Private 4x4 Tour

Today's 4x4 journey brings us deep into Iceland's remote highlands where we find an extraordinarily colorful and otherworldly landscape. Rugged peaks in an array of shapes, forms and colors flank the primitive tracks we follow, the rock palette tinted by rhyolite and obsidian. A vivid blanket of gold and 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 and valleys. At times, the setting is evocative of a moonscape, stark and breathtaking. The region is laced with braided riverbeds, which we cross multiple times. We spend the day making short photo stops and taking several walks for optimal vantage points, absorbing as much of our brilliant environs as possible.

Our focus is the Landmannalaugur region, which we explore via 4x4 Super Jeep. Located on the edge of the Laugahraun lava field formed by an eruption in the late 15th century, the area is renowned for its unique geology, including vibrant, multicolored mountains, obsidian caves and geothermal hot springs. The scale of the landscape is astounding, with stark ranges rising high above glacier-carved river valleys, volcanic craters and fields of lava covered in lime-green moss.

Please note: Weather will dictate our exact plans today. If conditions are better in the Fjallabak region of the highlands, we will explore Fjallabak Nature Reserve. A view of Myrdalsjokull glacier—one of Iceland's largest, which conceals Katla, one of its most active volcanoes—is a highlight in this little-visited area.



Day 4: South Coast Waterfall Photography / Katla Geopark

The South Coast is known for some of Iceland's most spectacular waterfalls, and this morning offers a chance to photograph three of the largest and most famous: Seljalandsfoss, Skogafoss, and Kvernufoss. We'll spend some time in the area around Vik, known for its volcanic black sand beaches and dramatic rock formations including Reynisdrangar Rocks. Legend holds that this trio of columnar basalt sea stacks was 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.

Continuing our encounters with the fascinating geological features on Iceland's south coast, we investigate the dynamic relationship between fire and ice, examining the largest glacial outwash plane in the world. Katla UNESCO Global Geopark contains roughly 9% of Iceland's total landmass, encompassing massive glaciers and active volcanoes that have shaped the land for millennia, including the powerful eruptions of Eyjafjallajokull in 2010 and Grimsvotn in 2011. The geopark also holds glacial rivers, lakes, meadows of purple lupine, black sand beaches, vast lava fields and caverns. We'll get glimpses of outlet glaciers flowing down from the Vatnajokull ice cap, and Lomagnupur Mountain is also an impressive subject, with steep cliffs and a flat top that we may find reflected in nearby ponds.



Discovering Our Planet Together

Day 5: Skaftafell Flightseeing / Svinasfell Glacier / Diamond Beach

Get a stunning aerial perspective on some of Iceland's most dramatic scenery from a 2-hour private fixed-wing plane flight over the Skaftafell region of Vatnajökull National Park. Known for its rugged landscapes, stark mountains and vast braided rivers, Skaftafell contains about half of the Vatnajökull Glacier, Europe's largest ice cap. No roads penetrate the park's wild recesses, but our extended low-altitude flight reveals an artistic landscape, with intriguing patterns, contrasts and colors for creative imagery. Photograph the plain of Skeidararsandur (the largest glacial outwash plain on the planet), an expanse of black sand and ash sliced by braided glacial rivers that resemble an intricate network of veins. Other highlights include striking shots of the jagged expanse of Skeidararjökull Glacier, draining off Vatnajökull, Iceland's largest ice cap, and the Laki volcano crater row, a 15-mile-long fissure in the highlands that erupted in 1783, creating a chain of 130 craters.

We also spend time on the ground, walking around the scenic outflow of Svinasfell Glacier, a large outlet glacier of the Vatnajökull ice field. Its surface is especially jagged, with many sharp ridges that lend drama to images, as well as its varied coloration—deep blue ice, white snow and veins of black ash left over from volcanic eruptions in centuries past. The ash patterns create remarkable abstract designs in the ice, a phenomenon not readily found anywhere else in the world.

