

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

ICELAND EXPEDITION

2023 MULTI-GENERATIONAL ADVENTURE

US DEPARTURE DATE: JULY 25, 2023 | LAND TOUR START DATE: JULY 26, 2023
RETURN DATE: JULY 30, 2023

LAND PACKAGE FROM: \$ 2,275



START YOUR ADVENTURE.

Dear Alumni and Friends!

Look forward to July 2023 and join us on a multi-generational adventure to the land of fire and ice!

Experience the warmth and comfort of the Blue Lagoon, marvel at the majesty of the waterfalls, touch rocks just formed from volcanic births, and use your free time to sit back and take in Reykjavik or even go on a whale-watching adventure. From beautiful black beaches to white fluffy sheep and everything in between, Iceland is waiting for you.

Travel solo or with friends, a partner or your family as young as age five and above. This journey provides social, cultural, and recreational activities along with many opportunities for learning, enrichment and enjoying a connection back to the NC State.

This adventure offers great quality and value, operated by a travel company with over 46 years of experience in the educational travel market.

If you have any questions about this tour, please contact our tour operator AESU Alumni World Travel by emailing: alumni@aesu.com or call 800-638-7640 or visit our website: www.aesu.com/NCState-Iceland.



Benny Suggs
Executive Director, NC State Alumni Association



Visit our website
WWW.AESU.COM/NCSTATE-ICELAND
for more details and to book



TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend travel insurance.
(Some schools or alumni associations may offer travel insurance to you at a reduced rate.)

If not, AESU also offers group travel insurance. Ask our reservations agent for details or visit this link:

<https://www.generalitravelinsurance.com/get-a-quote.html?partner=AESU3922>

ICELAND EXPEDITION

6 DAYS

CITIES VISITED:
REYKJAVIK



WHAT'S INCLUDED:

6-Day Land Package Transportation and Lodging

- 4 nights at a centrally located superior tourist class hotel, rooms with private bath/shower
- All ground transportation by private motor coach, as per itinerary
 - Transfer from airport to hotel via Blue Lagoon, land-only participants contact tour operator for transfer options (airport departure time to Blue Lagoon will be advised with final documents)
- Return airport transfer with purchased AESU group airfare

Meals

- 8 meals: 4 breakfasts, 2 specialty dinners, 2 specialty lunches

Activities & Admissions

- Admission to the Blue Lagoon geothermal spa (includes towel, mineral facial mask, one beverage)
- Reykjavik town exploration, guided by a local expert
 - Full-day Golden Circle Tour
 - Visit an Icelandic wool mill
- Full-day South Shore Excursion

ICELAND EXPEDITION

ITINERARY

ABOUT THE TRIP:

Iceland attracts visitors of all ages year round not only for its nature and culture, but also for the powerful forces beneath the earth's crust. Geologically speaking, Iceland is the world's youngest country and is still growing, as can be seen in various areas of the island. Icelandic nature is unspoiled, exotic and mystical with its spouting geysers, active volcanoes, tumbling waterfalls, towering mountains, other-worldly lava deserts and sparkling iceberg-filled lagoons. Reykjavik, Iceland's friendly capital, offers plentiful cultural and social happenings in addition to an abundance of first-class restaurants, interesting boutiques, museums and art galleries. Don't miss out on this extraordinary multi-generational adventure!

DAY 1 - TRAVEL TO ICELAND

Embark on our overnight journey to Reykjavik, Iceland's capital city.

Meals: In-flight



DAY 2 - REYKJAVIK: LAND TOUR START

Your expedition in the 'Land of the Midnight Sun' starts with a visit to the Blue Lagoon. Find ultimate relaxation in the healing mineral waters, surrounded by lava fields and snow-capped mountains in this geothermal spa located just outside of Reykjavik. The facilities include modern changing rooms and showers, an indoor geothermal pool, a winter garden and a restaurant. Continue to Reykjavik and take a guided walking tour of this northernmost capital in the world. Your tour includes the old town center, the Parliament, Cathedral and much more. Afterwards, check into your hotel. This evening, join your tour director, host and fellow travelers for a welcome dinner of Icelandic specialties.

Meals: In-flight, Dinner

Inclusions: Transfer from airport to hotel via Blue Lagoon, land-only participants contact tour operator for transfer options (airport departure time to Blue Lagoon will be advised with final documents), 1 bottle of water per person, Admission to the Blue Lagoon geothermal spa including a towel, mineral facial mask and one beverage, Walking tour of Reykjavik city, guided by a local expert, see the Sun Voyager sculpture by Jón Gunnar Árnason and the Alþingi - the Icelandic Parliament House, Welcome orientation and dinner of Icelandic specialties



DAY 3 - REYKJAVIK - GOLDEN CIRCLE TOUR

The 'Golden Circle' tour is probably Iceland's most popular day tour as it includes three of the best known attractions. The golden waterfall Gullfoss, is one of the most impressive waterfalls in Europe with thousands of tons of icy water thundering majestically into a deep canyon. The Geyser area has numerous hot springs and geysers, including the world known Strokkur. Þingvellir National Park, a UNESCO World heritage site, is where the world's oldest democratic parliament was founded in 930. A beautiful canyon running through the park is the dividing fault line between two of the earth's tectonic plates. Our excursion includes a visit to one of Iceland's wool mills. Icelandic wool has a history that dates back to the earliest settlers who came to the island from Norway as early as the 9th century AD.



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The wool of Icelandic sheep is unique in that it contains two different types of hair that serve as a natural barrier from wet and cold weather. We return to Reykjavik for an evening at your leisure.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Inclusions: Breakfast, Full-day Golden Circle tour, guided by a local expert, See Gullfoss Waterfall, Strokkur Geyser, Pingvellir National Park, UNESCO World Heritage Site, dividing fault line between two of the earth's tectonic plates, Visit to an Icelandic wool mill, Traditional Icelandic meat soup lunch at Geyser café, 1 bottle of water per person



DAY 4 - REYKJAVIK - SOUTH SHORE EXCURSION

Today's excursion takes us through the fertile farming lands and villages of south Iceland, rich in Viking history and heritage, with views of the infamous Eyjafjallajökull and Hekla volcanoes. Take a walk behind the splendid wall of water of Seljalandsfoss Waterfall, go for a leisurely stroll along the black sand beach of Reynisfjara with its famous basalt columns and caverns, and see the Reynisdrangar cliffs; basalt rock stacks that rise from the sea. Icelandic legends say they are naughty trolls turned into rock by the rising sun. We end this great sightseeing tour with a stop at the Skógafoss Waterfall. Walk up to the thundering waterfall for a bird's eye view of the tumbling water and rainbows.

The evening is free for you to make dinner plans with fellow travelers.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Inclusions: Breakfast, Full-day South Shore Excursion, guided by a local expert, See Eyjafjallajökull and Hekla volcanoes, Seljalandsfoss Waterfall, black sand beach of Reynisfjara, Skógafoss Waterfall, Icelandic lunch at the south shore, 1 bottle of water per person



DAY 5 - REYKJAVIK

Enjoy a free day in Reykjavik with time for shopping and exploring on your own. Consider a walk to the harbor and opt to sign up for a whale watching cruise. At our farewell dinner tonight, enjoy traditional fish & chips and share your impressions of this fascinating Iceland Expedition.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Inclusions: Breakfast, Farewell fish & chips dinner



DAY 6 - TRAVEL HOME

Your land tour ends with breakfast this morning. Board your flight home with delightful memories and thoughts of your next adventure.

Meals: Breakfast, In-flight

Inclusions: Breakfast, Transfer from hotel to airport included with purchased AESU group airfare



PROGRAM ACCOMMODATIONS

Hey Adventurer!



Iceland is known for its nature and culture, but also for the powerful forces beneath the earth's crust. Geologically speaking, Iceland is the world's youngest country and is still growing, as can be seen in various areas of the island. Icelandic nature is unspoiled, exotic and mystical with its spouting geysers, active volcanoes, tumbling waterfalls, towering mountains, other-worldly lava deserts and sparkling iceberg-filled lagoons. Reykjavik, Iceland's friendly capital, offers plentiful cultural and social happenings in addition to an abundance of first-class restaurants, interesting boutiques, museums and art galleries. This is an extraordinary multi-generational expedition!

This trip has been carefully designed and features fantastic inclusions and highlights.



For a glossary of these key aspects, visit: www.aesu.com/aspects-awt

ACTIVITY LEVEL



LEVEL 2: RELAXED

This tour requires light physical activity combined with shorter travel days.

For more details, please visit: <https://www.aesu.com/activity-levels-awt/>

TOUR DIRECTORS

Your tour includes the services of a professional tour director throughout the land package. We are very proud of our tour directors. They are young professionals; multi-lingual and carefully selected graduates from major universities. They are eager to show the world through the eyes of an adventurer. Our tour directors know this is a trip of a lifetime and will share their knowledge as well as interesting little-known facts. Our qualified tour directors and staff of local experts mean a trouble-free journey with the added security of group travel.

HOTELS

Our hotels offer superior tourist class accommodations, with private bathrooms. Hotels are centrally located and many offer great extra amenities such as pools, gyms or roof-top bars. All land package rates are based on two people sharing a room. If a single room is desired, a supplement of \$860 applies. If traveling solo and not wanting to pay the single supplement, AESU will attempt to arrange a share with a same-gender traveler. If a share cannot be arranged the single supplement will apply. This tour is suitable for children 5 years of age or older. The child package rate for a child between the ages of 5 and 17 (age at the time of travel) is \$2,115 if he/she shares a room with 1 or 2 adults.

