

# ICELAND - ROUND UP - SHEEP ROUND UP - MELRAKKASLÉTTA

## ITINERARY

### Day 1

The meeting place is at the domestic airport Flugfélagið Ernir in Reykjavík at 08:00 for your flight to Húsavík.

On the last day you will return on a morning flight back to Reykjavik airport.

You will need to make your own accommodation arrangements in Reykjavik for the night before the ride. There is a regular Flybus service (<http://www.re.is/flybus>) between Keflavik airport and Reykjavik BSI central bus station.

Depending on the time of your return flight, you may also need accommodation at the end of the ride. Please check with us if you are unsure of the timings.

You will take a morning flight from Reykjavik Airport to Húsavík followed by a bus transfer to Bjarnastaðir Farm, where we meet up with the guides and horses.

On the way we will stop at Dettifoss, Europe's largest waterfall and Ásbyrgi National Park. Ásbyrgi is one of the wonders of nature, a wide, horseshoe-shaped canyon with sheer cliff faces up to 100 m high. According to legend, Sleipnir, the Norse god Odin's eight-legged horse, put one of his hooves down as the god rode by. On arrival you will have a light lunch.

After a short introduction to the horses we set out on a 2 -3 hours ride through Kerlingaskógur's low bushy area and enjoy great views over the Fjord Öxarfjörður and the famous Lake Skjálftavatn which suddenly appeared over night after a strong earthquake 28 years ago, when the land had been lowered by 4 meters overnight (Approx. 30km)



Bjarnastaðir Farm is the home of Halldór Olgeirsson and Elín Maríusdóttir. It is situated in the low bushy area of Kerlingaskógur, close to the glacial river Jökulsá á Fjöllum and Dettifoss Waterfall.

## Day 2

We start early and each rider will join a local farmer and his dog to be his (her) mentor and guide during the tour. This area is rich with vegetation, green valleys and small lakes.

We continue until late afternoon, leave horses and sheep at a remote old hut and return back to the farm for a hearty dinner and a good night's sleep (Approx. 35 km).



## Day 3

The Peninsula of Melrakkaslétta, which stretches almost to the Arctic Circle, is a paradise for birdwatchers and people with geological interest. Here we are right on top of the Mid Atlantic Ridge where the North-American and Eurasian

plates drift apart. The vegetation is ideal for the sheep and the local farmers are very proud of their stock. We meet up with our horses and continue driving the sheep down to Katastaðarétt communal fold, where they are kept for the night together with the horses (Approx. 30 km)



## Day 4

This is the final and well celebrated day of the round-up. In the morning the sorting of the sheep starts and lasts until each sheep has been returned to its owners. Participate in sorting the sheep, pass the flask around and join in the singing and celebrating after a successful ride into the mountains.

Once the sorting is finished we join the farmers from Daðastaðir Farm and Presthólar Farm and help them drive the sheep home (Approx. 35 km)



## Day 5

We say good bye to horses and staff before driving to Húsavík airport to catch the flight to Reykjavik in the morning.

