

Northern Exposure, Iceland

Itinerary

Monday

You are collected from your hotel or closest bus stop. Transfer to Reykjavik domestic airport for the morning flight to Húsavík.

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

You are met on arrival in Húsavík and transferred to Bjarnastaðir Farm. After lunch at Bjarnastaðir, you are introduced to the Icelandic horse and its special gaits. This is a day to remember as you ride on the east side of the National Park Jökulsárgljúfur.

After the ride you drive to Europe's largest waterfall, Dettifoss, and the famous Ásbyrgi Canyon, a wide, horseshoe-shaped canyon with sheer cliff faces up to 100m high. (c.20 km)

Dinner and overnight at Bjarnastaðir Farm.



Tuesday

After breakfast you are transferred to Kelduhverfi, from where the ride starts today. You ride into the mountains and the magical landscape over Öxafjörður Fjord to the geothermal area of Peistareykir. (c.35 km)

Dinner and overnight at Peistareykir mountain cabin.



Wednesday

Today you ride from the Peistareykir area to Halldórstaðir in Laxárdal, over challenging terrain through the geothermal area and lava fields up to the desert area of Hólasandur. From here the trail takes you down to Laxárdalur Valley and over the Laxá river to Halldórstaðir. You then transfer by car to Bjarnastaðir farm. (c.35 km)

Dinner and overnight at Bjarnastaðir farm.



Thursday

This morning you saddle up and head off through a black sand desert along the colourful Laxárdalur valley with the glittering salmon river Laxá in the middle. Stop at the special Hraunsrétt, made of lava, before

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riding to Skógarhlíð, where the horses spend the night. Transfer to Bjarnastaðir farm via Jarðböð, an outdoor lagoon with geothermal water. (c. 30 km)

Dinner and overnight at Bjarnastaðir farm.



Friday

This is a long day as you set out through Geldingadalur Valley and Reykjaheiði heath. At one point you will practically cross over from one continental plate to another as you ride over the Mid-Atlantic ridge. It is a fascinating area with deep earthquake fissures, multi-coloured mountains and geothermal energy.

Follow the trail into Öxarfjörður Fjord and then on to Bjarnastaðir Farm, where the hot outdoor tub is waiting. (c.40 km)

Dinner and overnight at Bjarnastaðir Farm.



Saturday

In the morning return to Húsavík by bus. There is a whale watching cruise for those interested (€80 per person, payable locally in cash), or you can choose to enjoy the town's swimming pool and hot tubs or perhaps go for a stroll in this beautiful town.

Afternoon flight back to Reykjavík Domestic Airport.

You arrive in Reykjavík late afternoon and are transferred to your accommodation or the bus station.

Accommodation

Bjarnastaðir Farm is situated in the low bushy area of Kerlingaskógur, close to the glacial river Jökulsá á Fjöllum and Dettifoss Waterfall.



The farmhouse sleeps up to 18 guests in sleeping bag, dorm style accommodation. There are two showers and two toilets, and an outdoor hot tub.

Beistareykir is known as a geothermal area, with colourful mud pits, tabletop mountains, hills and lava fields. The mountain hut stays warm all year round due to the geothermal activity of the area.

The cabin has one room sleeping up to 30 guests. There is one outside toilet but no showers.



A support vehicle goes ahead carrying your personal gear, cooking equipment and food.

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