

# Family Iceland Adventure

Trip Code: FIE

Version:



MULTI ACTIVITY



FAMILY

MODERATE



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Whizz past icebergs on a zodiac tour of Fjallsarlón glacier lagoon and walk with crampons on a glacier
- See geology in action: lava tunnels, hot springs, boiling mud cauldrons, steaming vents, black sand beaches and more!
- Enjoy Whale-watching, puffin spotting, kayaking and soaking in the famous Blue Lagoon

- Discover the Golden Circle of Gullfoss, Geysir and Thingvellir

## AT A GLANCE

- 7 days Multi-activity
- Join at Reykjavik

## ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

[VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE](#)

# Introduction

This active family holiday in Iceland is an unforgettable experience filled with adventure, wildlife, folklore, and visiting its tremendous geological scenery. We begin our holiday north of Reykjavik, in the Snaefellsnes Peninsula, with a walk along the cliffs and sandy beaches spotting seals. We see the iconic mountain of Kirkufell, made famous in Game of Thrones.

Moving southwards our attention focuses on the Golden Circle tour including the majestic waterfall of Gullfoss, the spouting water at Geysir and the ancient parliament at Thingvellir. Our holiday ramps up with an enjoyable kayaking session and seeing puffins. At Fjallsarlon we take to the water on a zodiac in the glacial lagoon. The ice formations and icebergs are stunning and exude a mystical blue aura as we travel through the water. We then don crampons and walk on the ice of the glacier in Vatnajokull National Park - this is day you and the children will never forget!

It's then all about the lava fields, steam spouts and boiling mud cauldrons as we pass through the Krysuvik Geothermal Area. We have a lovely soak and unwind in the surreal Blue Lagoon before travelling back to Reykjavik. Our last day packs a punch, as we sail out for a morning whale-watching. Possible sightings include minke and humpback whales, porpoises and dolphins. Along our journey through Iceland we learn about how environmental changes are effecting the glaciers and wildlife, and how we can take positive steps for the future.

With its breath-taking landscapes, natural wonders, and endless activities, this holiday in Iceland is perfect for active and adventurous families looking create memories that will last a lifetime.

## Is this holiday for you?

### Suitable for children from 8 years

On this family holiday we have many outings where we will take short walks, for example along a beach or on a boardwalk over lava fields.

Some of the accommodation is simple and has shared bathroom facilities.

You and your children should be able to swim. Safety equipment such as lifejackets and warm floating

jackets are provided on the zodiacs and kayaking activities.

No experience is required for kayaking and single and double kayaks are provided. The minimum age for kayaking is 6 years old.

Warm floatable overall suits are also provided (on request) on the whale-watching trip. These are to ensure you and the children are warm and can enjoy the whales to the max. There is also an inside section on the whale-watching boat.

Walking with crampons on the glacial ice is brilliant fun - it requires no experience, but you need walking boots to attach the crampons to. The minimum age for walking on the glacier in crampons is 8 years old.

# Itinerary

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Version:

## Holiday Information

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### What's Included

- A professional and qualified tour leader
- Flybus airport transfers on arrival and departure
- All accommodation as described
- Meals as described in the Meal Plan
- All land transport required by the itinerary
- All activities and excursions mentioned unless specified as 'optional'

### What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Some meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Any additional activities/excursions indicated as optional
- Tips
- Miscellaneous personal expenditure - drinks and souvenirs etc

### Joining Arrangements & Transfers

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#### TRAVEL TO YOUR DESTINATION

If flying from the UK there are low cost airlines available to the start and from the end of your holiday.

To benefit from full financial protection, ease your holiday planning, and avoid dealing with airlines, we can book scheduled flights from the UK as part of a flight inclusive package. Scheduled flights are usually more expensive than low cost alternatives, however potentially less stressful if your flight is cancelled or delayed. If you book flights through KE Adventure Travel we will offset the carbon of your flight.

The group will meet at the accommodation in Reykjavik.

Included are pre-purchased return tickets for the 'flybus'. This travels from Keflavik Airport to central Reykjavik (approx. 1hr 15mins) and back. This is an easy journey and gives you flexibility to book flights which suit your requirements.

Hotel contact details and an emergency number will be provided with your booking confirmation.

## Meal Plan

All breakfasts and 4 dinners are included.

## Food & Water

Water from the taps is perfectly drinkable on this holiday - please use this to fill your personal bottles for your daily activities. We do not encourage the purchase of single-use plastic bottles.

Breakfasts are usually continent style with bread and jams. Icelandic skyr yoghurt is normally available, maybe with some local bilberries if they are in season. Oatmeal or porridge is also a popular breakfast, and we might also be able to find waffles for breakfast in a few places.

For lunches the guide will stop at a suitable establishment where either the everyone can buy their own lunch or picnic, depending on the activity of that day.

Dinners which are provided are balanced and healthy sourcing local produce as far as possible. We might enjoy cod, salmon, lamb with salads, rice or pasta. In the restaurants there is also a selection of regular meals such as burgers, pizzas, chips etc.

## Accommodation

We use a small guesthouses, hostels or cottages/cabins run by local farmers. The rooms are usually family rooms, sometimes with bunk beds. We sometimes have en-suite facilities, but often we will have shared bathroom facilities.

For our nights in Reykjavik we stay in a combination of hostels and guesthouses. Often these use shared bathroom facilities.

For the 1 night on the Snaefellsnes Peninsula we stay at a guesthouse with remote wooden cabins. Sometimes we are in these cabins with private facilities, other times we will be in the apartments attached to the main building, with shared bathrooms. The guesthouse and cabins have recently been built by the farmer and are located near the sea and the Snaefellsjokull volcano.

When in the Golden Circle area we stay for 1 night in a guesthouse with shared facilities near Borg in twin or double rooms, within an eco-village.

For 2 nights near Vik we are in small cabins with a large bunk bed for 2 people on the bottom and 2 at the top. Sleeping bags are provided for this night. There is a toilet in the cabin, but the hot showers are in a separate cabin.

Some of the accommodations have a kitchenette.

Families with 1 child under 12 yrs will share rooms with their grownups. This might be a twin, triple or a double with an extra bed. Families with 2 children will usually have 2 rooms or family rooms.

Please talk to us about your requirements and we will do everything to ensure that you are happy with your rooming allocation.

## **Guidance on Tipping**

Tipping is the accepted way of saying 'thank you' to your leader. Tipping is entirely voluntary and should be dependent on good service.

## **Baggage Allowance**

For this holiday you should take one piece of luggage, and a daypack. For international flights please check your baggage allowance with your airline.

## **Group Size & Holiday Status**

For each holiday there is a minimum number of participants required to enable it to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to run'. You can check the trip status for each departure in the 'Dates and Prices' table. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we will not cancel a trip once it has achieved this guaranteed to run status so you are free to proceed with your international flight booking and other travel arrangements.

# General Information

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## Passport & Visas

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders. A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

**It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents and visas for your holiday.** Please ensure that you check for the latest advice before travel. For the most up to date information on entry requirements, please visit the [UK Government website](#).

## Visa Iceland

UK and USA passport holders do not require a visa for short stays.

For this holiday we require a scanned copy of the main pages of your passport. Please email this to the office when your holiday is guaranteed to run.

## Health & Vaccinations

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips. You will need to carry your own treatment for the allergy with you, as 'adrenaline auto-injectors' are not carried as standard by KE leaders and staff. You should inform your leader on arrival of your allergy, and let them know where you keep your adrenaline pen.

## Vaccinations

You should contact your doctor or travel clinic to check whether you require any specific vaccinations.

## GHIC / Medical cover

UK residents should carry a free Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC). This entitles you to state provided medical treatment when you're visiting an EU country or Switzerland. This is not a substitute for medical travel insurance which is vital when travelling overseas.

## Currency

The unit of currency in Iceland is the Icelandic Krona.



## Climate

Despite its location on the edge of the Arctic Circle, Iceland is not the cold country we sometimes imagine. The island benefits from the influence of the Gulf Stream, which bathes its south, west and north-west coasts, giving the country a temperate oceanic climate (relatively mild winters and relatively cool summers). In Reykjavik, average temperatures are between 0 ° C in January and 12 ° C in July. The rains are more abundant in the south than in the north. As for the winds, they are very frequent and sometimes strong. The only thing certain about Icelandic weather is that it is extremely changeable, so you should be prepared for four seasons in one day, though generally it is warm and sunny in summer.

From May to mid-August it barely gets dark at night, which is very exciting for children, and a delightful thought when booking this holiday in the UK winter!

## Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's '[Travel Aware](#)' campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that before travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at [travelaware.campaign.gov.uk](http://travelaware.campaign.gov.uk) and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. North Americans can also check out the U.S. Department of State website: [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) for essential travel advice and tips.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates directly from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

## FAQ's about our family holidays

We welcome all family dynamics and we will try to accommodate you in the roomings of your choice. The only stipulation for joining a family group holiday is that 1 party member is 17yrs or under, and they are accompanied by an adult. An average group size is around 10 members in total. Further general information and FAQ's are available here: [KE Family Adventure Holidays general information](#).

## Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our [Travel Insurance](#) page for further information and to get a quote.



# Equipment Information

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## Equipment List

Please try to keep the weight of your baggage to a minimum. See the 'baggage allowance' section for further details.

### YOU SHOULD BRING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- Walking boots (must be 'boots' for the crampons to fit on), any boot and size is acceptable
- Trainers / comfortable footwear for short walks / excursions
- Trousers / shorts / skirt
- T-shirts / tops / casual shirts
- Base-layers / thermals
- Fleece top / warm jumper
- Puffer jacket or similar
- Socks & Underwear
- Waterproof jacket & overtrousers (required for kayaking)
- Sunhat
- Warm hat and gloves (it might get cold on the boat trips)
- Sunglasses
- Daypack 25-30 litres (depending on how much of the kids' stuff you need to carry)
- Sun protection (including total bloc for lips, nose etc.)
- Insect repellent

- Water bottles (approx 2 litre per person) (we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic)
- Washbag and toiletries.
- Antibacterial handwash
- Swimwear
- Swim towel
- Basic First Aid Kit. Including: antiseptic cream, throat lozenges, diarrhoea treatment (Imodium), painkillers, plasters and blister treatment, and re-hydration salts (Dioralite).

## **THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE OPTIONAL:**

- Camera
- Eye mask - to assist sleeping in the near 24-hour daylight
- Gaiters - even just ankle gaiters will protect your trousers and ensure you don't trip up when wearing crampons for the first time. They can be bought cheaply online if you don't have any. Alternatively you can tuck your trousers into your socks.
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping (to avoid plastic bags)

## **NOTE:**

Sleeping bags are provided for the 2 cabin nights near Vik.

All specialist equipment is provided, including:

Glacier walk: crampons, helmet, harness

Kayaking: lifejackets, kayaking shoes and gloves

Whale-watching: optional warm floatable overalls (kids and adults)

Glacier lagoon zodiac boat tour: Warm floatable jacket and lifejacket

## **Cotswold Outdoor**

Many of the equipment items listed above are available from [Cotswold Outdoor](#) - our '**Official Recommended Outdoor Retailer**'. When you book a holiday with KE you will receive a 12.5% discount with Cotswold Outdoor, Snow+Rock and Runners Need. The discount code can be downloaded from your MyKE account and you can use this code at the checkout, either in store or online.

## Land Only Information

We sell this holiday on a Land Only basis allowing you the flexibility to choose the travel method which best suits you. The holiday starts at the accommodation in Reykjavik. Tickets are included and pre-purchased for the 'flybus' from/to Keflavik Airport - Reykjavik.

# Why Choose KE

## Why KE

We've included as many excursions and activities as possible. There is something to keep everyone entertained! Iceland is a fascinating and varied country and we want your family to experience everything it has to offer.

**Please Note** This document was downloaded on 21/11/2024 and the trip is subject to change