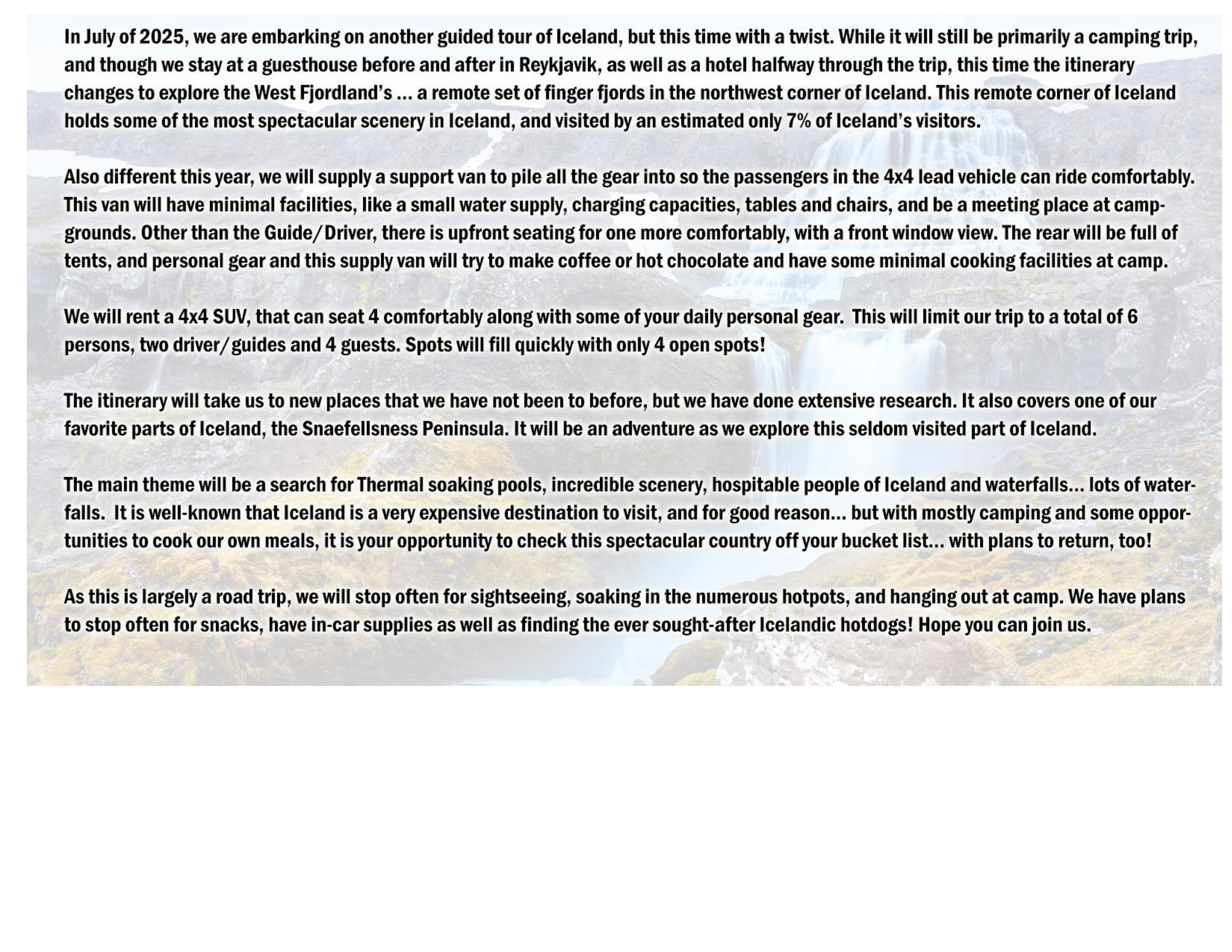




A 12-day Camping Trip to Northwest Iceland's "West Fjordlands"

July 11th - 22nd, 2025



In July of 2025, we are embarking on another guided tour of Iceland, but this time with a twist. While it will still be primarily a camping trip, and though we stay at a guesthouse before and after in Reykjavik, as well as a hotel halfway through the trip, this time the itinerary changes to explore the West Fjordland's ... a remote set of finger fjords in the northwest corner of Iceland. This remote corner of Iceland holds some of the most spectacular scenery in Iceland, and visited by an estimated only 7% of Iceland's visitors.

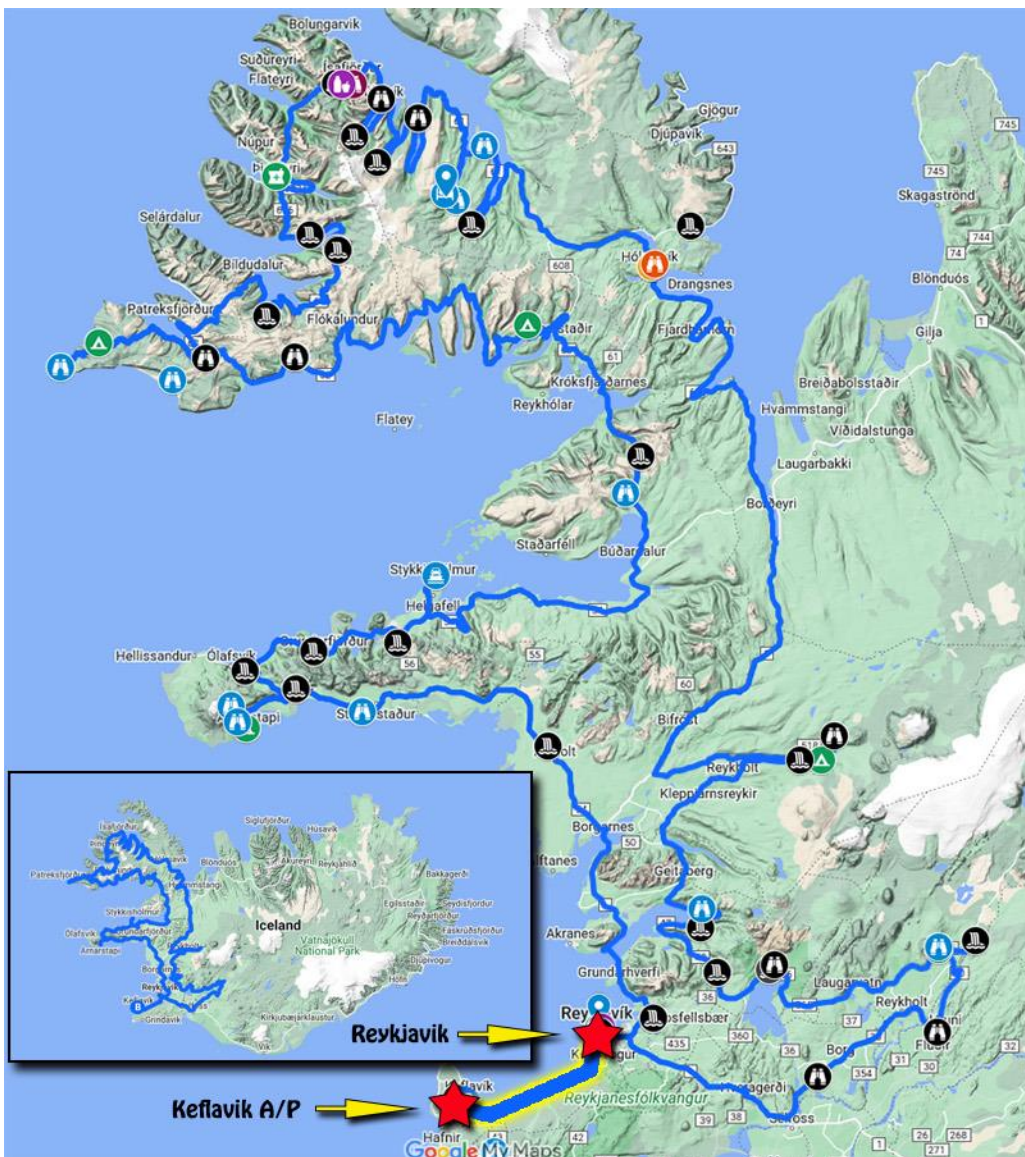
Also different this year, we will supply a support van to pile all the gear into so the passengers in the 4x4 lead vehicle can ride comfortably. This van will have minimal facilities, like a small water supply, charging capacities, tables and chairs, and be a meeting place at campgrounds. Other than the Guide/Driver, there is upfront seating for one more comfortably, with a front window view. The rear will be full of tents, and personal gear and this supply van will try to make coffee or hot chocolate and have some minimal cooking facilities at camp.

We will rent a 4x4 SUV, that can seat 4 comfortably along with some of your daily personal gear. This will limit our trip to a total of 6 persons, two driver/guides and 4 guests. Spots will fill quickly with only 4 open spots!

The itinerary will take us to new places that we have not been to before, but we have done extensive research. It also covers one of our favorite parts of Iceland, the Snaefellsness Peninsula. It will be an adventure as we explore this seldom visited part of Iceland.

The main theme will be a search for Thermal soaking pools, incredible scenery, hospitable people of Iceland and waterfalls... lots of waterfalls. It is well-known that Iceland is a very expensive destination to visit, and for good reason... but with mostly camping and some opportunities to cook our own meals, it is your opportunity to check this spectacular country off your bucket list... with plans to return, too!

As this is largely a road trip, we will stop often for sightseeing, soaking in the numerous hotpots, and hanging out at camp. We have plans to stop often for snacks, have in-car supplies as well as finding the ever sought-after Icelandic hotdogs! Hope you can join us.



Our Iceland 2025 Adventure takes us to new locations this year. It is a remote corner of Iceland called the West Fjordlands which is loaded with history, waterfalls, remote thermal baths and unbelievable scenery.

It will be up to you to arrange airfare to Keflavik Airport (KEF) serving Reykjavik, Iceland. IcelandAir has several non-stops and are often the cheapest. Our tour starts in **Reykjavik on Friday July 11th**. If you arrive on the 6am flights that morning, we will coordinate transportation to Reykjavik in our rental vehicles, leaving around 8am. Otherwise, you will need to take the Flybus shuttle to town where we will be staying that first night. We'll give you the appropriate information to catch that shuttle.

If you arrived the night before, we suggest you arrange to shuttle into town and get a room at the same guesthouse we will be staying at that next night. We will try to help you make those reservations.

The shuttle is **Flybus Airport Transfer** (<https://www.re.is/tour/flybus>) and costs 3,900 ISK (about \$29 USD). It drops off at the town bus station a few blocks away and we will come get you if your arrival is on Friday or very early Saturday morning. It is also a 6 minute city bus ride away.

If you are delayed arriving in Reykjavik after 8am Saturday, you will need to arrange to taxi our campsite at Geysir 105km away or meet us at Thingvellir Nat'l Park Visitor Center 46km away on Sunday morning to meet us there by 9am. **In other words get to Reykjavik on Friday!**

On the guides' arrival at the airport we will be shuttled to the rental agencies. One shuttle will go retrieve the Support Van which will hold the driver and 1, 2, or 3 passengers, along with most of the camping gear and personal bags of all guests. We will lay a large tarp down over the rear platform to hold all your bags in case rainy weather makes those bags messy. Besides the driver and co-pilot, there is a bench seat that can hold 2 more passengers.

This van will not be 4x4 certified to run on F-Roads in Iceland, but the vast majority of our routing is not on F-Roads at all. This support vehicle will be capable of making morning coffee, evening hot drinks, and be a meeting place for the group. In most cases, it can park with you immediately next to your tents.

Your guide, Jay, will be the driver, and will crash inside the support van at night, waking up early to make the coffee.



Another shuttle goes for the 4x4 vehicle which will hold 4 passengers and daily personal gear for those passengers, along with your snack bags and extra water. Our trip will limit this vehicle to 4 passengers, (Driver and 3) to make the trip as comfortable as we can. We will also ask that the shotgun passenger rotate for a fair use of the front view. Additionally, you can opt to ride in the Support Van at any time.

Guests in this vehicle, and the passengers of the support van, will be camping in the provided tents being hauled by the support van, that you will be responsible for setting up at the campground. Your guides will be available to help your first time. There is one optional F-Road excursion that this vehicle can go on, to the top of the Snæfellsnes Glacier. The vehicle can be configured to hold all 6 passengers in tight formation without any gear for this short trip so all of us can go if desired. Both vehicles will be in contact with each other by radio.

Your guide, Blaine, will be the driver.

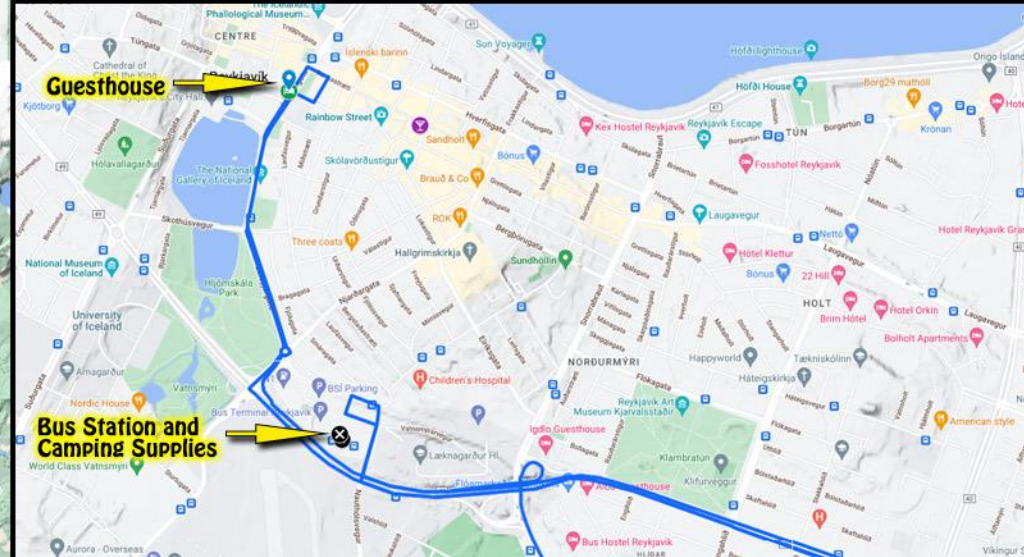


Exact Models and colors yet to be determined

Our flights are usually a red-eye flight from the States arriving early to mid-morning. You will depart the US the day before arriving on our Day One of this trip.

Arriving passengers who book flights that arrive well before or after everyone else will be required to take a shuttle bus to Reykjavik on their own. By early 2024 you will have been given a range of arrival times to book flights that will allow us to wait for you. Beyond those times, we will instruct you how to get to our hotel in Reykjavik using the Flybus Service, an inexpensive 45 mile shuttle ride.

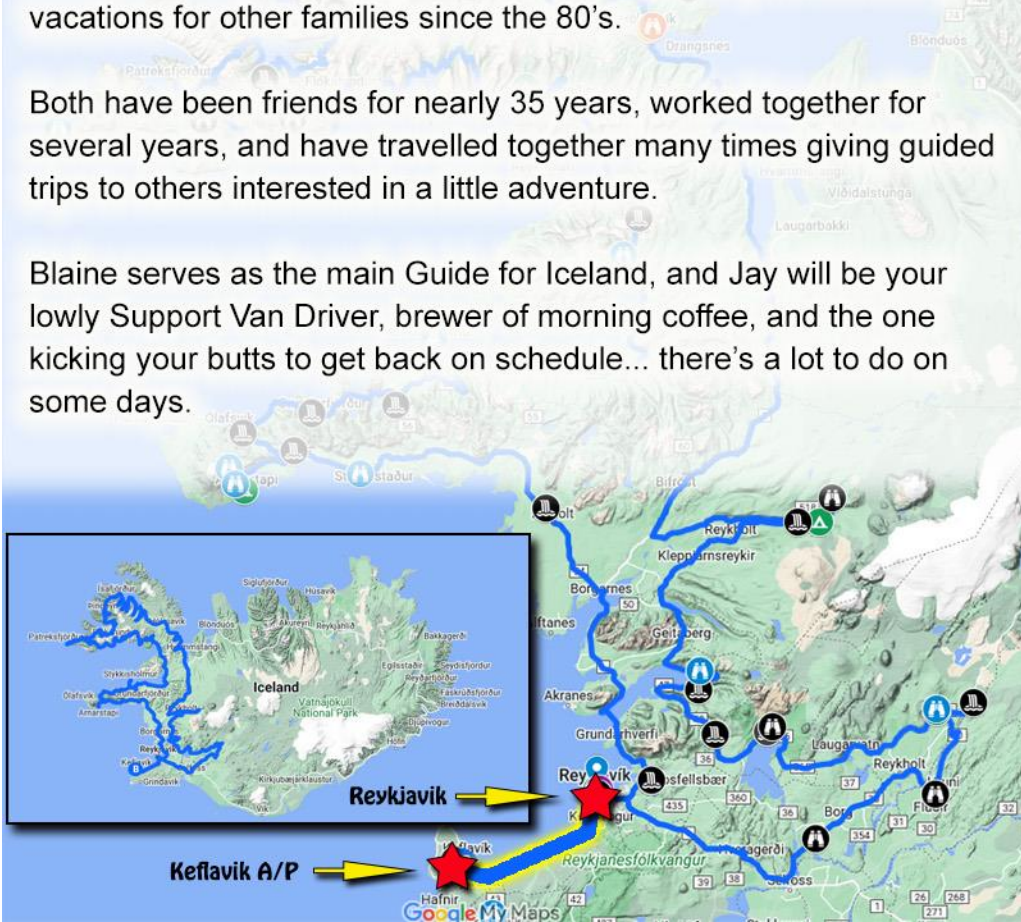
It is a 1km walk on sidewalks or 6 minute city bus ride from the bus station, with your luggage, but we should be available to come get you at the bus station in town if we're available. We're hoping this will not be an issue as our time in Reykjavik is limited.



