

The Golden Circle, Iceland

Itinerary

Saturday

You are transferred to Blesastaðir Guesthouse, to meet the horses and your guides. Settle into your room and then an introductory meal with your fellow riders.

Sunday

Please note that the following itinerary may be subject to change due to local conditions.

After an introduction to the Icelandic horse and its special gaits, start your ride along pleasant trails with views of deep green mountains and valleys and the mighty glacial river Thjórsá. Leave the horses at Sandlækjarmýri field and drive to Blesastaðir Guesthouse, where you can relax in the outdoor hot tub before a hearty dinner. (c.15 km)



Monday

Leave Blesastaðir and return to the horses. From Sandlækjarmýri field you head off to the fertile farmlands of neighbouring community Hrunamannahreppur. Your spare horses are driven ahead of you in a free running herd, allowing you to change horses regularly and travel at a brisk pace.

Cross the salmon river Stóra-Laxá and stop for lunch at Hrunaréttir, a corral for the annual sheep round-up in the autumn. Continue riding towards Brúarhlöð canyon, where milky green water passes through

bizarre rock formations. The ride ends at Brúarhlöðto and you drive to Myrkholt Farm for the night. (c.30 km)



Tuesday

Today's ride takes you on soft trails alongside Hvítá River. You follow the ever deepening canyon to Gullfoss waterfall. After lunch at Gullfoss you ride back to Myrkholt for the night. (c.20 km)



Wednesday

Ride through Haukadalur valley with its beautiful birch forest. Cross clear little streams on the way and enjoy the rich vegetation of wild mountain flowers that bloom during high summer. While you ascend to a highland plateau you will notice the changes in nature

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as you reach higher ground. A breathtaking view of the mountain ranges and glaciers of the highland around awaits you when you reach the top of Haukadalsheiði. (c.18 km)

The rest of the day is spent in the Geysir area and there is plenty of time to explore the bubbling hot springs.



Thursday

Leave the Geysir area and ride along green pastures back to the bridge at Brúarhlöð canyon where you cross mighty Hvítá River. Now you are heading towards the interior and follow Tungufellsdalur valley onto Hrunaheiðar plateau.

Your horses spend the night at Kaldbakur Farm, whilst you drive to the 'Secret Lagoon' to bathe in the relaxing geothermal pool before transferring to Blesastaðir Guesthouse for the night. (c.30 km)



Friday

On your last day of riding you follow good riding tracks past Mt. Galtafell. Cross River Láxá before you reach Sandlækjarmýri where the trail turns towards the

banks of Thjórsá River and on to Kálfhóll Farm. It is here you say goodbye to your guides and horses. (c.40 km)



The transfer arrives in Reykjavik at about 20:00.

Accommodation

You stay in two different farmhouse accommodations.

At **Blesastaðir guesthouse** you stay in two to four person rooms, with made up beds. Bathrooms are shared; there are three showers and three toilets. There is a hot tub at this guesthouse and WiFi is available.



Myrkholt is located just between Gullfoss waterfall and the hot spring Geysir. There are 32 beds split between eight rooms. Bathrooms are shared; there are eight showers and four toilets. WiFi is available.

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Single rooms (with shared facilities) may be available on certain dates at a supplement.

A support vehicle goes ahead carrying personal gear.

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