Contents
TOURIST INFO ........................................................................................................................................... 2
VARIOUS TOURIST INFORMATION SITES .............................................................................................. 2
EXCURSIONS ............................................................................................................................................... 2
REYKJAVÍK ................................................................................................................................................ 3
ICELAND .................................................................................................................................................... 4
ICELAND IN BRIEF .................................................................................................................................... 5
A FEW FACTS ABOUT ICELAND .............................................................................................................. 5
GENERAL INFO ......................................................................................................................................... 6
FLIGHT TO ICELAND ................................................................................................................................. 8
TOURIST INFO

VARIOUS TOURIST INFORMATION SITES

- The official travel guide to Iceland: www.visiticeland.com
- The official tourism website of the Reykjavik Capital Area: www.visitreykjavik.is
- Check the weather in Iceland: www.vedur.is
- Blue Lagoon Spa In Iceland: www.bluelagoon.com
- Iceland Review - What's on in Iceland: www.whatson.is
- Icelandic Directorate of Immigration: www.utl.is
- Keflavik International Airport in Iceland: www.airport.is/english

EXCURSIONS

Various excursions are available. For scheduled tours from Reykjavik you can check following websites.

Reykjavik Excursions: www.re.is
Iceland Exursions: www.icelandexcursions.is
Air Iceland: www.airiceland.is
REYKJAVÍK is an excellent venue for meeting and conferences.

Founded in 1786, it is the capital of Iceland and the northernmost capital city in the world.

Reykjavik is a vibrant city offering most of the conveniences and attractions usually associated with major capitals of the world. Its amazing array of possibilities is why Reykjavik is sometimes called the biggest little capital in the world.

In Reykjavik you have opportunities for historical sites, natural beauty, museums and galleries, public parks, excellent shopping, a wide range of leisure activities, hotels, restaurants and a remarkably lively artistic scene.

VISIT REYKJAVÍK - The official tourism website of the Reykjavik Capital Area is: www.visitreykjavik.is
ICELAND

ICELAND is closer than you think and probably also far different from what you might have imagined. Where else can you witness such marvels of Mother Nature as glaciers, steaming geysers and volcanoes, raging rivers and magnificent waterfalls, a multitude of birds, cavorting whales just offshore and many other surprises.

Iceland was settled by Nordic people in the 9th century – tradition has it that the first permanent settler was a Norwegian Viking, named Ingolfur Arnarson, who made his home where Reykjavik is situated today. The Icelanders still speak a language close to that of the Vikings, although modern Icelanders also speak many foreign languages.

Iceland is an island of 103,000 km2 (39,756 sq. miles), about one-third larger than Scotland or Ireland. It has a population of just over 300,000, almost two-thirds living in the capital Reykjavik and its neighbouring towns in the southwest.

Regardless of when you visit, be assured that the warmth shown by the Icelanders, their desire to share their culture and their efforts to make your stay as pleasant as possible will, like the spectacular landscape, not easily be forgotten.

VISIT ICELAND - The official tourism information site is: www.visiticeland.com
ICELAND IN BRIEF
A FEW FACTS ABOUT ICELAND

OFFICIAL NAME: Iceland
FLAG: Blue with a red cross outlined in white. The colours are symbolic for Iceland: red is for the volcanic fires, white recalls the snow and glaciers, and blue is for the skies above and the ocean around.

POPULATION: 329,100 (Jan 2015). Median age is 37.5 years.

CAPITAL CITY: Reykjavik. The largest municipalities are Reykjavik* (121,822); Kópavogur *(33,205); Hafnarfjörður* (27,875); Akureyri (18,191); Reykjanesskagi (14,924). *cities in the capital region.

GOVERNMENT: Parliamentary constitutional republic.

LANGUAGE: Icelandic, a North Germanic language derived from Old Norse. English is widely spoken and understood.

RELIGION: Predominantly Christian.

CURRENCY: The Icelandic “króna”, (plural krónur) – ISK

TIME: Iceland is on Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) throughout the year.

SIZE: 103,000 sq.km (40,000 sq.miles), slightly bigger than Hungary and Portugal, and slightly smaller than Greece.

GLACIERS: Glaciers cover 11,922 sq.km (4,600 sq.miles) of the islands’ surface. Iceland is home to Vatnajökull National Park, the largest national park in Europe.

HIGHEST POINT: Hvannadalshnjúkur peak 2,110 m.

DISTANCE: From USA 5–6 hours by flight and 2–4 hours from Europe.