First, a little about your Guides. Blaine Parks is the main force behind the Iceland trips, having been there so many times, and actually living there as a youngster. Jay Schwantes is the sidekick for many of his tours, including a full trip around Iceland, and is the instigator of many other guided trips by backpack, horsepack, motorcycle and family vacations for other families since the 80's.

Both have been friends for nearly 35 years, worked together for several years, and have travelled together many times giving guided trips to others interested in a little adventure.

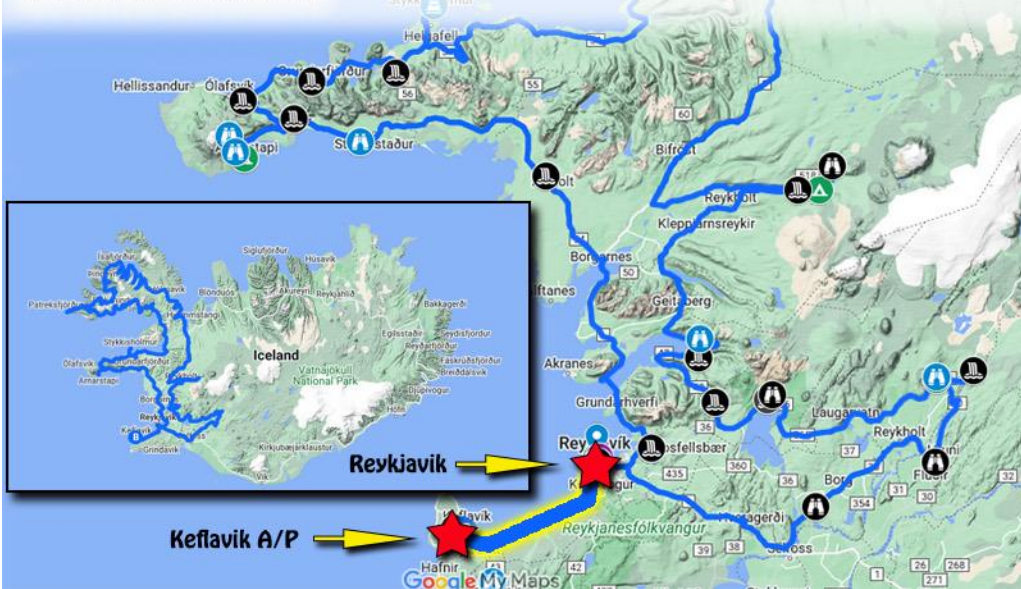
Blaine serves as the main Guide for Iceland, and Jay will be your lowly Support Van Driver, brewer of morning coffee, and the one kicking your butts to get back on schedule... there's a lot to do on some days.



We've probably spent hundreds of days together on these adventures over 35 years and enjoy bringing these adventures to others willing to put in the time and effort. We trust each other explicitly and if you know one of us, you've likely heard of the other.

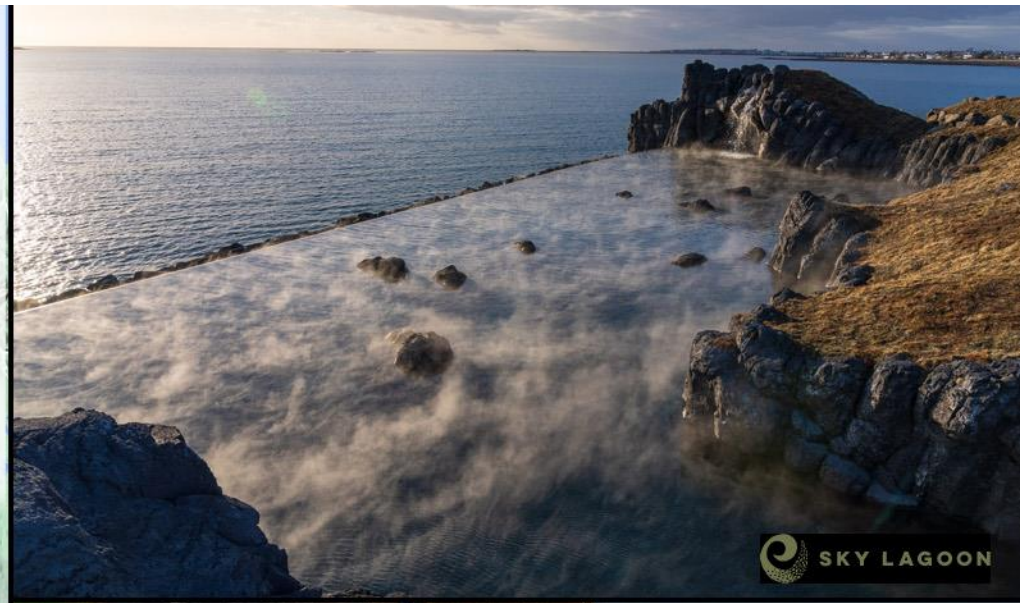
We'll both give absurd amounts of stories, useful tips, lies and also will help with tents - until you learn how to set them up. And of course, we'll all have to suffer through endless Ukulele concerts in Blaine's spare time. I suggest we try to keep him busy!

So, first, let's briefly go over the routing, some of which you may have been to before if you've been to Iceland in the past, but mostly it will be a new adventure.



On our way to Reykjavik or in a separate trip back, after a stop for groceries and snacks and waters, we'll stop at Iceland's newest purpose-built Thermal Lagoon - Sky Lagoon. The basic lagoon entry is included in your trip cost, although they do offer an upscale 7-point ritual that includes cold dips, saunas, cold mist room, exfoliant scrubs and a re-entry to the lagoon. If you elect to do this, it will be an additional charge of about \$25. The rest of us will be waiting for you at the edge of the infinity thermal lagoon pool.

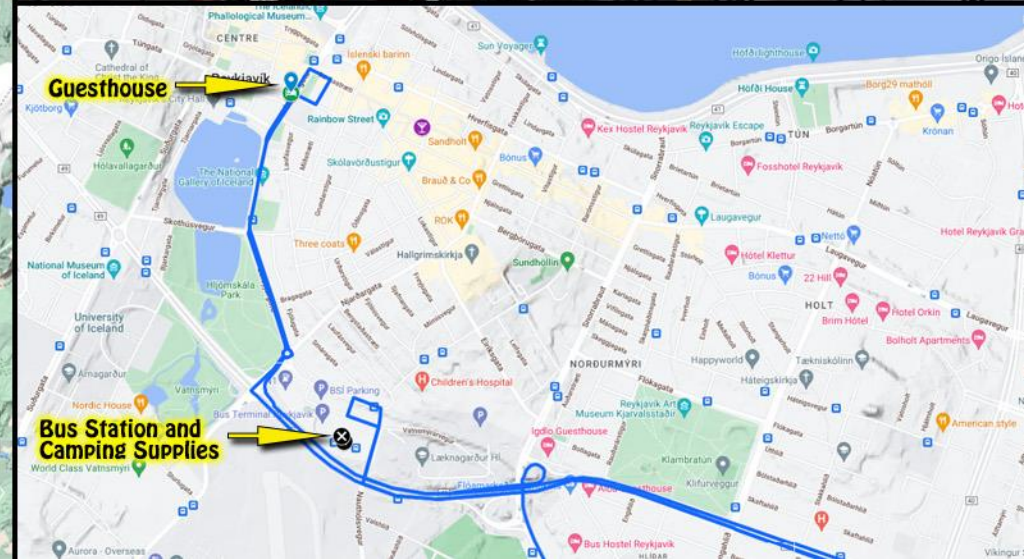
For late arriving guests, you will miss this and need to hook up with us at Reykjavik bus station. Try not to arrive late!



On our arrival in Reykjavik with both vehicles, we will be staying at a Guesthouse in the heart of town. Your guides will drop you and your luggage off to get settled (and suggest a short jet-lag nap) and we will proceed to the Camping Equipment Rental company to pick up our camping gear. We'll describe this gear in a few moments.

The remainder of the day is spent getting over jetlag and wandering in town. We suggest not buying souvenirs yet. We will return for our last evening at the same guesthouse. We will guide you to some of our favorite sights in town and pick a spot for lunch and dinner.

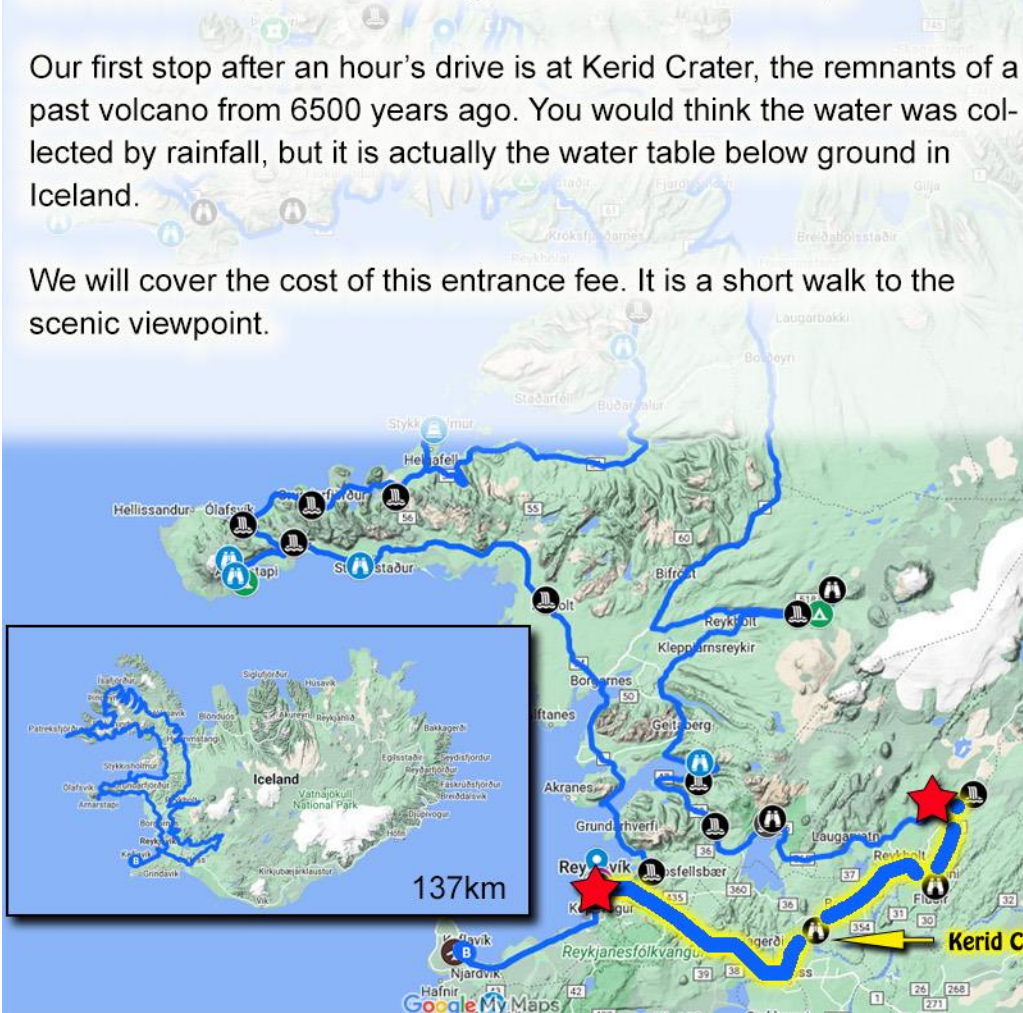
Remember, all souvenirs, early/late bus shuttles, meals and drinks are not included in the trip cost.



Day 2: We will be checking out of the in-town guesthouse early for the drive out of town, and onto the Golden Circle, an iconic scenic tour east of Reykjavik. We can grab breakfast on the way.

Our first stop after an hour's drive is at Kerid Crater, the remnants of a past volcano from 6500 years ago. You would think the water was collected by rainfall, but it is actually the water table below ground in Iceland.

We will cover the cost of this entrance fee. It is a short walk to the scenic viewpoint.



Then a short 45-minute drive to one of our favorite Thermal spots in Iceland, The Secret Lagoon. (That's why we suggest skipping the Blue Lagoon!) We will cover the cost of this location's fee.

One thing that should be mentioned is, in Iceland, if the facility offers a changing building, the law requires a thorough showering naked. The changing rooms are usually private, but certainly are gender specific (they only recognize the real two genders here!). Nudity may also be encountered at some of the very remote thermal pools in the backcountry, though no one cares if you wear a suit. (Bring two!)

If time permits, there is a small natural hotpot nearby we can try if it is not crowded. Yes, there is going to be a lot of thermal-pool soaking!

After our soak we drive to our campground at Geysir.



Secret Lagoon
Gamla Laugin

Another half hour drive brings us to our Campsite for the evening, but just to check-in and set up camp at Geysir Campground. This is our first campsite setup so we will allow some extra time. We will help you set up your tents this first night but please pay attention. Subsequent nights are your responsibility. We will also provide a sleeping bag, airpad, and thermal blanket. We will discuss these options shortly.

From here we will visit one of Iceland's Thermal areas and its famous Geyser. It is a short visit and wait for the eruptions.

There are several diners and cafes near the campsite when we get back for meals.



A further 15-minute drive brings us to probably the most famous and most beautiful Waterfall in Iceland, Gullfoss Falls.

It's a short walk to various viewpoints of the falls. We will probably stay here about an hour or so. Hopefully, late enough in the day to avoid the day-trippers and tour busses. There's also a small restaurant here. When we're ready we will return to our camp.





1 or 2 person small tent



2 or 3 person regular tent



**2 or 3 person XXL tent
with Vestibule**



Fleece Blanket

Prior to our trip you will have selected your tent options. Your selection affects your trip price. One is a 2-person tent that is also suitable if you are solo. There is a 2–3-person that is better suited for 2 – both with or without an optional vestibule. The option with the vestibule allows for gear, shoes, clothing, etc outside the sleeping area, and allows for small gatherings, although the Support van should by now be unloaded and set up for seating up to 6 persons at a small table inside in case of inclement weather.

The type of tent you choose, if not the small tent, will have an additional cost associated with it and will be added to the cost of your trip. Doubling up in a larger tent may reduce your cost somewhat. You will be responsible for erecting the tent, though we can help you the first time to show you how best to do it. Your tent, sleeping bag, sleeping pad, and your personal bags will be removed from the support van and put on the ground for you to set up the tent. We will recommend a list of items you should consider, like headlamps, pee bottles or she-we devices, toilet paper, etc. Highly recommended are two towels and two swim suits.

The support van will make coffee or hot water for tea, or hot chocolate and will have creamer and sugars for it, but all other foods, meals, snacks, etc. are on you, though we will give ample opportunities for shopping along the way. We expect to provide 2 picnic-type lunches and 2 campfire-type dinners as part of your trip cost. Likewise, in the mornings, striking the tent and packing it away is on you. The support van will have a water-proof tarp set up in the back to toss all gear into for the driving portions of the trip. You can access any of it at any stop along the way.

We can easily entertain another trip out to Gullfoss Falls for a sunset view of it if you wish.



