

# EXPLORE

## *Iceland by 4x4*

## 14 Days

Usually scheduled mid to late July. Future dates TBC, email [info@selfdriveadventures.com](mailto:info@selfdriveadventures.com) if you are interested.

Great Divide Tours and Self Drive Adventures have teamed up to bring you a one-of-a-kind journey through Iceland's wildest and most remote areas.

Exclusively designed and tested with our guests in 2019 & 2024, this unique adventure cannot be found anywhere else.

Led by a local Icelandic guide with over 25 years of 4x4 touring expertise & accompanied by an Australian escort from Great Divide Tours, this trip promises stunning landscapes & incredible experiences.

Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime adventure!

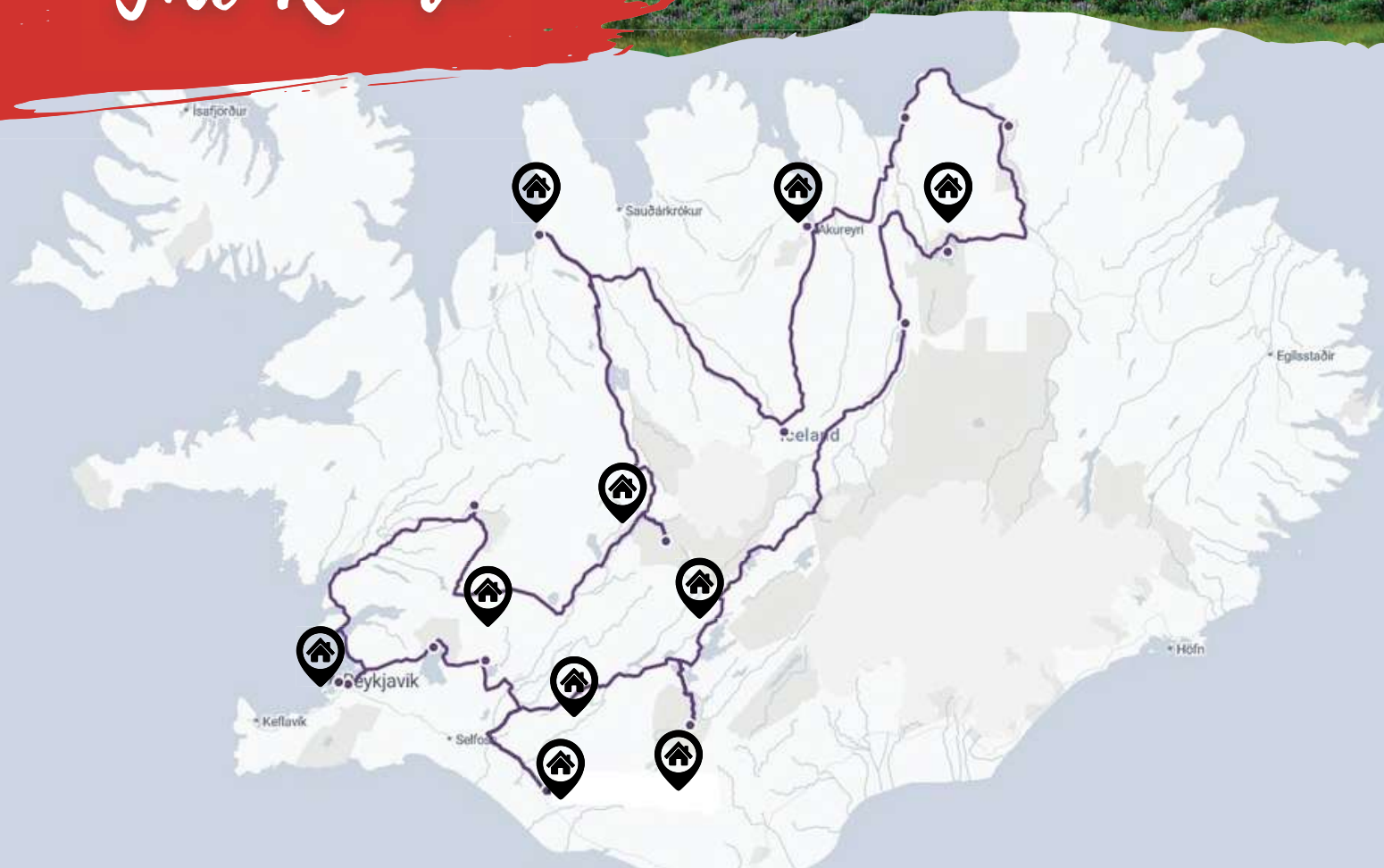
**Great Divide Tours**



**Self Drive  
ADVENTURES**  
GUIDED TAGALONG TOURS



# The Route



**Please Note:** The route is approx. 2,500km and depends on available accommodation. Guide decides on final route as per current conditions on day of travel.