After dinner, head to Diamond Beach, where icebergs wash up on shore to create a sparkling contrast with the volcanic black sand. The late evening light offers excellent photography conditions, with the sun's sinking rays gleaming on the scattered icebergs, littered on the beach like chunks of glass. Seals also frequent the beach, and orcas are sometimes visible offshore.

Day 6: Fjallsarlón Glacier Lagoon—Private Zodiac Cruise / Exploring the South Coast

On a private Zodiac cruise at Fjallsarlón Glacier Lagoon, we have extended time to photograph the glittering icebergs floating atop the meltwater lake. The lagoon is fed by the massive Vatnajökull Glacier, the largest in Europe. The ice cap covers more than 3,100 square miles—8% of Iceland—and the glacial tongues that flow from it calve the huge chunks of blue ice that litter the surface of the lagoons, drifting like a flotilla of whimsically shaped ships. We spend the remainder of the day exploring this exceptionally scenic region, stopping for striking shots of black sand beaches and rugged mountains as we follow the coast and hike hidden trails among terminal moraines, the end point of glaciers fed by the ice cap. Our exact itinerary is guided by weather and light, as we chase the best of both.



Discovering Our Planet Together

Day 7: Stokksnes Peninsula—Vestrahorn / East Fjords—Egilstaddir

Today marks a transition in our itinerary, moving from Iceland's youngest and most dynamic landscapes along the active rift zone toward older regions along the east coast. Along our eastward route, we seek out Icelandic horses, intricate riverbeds and more rugged landscapes to photograph. The Stokksnes Peninsula is full of enticing subjects, from beaches of jet-black sand to 10-foot-high sand dunes covered in bright green beach grass, and the ragged profile of Vestrahorn, one of Iceland's most stark and distinctive mountains. The sheer-sided massif is comprised mostly of rare gabbro rock, a plutonic magma nearly 11 million years old. We also photograph the jagged range of Eystrahorn, a lesser-known set of peaks surveying a wild black sand beach on the southeast corner of Iceland. Then follow the coast into the little-visited East Fjords, which has some of the oldest rock in Iceland, with layer upon layer of basalt from ancient eruptions slowly carved away by 2.5 million years of successive ice ages. The expansive coastal plain transitions to classic U-shaped glacial valleys flanked by weathered basalt mountains. The ocean is always close as the road winds along the fjord-riven coast, unveiling rocky coves and picturesque fishing villages. After dinner in Breiddalsvik, capitalize on the evening light as we meander our way through the peaceful, less-traveled Breiddalur Valley, with stops along the way to photograph burbling creeks, lakes and striking mountains. A short walk leads to Flogufoss, a hidden waterfall deep in the valley. Then, we drive across a mountain pass and drop into the glacial valley of Lagarfljot, continuing to Egilstaddir, East Iceland's largest town, where we spend two nights.

Day 8: Lagarfljot—Icelandic Horses / Borgarfjordur Eystri—Puffin Photography

Travel inland from Egilsstadir for an in-depth exploration of scenic Lagarfljot Valley, including a photo stop at Lagarfljot Lake, where local lore holds that a sea monster inhabits its waters. We are surrounded by a wild, rural landscape, and a visit to a farm in this evocative setting offers a private opportunity to photograph Icelandic horses.

Continue to Borgarfjordur Eystri, a fjord that is reputedly home to one of numerous "elfin communities" that thrive in Icelandic mythology. The fjord takes its name from the Icelandic elf-queen, Alfaborg, who is said to live nearby. Here we find one of Iceland's largest Atlantic puffin colonies, and we spend several hours among them this afternoon on a puffin photography intensive. A boardwalk weaving through the colony allows easy access, and since the puffins are accustomed to human presence, we are able to get exceptionally close shots. Return to Egilsstadir for a second night.