**Synthetic Fill
Sleeping Bag
with Liner**



**Self-Inflating Air
Mattress**

A little more about the Support Van. Both this van and the 4x4 will be driving tandem at all times, so feel free to dump your stuff in the back. You can get it at any stop - you just have to go find it - there will be a load in there. However, at campsites, everything comes out as the Driver/Guide of the van crashes back there overnight. In camp there may be space inside and at tables/chairs just outside the sliding door and use it as a gathering place. There MAY be a campsite or two that separates vans from tents. We'll do the best we can. Campsites are first-come-first choice of sites, so you may find us trying to get to camp first, then go out on local adventures.

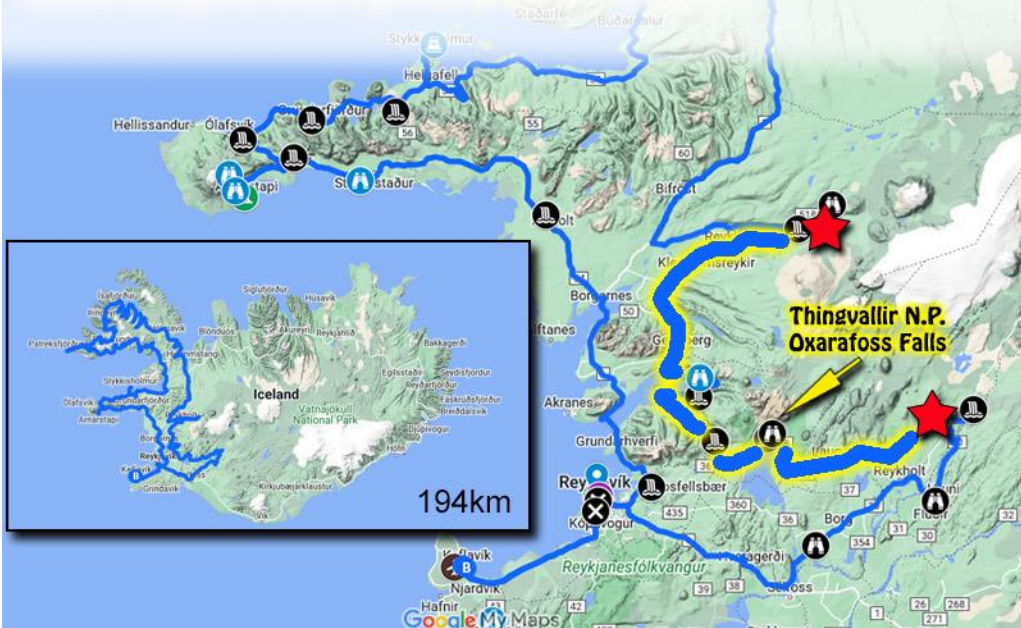
I'll commit to waking early to make coffee/tea and if you're lucky some light breakfast, like english muffins or similar, but for the most part, breakfast, lunch and dinner are on you with exceptions for 2 picnics and 2 campsite dinners. Don't miss the Icelandic Hot Dogs when we pull into a full-service N1 Gas Station! Not to be missed.



Day 3: As the sky never truly gets fully dark in the summers of Iceland, our wake-up time will be agreed upon the evening before. Some mornings may require an earlier start. Today is one of them as we have a long day with lots of scenic stops.

We start off with an hour's drive to Thingvellir National Park, featuring Oxarafoss Falls and other various scenic viewpoints. This is the only place on the planet where you can step into two continental rifts separating the North American and the European tectonic plates.

This is also the morning you may have to catch up to the tour somewhere along our route if you missed earlier flights.



Then on to Thorufoss Falls which is a very short walk from the parking area, and beyond that Fossarett Falls which is right alongside the road. Both of these are short visits, and we won't be staying long at them.

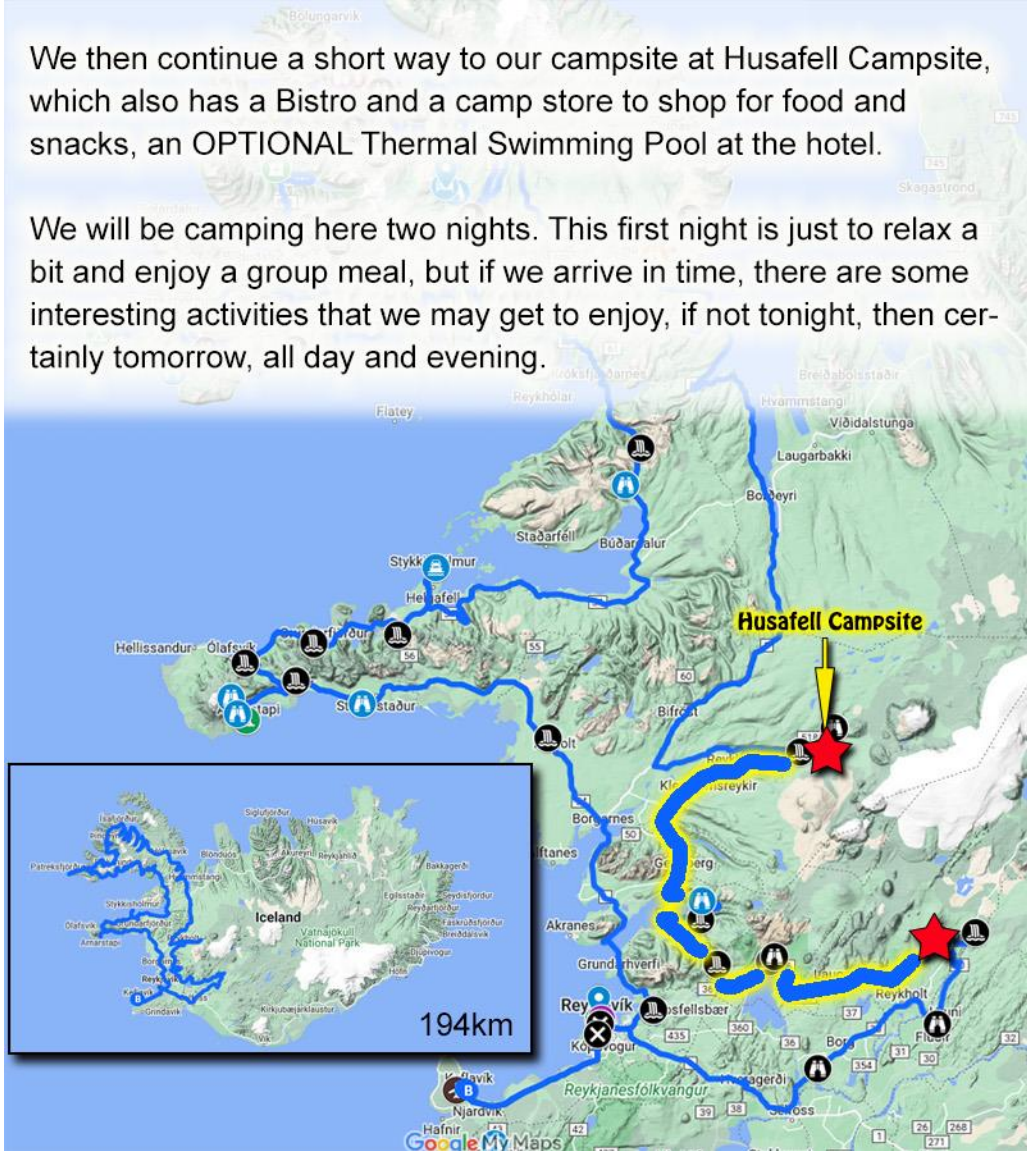


We then skip along some interior fiords and lakes until we get to Hraunfossar Falls parking area which has a series of short hikes, one slightly longer one to Barnafoss Falls, a spectacular cascading falls. Neither are long hikes. There is also a café here if it is time to eat or you want to skip the hikes.



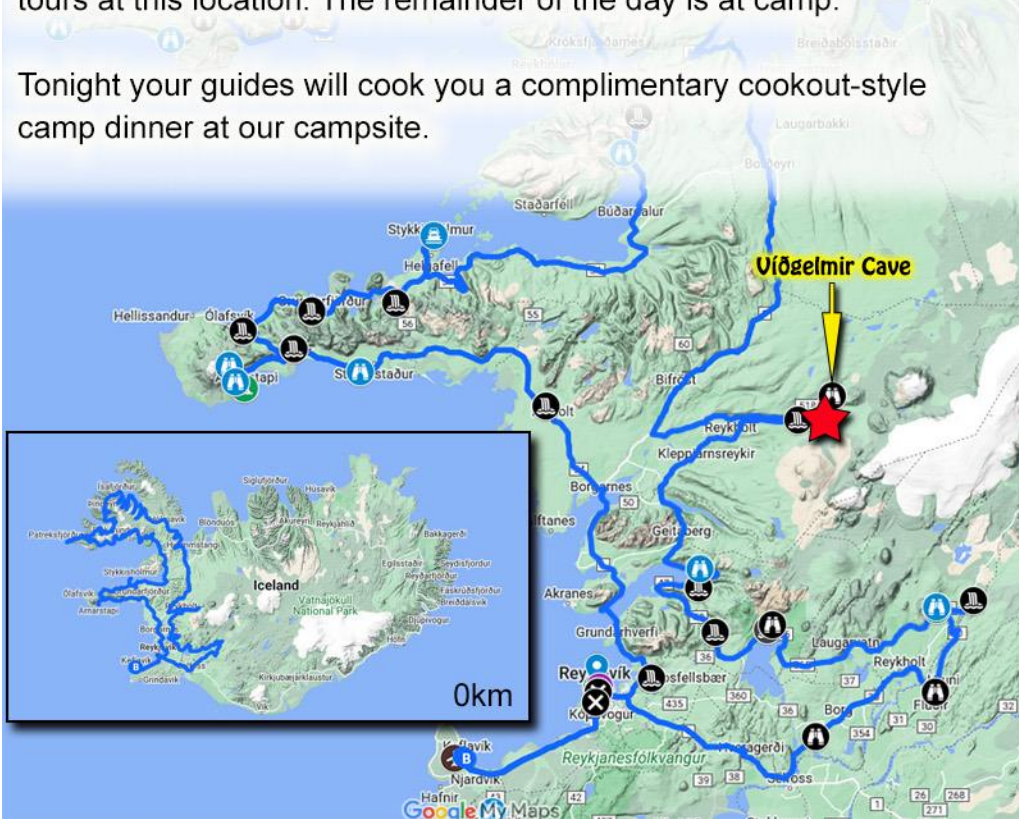
We then continue a short way to our campsite at Husafell Campsite, which also has a Bistro and a camp store to shop for food and snacks, an OPTIONAL Thermal Swimming Pool at the hotel.

We will be camping here two nights. This first night is just to relax a bit and enjoy a group meal, but if we arrive in time, there are some interesting activities that we may get to enjoy, if not tonight, then certainly tomorrow, all day and evening.

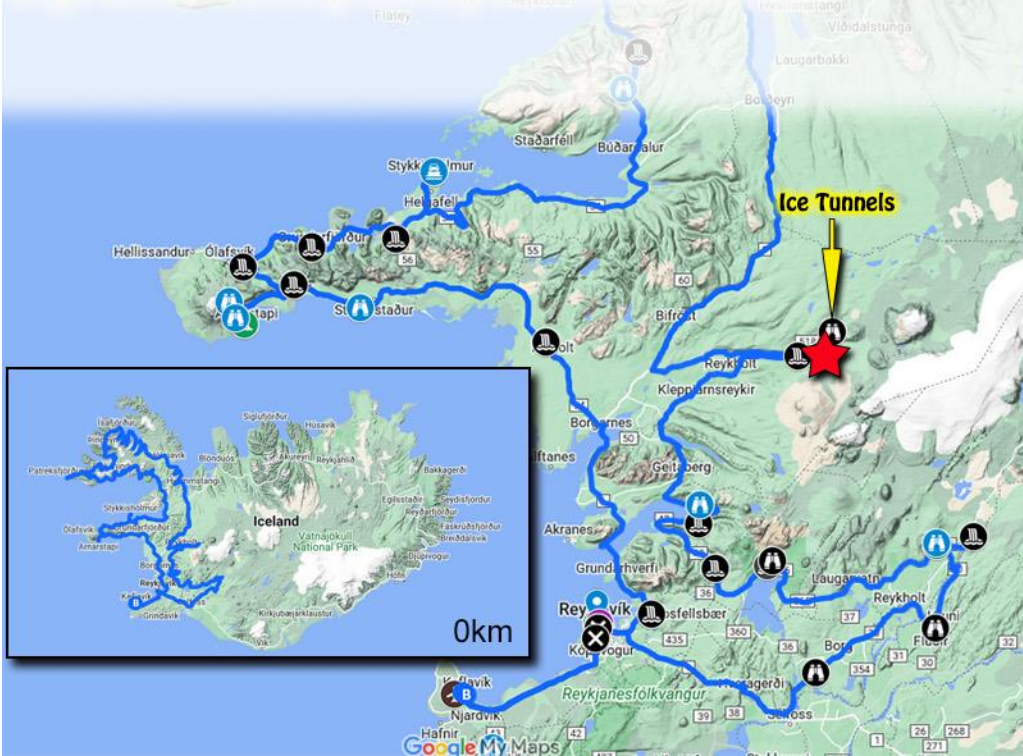


Husafell has the amazing Viðgelmir Cave Tour. We will take a shuttle from the campsite to the cave for an hour and a half tour of the cave and return to the camp. The cost of the shuttles and tour is included. There should be time for other guided tours at your expense, such as the glacier Ice Tunnels or Thermal Baths. You will need to select these options prior to the trip to ensure ticket availability. Coordination before or after the Cave tour is needed to enjoy any other offered tours at this location. The remainder of the day is at camp.

Tonight your guides will cook you a complimentary cookout-style camp dinner at our campsite.



Once your trip is booked with us we will discuss some of the optional tours that are available here, or at other nearby locations. Optional tours such as the Ice Tunnels or Thermal Baths here at Husafell are magnificent but have strict start times and durations, so we will work with you on booking a second tour this day, or swapping one for another. Our favorite option is the Thermal Baths in a remote canyon nearby. Optional charges will apply. We have all day here, with no driving and camp already set up, so only your stamina gets in the way! Dinner is a complimentary cookout meal in camp.



Optional-Tours



Day 5: This morning is another early departure. Don't worry, the sun is up quite early. We ride through a large valley to one of the northern fjords, and drive along its banks to the town of Holmavik. It's a 3-hour drive with a complimentary lunch on arrival.

