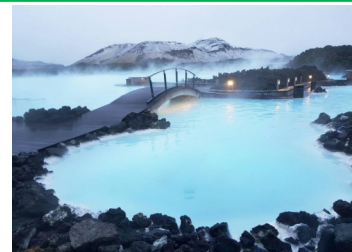


# "ICELAND" LAND OF FIRE AND ICE

## JULY 20 - 28, 2021

Iceland is a country known for its natural wonders: glaciers, active volcanoes, black-sand beaches, geothermal areas, roaring rivers, hot springs, mud pools, scenic coastline, majestic waterfalls, and beautiful lakes. On this Iceland tour, you will witness these natural wonders while enjoying fun and unique experiences. Scenic highlights include mighty Gullfoss waterfall, and Goðafoss, known as the "Waterfall of the Gods." Take pictures at Dettifoss, the most powerful waterfall in Europe. Drive by Eyjafjallajökull Volcano, well known for the eruption that generated the massive ash cloud in 2010, and through the National Park at Skaftafell to the Vik area. Enjoy a scenic drive to the lovely blue Lake Mývatn. In one of Iceland's prettiest areas and with volcanic craters throughout the lake, it is teeming with bird life and is known for its geothermal activity. Also, watch how Europe's largest glacier, Vatnajökull, flows into Lake Jökulsárlón, forming icebergs. Iceland is full of natural beauty. Koinonia has also included some out-of-the-ordinary experiences to make your Iceland tour special.



**DAY 1:** We begin our wonderful journey to Iceland with overnight flight. **DAY 2: ARRIVAL AT KEFLAVIK AIRPORT:** Drive to Reykjavik. On the way to Reykjavik we will stop for breakfast at the Viking World. We will enjoy an informative tour of this capital city and learn about its history before checking into our hotel.

**DAY 3: NORTH WEST:** We drive northwards via the tunnel of Hvalfjörður to Borgarnes and Skagafjörður, the valley of horses. A visit to the folk museum of Glaumbær, an ancient farm with a turf roof, before continuing via highlands, Öxnadalshéidi, to the capital of the north, in Akureyri.

**DAY 4: LAKE MÝVATN AREA:** Mývatn is a shallow eutrophic lake in a dramatic landscape dominated by volcanic landforms such as pseudocraters and the lava pillars in Dimmuborgir. Mývatn is a geothermal area with high activity and a place where all your senses will be called upon as we stop at Námaskarð's bubbling sulfur mud-pits and steaming vents. We visit Jarðböðin, the Blue lagoon of the North, where it is possible to experience the warm-mineral rich geothermal water for a refreshing bath. On our way back to Akureyri, we stop at Goðafoss Waterfall. Whale Watching tour from Akureyri in the afternoon.

**DAY 5: POWERFUL WATERFALL AND EAST ICELAND:** Leaving Akureyri, we drive to the most powerful waterfall in Europe, Dettifoss. We then drive through the highland Plateau Mödrudalsöræfi via Egilsstaðir town towards the sparsely populated and very beautiful Eastfjords with its small fishing villages and magnificent mountains.

**DAY 6: FJORDS, GLACIERS AND GLACIER LAGOON:** Today we travel along the East Coast with its many fjords and dramatic coastline, passing the villages Djúpivogur and Höfn. We drive along Vatnajökull Glacier before getting to the magnificent Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon. Here you have the opportunity for a boat tour for a closer look at the icebergs in the lagoon. From this icy area, we drive to Skaftafell National Park, an enchanting green oasis flourishing between many surrounding glaciers.

**DAY 7: SOUTH SHORE BLACK BEACHES AND LAVA FIELDS:** Today we cross Eldhraun, the largest mass of lava to have ever flowed on the face of the earth to the famous black beach of Reynisfjara, known for its colony of puffins and unusual rock formations. Along the south shore, we view the fantastic Skógafoss waterfall and the picturesque Seljalandsfoss waterfall. We learn about the forces of volcanic activity at Lava Center before getting to our accommodation.

**DAY 8: GOLDEN DAY:** The first highlight of the day is Gullfoss, Golden waterfall, which is considered by many to be the most beautiful in the country. The neighboring Geyser hot spring area with the world famous Geyser and Strokkur hot springs and boiling mud pools. Then we continue to visit Þingvellir (Thingvellir) National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage, where the forces of the Great Atlantic Rift are clearly visible with the North American and European tectonic plates, drifting apart at a rate of 2-6 cm per year. It is an area of truly outstanding beauty, as well as geological and historical significance.



**DAY 9.** Today we must depart Iceland with many wonderful memories of this beautiful country.

**Tour Cost: Land Portion: \$3125 double occupancy, plus Air TBD.**