Discovering Our Planet Together

Day 9: East Fjords—Mjoifjordur / Modrudalur

Our focus for the first half of the day is one of the most photogenic of the East Fjords, the slender finger of Mjoifjordur, which means "narrow fjord." Carved out by successive ice ages and protected from the elements along the outer coast, the water is often calm as glass, making for beautiful reflection photography. We occasionally spot whales in the fjord as well. This is one of the most remote destinations in Iceland, accessed by a road that is open for only about four months a year, when it is snow-free. The steep, winding gravel road that descends to the sea extends to the end of the 11-mile fjord. Mjoifjordur's setting at the head of the fjord is stunning, surrounded by an amphitheater of waterfalls. A highlight is Klifbrekkufossar, a seven-step cascade that terraces down through a rugged chasm carpeted with green vegetation. A trail hugs the side of the waterfall, allowing access to varied angles and closer views. Climbing into the highlands, we follow Iceland's original Highway 1 over two remote passes to reach Modrudalur. This is one of the oldest farms in Iceland, with evidence of its presence since the original settlement by the Vikings. The site was an important crossroads where two historic cross-country trails intersected, and its location is referenced in the famous Sagas that date to the 10th and 11th centuries. Modrudalur is also the highest inhabited place in Iceland, at 1,539 feet above sea level. We spend the next two nights here at Fjalladyrd, a hospitable family-run farm.

Day 10: Private Highlands Super Jeep Tour / Hafrahvammagljufur Canyon / Modrudalur

Set out in 4x4 Super Jeeps to explore more of the hidden wonders of Iceland's little-visited highlands. These large SUVs have been modified with big tires and extra shock absorption to provide a more comfortable ride over off-road terrain, allowing deeper access into this remote region. On our adventurous journey through the lunar-like landscape, we make multiple stops to photograph impressive landmarks that may include 5,501-foot Herdubrid, a peak known as the "Queen of Iceland." Slivers of life grow where water flows, craters pock the terrain, and old lava flows from the active Askja volcanic system create an extraordinary landscape. Marvel at Hafrahvammagljufur Canyon, a dramatic gorge more than 650 feet deep, from high grassy slopes overlooking the abrupt chasm. We also visit one of Iceland's traditional turf houses—historic dwellings constructed from earth, stone and timber. Return to Modrudalur for a second night at Fjalladyrd.



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Day 11: Dettifoss & Selfoss / Lake Myvatn / Hverarond / Akureyri / Reykjavik

Photograph mighty Dettifoss, Europe's largest waterfall by volume and the most powerful in Iceland. This thundering curtain of water, spanning 330 feet and churning spray into the sky, is fed by the giant Vatnajökull Glacier, which spawns the Jökulsá a Fjöllum River, the second-longest in Iceland. Dettifoss is contained inside a massive canyon carved out by ancient glacial outwash floods, where four times the volume of the Amazon River once tore through this landscape. We frequently see rainbows over the falls, which make for dramatic photos. We also stop at Selfoss, a striking U-shaped wall of rushing cataracts fed by the same river originating in Vatnajökull.

Continue to Lake Myvatn, located in the rift zone of the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates. The lake was formed during a massive eruption 2,300 years ago and is still a site of geothermal activity, with lava flows coming most recently from the 1984 eruption of Krafla volcano. Numerous lava formations are found in and around the shallow lake, and we photograph the pseudocraters of Skútustadir on a short hike. These phenomena are formed when lava flows over wet ground, pushing it down and trapping steam. As pressure mounts, steam explosions create these fascinating "false craters." One of the premier birdwatching areas in the world, Lake Myvatn's marshes provide habitat for huge numbers of migratory birds in summer. More than 115 species have been logged here, including 15 species of nesting ducks, horned grebe, great northern diver, common loon, red-throated loon, whooper swan, Barrow's goldeneye, and many more seasonal visitors.

Nearby, we photograph the striking turquoise lake that fills Krafla Viti Crater. More of Iceland's simmering subterranean energy is on display at Hverarond, hissing with steam vents, bubbling mud pots and pungent sulphur. Driving west, we photograph Godafoss, one of Iceland's most beautiful waterfalls, which originates deep in the highlands. Shaped like a crescent, it drops 40 feet over a sheer volcanic cliff. Ultimately, we arrive in Akureyri for a farewell dinner before our evening flight back to Reykjavik.

Day 12: Reykjavik / Keflavik / Depart

A transfer is included from our hotel in Reykjavik to Keflavik International Airport—about a 45-minute drive—to meet departing flights.