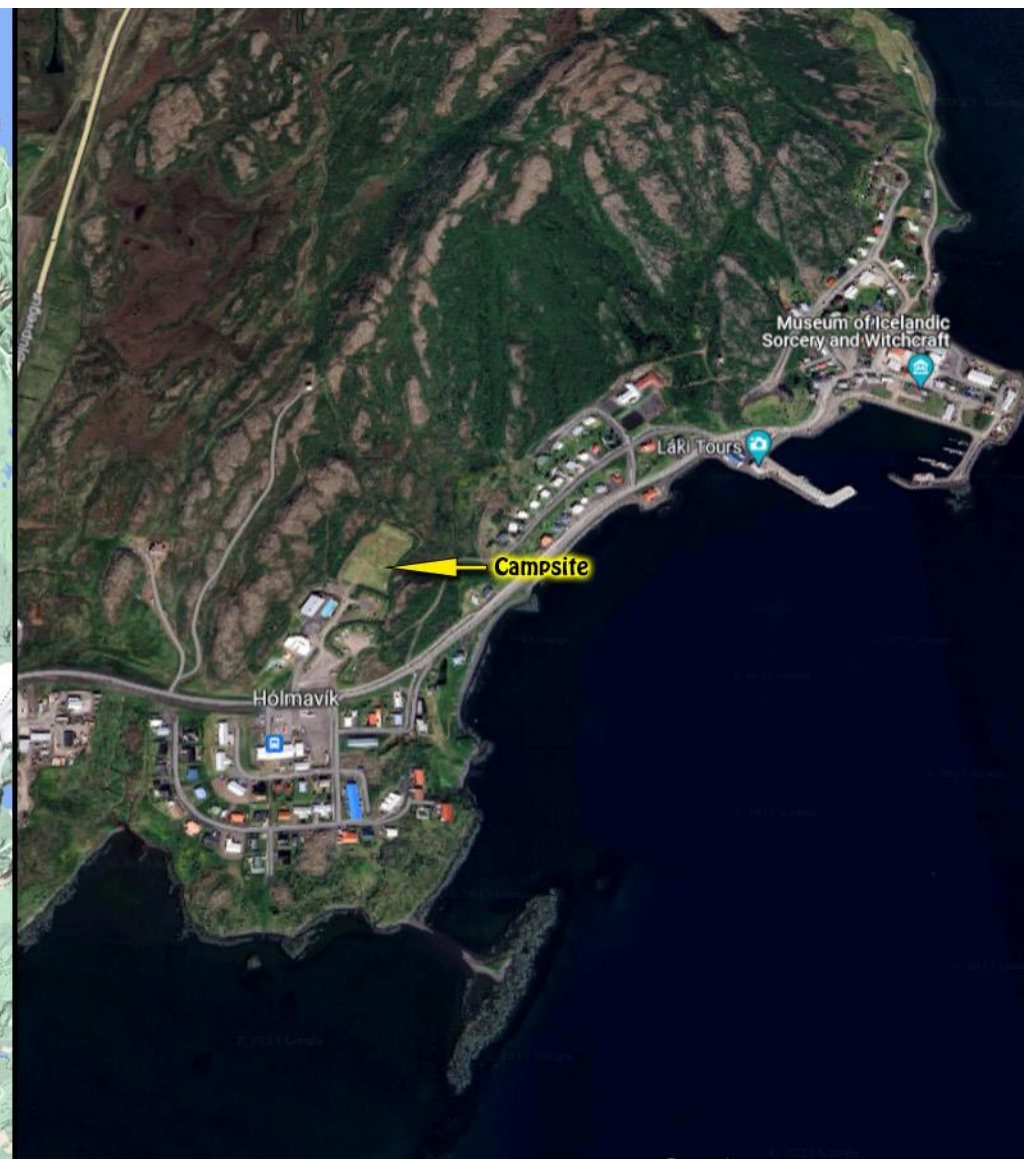
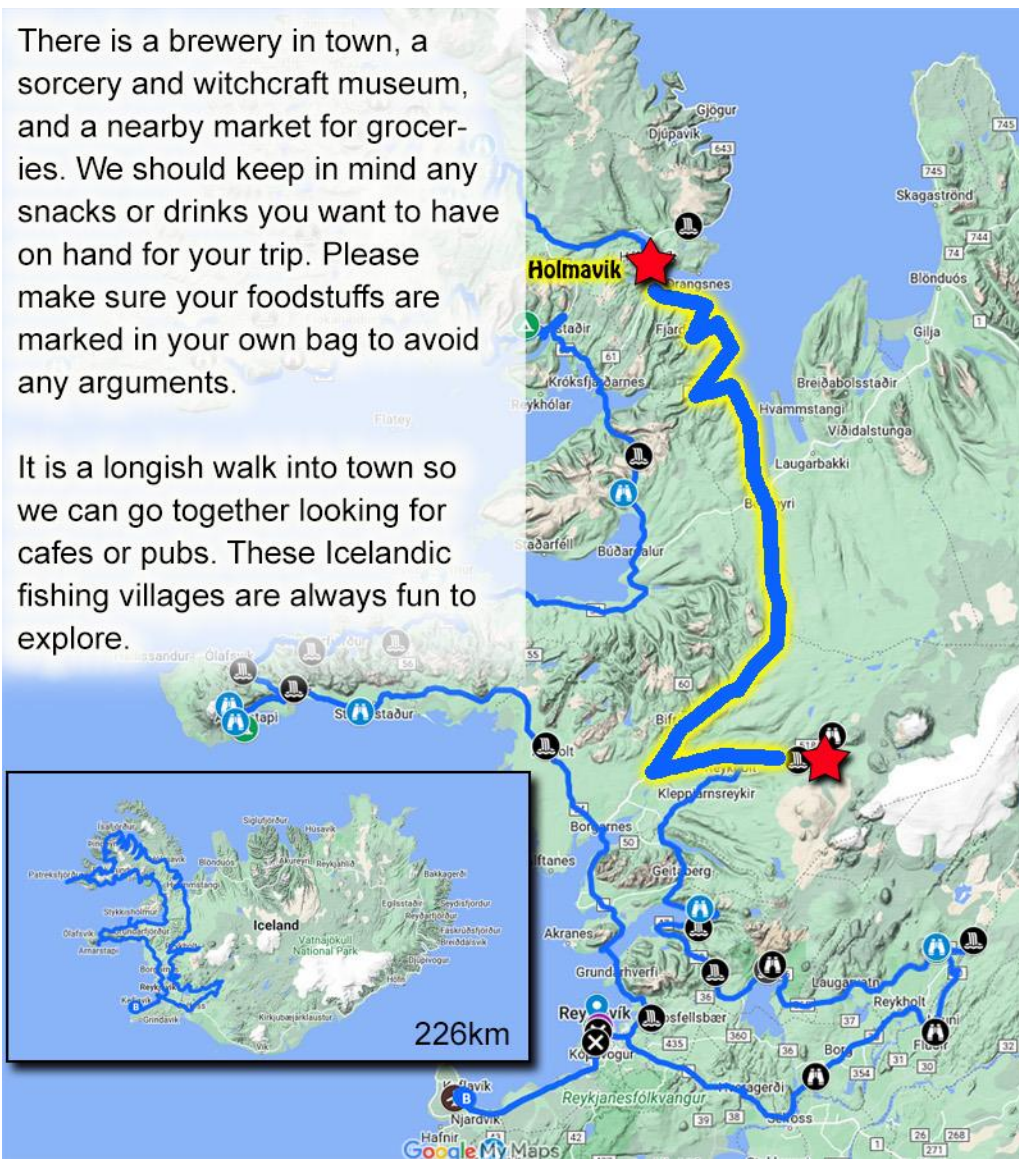
One of the unique adventures here is the Laki Tours to the nearby Fjord to go Humpback Whale watching. It leaves at 1pm lasting 2-3 hours. They are known to be the most active breaching species of whales but still, there is no guarantee. Minke Whales and Dolphins are also pretty active. If you don't go on this tour, there are things to do in town.



Optional Tour

There is a brewery in town, a sorcery and witchcraft museum, and a nearby market for groceries. We should keep in mind any snacks or drinks you want to have on hand for your trip. Please make sure your foodstuffs are marked in your own bag to avoid any arguments.

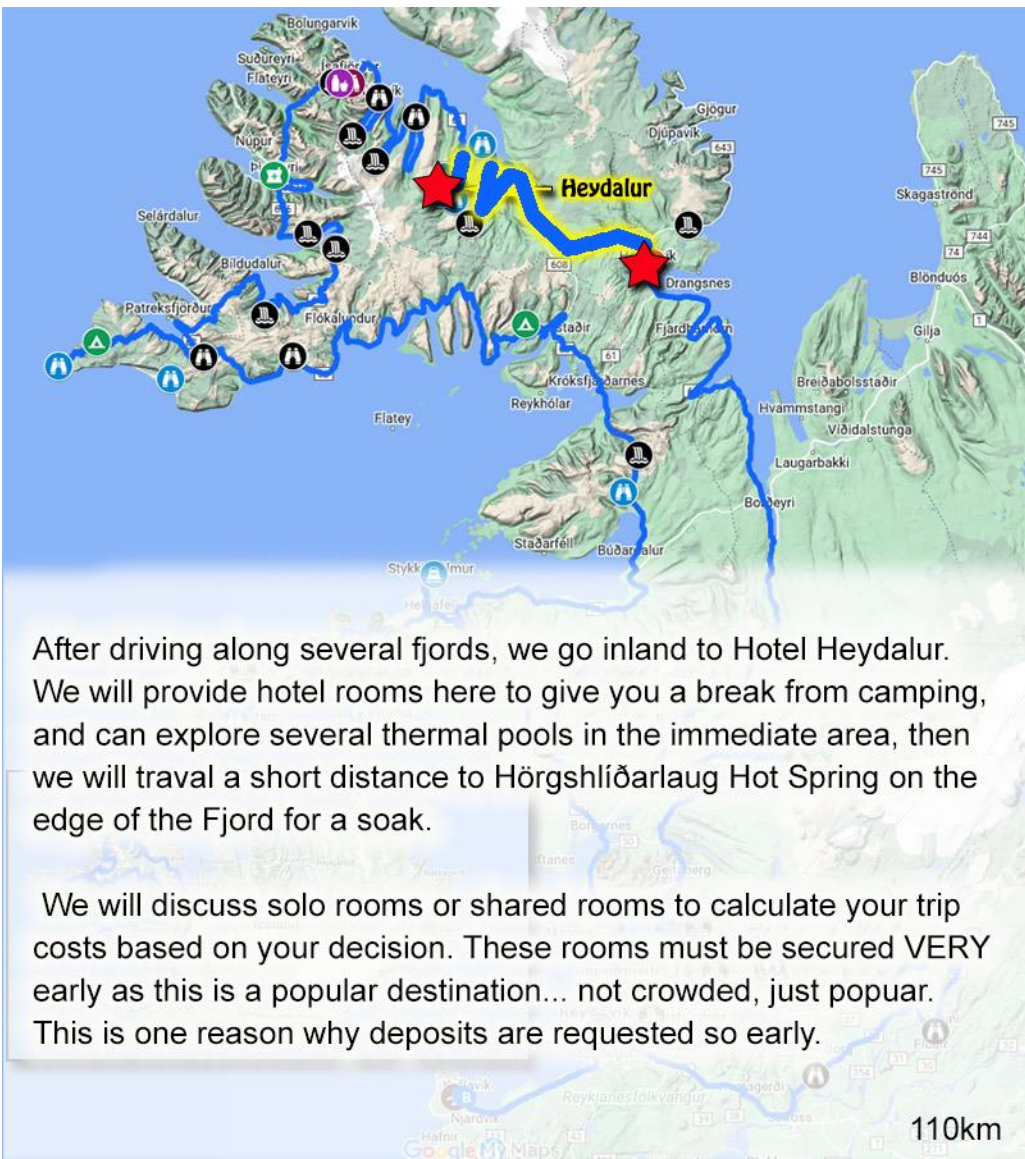
It is a longish walk into town so we can go together looking for cafes or pubs. These Icelandic fishing villages are always fun to explore.





Day 6: This is a lazy morning, with a drive through a valley to one of the other northern Fjords, and a stop at Gervidalsá falls. We can pull off in a gravel lot to get out to go explore here for a short time. It is a short hike to the first falls, and an opportunity to further hike along the river to other cascading falls.







Day 7: Today is mostly riding the coastlines of several fjords with opportunities to see seals on the beaches. There are two waterfalls along the way, Lambagil Waterfall is an easy 20-minute hike off the road, and Valagil Waterfall is a 3 mile round trip. We can decide on either or both.

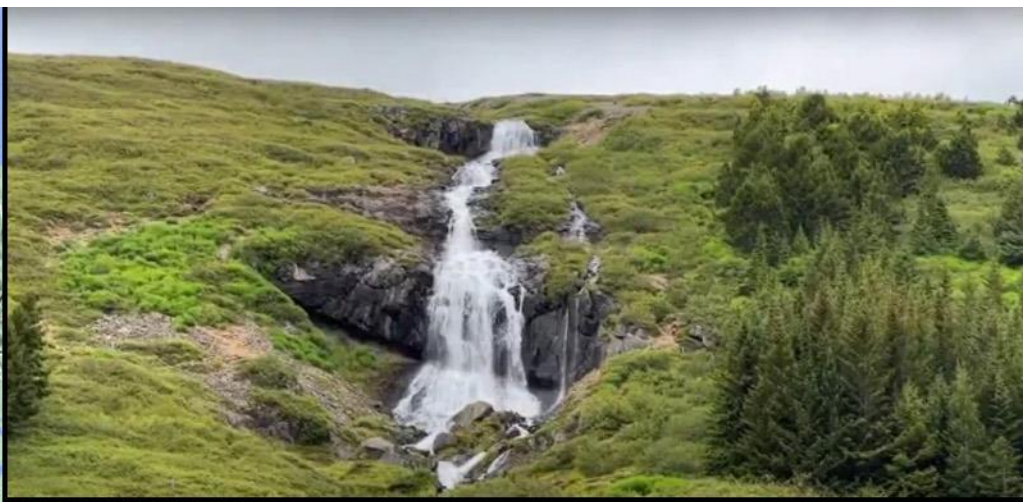
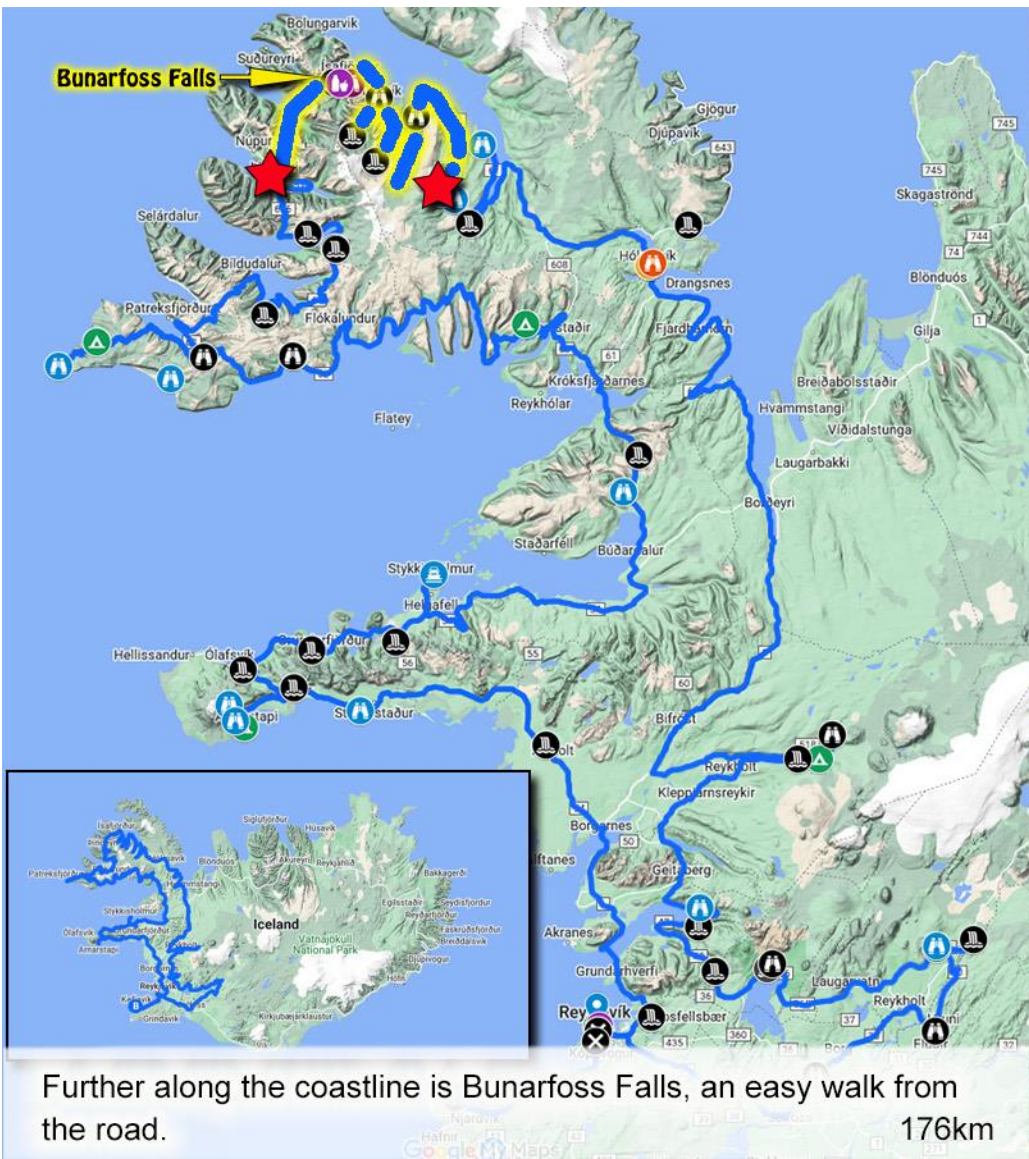