## *Iceland...*

... the land of fire and ice—what better way to explore it than in a 4x4, traversing remote tracks forged by Vikings? This adventure goes beyond the typical tourist path, taking you through the stunning and remote central highlands allowing you to experience parts of Iceland rarely seen by others. Along the way, you'll enjoy a mix of accommodations from mountain huts to cosy hotels and guesthouses, ensuring comfort and authenticity as you discover this stunning landscape.

**Great Divide Tours**



**Self Drive  
ADVENTURES**  
GUIDED TAGALONG TOURS





# The Itinerary

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## Reykjavik

Arrival in the most northerly capital city in the world and make your own way to our accommodation centrally located in Reykjavik. 5pm briefing with your local guide followed by a welcome dinner. If you would like to explore Reykjavik, we recommend arriving a day or two early.

Private room with bathroom



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## Hólas skógur

After breakfast we will be transferred to collect our 4x4s. First stop is Thingvellir, home of the ancient Icelandic Viking parliament that is a UNESCO world heritage site. It's then a short walk to Öxarárfoss where the basalt rock formations in Thingvellir National Park create this spectacular waterfall. Next we visit Háifoss Iceland's second highest waterfall as well as a dip in the secret lagoon if we have time.

We will drop into our hut and organise our sleeping arrangements then take a visit to Hjalparfoss a picturesque pair of cascades near the merging of 2 rivers located in the lava fields of Mt. Hekla then come back to our hut for dinner. **Bunk style accommodation with shared facilities**



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## Hellishólar

Today our route takes us east of river Thjorsá and head onto the F roads, only open to 4x4s in the Summer. We start on the Landmannaleid F road through the locations of Bjarnalón; Hrafninnusker; Laufafell; Laufahraun; and Thrihyrningur travelling mostly on the most remote back roads. Optional ATV tour this evening (additional cost).

Private room with bathroom





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## Hólaskjól

Early in the morning, weather and rivers permitting, we head into the Thorsmörk National Park visiting Seljalandsfoss on the way. This majestic mountain range features hiking trails amid sweeping canyons, glaciers & wildlife. Rivers to cross include Steinholtssá, Hvanná and Stakkholtsá. We'll follow the South Fjallabak track, north of Myrdalsjökull glacier. We visit places like Einhyrningur; Markarfljótsgljúfur Canyon; Emstrur; Maelifellssandur; Maelifell; Hólmsá; Axlafoss; and Álft avötn hut in the beautiful valley of Álft avatnadrókur.

Shared dorm - bunk house style, our group has its own shared bathroom



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## Hrauneyjar

Our first stop is Eldgjá canyon formed during a gigantic eruption in 934, this 50km long volcanic canyon is 600m wide & 200m deep. At Ófærufoss there is a hike to the waterfall, approx. 20 minutes each way or we can drive an interesting route to look at the waterfall. If the weather allows we'll visit Langisjór to take in the views and then on through Fjallabak Nature Reserve. Other places we may visit today include: Ljótípollur a crater with interesting colours and lake at the bottom; Bláhylur, another waterfilled crater; and Sigoldufoss waterfall accessible by a 10 minute walk.

Private room with bathroom



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## Mývatn

Today we follow an ancient Viking route crossing the central highlands, still marked by some original cairns. We follow the Sprengisandur route crossing Iceland from South to North for approx. 250km. We'll stop at Nyidalur FI Mountain Hut for coffee. We'll visit Aldeyjarfoss a scenic 20m. waterfall amidst black basalt columns formed by lava thousands of years ago before traveling on to Lake Mývatn and our 2 night stay at Vogafjós Farm.