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Accommodation Details:

Hotel Jokulsarlon

Landhotel

Fjalladyrd Guesthouse

Hotel Reykjavik Saga

For detailed descriptions, visit nathab.com/europe/iceland-photography-tour/accommodations

Ultimate Iceland Photo Expedition Accommodations

An In-Depth Photography Adventure via Chartered Scenic Flight, Private Boats & 4x4 Overland Travel



Hotel Jokulsarlon

This new luxury property features contemporary Nordic design along Iceland's southeast coast, spacious rooms, a restaurant with local cuisine and outdoor hot tubs and cold plunge.



Landhotel

Surrounded by rolling hills and with views of the distant volcanoes Hekla and Eyjafjallajökull, the Landhotel's modern exterior incorporates banks of windows and glass doors for a seamless indoor/outdoor transition.



Fjalladyrd Guesthouse

In remote Modrudalur, on the highest farm in Iceland at 1,539 feet, two separate guesthouses with traditional sod roofs accommodate seven guests each, with a restaurant on the premises.



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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.



What Makes This the ULTIMATE Iceland Photography Adventure?

We've put enormous effort into designing an Iceland photo itinerary that far surpasses any other. This is the most comprehensive, most immersive, most all-encompassing encounter with Icelandic nature you'll find—including rarely visited destinations where crowds are non-existent. If you're an avid photographer who wants to get the most out of your Iceland trip, here's how we accomplish that:

1 You'll Photograph So Much More on Our Unique Itinerary

Going well beyond the conventional highlights, we have included far more places, experiences and activities for a comprehensive immersion in the diverse destinations and subjects Iceland has to offer. We cover a wider range of Iceland, including the remote Highlands and little-visited east coast, a tranquil region of farms, forests, fjords and fishing villages. With us, you'll get to places few others offer access to.

2 Spend Time with Wild Nature, Not Crowds

Iceland is popular—there's no avoiding that. Yet there are plenty of places in Iceland that most visitors never get to...but you will! We follow much of the outer edge of Iceland while making inland forays into areas where people are few and elements of traditional culture endure.

3 Private Flightseeing Tour

There is nothing like an aerial vantage for capturing the scale and power of Iceland's landscapes. On a fixed-wing plane flight over Skaftafell, you'll get shots of glaciers winding down from the Vatnajökull ice cap, dramatic mountain peaks, broad glacial valleys, and volcanic plains laced with braided rivers.

4 World's Best Place for Puffin Photos

Iceland is famous for its puffins, but few visitors get to the spots where they are most abundant. We spend hours at one of Iceland's largest Atlantic puffin colonies in Borgarfjörður Eystri, relishing unhurried and entertaining encounters with the world's most charming seabirds.

5 Private Boat Tours for Watching Marine Life, Plus a Glacier Lagoon

Two private boat trips include a marine safari among seals and huge colonies of seabirds, and a cruise among floating icebergs on a glacial lagoon.



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6 Private Highlands Super Jeep Tour

On board a giant customized 4x4 "Super Jeep," explore the hidden wonders of Iceland's little-visited highlands. These large SUVs have been modified with big tires and extra shock absorption for off-road terrain, allowing deeper access into this remote region. On our adventurous journey through the lunar-like landscape, we photograph geographic landmarks that few Iceland visitors ever see, from a dramatic gorge and waterfall to one of Iceland's most stunning peaks.

7 Shoot Alongside a Naturalist Guide Who Is Also a Photography Pro

Your photography adventure is guided by a supremely qualified Expedition Leader: not only is your guide deeply versed in Iceland's natural history, your guide is also an accomplished photographer in their own right, attuned to all the elements that will maximize your chances for the best possible photos (reading the weather, chasing the best light, adjusting a route to enhance photo opportunities, etc.).

8 A Small Group—Capped at 9—Offers a More Immersive Experience

A superlative photo tour requires a small group. Our group is limited to just nine photographers, allowing the flexibility that's imperative for serious photography. We are able to travel in small vehicles—vans, aircraft and boats—ensuring a more intimate encounter with nature and access to more remote places. It also means you'll have plenty of personal time with our Expedition Leader for serious photography conversations.

