



WashU

Exploring Iceland

August 26-September 5, 2025

11 days from \$7,492 total price from Boston, New York

(\$6,995 air & land inclusive plus \$497 airline taxes and fees)



TRAVEL+
LEISURE
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BEST
HONOREE

This tour is provided by
Odysseys Unlimited,
seven-time honoree
Travel + Leisure's World's
Best Tour Operators award.



**An Exclusive Small Group Tour for
Alumni & Friends of Washington University**

*Featuring Jeff Catalano, Professor of Earth, Environmental,
and Planetary Sciences and Director of the Environmental Studies*



Dear Washington University Alumni and Friends,

We invite you to travel with us on an exclusive 11-day small group journey to explore Iceland, a land of astonishing natural beauty, diverse landscapes, and a fascinating history.

Setting out from Reykjavik, see Hellisheidi Power Plant's geothermal exhibit. Traveling through "saga" country, visit the renowned Seljalandsfoss and Skógafoss waterfalls. Explore Lake Mývatn's wondrous environs and embark on a dramatic whale-watching cruise. In Vatnajökull National Park, another natural marvel, admire jaw-dropping Dettifoss, Iceland's "Niagara." Stop at stunning Godafoss, "waterfall of the gods." At a folk museum, encounter Iceland's past, then see famed Icelandic horses at a farm. Experience the Snaefellsnes Peninsula's stupendous scenery. Thingvellir National Park offers fascinating historical insights. Marvel at breathtaking Gullfoss waterfall and the famous Great Geysir. The Icelandic adventure ends with two nights in sophisticated Reykjavik and time for independent exploration. Spend more time discovering Iceland's colorful capital with a 3-day/2-night post-tour extension.

Space is limited to 24 guests, and we expect this tour to fill quickly. Book today!

Sincerely,

David Webb
Director, Travel Program and Education
Washington University in St. Louis

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY RESERVATION FORM: EXPLORING ICELAND

To reserve your place on tour, please call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765. Please have the information outlined below available to share with an Odysseys Unlimited Travel Counselor.

If you prefer, you may also complete this Reservation Form and submit it to Odysseys Unlimited's office. Once this request is received, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to securely take your credit card information for the deposit. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. If paying by check, please make check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. and include with the form. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure.

Send to: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.
Attn: Special Interest Groups
One Newton Place
275 Washington Street, Suite 300
Newton, MA 02458

EXPLORING ICELAND • AUGUST 26-SEPTEMBER 5, 2025

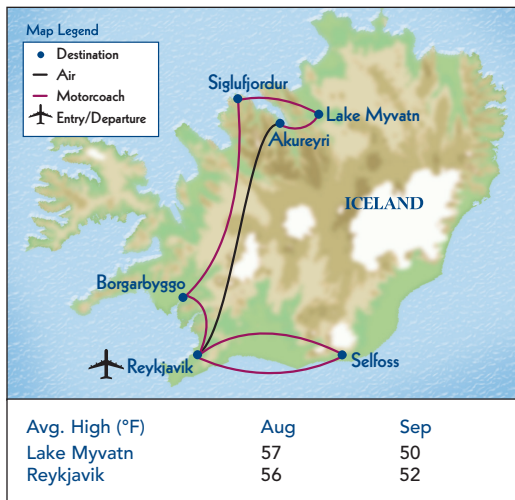
I/We would like to request _____ place(s). (Deposit amount is \$500 per person.)
Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____
Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Home Phone (____) _____ Cell Phone (____) _____
E-mail(s) _____ Badge Name(s) _____
Please book my/our air from _____ I/We request a Business Class upgrade
I will share a room with _____ I request a single room (limited availability)
Post-Tour "Reykjavik – On Your Own" Extension: Please sign me/us up

Exploring Iceland

11 days from \$7,492 total price from Boston, New York

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It's a surprising, even astonishing land; one of massive glaciers and rumbling volcanoes, bubbling mud holes and powerful waterfalls; hugely abundant bird life and just 340,000 people; and where the sun never sets for six splendid weeks. It's also perfect for exploring in a small group, as we discover traveling the breadth of the country and getting an up-close view of this natural "wonderland."



Day 1: Depart U.S. for Reykjavik, Iceland

Day 2: Arrive Reykjavik/Selfoss Upon our early morning arrival in Iceland's capital, we meet our tour director, have breakfast at a local restaurant, then enjoy a scenic drive east. We stop to view the geothermal exhibit at the Hellisheidi Power Plant, Iceland's largest geothermal power plant, sitting on the slopes of Hengill volcano. Mid-afternoon, we reach pastoral Selfoss, and our hotel. Tonight: a briefing on the journey ahead followed by a welcome dinner. *B,D*

Day 3: Selfoss/Vik Today's highlights include the interactive Lava Center; Seljalandsfoss, one of Iceland's most visited waterfalls; and nearby Skogafoss, a popular waterfall known for its rainbows on sunny days. We continue on to lovely Vik, Iceland's southernmost town, where we're free to explore and shop for items of locally produced wool. This afternoon, we walk along the black-sand beach at Reynisfjara, lined with columnar basalt-filled caves. En route to our hotel, we stop by the Solheimajokull "sliding" glacier. *B*

Day 4: Selfoss/Reykjavik/Akureyri/Lake Myvatn We transfer to Reykjavik this morning for the one-hour flight to Akureyri, Iceland's "northern capital," where, upon arrival, we travel to beautiful Lake Myvatn. One of the world's natural wonders, Lake Myvatn and its environs of bubbling mud flats, lava fields, and lunar-like volcanic craters comprise a national nature reserve that ranks among the most beautiful sights in a country overflowing with natural beauty. We stop to explore the bizarre lava formations at Dimmuborgir, and also see the region's unique "pseudo craters," the boiling mud pots at Namaskard, the explosion crater at Viti, and the flat volcano system at Krafla. *B,D*

Day 5: Lake Myvatn/Husavik/Vatnajokull National Park This morning we travel to Husavik, where we embark on a bird-watching cruise to Puffin Island. We may see thousands of seabirds here, including puffins, black guillemots, fulmars, and Arctic terns. After our cruise, we enjoy lunch at a local restaurant, then travel back towards our hotel for an afternoon filled with more scenic vistas. First, we stop at incredible Asbyrgi, a huge canyon enveloped by towering walls; in the middle of the partially wooded canyon sits a hoof-shaped rock called "The Island."

Physical Activity Level

3 **Moderate**

Walk 2-4 miles per day, often on uneven natural terrain with loose rocks; multiple days spent outside in natural settings

Your Tour at a Glance

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Reykjavik		
2-3	Selfoss	Hotel Selfoss	First Class
4-5	Lake Myvatn	Fosshotel Myvatn	First Class
6	Siglufjordur	Hotel Siglo	First Class
7-8	Borgarbyggo	Hotel Husafell	First Class
9-10	Reykjavik	Hotel Reykjavik Centrum	First Class
11	Depart Reykjavik for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.



We spend days exploring the scenic Icelandic countryside.

Next, we visit Hljodaklettur Echo Cliffs, where we explore the labyrinth of “echoing rocks” created by the spiral basalt formations of the arches and canyons here. Our last stop: jaw-dropping Dettifoss, Europe’s most powerful waterfall and Iceland’s “Niagara.” *B,L,D*

Day 6: Lake Myvatn/Akureyri/Siglufjordur This morning, we stop at Godafoss, the “waterfall of the gods” named for the carvings of Norse gods discarded here when the country was declared Christian a thousand years ago. Mid-morning, we arrive in Akureyri, where we have free time to explore and for lunch on our own. We travel on to Siglufjordur, the northernmost town in mainland Iceland, where we visit the unique Herring Era Museum. The exhibits here detail the rise and fall of Iceland’s herring industry, which accounted for nearly half of the nation’s export income during parts of the last century. We arrive at our hotel in time for dinner there tonight. *B,D*

Day 7: Siglufjordur/Borgarbyggo We travel towards the southwest corner of Iceland today, passing across highlands, dales, and fjords, through the beautiful Norourardalur Valley, which features landscapes ranging from cattle farms to lava fields. We make several stops on the way to our hotel, including Glaumbaer, featuring exhibits on rural Icelandic life from the 18th and 19th centuries, including authentic turf houses. Later we stop at a Gauksmyri farm to see the famed Icelandic horses, a unique variety that has been bred only with other Icelandic horses since first brought here by the Vikings in 800 CE. We also enjoy scenic views at Grabrok Crater, where we take a short hike for scenic views of the three lava cones here, which look like scale-model volcanoes. Continuing on towards our hotel, we make two final stops. First we explore Deildartunguhver, site of the country’s largest thermal spring; then travel the short distance

to Hraunfossar Falls, the beautiful and unusual cold springs that well up through the lava landscape and cascade into the Hvítá River. *B,D*

Day 8: Borgarbyggo/Snaefellsnes Peninsula

Today we encounter the stunning Snaefellsnes Peninsula. We begin on the south shore with a walk along the shell sand beach at the abandoned fishing village of Budir, surrounded by a vast lava field. We also explore the caves and bizarre rock formations along the rugged shore at Arnarstapi, site of thousands of nesting cliff birds. After lunch at a rustic oceanfront restaurant, we continue our exploration of this scenic region. *B,L,D*

Day 9: Borgarbyggo/Reykjavik En route to Reykjavik today, we visit Thingvellir National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site lying in a sprawling

Post-Tour Extension

September 5-7, 2025

**Reykjavik –
On Your Own**

3 days/2 nights for \$595 total price

Single Supplement: \$345

Make the most of the long days in Iceland’s colorful capital, at your own pace.

Your Tour Price Includes

- 2 nights’ accommodations at Hotel Reykjavik Centrum (First Class)
- 2 meals: 2 breakfasts
- Transfer to Reykjavik airport



I GO TO ICELAND TO VISIT THE LUNAR SPACES WITHIN ME...”