Private room with bathroom



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## Mývatn

A day in the Myvatn area visiting Skútustaðag ígar a series of pseudocraters formed by lava flow, surrounded by Lake Mývatn; wetlands, known for birdlife; Grjótagjá an ancient lava cave that houses a geothermal spring once used for bathing; Mt. Namafjall (Namaskard); Krafla Lava Fields; Lake Viti; Mývatn Nature Baths lagoon like outdoor baths with milky blue mineral-rich water, naturally heated by hot springs. If you would like to take a ride on an Icelandic horse - this is the place to try it!

Private room with bathroom



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## Akureyri

We will travel the Diamond Circle and then on to Akureyri at the north of the country. We will visit: Dettifoss Europe's most powerful waterfall in Vatnajökull National Park; Hljóðakletta; Vesturdalur; Ásbyrgi; Tjörnes; Húsavík; Goðafoss Waterfall before arriving in Akureyri. We also hope to spot some Puffins along the way. Akureyri is a city at the base of Eyjafjörður Fjord in northern Iceland. In the centre stands the 1940 Akureyri Church with interesting stained-glass windows.

Private room with bathroom



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## Akureyri

Free day for optional activities or to relax in Akureyri, "Capital of the North," and Iceland's second-largest urban area. It boasts stunning mountain views, vibrant cultural attractions, historic charm, botanical garden and picturesque harbour.

Private room with bathroom



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## Blönduós

We will drive into the bottom of Eyjafjörður Fjord, then into the highland black desert to visit Laugafell pool. Get your swimmers out you won't want to miss a dip in the warm waters here. After a lunch break we head for our hotel in the small coastal village of Blönduós.

Private room with bathroom



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## Kerlingarfjöll

We head back to the interior on yet another track heading for Kerlingarfjöll. Along the way we'll visit Glaumbær in Skagafjörður with old farmhouse buildings; Skagafjörður and head north of Blöndulón; and Hveravellir Natural hot springs on the picturesque Kjölur plateau.

Private room with bathroom in the hostel



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## Borgarfjörður

Today we make our way to Borgarfjörður. We'll visit on route: Hvítárvatn; Blafellshals; Hlöðufell; Skjaldbreiður; Lundarreykjadalur; Deildartunguhver; Krauma; Reykholt and Hraunfossar where waterfalls cascade into the Hvítá river over ledges of lava rock. We will also visit Geysir and Gullfoss along the route as well as the caves at Viðgelmir for the 1600 hours tour which lasts for around 1.5 hours. This massive lava tube cave features unique colours & formations.

Private room with bathroom





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## Reykjavik

The primary activity today is to visit the Langjökull Glacier and take part in the Into the Glacier Tour. We'll then start our journey back to Reykjavik to drop off our cars and transfer back to our accommodation and enjoy a farewell dinner.

Private room with bathroom

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## Depart

Make your own way to the airport for flights home or your next destination.

## Pre & Post Tour Accommodation

The itinerary doesn't include sightseeing days in Reykjavik, but it's a fascinating city worth exploring on foot, bike, or scooter. We recommend arriving a day or two early (or staying after the tour) to enjoy highlights like Hallgrímskirkja, the iconic 73-meter-high church inspired by Icelandic traditions; Harpa, the striking opera house; and the Settlement Exhibition, an interactive museum showcasing remnants of 10th-century Viking settlements.

We can assist with booking additional nights in the hotel in Reykjavik once your flights have been organised.

**\*\*\*Please do not organise flights or travel insurance until the tour has been confirmed!\*\*\***







## Prices, Dates....

### Prices...

EUR15,500\* per person

- Prices are based on 2 people per 4x4 on a double/twin share basis where available
- Single supplement: we can provide pricing for when single rooms available
- 3rd and 4th passengers: we can provide pricing if you have more than 2 people per 4x4

\*The above pricing is based on current 2025 rates. When new dates are confirmed we will update pricing. Price subject to exchange rate variance. Prices assume a minimum of 5 vehicles and maximum of 7 vehicles (plus support vehicles). Please see terms and conditions for all booking conditions."

### Inclusions...

Accommodation as per the itinerary including: accommodation in hotels, guesthouses, hostals and remote huts sleeping in bunk style beds with sleeping bags and shared facilities; pick up and drop off at accommodation in Reykjavik for vehicle hire; radios in vehicles; guide car and local guide with assistant; Glaumbær village tour; into the Glacier tour; Viðgelmir Cave tour; Great Divide Tours escorts; Toyota Prado with standard vehicle insurance (CDW, SCDW, TP, GP insurances, unlimited mileage, VAT, Sand and Ash damage); some meals (breakfasts daily, 11 picnic lunches, 4 dinners (includes welcome and farewell dinner and 2 dinners in huts).

### Exclusions...

Airfares, arrival/departure transfers, fuel (budget approx. EUR750 per 4x4), meals or beverages other than stated in the above inclusions, optional tours and activities, travel insurance, visas (if required), vaccinations (if required), vehicle excess, local tips, any service not specifically listed under "inclusions".

### Dates...

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## Other Information

### Accommodation...

Hotels, guest houses, hostel and huts will be used. In the mountain huts (2 nights) you will be in close quarters in bunk room style accommodation with a sleeping bag supplied. You will have your own bunk, not shared. The kitchen and bathrooms are shared. You may be sharing these bunk rooms with other hikers exploring this area but we will do our best to secure a space for just our group. One of these huts will be very basic, but we cannot follow this route any other way and it is all part of the Icelandic experience!

### Vehicles...

Toyota Landcruiser Prados. Fuel is not included in the price. Budget approx. EUR750 or AUD1,100 per 4x4.

### Driving Ability...

The skills required are a driver's license and a good dollop of common sense. Some 4x4 experience would be recommended or you might consider attending a driver training course with Great Divide Tours.

### Terrain...

The route is planned largely avoiding main roads with extensive travel off road and on remote tracks, trails and through river crossings.

### Meals...

Breakfast will be provided daily. Picnic lunches will be supplied for the days we are on the road. Other meals will be in restaurants, cafes, guest houses, hotels or mountain huts. See inclusions for which meals are included in the price. When dinner is not included there will be a restaurant in the accommodation or you may be able to go to a restaurant in the town you are staying in. What meals will cost is highly dependent on what you order. As a guide a restaurant main meal or two course set meal could be EUR35-45 / AUD45-70 per person. Draft beer in a restaurant is around USD11/15, a glass of wine in a restaurant EUR15-20 / AUD22-30. For some of the places we stay you could take your own drinks that you can purchase from a Vínbúðin see their website for prices: <https://www.vinbudin.is/english/home>





## Other Information

### *Daylight Hours...*

In mid July the sun will rise at around 3:45am and set around 11:15pm. We have many daylight hours so we can make the most of our time in Iceland.

### *Weather...*

The joke is "If you don't like the weather, just wait five minutes". Due to the Gulf Stream, Iceland enjoys a cool, temperate maritime climate; refreshing summers and fairly mild winters. The weather is also affected by the East Greenland polar current curving south-eastwards round the north and east coasts. As a result, sudden weather changes are common, and travellers should prepare accordingly. Temperatures should range between 7-15 degrees C. There is a strong chance of rain. We will supply a packing list to help you pack the correct clothing for the weather you will encounter. The days will be very long at this time of year maximising the amount of time you can spend exploring.

### *Booking Terms & Conditions...*

The booking terms and conditions will be supplied separately. Self Drive Adventures (SDA) has been commissioned by Great Divide Tours (GDT) to help design and book, on their behalf, vehicles, accommodation, activities and a guide to conduct the tour.

The route agreed for this tour is similar to the route followed on the last tagalong tours in Iceland. GDT will be sending a representative on the tour and this representative will be ensuring the tour is conducted to the satisfaction of GDT. There is no SDA representative on the tour.

All booking enquiries are to be directed to Great Divide Tours.



# FAN MAIL

## *Amazing Iceland*



How to describe it? The mundane view would be...approximately 2,000km in 10 days. The experience is anything but mundane.

In no particular order: waterfalls: just a few (that's irony but you won't get that unless you go); river crossings: numerous; glaciers: several; volcanic activity: some (but not too close); stunning views: innumerable; stark landscapes: I lost count; amazing people; plenty; incredible Icelandic guides: two; geothermal baths in the middle of the wilderness: a couple; Sprengisandur (Dead Horse Track): words fail; black lava sand deserts; a few: Apollo space program lunar training areas: one (don't believe me, look it up); weather?: if you don't like it wait 5 minutes; amazing tracks to drive on: remember 2,000 kms in 10 days?; Oh and Self Drive Adventures? An amazing team that deliver fantastic experiences. Don't believe me, go and find out for yourself. Highly recommended!!

Dave, Canberra, Australia