" A WONDERFUL TIME WITH WONDERFUL PEOPLE. PHENOMENAL TOUR. "

- past traveler

BOOKING TERMS AND CONDITIONS

EXCLUSIONS: These prices do not include passport and, if applicable, visa fees (Depending on your nationality, you may require visas in addition to a passport to enter certain countries. You must contact appropriate consulates for details on how to obtain on your own.); airport and government taxes; tipping of tour guide and driver (suggested \$5 per day for tour director, \$2-3 per day for driver); beverages with meals unless indicated otherwise; laundry; personal insurance; room service; telephone charges; all items of a personal nature; any vaccinations, pre/post trip testing/screening, airport transfers when a participant deviates from scheduled flights or travel dates; private transportation; and all items not specifically stated in the itinerary.

CANCELLATION POLICY: All cancellations must be received by AESU in writing. Date of receipt will determine penalties assessed. Cancellation from time of booking until 120 days prior to departure will result in a \$300 cancellation fee. Cancellation between 119-90 days of departure will result in forfeiture of 25% of tour cost; between 89-60 days 35% of tour cost; between 59-30 days 50% of tour cost. Cancellation within 30 days of departure or a "no-show" at the time of departure will result in forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. Processing of cancellation refunds takes approximately 6-8 weeks.

AIRFARES are highly restrictive, NON-REFUNDABLE, NON-ENDORSABLE and NON-TRANSFERABLE once ticketed. Once reservation is booked and paid for AESU reserves the right to issue tickets. Once ticketed, airfare portion is non-refundable. Cancellation of airfare reservations is subject to restrictions, regulations and additional penalties of the airlines used. Reservation changes are also subject to penalties. Travel insurance, including medical health and accident coverage, is compulsory. PLEASE SEE WEBSITE FOR POSSIBLE ADDITIONS TO CANCELLATION POLICIES LISTED ABOVE DEPENDING ON TRIP DESTINATION.

AIRPORT TRANSFERS AND BAGGAGE: All participants using AESU flights on regular group departure days and flights receive airport transfers (between airport & tour hotel) overseas. Land-Only participants (providing own flight overseas) do NOT receive airport transfers and must meet group at the first hotel after 3:00 p.m. on program start date. **FLIGHT DELAYS - ALL AIRPORTS:** In the event that airline schedule changes or delays force you to miss your airport transfer, just make your way to the first hotel listed on your hotel list. Many shuttle services are available as well as taxi or train options. As airline delays are beyond the control of AESU, additional expenses, if incurred, will be borne by the tour participant. (Save receipts for possible reimbursement by airline.) AESU is not responsible if an airline cancels, reschedules, or delays a flight for any reason. If you miss your departure flight, it is your responsibility to work with the airline on which you are ticketed to reach your destination. AESU is not responsible for any additional expenses you may incur prior to joining your trip. AESU is not responsible for and will not provide any refund for portions of trips missed due to canceled, rescheduled, or delayed flights. If you purchase your own airfare, book your overnight flight from the USA one day earlier than the land tour start date listed on our website. Participants should limit themselves to one checked bag per person and one carry-on per person. Check your airline's website for any additional luggage restrictions. Liability is clearly stated on the passenger contract.

RESPONSIBILITY: The responsibility of AESU as a tour operator, their agents, and any sponsoring association is limited. They act only in the capacity of agents for the passenger in all matters pertaining to accommodations, sightseeing and transportation whether by railroad, motorboat, motorcar, steamship or plane, and as such they shall not be liable for any personal injury, death, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned, whether by reason of any defect in any vehicle, or through the acts or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger, or in carrying out the arrangement of the tour. They can accept no responsibility for strike, war, quarantine, epidemic health risk, any force majeure event, weather and any other natural or unnatural causes. Additional expenses, if incurred under any of these circumstances, will be borne by the tour participant. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for himself/ herself or other passengers & accepts the terms of this contract. The right is reserved to decline, accept or retain any person as a member of the tour or to cancel or alter the tour as required. If improvements in the itinerary can be made, or unforeseen conditions beyond the Operator's control make changes necessary, they reserve the right to alter itineraries without penalty. **TRAVEL INSURANCE** is compulsory in the event of tour cancellation for any reason, medical expenses, personal accident, baggage and other personal items, liability and 24-hr emergency assistance. Trip insurance may be offered directly by your Alumni Association. In the event of cancellation due to insufficient number of participants, the Operator's liability shall be limited to a refund of land payments received from applicants, except non-refundable airfare and insurance. If the change or cancellation is due to force majeure or other similar events beyond Operator's control, a refund of land payments received from applicants will be made less reasonable expenses incurred by Operator in respect to applicant's land booking. Baggage and personal injury are at owner's risk entirely. The issuance or acceptance of vouchers or tickets shall be considered consent of the above conditions. The Operator reserves the right to increase the program price in the event of cost increases due to changes in airfares, currency fluctuations or fuel surcharges. The airlines concerned and their affiliates and agents are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board the aircrafts. The passenger ticket in use by said airlines, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of these tickets and/ or the passenger. All services are subject to the laws of the country in which these services are rendered. No refund or allowance will be made for absence during the tour, or for activities missed, even if for causes beyond the control of the participant. For complete terms & conditions, please refer to our web site at www.aesu.com.