

Discovering the Christmas Yule Lads and the Northern Lights

December Group | Winter 2021

DECEMBER GROUP | 6 days 5 nights | from 2 to 7 December

Winter in Iceland is very unique and seductive. This is the time of year when you can meet the magical beings - elves and goblins, legends and other mythical beings that fill the imagery of Icelandic culture and which literature, music and the arts in general replicate so well. The endless night, the mountains covered in white, the snow snaking along the roads and the Northern Lights invited you to enter a world beyond our time, resembling the magic of fairy tales.

Day 1 | 2. 12 (Thursday) Arrival to Keflavík airport – Blue Lagoon – Reykjavík

Arrival to Keflavík airport. Trip to Blue Lagoon, going through the lava fields which form the magnetic lunar landscape of the Reykjanes peninsula. Blue Lagoon is an open-air geothermal pool between 30C and 40°C. It's one of the unique and famous attractions of Iceland. An open-air, geothermal Spa, which allows harmony between the body, mind and spirit. Return to the hotel in Reykjavík.

Day 2 | 3. 12 (Friday) Reykjavík – City tour + Fly Over Iceland – flight to Akureyri – Akureyri

Breakfast in the hotel. City-tour during the morning. Highlights: the Höfði house, where in 1986 the non-proliferation treaty between M. Gorbachov and Ronald Reagan was signed; the Viking ship-shaped sculpture - