



Discovering Our Planet Together



A Circumnavigation of Iceland

Get a 360° View on the Land of Fire & Ice on a Full-Circle Expedition Cruise



Table of Contents:

Trip Overview	3
Trip Itinerary	4
Trip Accommodations	8
What Makes Nat Hab Different?	9
Dates & Pricing Information	11



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Trip Details:

Days:
10 Days / Jul

Price:
From \$11285
(+ Air)

Physical Requirements:
Easy to Moderate

A Circumnavigation of Iceland

Get a 360° View on the Land of Fire & Ice on a Full-Circle Expedition Cruise

Iceland contains some of Earth's most fascinating geological features, from glaciers and geothermal springs to boiling mud pots, columnar sea cliffs and stark lava fields of austere beauty. Geologically young, Iceland is located on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, a tectonic plate boundary of intense geological activity with many volcanoes—hundreds, in fact. Most famously, Eyjafjallajökull erupted in 2010, sending ash sky-high and fiery molten rock coursing over the landscape. Add in gushing waterfalls, summer wildflowers, whales, seabird colonies and other wildlife, and you've got one of the world's most captivating nature destinations. Iceland's Viking heritage and thriving arts culture add even more appeal to this diverse island nation on edge of the Arctic Circle. Experience it all when you make this full circuit by expedition ship!

Trip Highlights

Explore remote, less-visited parts of Iceland, including the Westfjords, the east coast and the Westman Islands, one of the planet's youngest archipelagos

Stand on Europe's largest glacier, cruise among icebergs in Jokulsarlon Lagoon, gape at Godafoss, the "waterfall of the gods," and walk amid volcanic craters at Lake Myvatn

Look for abundant marine life as we scout for whales and dolphins at sea, and pass steep volcanic cliffs that are home to millions of nesting seabirds, including Atlantic puffins



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Itinerary At A Glance

- Day 1**
Keflavik, Iceland /
Reykjavik—City Tour / Embark
Ship
- Day 2**
The Westfjords
- Day 3**
Skagafjordur
- Day 4**
Siglufjordur—Herring Museum
- Day 5**
Husavik / Godafoss / Lake
Myvatn
- Day 6**
Grimsey / At Sea—Whale
Watching
- Day 7**
Bakkagerdi—Puffin Viewing

A Circumnavigation of Iceland Itinerary

Get a 360° View on the Land of Fire & Ice on a Full-Circle Expedition Cruise

Day 1: Keflavik, Iceland / Reykjavik—City Tour / Embark Ship

Arrive at Keflavik International Airport and transfer to Reykjavik, Iceland's capital. Lying less than two degrees below the Arctic Circle, Reykjavik is the world's northernmost capital. Its high latitude location provides 22 hours of sunlight at high summer, with the near-perpetual light creating a lively, energetic atmosphere. Our Iceland adventure begins with a guided tour of Reykjavik. Highlights include Hallgrimskirkja Cathedral, whose modernist facade and 210-foot tower were designed in 1937 and completed during the mid-20th century, and the National Museum of Iceland, where you'll get an overview of Nordic history and culture, admiring Viking artifacts and unusual whalebone carvings on display. Embark your expedition ship this afternoon, with dinner served aboard.





Itinerary At A Glance

Day 8

Djupivogur—Vatnajokull Ice Cap / Jokulsarlon Glacier Lagoon

Day 9

Westman Islands—Surtsey & Heimaey

Day 10

Reykjavik—Disembark / Depart

Day 2: The Westfjords

Lying just south of the Arctic Circle, the far-flung Westfjords embrace Iceland's most northwesterly point. Exceptionally remote and peaceful, much of this corner of Iceland can only be accessed on foot or by sea. Erik the Red, father of Leif Eriksson, was among the first in a thousand-year line of settlers who survived on a peninsula here, living on herring and seabird eggs. Once we enter the Isafjaroadjup, a fjord system that extends far inland and progresses to steeper and taller mountain shores with each of its eight fjords, you can opt to hike to a remote waterfall or take a scenic Zodiac ride along the rugged coast. A stop at Vigur Island lands us at a birder's paradise that is home thousands of species, including puffins, black guillemot, Arctic terns and eider ducks. The walkable island is the second largest in the bay, but it has only a handful of inhabitants—a farmer and his family. For years, the farmers have collected the down from resident nesting ducks' nests and sold it for cushions and duvets. More than 200 years ago, a farmer built a small stone wall with cubby holes that made a perfect refuge for nesting mother ducks. This "Eider Duck Hotel" still operates today, and we'll stop by the Eider Farm to see the down cleaning process.

Day 3: Skagafjordur

Considered the gateway to northern Iceland, Skagafjordur beckons adventurers with its diverse array of adventures. Embrace the exhilaration of rafting on the currents of the Jokulsa River, or step back in time in a visit to a historic rural turf farm. Along the way, we'll see abundant herds of Icelandic horses, renowned for their friendly temperament and strength. These resilient equines have thrived in Iceland's rugged landscapes for centuries and are well adapted to the harsh climate. We also have the option to visit Drangey Island, a 700,000-year-old volcanic rock. This uninhabited island once served as refuge for the legendary Icelandic outlaw Grettir the Strong, who lived in exile on its shores for two decades in the early 11th century. The island's towering cliffs are home to thousands of nesting seabirds, and we look for kittiwakes, shearwaters, puffins, ravens and gyrfalcons.

Day 4: Siglufjordur—Herring Museum

Today we call at Siglufjordur, a small town on Iceland's north coast, which was the center of the country's once-thriving herring industry in the mid-20th century. We make a stop at the Herring Museum, which focuses on the wealth once provided by these small silver fish and how they were processed. Though the museum receives relatively few visitors in this remote location, it is the largest marine and industrial museum in Europe and has received the European Museum of the Year award. Our visit includes a salting demonstration and tasting. Though the herring are mostly gone today, the town's economy is still fishing-based. Then we join the local forestry association for a conservation-focused field tour this afternoon in their local woods, learning what it takes to maintain and develop a forest in Iceland.



Day 5: Husavik / Godafoss / Lake Myvatn

Land at Husavik this morning, site of the first house built in Iceland and our gateway to the geological wonders of the island's northern reaches. Depart for a full day of overland exploration, first visiting one of the largest waterfalls in Iceland, Godafoss, the "waterfall of the gods." The dramatic cataract plunges 40 feet over an ancient lava cliff shaped like a horseshoe, stretching 100 feet across. We also visit Lake Myvatn and environs, the most geothermally active area in Iceland. Lake Myvatn fills the remnant of a crater formed during a massive eruption 2,300 years ago, and the region around it is an introduction to world-class field geology. On display in the dynamic environment are various volcanic features, including pseudo-craters, lava formations, steam vents and hot springs. The lake is also one of the premier birdwatching areas in the world, with marshes providing habitat for huge numbers of migratory birds during the summer, with more than 115 species on view. Alternatively, choose a journey through Asbyrgi Canyon, said to be formed from the hoof of the Norse god Odin, filled with hiking and waterfalls, or stay along the coast for slower-paced activities including forest bathing, bird watching, and a soak in the GeoSea bath.

Day 6: Grimsey / At Sea—Whale Watching

Sailing northward to the land of the midnight sun, our destination is the tiny island of Grimsey, located about 30 miles off Iceland's north coast. Known as the land of a hundred people and a million seabirds, Grimsey lies exactly on the Arctic Circle. We go ashore by Zodiac to celebrate being officially in the Arctic, in the company of nesting Arctic terns, fulmars and puffins in burrows, all busily bathing, courting and fishing. This afternoon we are at sea, sailing around the northern corner of Iceland to start our voyage south. These waters offer some of the world's best whale watching, so you'll want to be out on deck to look for them as we cruise. Icelandic seas are home to 24 different whale species, and in this area, we may see humpback, fin, minke, sei, blue, sperm, northern bottlenose and long-finned pilot whales, as well as orca, harbor porpoise and white-beaked dolphin. Our naturalist guides are by your side to help you spot and identify the abundant marine life.

Day 7: Bakkagerdi—Puffin Viewing

Located on the little-visited northeast shore of Iceland, Bakkagerdi is a tiny hamlet of about 100 people that is known as the Puffin Capital of Iceland. Walk across boardwalks among these colorful icons of Icelandic wildlife, watching them nest in their burrows and emerge to fly and fish. Once you have plenty of close-up photos of this famous and charming member of the auk family, you may wish to take an invigorating hike up to a panoramic vista of Borgarfjordur Eystri, regarded as one of Iceland's most wild and beautiful fjords. Surrounded by the Dyrfjoll Mountains, which rise more than 3,700 feet, the region is renowned for its stunning hiking terrain. Or choose a bike ride along the fjord for a more intimate view of the coast. Whatever you do, keep an eye out for the "hidden people" reputed to live here: according to local folklore, Bakkagerdi and environs are home to a very large population of elves.



Day 8: Djupivogur—Vatnajokull Ice Cap / Jokulsarlon Glacier Lagoon

Djupivogur, on Iceland's east coast, is our port of call, with a choice of two excursions. For the first option, we drive south to the foot of the vast Vatnajokull Ice Cap and Jokulsarlon Glacier Lagoon. Vatnajokull is Europe's largest ice mass, covering over 3,000 square miles and averaging more than 1,400 feet thick. In 2008, Vatnajokull Glacier and its magnificent surroundings were declared Iceland's largest national park, covering 13% of the country's terrain. Few places in the world exhibit the effects of such a wide range of natural phenomena, where ice and fire compete to shape a landscape honed by the combined forces of rivers, glaciers, volcanoes and geothermal activity. Guests who choose this excursion will examine the snow-covered surface of the ice cap up close before continuing to the large ice lagoon of Jokulsarlon for a boat ride among the flotilla of glittering blue icebergs that drift across the lake's surface. Fed by Vatnajokull Glacier, the lagoon began to form in the 1950s and has grown every year, as the pace of glacial melting accelerates, and the ice tongue recedes to reveal ever more water. In this regard, the glacial lagoon offers a living laboratory for observing the effects of global warming. As the chunks of ice calve into the lagoon, they slowly melt and float out to sea, where the ocean waves may drive them back onto the black volcanic sand that forms the beaches of Iceland's south coast. The second excursion option is a 4x4 vehicle journey into some of the secluded valleys and remote waterfalls in the countryside around Djupivogur.

Day 9: Westman Islands—Surtsey & Heimaey

Overnight, our ship has rounded the southern side of Iceland to reach the Westman Islands. Formed by undersea volcanoes between 5,000 and 10,000 years ago, the islands comprise one of the planet's youngest archipelagos. We cruise past the newest island, Surtsey, which was formed by volcanic action from 1963 to 1967. The world witnessed its creation on film, and Surtsey was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site from its birth, providing the world with a pristine natural laboratory in which to observe how plant and animal life colonize new land. We call at Heimaey, the largest and only populated island in the Westmans. Half the town on the island was destroyed by lava flows from Eldfell Volcano in 1973, which nearly closed off its harbor. An emergency operation to cool the advancing lava with sea water held it at bay. We visit the volcano crater, where the earth is still hot, and survey impressive views of the broad area once engulfed by lava.

Day 10: Reykjavik—Disembark / Depart

Our circumnavigation of Iceland is complete today as we return to Reykjavik and disembark. Choose between two tours this morning: the first option is an excursion to one of Iceland's signature hot springs, an Icelandic horse farm home to this hardy breed with stout legs and a long mane, and a geothermal power plant. Or visit Reykjanes GeoPark to view the Mid-Atlantic Ridge above sea level, which separates the North American Plate from the Eurasian and African plates, plus a nearby hot springs area. After lunch, transfer to the airport for flights home.



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Accommodation Details:

National Geographic Endurance

National Geographic Resolution

National Geographic Explorer

For detailed descriptions, visit nathab.com/adventure-cruises/iceland-nature-cruise/ships/

A Circumnavigation of Iceland Accommodations

Get a 360° View on the Land of Fire & Ice on a Full-Circle Expedition Cruise



National Geographic Endurance

This new expedition ship is a next-generation ice-class vessel that's purpose-built for year-round polar navigation, designed for 138 guests in 76 staterooms to safely explore uncharted waters in exceptional comfort.



National Geographic Resolution

This new, next-generation ice-class vessel accommodates 138 guests in 76 staterooms and is purpose-built for year-round polar expeditions, exploring remote and icy waters in utmost comfort.



National Geographic Explorer

The newly renovated ice-class polar expedition vessel accommodates 148 guests in 81 outside cabins, all with private facilities, plus the most innovative tools for exploration above and below the sea.



Sail with the World Leader in Small-Ship Conservation-Focused Cruising

We're proud to offer a worldwide slate of Adventure Cruises through our partner Lindblad Expeditions. Nat Hab joined forces with Lindblad in 2016 to expand our mutual collection of nature adventures. Founded in 1958 by Lars-Eric Lindblad, the company pioneered eco-conscious expeditions for "citizen explorers" and today is the world leader in conservation-focused small-ship cruises.

1 Small Ships for Closer Nature Encounters

Lindblad's expedition ships offer an intimate, up-close experience of Iceland's coast and islands. The small size of our National Geographic ships grants access to narrow fjords and secluded bays that big cruise ships can't reach, while full stabilization and state-of-the-art technology provide supremely safe passage. Guests also enjoy personal interactions with naturalists, guides and crew.

2 Tap More than a Half-Century of Maritime Expertise

This comprehensive Iceland nature cruise offers an expedition-style experience with a crew and staff who are veterans of Arctic waters. As pioneers in commercial polar cruising, Lindblad draws upon more than 50 years of experience, assuring safety and a thorough immersion in some of the world's most remote wild places. Aboard Lindblad's ships, you'll sail with a highly experienced Expedition Leader, assistant Expedition Leader and a team of naturalists with relevant specialties. A photo instructor certified by National Geographic is also on board to help you get outstanding images of Iceland's grand scenery and marine life.

3 Varied Activities Make Every Day a New Adventure

A host of exciting adventures led by naturalist guides reveals the rugged, wild beauty of Iceland. Motorized Zodiac rafts get us close to cliffside bird rookeries and provide access for shore landings, while a fleet of double kayaks provides an eye-level look at marine life. These sea kayaks are chosen for their stability, and even beginners will find that maneuvering them is not difficult—and instruction is provided. A custom-designed floating platform allows kayaks to be launched from most any location.

4 Take a Look at the World Below the Sea

An undersea diving specialist accompanies every voyage. Wearing gear to survive in frigid Arctic waters and carrying nearly 200 pounds of equipment, this specialized expedition team member shoots high-definition footage of the world beneath the waves, teeming with life. It's then shared on plasma TV screens in the ship's lounge for all to enjoy. In addition, the ship's remotely operated vehicle (ROV) can dive to 1,000 feet below the surface to capture even more imagery of the deep ocean world.



5 Specialized Equipment Further Enhances Your View of Nature

A video microscope helps naturalist guides show and explain a multitude of elements in the Arctic environment, including tiny organisms in the marine ecosystem's building blocks—like a krill's body, at 80x magnification. High atop the ship's mast, a crow's nest camera provides a 24/7, 360-degree view on our surroundings that you can watch on your cabin TV. And underwater microphones are deployed to listen in on marine mammals, offering real-time sounds of nearby whales and other life below the surface.

6 Travel with Experts Who are Iceland Specialists

Your voyage features a knowledgeable team of expert interpreters who will vastly enhance your appreciation for the natural and cultural history of Iceland. Each voyage includes a senior Expedition Leader, a team of veteran naturalists, a National Geographic photographer, an undersea specialist, expert guest speakers, a video chronicler and a wellness specialist. You'll hear from a diverse slate of speakers including wildlife biologists, ornithologists, marine scientists and historians.

7 We're Committed to the Planet

Natural Habitat Adventures is a standard-setter in eco-conscious travel. We were the world's first 100-percent carbon-neutral travel company. And we continue to break ground in adopting practices that help protect our global environment. Because of our concern for the environment, we are pleased to partner with Lindblad Expeditions for our Adventure Cruises, a company that shares our values and commitment to the planet.

8 Natural Habitat Adventures is WWF's Travel Partner

Because of our environmental commitment and the outstanding quality of our adventures, World Wildlife Fund has chosen Natural Habitat Adventures as its worldwide travel partner, a designation we're very proud of! When you book your Lindblad Expeditions cruise with us, a portion of your trip fee supports WWF.





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Dates & Pricing Summary:

Prices:
From \$11285
(+ Air)

Group Size:
National Geographic Explorer

Physical Requirements:
Easy to Moderate

A Circumnavigation of Iceland Dates, Pricing & Info

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2025 Departures

Departure	Return	Notes
Jul 9, 2025	Jul 18, 2025	National Geographic Endurance
Jul 18, 2025	Jul 27, 2025	National Geographic Endurance

2026 Departures

Departure	Return	Notes
Jun 30, 2026	Jul 9, 2026	National Geographic Endurance
Jul 9, 2026	Jul 18, 2026	National Geographic Endurance



Pricing

2023 Prices

Pricing & Deck Plan *Note that pricing is subject to change and may vary from what is listed in the charts below. For per-departure pricing, hover your cursor over the dates above (desktop) or tap the date of your choosing (mobile).*

National Geographic Resolution

National Geographic Explorer

Trip prices are per person based on double occupancy and are given in U.S. dollars. Single cabins may be available on ships without dedicated single cabins at higher rates. A deposit of **15%** of the cabin fare is required to reserve your space.

2024 Prices

Pricing *Note that pricing is subject to change and may vary based on availability. For per-departure pricing, hover your cursor over the dates above (desktop) or tap the date of your choosing (mobile).*

Trip prices are per person based on double occupancy and are given in U.S. dollars. Single cabins may be available on ships without dedicated single cabins at higher rates. A deposit of **15%** of the cabin fare is required to reserve your space.