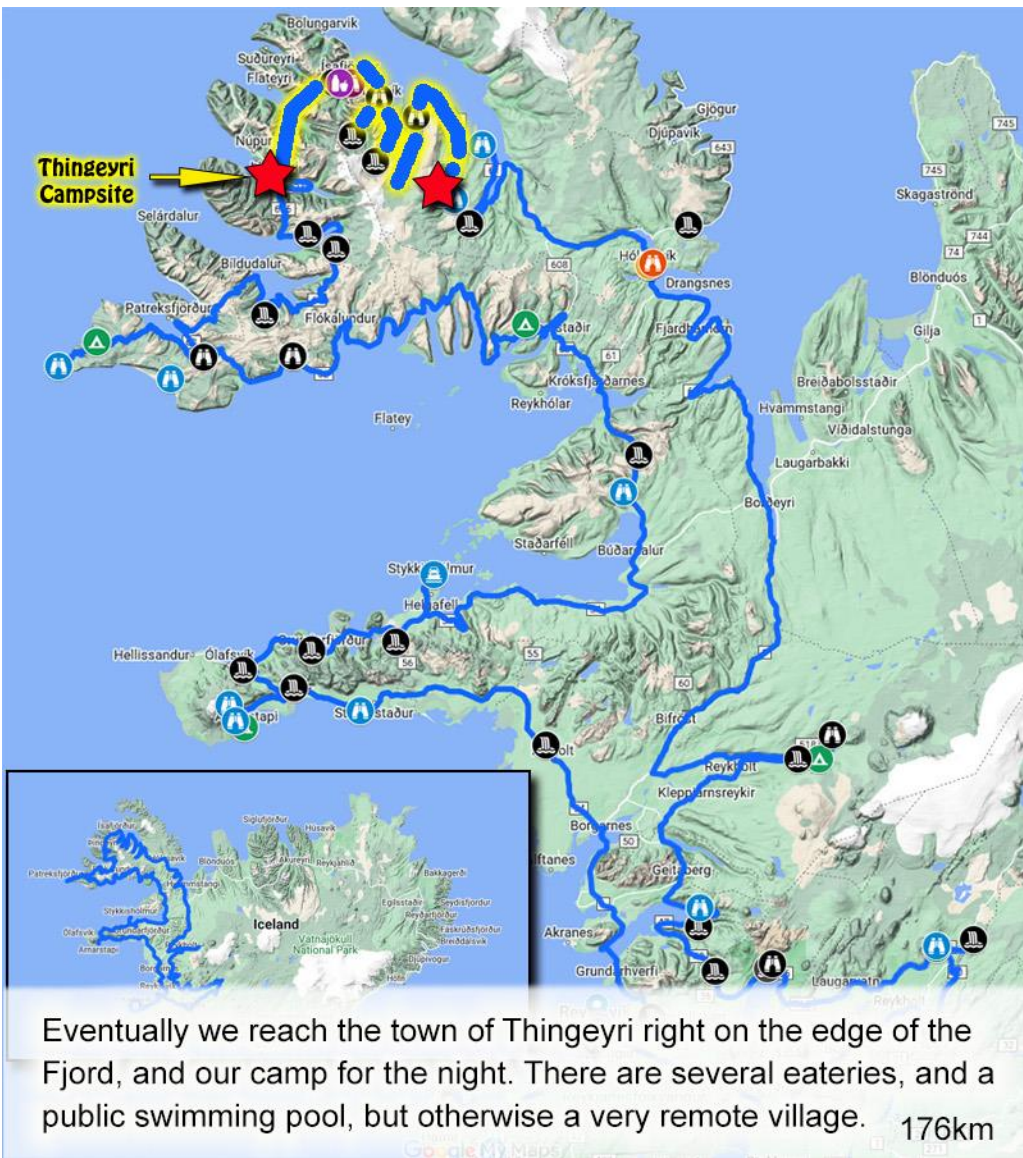


At the town of Sudavik is brief stop to see The Arctic Fox Center. This is also included in the trip if you want to join us. There is a coffee shop not far away for those not wanting to visit.

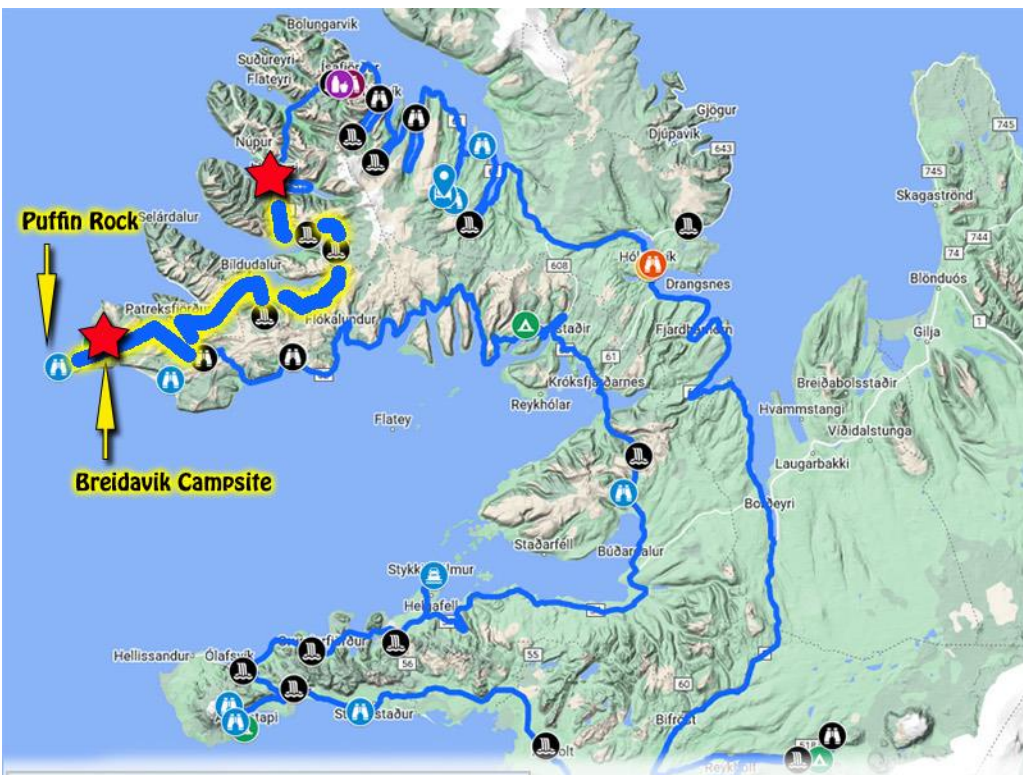
176km







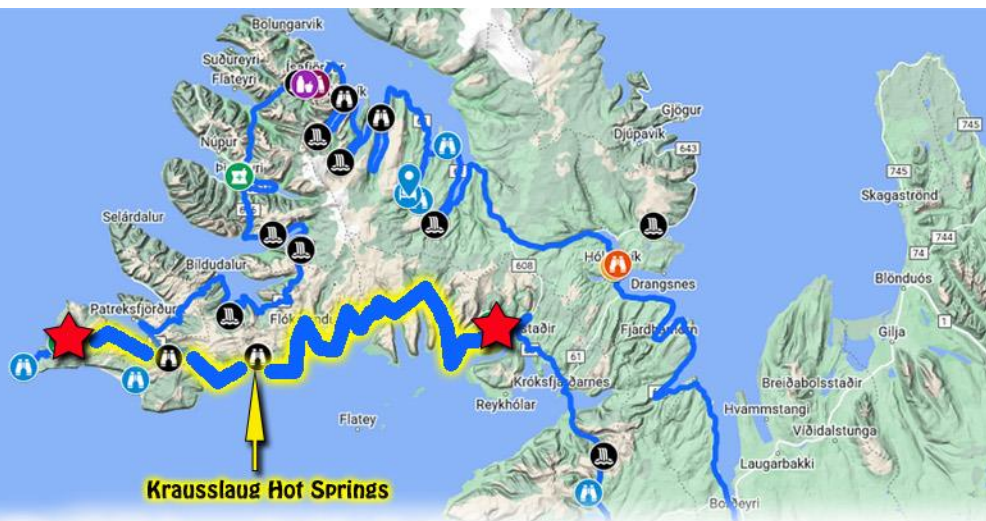




We then continue on to Breidavik Campsite. This is a long day ride, so we will need to budget our time at some of the lesser falls. Breidavik will be a quick camp setup so we can go out to the only land-based habitat for Puffins in the West Fjordlands at Látrabjarg, a 14km long cliff open to the Atlantic Ocean. There will be a nice restaurant at the hotel, but we need to time it right for the trip out to the Puffins. Keep in mind it stays light well past midnight, so we should have time to do it all.

159km





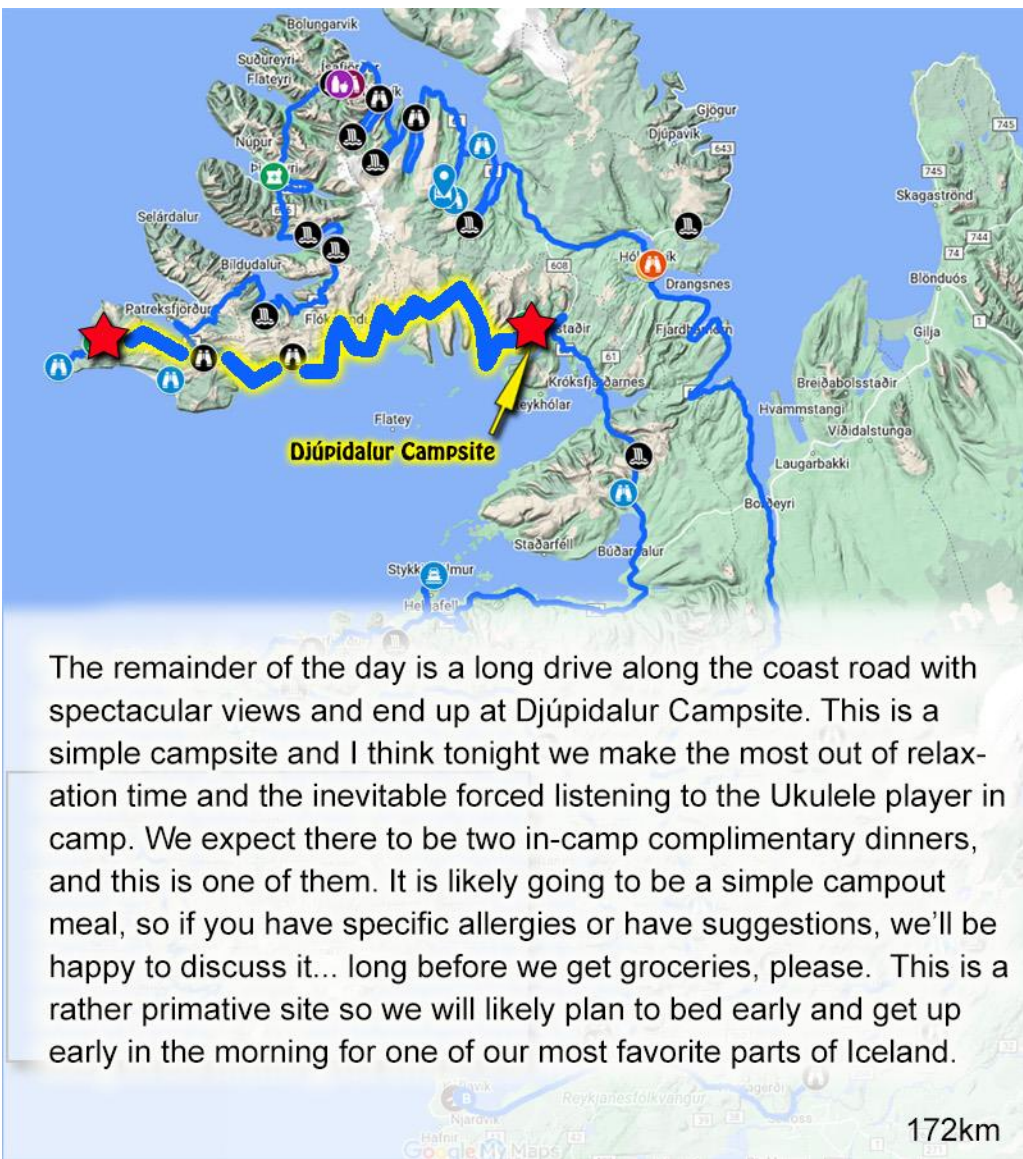
Kruslaug Hot Springs

Day 9: Today we backtrack a little to continue down to the final West Fjordland Region of Iceland. On the way we will stop for a quick soak in Kruslaug Hot Springs, the historic spot for Viking Baptisms. There are two pools close to each other, one built in the 40's and one natural ancient pool by the shore. There is a changing hut and a fee to use it but we cover it for you.

This might be a good time to remind you, we will visit several thermal pools on our trip - we suggest several bathing suits and towels. Be aware that in Iceland women are not required to wear tops in the smaller thermals, though most do. We cannot control who else might be using these thermal pools, however, some small private thermals permit nudity. Blaine and I, of course, would never suggest disrespecting their local customs...