EMERGENCY NUMBER: 112
Business, Shopping and Banking hours
Office hours are generally 09:00–17:00. Shopping hours are Mon–Fri 09:00–18:00, Sat from 10:00 to 16:00. Some supermarkets are open to 23:00 or even 24/7. Banking hours are Mon–Fri 09:15–16:00.

Climate and Clothing
Thanks to the Gulf Stream, Iceland enjoys a cool temperate ocean climate: cool in summer and fairly mild in winter. The average Celsius temperature in June is around 10 degrees. However, the weather is very changeable and tourists should be prepared for the unexpected. When travelling in Iceland you should bring along lightweight woollens, a sweater or cardigan, a rainproof (weatherproof) coat and sturdy walking shoes.

Credit Cards
Credit Cards are widely accepted in Iceland. The major cards in Iceland are EUROPAY/MASTERCARD and VISA. Diners and American Express are also accepted. Cash can be obtained at every bank branch as well as in all ATMs throughout the country. Please note that there might be a difference between the official currency exchange rate in Iceland and the exchange rate that the credit card companies charge.

Currency Exchange
The Icelandic monetary unit is the “króna”. Coins are in denominations of 100 kr, 50 kr, 10kr, 5 kr and 1 kr. Bank notes are in denominations of 10.000 kr, 5.000 kr, 2.000 kr, 1.000 kr, and 500 kr All Icelandic banks provide foreign exchange. 1€ is equivalent to 148.9 Icelandic Krona based on the exchange rate of the Central Bank of Iceland on 23. March 2015. (http://www.cb.is/exchange-rate/)

Electric current
The electric current in Iceland is 220volts, 50 HZ AC. Euro plug/Schuko-Plug (CEE types).

Health, Pharmacies, Emergency and Medical help
Icelanders enjoy a healthy life, thanks to clean air and water and quality fish. Water is safe to drink throughout Iceland. Pharmacies are called “Apótek” and are open during normal business hours. Many are open at night. There is a medical centre or a hospital in all major cities and towns in Iceland. The emergency phone number (24 hours) in Iceland is 112.

Shopping and Tax free
The shops in Iceland are of international standard, and carry a wide variety of merchandise. Local specialities include woollen knitwear (eg. sweaters and
cardigans), handmade ceramics, glassware and silver jewellery. Also available is a great variety of high-quality seafood.

A refund of local Value-Added Tax (VAT) is available to all visitors in Iceland. The refund will result in a reduction of up to 15% of the retail price.

**Telephones and Mobile phones**
The code into Iceland from overseas is +354 + seven-digit number. Direct long-distance calls can be made to Europe and the USA by dialling 00 plus the country code, and the number you wish to reach.

**GSM:** There are four GSM operators in Iceland: Siminn, Nova, Tal and Vodafone. These companies both sell pre-paid GSM phone cards and offer GSM/GPRS services. Pre-paid cards are available at petrol stations around the country.

**The Midnight Sun**
During summer the nights are bright in all of Iceland. In the month of June the sun never fully sets in the north. Keep in mind, however, that the sun at midnight is not as warm as at midday, so bring along a sweater.

**Tipping**
Service and VAT are invariably included in prices in Iceland.

**Travel Information**
Iceland is an island and the easiest and fastest way to travel to Iceland is by airplane. Iceland is 5–6 hours away from USA and 2–4 hours from Europe. There are 3 Icelandic Airlines operating all year round and many others which fly to Iceland during the summer time. The international airport is about 50 km from Reykjavik and it takes approx. 35–40 minutes to drive from there into the city. Note; there are no trains in Iceland.

**Visa Requirements**
For information on passport and visa requirements as well as the Schengen area regulations, please view the website of the Icelandic Directorate of Immigration (www.utl.is)
FLIGHT TO ICELAND

Air Berlin - www.airberlin.com
Air Greenland -
www.airgreenland.com
Austrian Airlines -
www.austrian.com
Delta - www.delta.com
easyJet - www.easyjet.com
Edelweiss Air -
www.edelweissair.ch
Evelop Airlines - www.evelop.com
Germanwings -
www.germanwings.com
Icelandair - www.icelandair.com
Lufthansa - www.lufthansa.com
Luxair - www.luxair.lu
Niki Luftfahrt - www.flyniki.com
Norwegian - www.norgwegian.com
Primera Air - www.primerair.com
Scandinavian Airlines System - SAS -
www.flysas.com
Sun Express - www.sunexpress.com
Transavia.com -
www.transavia.com
Vueling - www.vueling.com
WOW air - www.wowair.is
Find flight connection -
www.dohop.com
## Flights from major cities to Iceland

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