– PICO IYER

rift valley. Revered for its historical importance – this is where Iceland’s Althing, or national assembly, met in open-air sessions from 930 CE to 1798 – Thingvellir also sits on an active volcanic site at the spot where the fissure between the geological plates of North America and Europe is most evident in Iceland. It’s also a gem of nature, with canyons, caves, waterfalls, and ponds surrounded by snowcapped mountains. We learn about the historic parliament founded here in 930 CE, and walk along a gorge into the rift valley itself. Following our visit here, we head to a local farm for lunch, then depart for famed Great Geysir and Gullfoss, Iceland’s immensely popular “golden” waterfall. We continue on to Reykjavik, home to more than half of the nation’s population and ranking as one



We may see puffins while on our tour.

of the world’s safest and cleanest cities. After checking in at our well-located hotel in the city center, the evening is at leisure and dinner tonight is on our own. *B,L*

Day 10: Reykjavik
This morning we embark on a tour of the Icelandic capital. Sites include Hallgrímskirkja, the country’s largest church, with a sculpture garden and excellent views of the city; the National Museum, which celebrates Nordic culture and Iceland’s history; Parliament house; the town’s oldest street; and the harbor. Then the remainder of the day is at leisure. It’s a sophisticated European urban center, with museums and galleries; theater, symphony, and dance; boutiques and restaurants. Interesting sites include Old Town; the Arni Magnússon Institute, where Iceland’s historic sagas are kept; and Nordic House, designed by renowned architect Alvar Aalto.

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities; flight within itinerary
- 9 nights’ accommodations in First Class hotels
- 20 meals: 10 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 7 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all driver

Faculty Host



Jeff Catalano is a Professor of Earth, Environmental, and Planetary Sciences and the Director of the Environmental Studies Program at Washington University in St. Louis. His research explores the diverse interactions

between water and rock that help protect our environment, sustain life on Earth, and determine where else in the Solar System may be suitable for life. He has investigated an array of topics throughout his career, including the fate of leaking nuclear waste, resources for critical minerals needed to support a green energy transition, and the potential habitability of early Mars. He teaches about soils and water, while also leading an undergraduate program that connects environmental challenges with human experiences and systems.

**Faculty hosts are not guaranteed. Their participation is contingent upon a minimum number of WashU travelers signing up for the trip.*

Those who wish can join in an optional tour to the Sky Lagoon. Tonight, we celebrate our adventure over a farewell dinner. *B,D*

Day 11: Depart for U.S. Today we depart for the airport and our return flights to the U.S. *B*

Tour Departs: August 26, 2025

Prices include int'l airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

Boston, New York	\$7,492
Chicago, Washington, DC	\$7,792
Atlanta, Baltimore, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Philadelphia	\$7,892
Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, Orlando, Phoenix, Portland (OR), San Francisco, Seattle, Tampa	\$7,992
St Louis	\$8,092
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$6,695

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$497, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,495. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Business Class upgrade on round-trip international flight per person, in addition to the costs above: \$1,795 from Boston, Newark, New York; \$2,395 from all other cities (upgrade is subject to availability and pricing is subject to change).

For reservations and information, please call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765

Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–7:00 PM, Eastern Time



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The Alumni Association Travel Program
MSC 1210-413-130
Washington University
1 Brookings Drive
St. Louis, MO 63130-4899

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The following is intended to provide you with a description of what to expect when you reserve this tour. Upon booking, you will be asked to acknowledge your acceptance of the full Terms and Conditions on the secure on-line portal, My Odyssey.

Not Included in Tour Price: Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas, if required; immunizations and inoculations; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per traveler, per day); optional sightseeing, and travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Cancellations, Refunds, and Changes: If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.'s receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$200 charge; cancel 94-95 days before departure: 25% of tour price; cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 29-0 days before departure: no refund.** If you make any changes to your reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a \$100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. **No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure.**

Upon reservation, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, as well as your date of birth and gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.

Travel Insurance: The WashU Travel Program recommends that you purchase travel insurance to protect yourself and your investment from unforeseen circumstances. For more information, please contact the WashU Travel Program office at (314) 935-0474 or email the program director at davidewebb@wustl.edu.

Responsibility: The liability of Washington University in St. Louis, the Alumni Association, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. serves only as agent for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. Washington University in St. Louis, the Alumni Association and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers. Odysseys will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

Health and Medical Issues: We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a considerable amount of walking, and you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own as well as keep pace with the tour group. Odysseys regrets that they cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of their tour itineraries, for reasons beyond their control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail Odysseys to inquire and Odysseys will do their best to answer any questions you may have. Odysseys reserves the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in their opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, Washington University in St. Louis, the Alumni Association and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Air Transportation – Important Information: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown, and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignment on your international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of our operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. **Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.**

**JOIN US ON AN EXCLUSIVE
TOUR TO ICELAND!**

*Guaranteed Small Group:
Limited to 24 Guests*