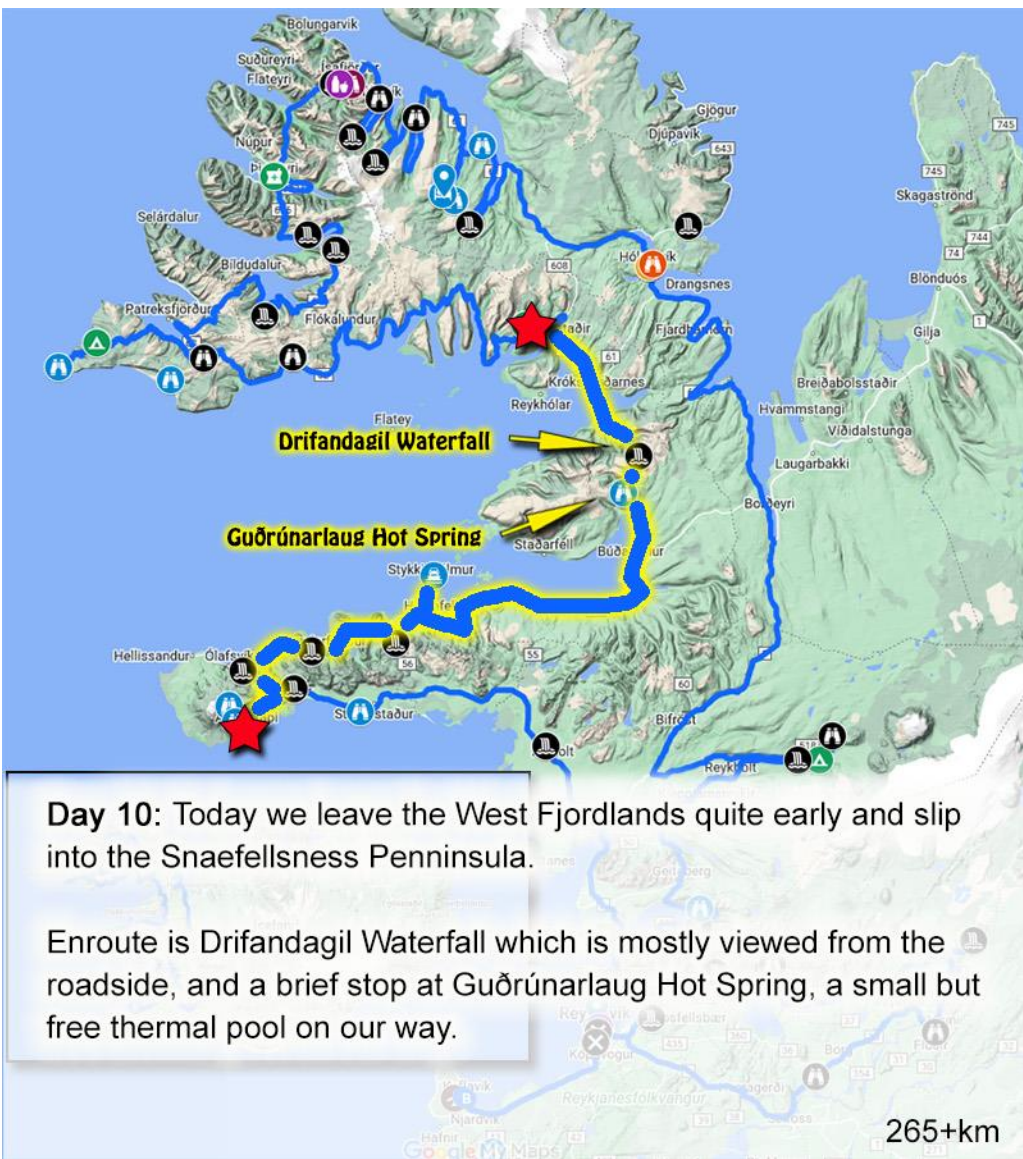
172km

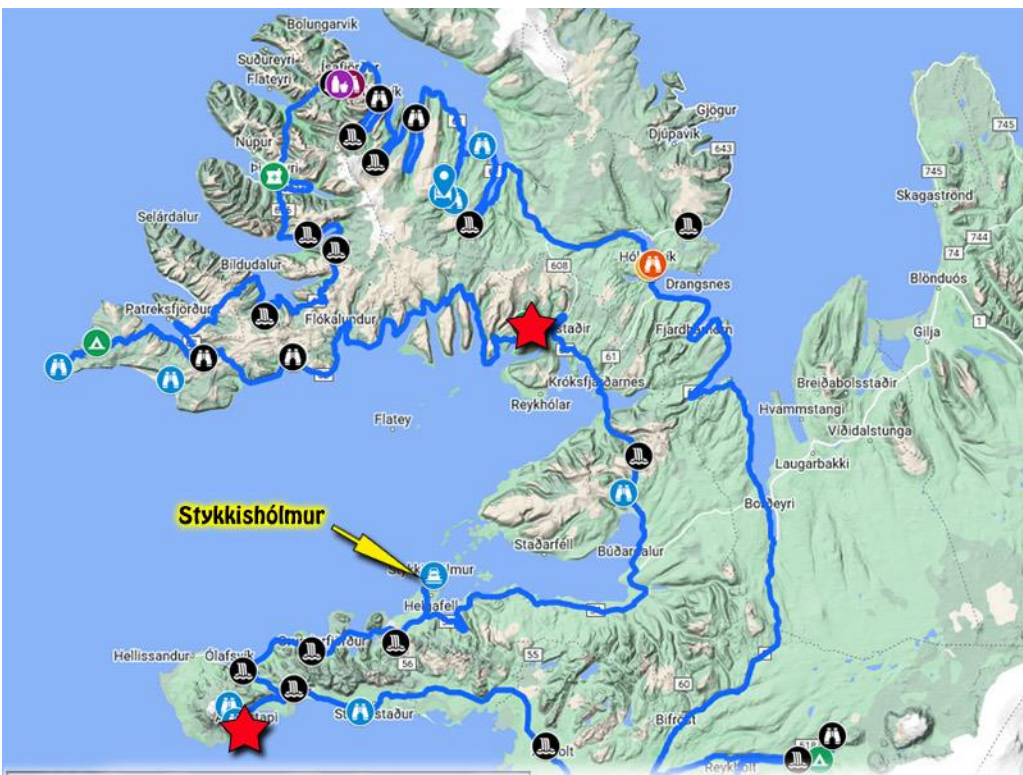




The remainder of the day is a long drive along the coast road with spectacular views and end up at Djúpidalur Campsite. This is a simple campsite and I think tonight we make the most out of relaxation time and the inevitable forced listening to the Ukulele player in camp. We expect there to be two in-camp complimentary dinners, and this is one of them. It is likely going to be a simple campout meal, so if you have specific allergies or have suggestions, we'll be happy to discuss it... long before we get groceries, please. This is a rather primitive site so we will likely plan to bed early and get up early in the morning for one of our most favorite parts of Iceland.



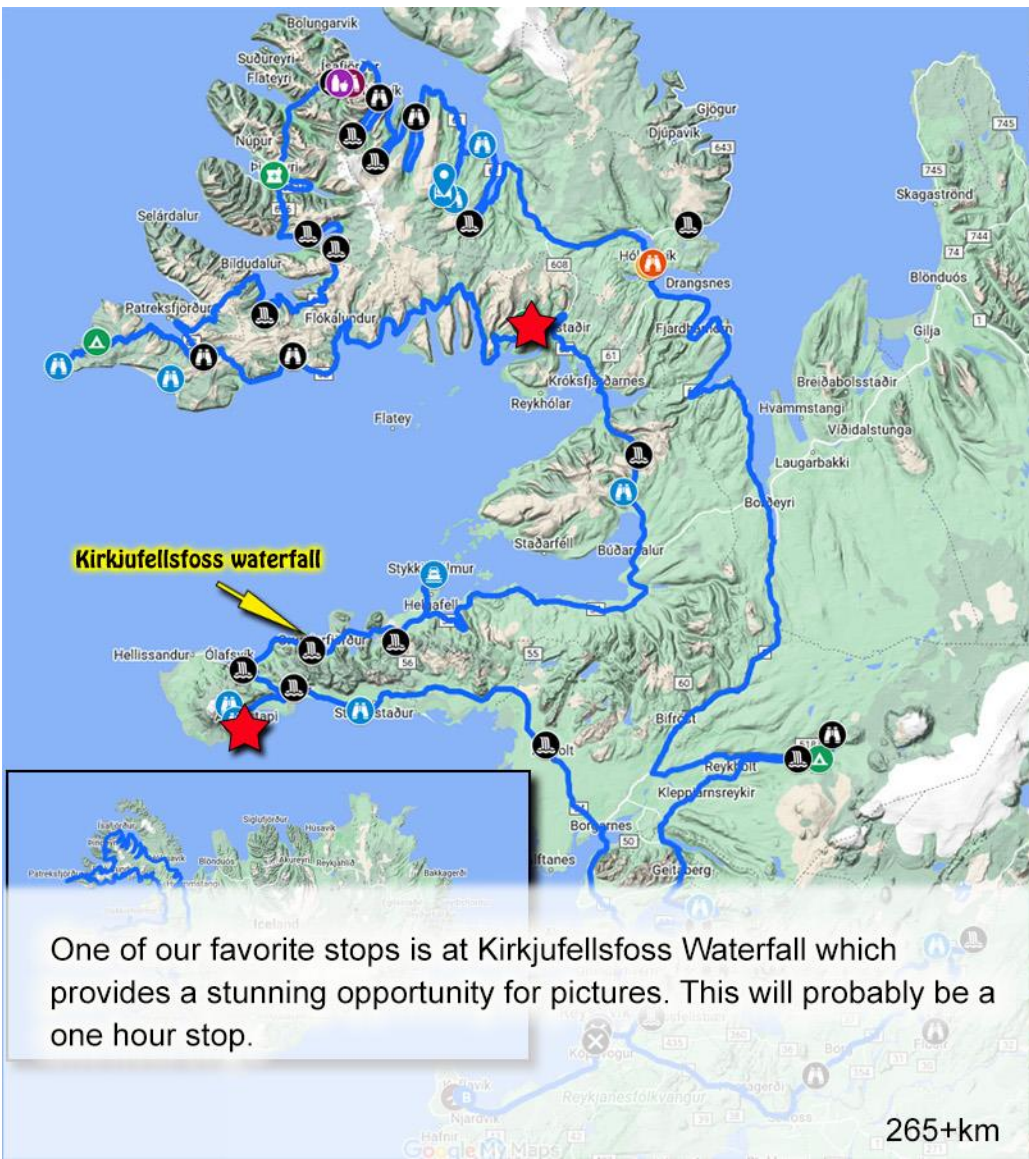


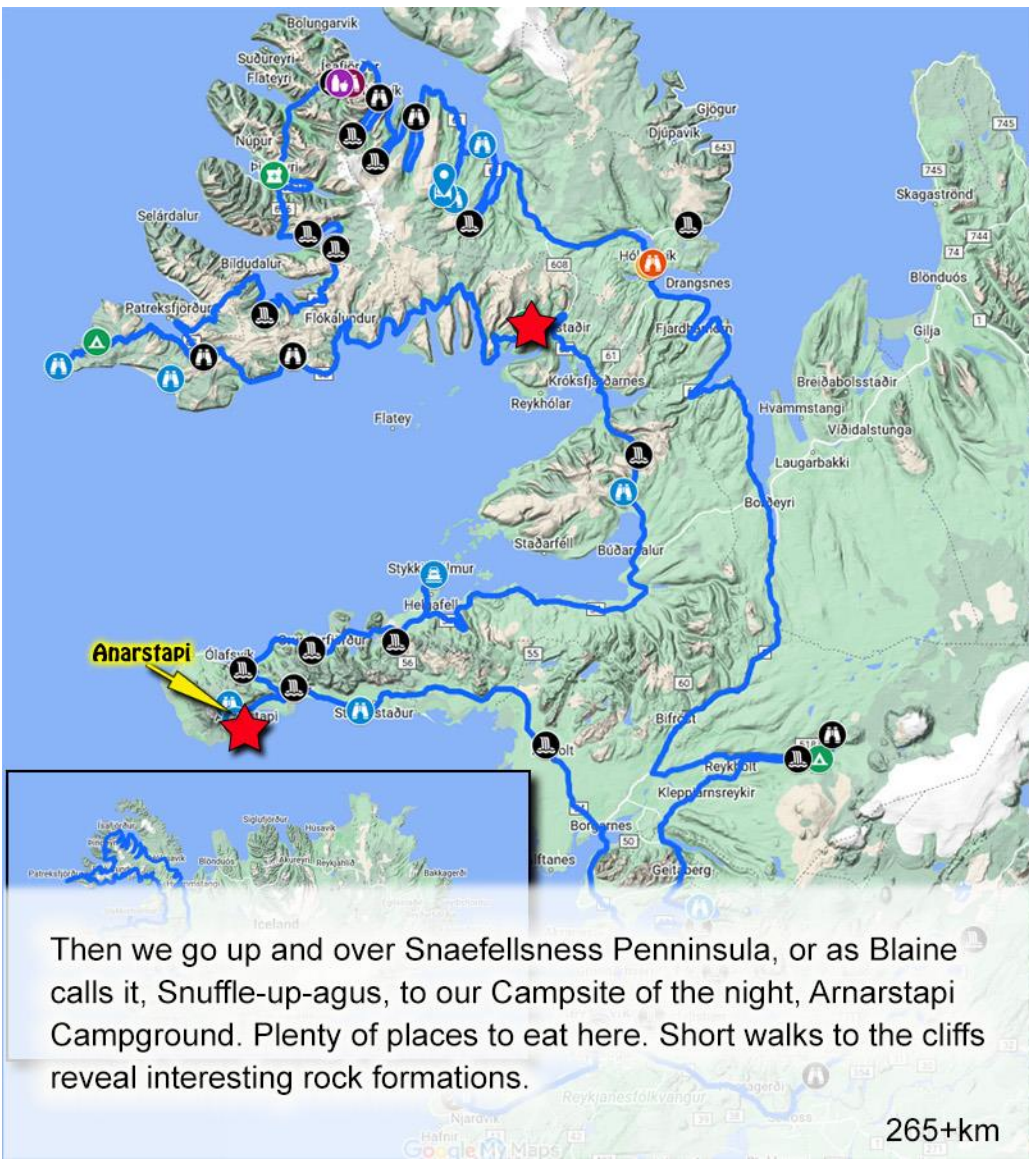


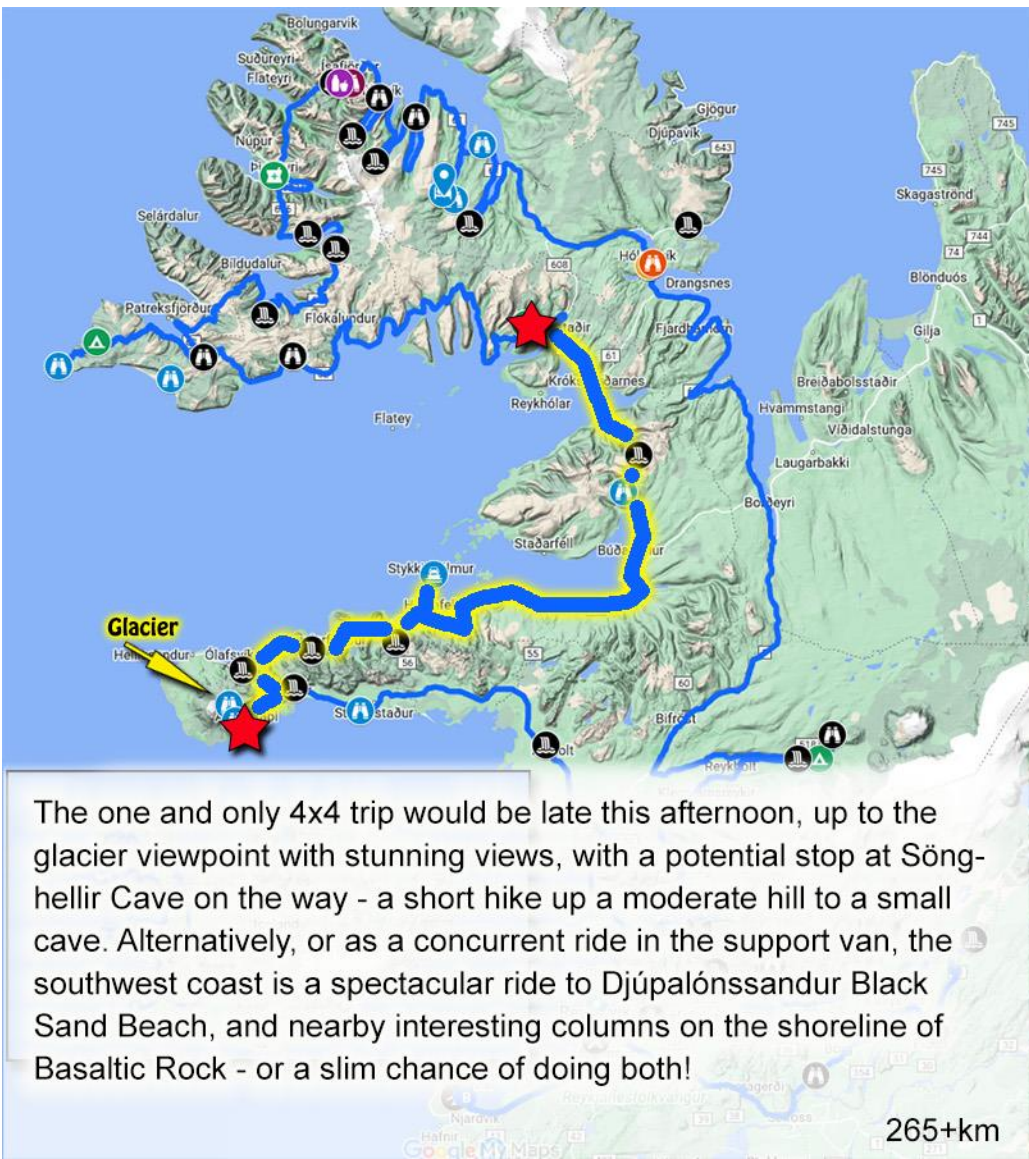
We hug the coastline to a small fishing village, Stykkishólmur, for lunch and a quick hike up to the lighthouse overlooking the village. Last time we were here was a fabulous Food Truck serving Fish and Chips... There are plenty of opportunities here to stock up on snacks and groceries and even has a nice bakery in town.

265+km





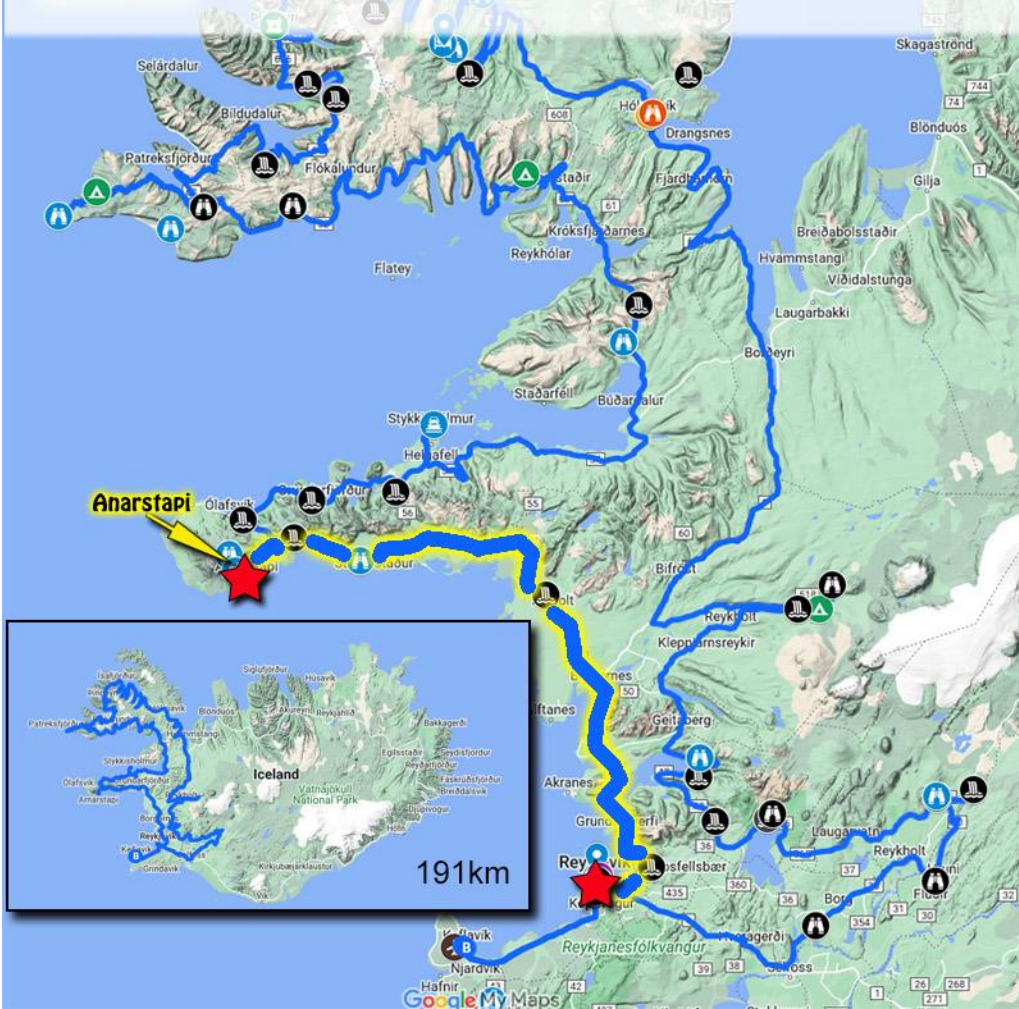




The one and only 4x4 trip would be late this afternoon, up to the glacier viewpoint with stunning views, with a potential stop at Sönghellir Cave on the way - a short hike up a moderate hill to a small cave. Alternatively, or as a concurrent ride in the support van, the southwest coast is a spectacular ride to Djúpalónssandur Black Sand Beach, and nearby interesting columns on the shoreline of Basaltic Rock - or a slim chance of doing both!



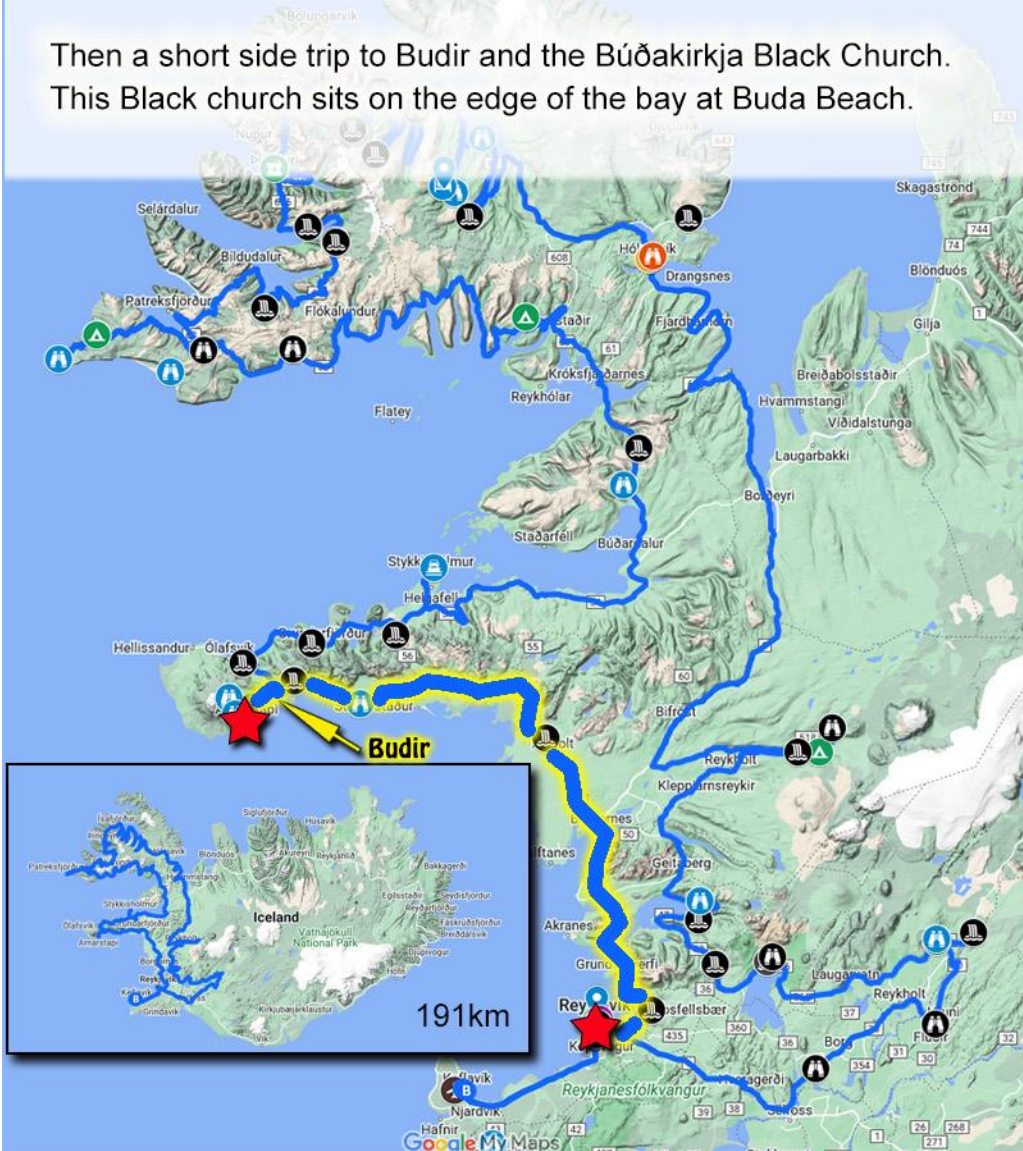
Today is a long day so we get up early, do a GOOD job packing up camp equipment so we don't get penalized with cleaning fees, and head out.



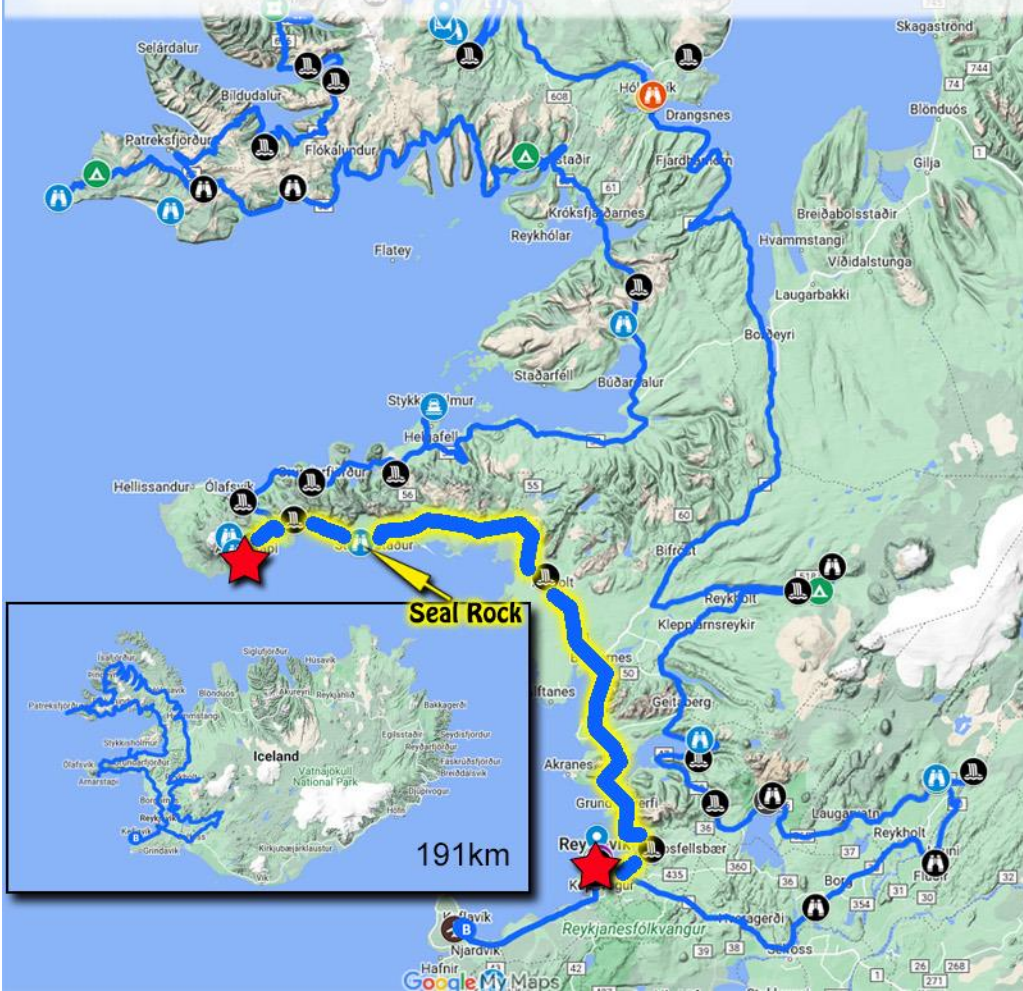
We're going to avoid this by using the Support Van!



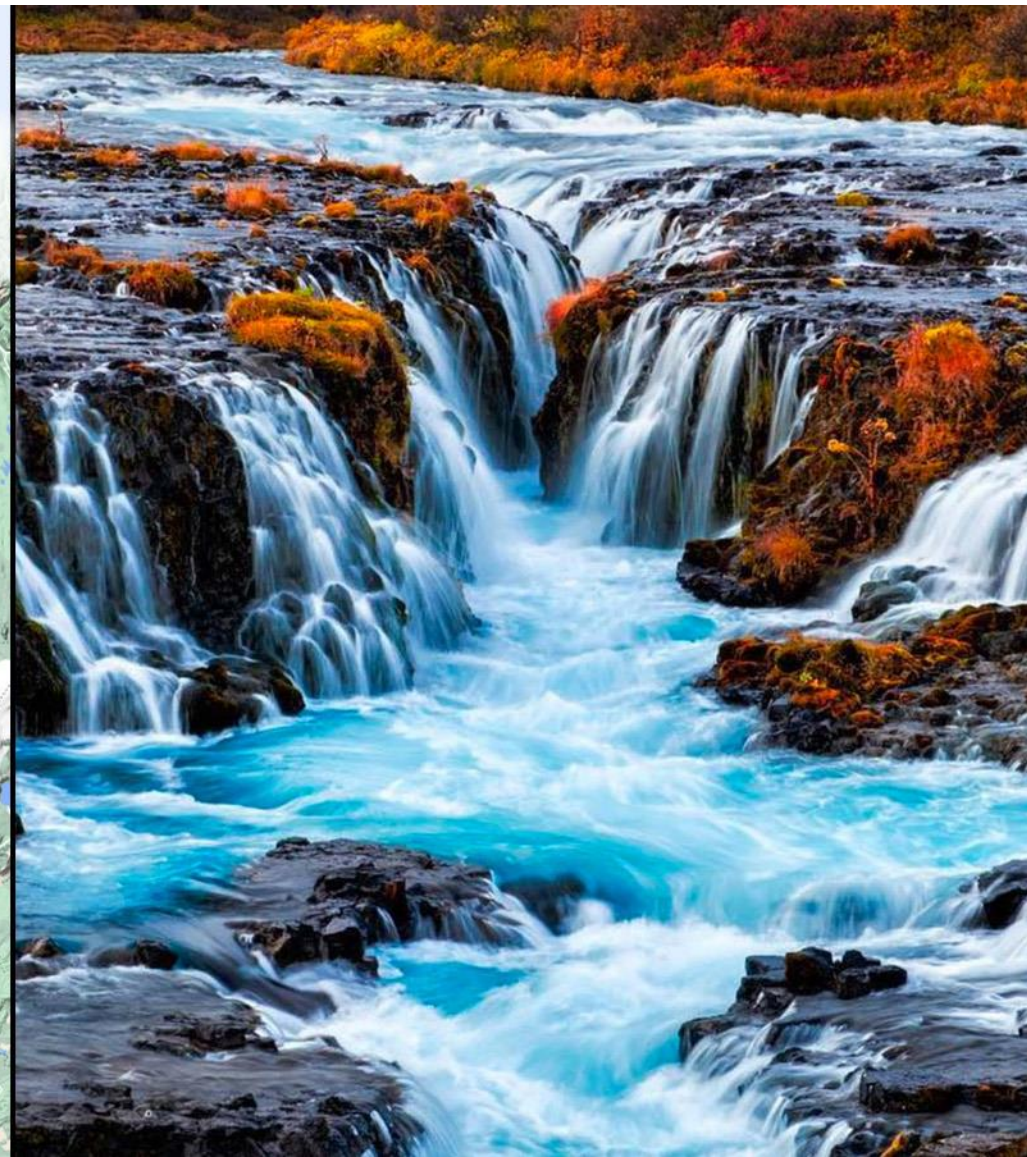
Then a short side trip to Budir and the Búðakirkja Black Church.
This Black church sits on the edge of the bay at Buda Beach.



We continue to Ytri Tunga Beach which we call Seal Rocks, where you often see seals sunning on the rocks... this stop could be 45 minutes or so.



On our way back to Reykjavik we'll make a fairly quick stop at Brúarfoss i Hítará Falls, and if there is still time, side-trip to Álafoss Waterfall. We will likely be using the phrase, "**Just another damned Waterfall**" by this time, so stops may be brief or we'll slow down as we pass by! I say this because our next stop is.....



... our Guesthouse for the night back in Reykjavik. This is when you get your souvenirs, do some drinking, repacking, and more drinking before our departure in the morning.

Your guides will take care of dropping off the camping gear in town and rejoin you for the drinking part.

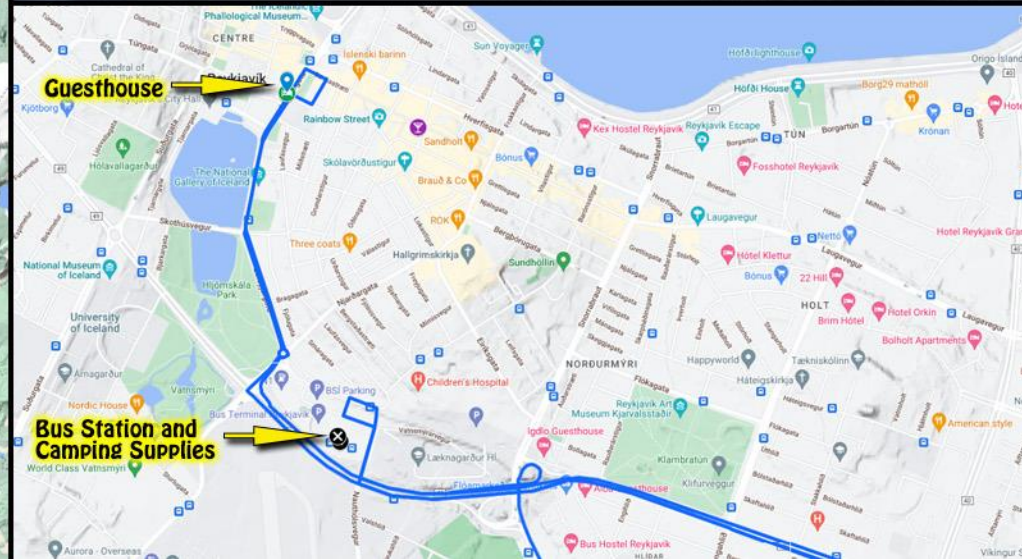
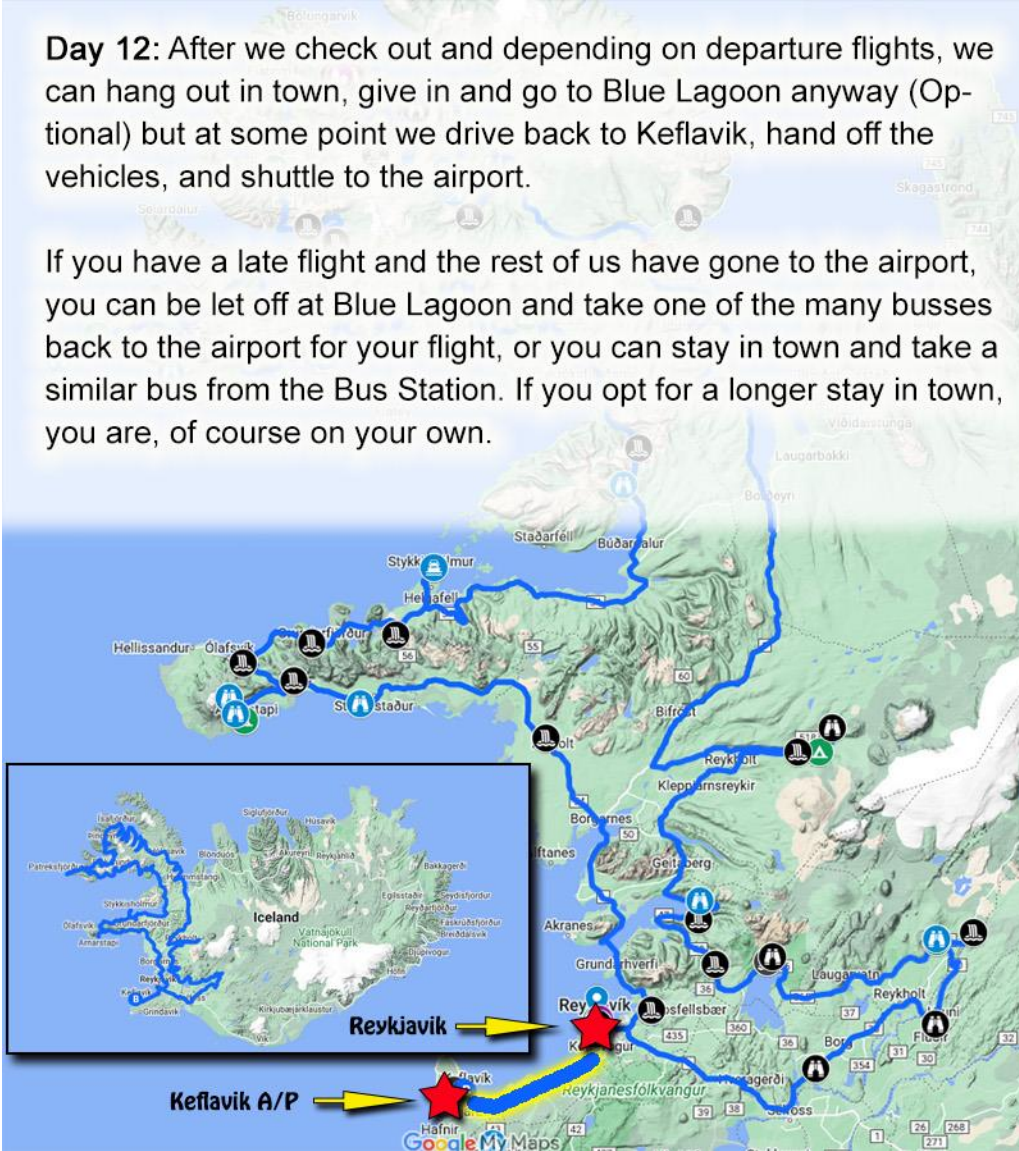
There will probably be a fair amount of walking to see some of the classic and iconic Reykjavik sites. Driving in town is bad, and finding parking even worse... besides... see the above part re: drinking.