2025 Prices

Pricing

Note that pricing is subject to change and may vary based on availability. For per-departure pricing, hover your cursor over the dates above (desktop) or tap the date of your choosing (mobile).

Trip prices are per person based on double occupancy and are given in U.S. dollars. Single cabins may be available on ships without dedicated single cabins at higher rates. A deposit of **15%** of the cabin fare is required to reserve your space.

Group Size

National Geographic Explorer : Approximately 148 Travelers ([see deck plan and photos](#))

National Geographic Resolution : Approximately 138 Travelers ([see deck plan and photos](#))

National Geographic Endurance : Approximately 138 Travelers ([see deck plan and photos](#))

An important feature of any Lindblad Expeditions adventure cruise is the small ship size. Smaller ships are able to access more remote areas off limits to large cruise ships, and guests aboard enjoy more intimate nature encounters as well as more personalized interactions with the ship's naturalist staff. Guests are divided into smaller groups for Zodiac excursions, kayak outings and hikes ashore.

Included

Shipboard accommodations; meals from lunch on Day 2 until lunch on Day 10; alcoholic beverages (except premium brands); excursions; services of Lindblad Expeditions' Leader, naturalist staff and



expert guides; use of kayaks; all port charges and service taxes; gratuities to ship's crew.

Not Included

Air transportation; personal items such as emails, laundry, voyage DVD etc.; optional travel and/or medical evacuation insurance.

Recommended Insurance Since the areas we travel to are remote and wild (that's why we go there!), we strongly recommend that all guests have, at minimum, medical evacuation insurance for this program. While this is not required, we make this strong suggestion in the interest of our guests' safety. We recommend that your chosen independent insurance plan includes at least \$250,000 in medical evacuation coverage.

To protect your investment and to provide peace of mind while you travel, we also strongly recommend purchasing comprehensive travel insurance. Plans may cover everything from medical treatment to trip cancellations and delays and lost luggage. Please contact our office if you would like more information about the medical evacuation and comprehensive travel insurance policies we offer by calling 800-543-8917.

Physical Requirements

Easy to Moderate

This is an active expedition that requires mobility and good health. In order to participate, you must be able to walk unassisted for a minimum of one mile over rough and uneven terrain including rocky trails, rocky beaches, ice and snow. To participate in excursions ashore, you must walk down a steep gangway (steel ramp with stairs) and climb into and out of rigid inflatable Zodiac rafts, which can sometimes be unstable, depending on water and wind conditions. Travel via Zodiac occurs over variable conditions and can sometimes be quite bumpy. If it's windy, you may get wet from sea spray. Travelers with back problems or other health issues that could be exacerbated by such conditions should take this into consideration and consult with your physician beforehand. Travelers must be prepared for any type of weather, including extreme conditions that may involve high winds, rain and snow. While seas are generally calm on this itinerary, it's possible we could encounter rough conditions, which may cause issues for travelers prone to motion sickness. Our ships are fully stabilized, but we recommend that you discuss preventive medication with your physician if you are susceptible to motion sickness. The ship carries a qualified physician who is available at any time in case of emergency, and whose services are provided free of charge; however, the limited infirmary carries only basic medicines and equipment.

Mandatory Insurance

Since the areas we travel to are remote and wild (that's why we go there!), we require that all guests have, at minimum, medical evacuation insurance for this program. This is for the safety of all guests. We require that your chosen independent insurance plan includes at least \$250,000 in medical evacuation coverage.

To protect your investment and to provide peace of mind while you travel, we also strongly recommend purchasing comprehensive travel insurance. Plans may cover everything from medical treatment to trip cancellations and delays and lost luggage. Please contact our office if you would like more information



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about the medical evacuation and comprehensive travel insurance policies we offer by calling 800-543-8917.

Getting There & Getting Home

You will depart from home on Day 1 of the itinerary, landing in Reykjavik on Day 2. You can depart in the afternoon on Day 11.

We can best serve you by having Lindblad Expeditions' air department book your flights, since Lindblad is most familiar with the special requirements of each trip. Please call Lindblad directly at 800-397-3348. Note that while Lindblad Expeditions' air department will offer you its best available rates on airfare, you may find special web rates or better fares online.



Natural Habitat & WWF: Discovering Our Planet Together

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WWF's membership travel program is operated by Natural Habitat Adventures (Nat Hab). To date, Nat Hab has provided more than \$6 million in support of WWF's mission and will continue to give 1% of gross sales plus \$175,000 annually through 2028. WWF® and ©1986 Panda Symbol are owned by WWF. All rights reserved.