9 A Local Guide Joins Us, Too, for the Fullest Experience

Our trip is led by a Nat Hab Photo Pro Expedition Leader, but we're joined by a local guide who adds an essential insider perspective, not to mention an even higher level of personalized service.

10 Our Quality-Value Guarantee Ensures Your Outstanding Iceland Adventure

When you travel with Natural Habitat Adventures, 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. Read our important promise.

11 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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12 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 \$18395
(+Air)

Group Size:
Limited to 9
Travelers

Ultimate Iceland Photo Expedition Dates, Pricing & Info

An In-Depth Photography Adventure via Chartered Scenic Flight, Private Boats & 4x4 Overland Travel

2026 Departures

Departure	Return	Notes
Jul 3, 2026	Jul 14, 2026	\$18395 USD (+internal air)
Jul 6, 2026	Jul 17, 2026	\$18395 USD (+internal air)
Jul 23, 2026	Aug 3, 2026	\$18395 USD (+internal air)
Aug 11, 2026	Aug 22, 2026	\$18395 USD (+internal air) Eclipse Departure

2027 Departures



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Departure	Return	Notes
! Prices and dates not confirmed for 2027		
Jun 23, 2027	Jul 4, 2027	\$17995 USD (+internal air)
Jul 2, 2027	Jul 13, 2027	\$17995 USD (+internal air)
Jul 6, 2027	Jul 17, 2027	\$17995 USD (+internal air)
Jul 14, 2027	Jul 25, 2027	\$17995 USD (+internal air)



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Pricing

See <https://nathab.com/europe/iceland-photography-tour/dates-fees> for the latest pricing details.

Included

- **Trip price includes:** Accommodations, services of Nat Hab's professional Expedition Leader(s) and local guides, all meals from dinner on Day 1 through breakfast on final day, some gratuities, airport transfers for those arriving by air on Day 1 and departing by air on the final day, all activities, flightseeing and entrance fees, all taxes, permits and service fees.
- **Internal air includes:** Flight from Akureyri to Reykjavik (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 at hotels, etc.), airline baggage fees, airport and departure taxes (if any), required medical evacuation insurance, optional travel protection insurance.

Important Information About This Trip

It's crucial to understand that weather in Iceland is highly changeable. Mountainous terrain near the Arctic Circle, impacted by marine weather systems, means Iceland can get plenty of clouds, rain and wind year-round. While we time our trip to capitalize on the best season for weather, it's always unpredictable. Adverse weather could affect our itinerary, including activities we can offer, such as flightseeing. But fortunately, we've built some flexibility into our plans, and since we travel in a very small group, it's often quite manageable to deal with weather contingencies, adjusting details here and there to maximize our best photography opportunities. In the event we must cancel a particular activity due to weather, we will do our best to substitute another appealing photography experience.

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

Please arrive in Reykjavik no later than 3:30 pm to be ready for a welcome dinner and briefing beginning at 5:30 pm. For those arriving by air, upon arrival at the Keflavik International Airport you will be met by our representative and transferred approximately one hour to the hotel. You are free to depart Keflavik at any time on the final day of the trip.

We can best serve you if our Natural Habitat Adventures Travel Desk makes your reservations, as our staff is intimately familiar with the special requirements of our program and can arrange the most efficient travel. Please call us at 800-543-8917. Note that while we offer you the best possible rates available to us on airfare and additional nights' accommodations, you may find better fares online.



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Extension Details:

East Greenland Arctic
Adventure
\$14195

Ultimate Iceland Photo Expedition Extensions

An In-Depth Photography Adventure via Chartered Scenic Flight, Private Boats & 4x4 Overland Travel



East Greenland Arctic Adventure

Encounter raw Arctic beauty on Greenland's remote east coast near the edge of the ice sheet. From our deluxe expedition camp, explore by boat, kayak and on foot, where very few travelers venture.

\$14195 (+air)



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.