Jay and the Support Van will depart this evening to return the rental to the Keflavik Airport staying in a campground nearby.



Day 12: After we check out and depending on departure flights, we can hang out in town, give in and go to Blue Lagoon anyway (Optional) but at some point we drive back to Keflavik, hand off the vehicles, and shuttle to the airport.

If you have a late flight and the rest of us have gone to the airport, you can be let off at Blue Lagoon and take one of the many busses back to the airport for your flight, or you can stay in town and take a similar bus from the Bus Station. If you opt for a longer stay in town, you are, of course on your own.

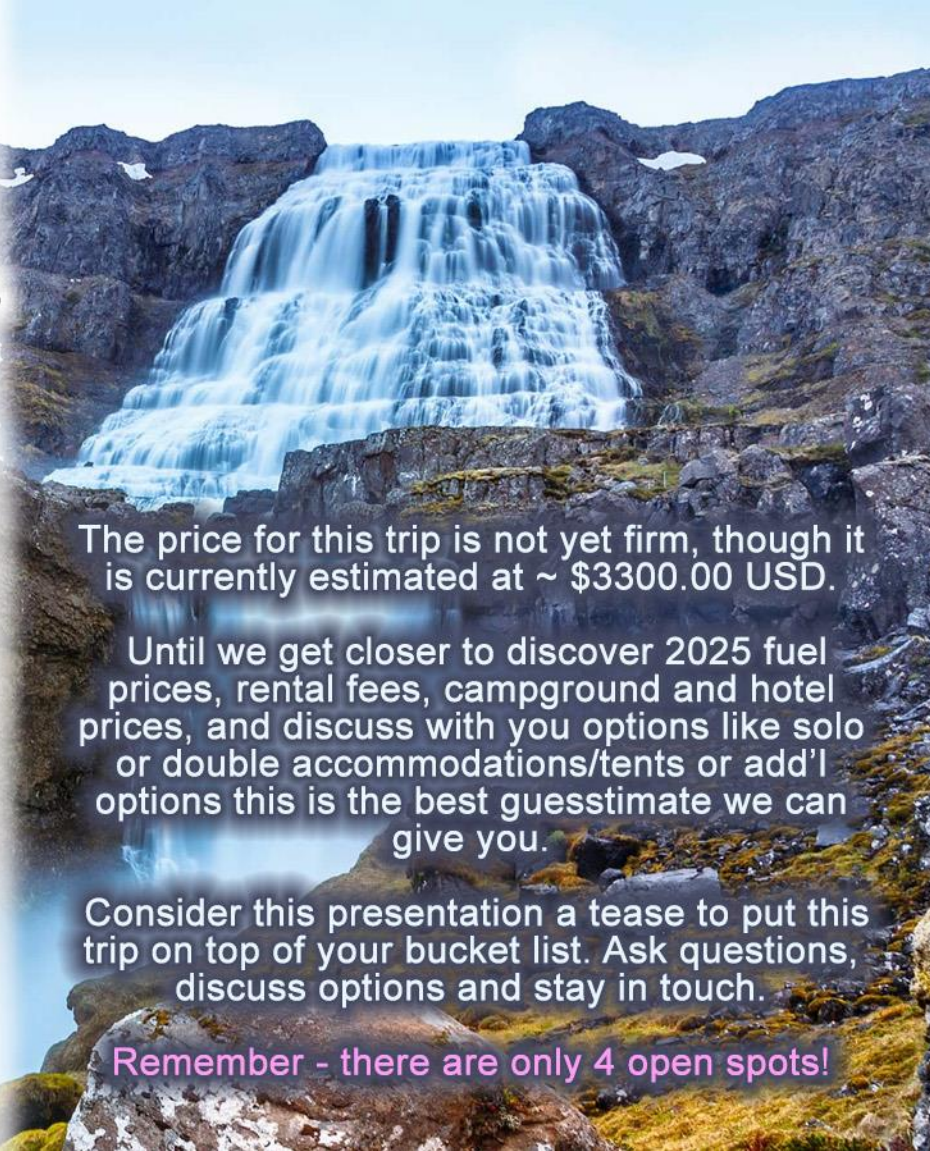


Includes:

- Airport Shuttles from Vehicle rental lots
- 4x4 Rental Vehicle with insurance, Mobile WiFi, Driver/Guide
- Support Vehicle with Insurance for camping gear, Mobile WiFi, Driver/Guide, and a variety of camping/cooking gear.
- Your choice of tent size (solo or double must be specified), sleeping bag, airpad, fleece blanket.
- All fuels for cooking, and both vehicles.
- All camping fees (eight nights - Iceland charges per person)
- Hotel Accommodations (3 nights, solo, double, triple must be specified)
- Two picnic lunches and two campsite dinners while on trip.
- All tours/attractions/shuttles specified as 'included'.
(Vidgelmir Cave, Secret Lagoon, Arctic Fox, Kerid Crater, Krosslaug Hot Spring, Sky Lagoon)
- In-camp coffee, tea, hot chocolate, condiments.
- Walkie-Talkies for inter-vehicle comms
- All Parking fees and tolls.

Not Included:

- Everything else! But don't forget:
- Airfare to Keflavic/Reykjavic Iceland (KEF)
- Other meals not included above, all drinks and snacks.
- Souvenirs, clothing purchases, etc.
- Blue Lagoon (time/space permitting)
- Whining, bitching and moaning are not permitted
- Bail Bonds and court costs... !



The price for this trip is not yet firm, though it is currently estimated at ~ \$3300.00 USD.

Until we get closer to discover 2025 fuel prices, rental fees, campground and hotel prices, and discuss with you options like solo or double accommodations/tents or add'l options this is the best guesstimate we can give you.

Consider this presentation a tease to put this trip on top of your bucket list. Ask questions, discuss options and stay in touch.

Remember - there are only 4 open spots!

Misc Stuff to Consider: *(The Fine Print)*

MEALS: Meals in Iceland are pricey. This is mainly a volcanic island and very little food is grown, mostly imported. So, we will look for less expensive places to eat... though, that might be difficult as restaurants are few and far between. We suggest stocking up on 'continental style' breakfasts, oatmeals, muffins, etc. in the campgrounds, and we will be providing a first-day introduction to Icelandic Hot Dogs, two lunches and two dinners, cookout camp style. Other meals are on you. We will provide coffee, tea and hot chocolate for most mornings as well, but you should think about stocking up on snacks, in-car food, and be prepared for the cost of meals eaten out. We will stop and shop several times along the way at proper supermarkets. If you plan on buying a souvenir coffee cup, get it on your first day and bring it with you, otherwise use a paper cup we provide. There will be limited cooking facilities with the Support Van at camp, though we are not prepared for cooking all six meals at once. We will have one table and a couple chairs, so be prepared to maybe not eat at same time in camp. We also suggest you consider sandwich fixin's for picnic lunches, or soups. Ramen Noodles, etc to save on meal costs. We will have the ability to boil water or cook in small batches. Still, there will be times we all sit at a restaurant for meals... but it is your choice.

CLOTHING: It's Iceland! Dress for warmth. You are also camping so be ready for that. We will be trekking to many waterfalls, so have rain pants and a good rain jacket with rain hood. A warm beanie or hat and gloves will also be needed. You won't need hiking boots, as most hikes we take are not too long and on even gravel or pavement. Most people do buy a souvenir T-Shirt or sweatshirt, so think about that when you pack. We will have several Laundry opportunities along the way, as well as showers at most campgrounds, and some of the thermal soaking pots. Best to plan on layering your clothing. Be aware that most of us will wear the same thing on multiple days!

BATHING SUITS: We mentioned several times that you should consider two suits as some days we visit multiple hot pots, or else plan on a cold, wet, bathing suit as you walk to the hotpots. We'll rig up a clothes line in camp to dry them as best we can. We are also renting 2 beach towels for everyone to save on your checked baggage space ... or buy a souvenir towel when you get there. Be aware most public pools/thermals require you to shower before-hand in the buff. It is an Icelandic thing nationwide... go with it. Also consider flip-flops for walking to the thermals.

WI-FI: Both vehicles will have WiFi hotspots for multiple devices. Both should have USB ports, but in a limited amount. If you bring a US charger, Iceland uses a Europlug socket with two round prongs. For these plugs, you can use adapter types "C" or "F". We would suggest a small external Battery pack as well.



SMOKING: ... is frowned on at most places. Certainly not in the support van or car we rent. Likewise Ukulele playing is considered illegal after 10pm ... jus' sayin. Cannabis is illegal, but CBD is permitted. Customs is generally non-invasive at the airport, but prescription medicines should be in original containers.

COSTS: We are constantly monitoring the costs for this trip, and as fuel, accommodations, campgrounds and vehicle rentals change we will change our estimates, currently at \$3300 but we do expect it to go higher by 2025. Your individual cost can be reduced if you choose to double up in tents or hotel rooms, or opt out of some of the tours we are providing... but don't - they are part of the Icelandic experience. If you opt to arrive the night before or extend your stay afterwards, this is on your dime, but we can help with the logistics. Iceland uses the Icelandic Krona (ISK). As of this writing \$1 USD is equal to 138 ISK.

At your first opportunity, obtain an assortment of Icelandic Krona, to include bills in the value of 10000, 5000, 2000, 1000 and 500 kr; and 100kr coins. The latter for showers or laundry use in camp. Most camp facilities do not give change or take bills.

In order to book your trip with us, we will need a 50% deposit by July 10th, 2024 (one year from trip). By January 10th, 2025 we will need your full payment, adjusted for 2025 prices. If you pull out before March 10th, 2025 you will get your monies back as soon as we book your replacement. After March 10th, 2025, your funds are lost if you pull out unless YOU find your replacement. Please understand this is necessary due to the inherent difficulty in getting a replacement on short notice. We are required to place large deposits or full payment for all vehicles, hotels and tours on a similar schedule. Unlike most guided tours, don't plan on giving us a tip - we prefer you buying us drinks. As adventures of a lifetime go, this is not a hugely expensive trip, even for Iceland. Just remember your costs do not include flights and most meals.

GEAR: As this trip gets closer we will send out friendly suggestions and reminders about gear you should bring. Remember, we will provide sleeping bags, pads, fleece blankets, tents, and there will be a folding table in the support van, plus a couple of chairs. Each vehicle will have a WiFi system and the support van will have an inverter for your 110v appliances, subject to sharing with others. All but one night on the road will be at campgrounds, many of which have showers and laundry facilities, though some few will charge for this. Some campsites may be crowded so our collection of tents and support van may be close together. Keep in mind everyone will be hearing everything going on in your tent... belches, farts and peeing in a bottle in the middle of the night is permitted without giggling from your neighbors. Well... for the most part anyway.

We suggest bringing a pillow or use your clothing gear bag - we do not rent pillows, bring some line to hang wet suits, and a small flashlight or head-light, though darkness hours are minimal in Iceland in July. We always suggest being ready for rain and cold, especially as we hike to the waterfalls. Most hikes, however, are relatively short.

When we arrive in Iceland, the support Van will take your luggage to the overnight accommodation and put in a storage room, or you can leave it in the van til checkin at 2pm. We will also add more camping gear into this van during the first day. Throughout the trip, your camping and personal gear (except for any in-car snacky stuff) will be in the back of the van on a large plastic tarp. At each campsite, these bags will be placed on the ground at the back of the van on another tarp. You will be responsible for retrieving it, setting up your tents and putting your gear in those tents. In the morning, you will be responsible for drying and breaking down the tent, and placing your bags on the ground tarp by a specific time given to you the prior night to stay on schedule. Your guides/drivers will load these back in the support van for transport during the day to our next campsite.

We are subject to hefty charges for returning the vehicles or camping gear in a damaged or dirty condition. For this reason, our final morning in camp will be up early to clean and properly pack our gear as we will drop them off on our arrival in Reykjavik.

ATTITUDES: We have a strict "No Wankers" policy. No... really! We try to make you fully aware of the conditions and difficulties we may encounter on this trip, and ask that you fully appreciate that this is our vacation as well as those of your tripmates. Don't be that person who screws it up for everybody else. Whining, bitching and moaning will not be tolerated - OK, so moaning maybe in some situations, but for the most part leave the bad attitude back in the States, where they belong. For your safety, we don't get into Religion, Politics and Sports... or anyone's musical ability with the Ukulele.

SAFETY / SECURITY: For the most part Iceland is a pretty safe country. As with any large city, watch your valuables in Reykjavik while we wander the city. Once on the road and in campgrounds, crime is very rare. However, feel free to ask one of our group to accompany you to the restroom in the middle of the night if you are concerned. Remember it is likely not fully dark in the middle of the night anyway, but we'll be happy to help. We do ask that no one wanders off alone on hikes or sightseeing walks.

We will not be focused on anything to do with the volcano near Grindavik. For this reason we will not be stopping at the Blue Lagoon - there are better thermal pools anyway. As of this writing, it does not interfere with the airport or drive to Reykjavik.

We'd also ask that all of us install a free app called LIFE360 on their phones and sync up with each other using what they call 'Circles' so we can see where you are. Don't want to lose anyone! We will help set this up at the beginning of the trip. This allows us to see where each of you are and more importantly lets you see where we are! It also allows each other to send messages without data charges.

SCHEDULES: We do have an ambitious itinerary, but we are experienced with Iceland driving and tourist attractions. However, with so many stops for waterfalls and thermal pool soaks, we may find ourselves a little behind schedule and agree to pass by one or more of them, especially if it is very crowded with others. Your interest in stopping will be considered, but there may be situations where we need to move on for the sake of timing.

WAKE-UP/BEDTIMES: We know you're all adults and can manage your sleep habits on your own, but realize there will be mornings where we ask you to get up pretty early. It is light after 4am anyway, but some attractions are best done early or late in the day to avoid crowds, or we simply have a long day ahead of us. When you crawl off to bed is also your concern. Every night we will let you know when we expect to drive off - plan your camp coffee and breakfasts accordingly. We will let you know if we expect to stop somewhere for breakfast or it would be best to eat before we leave.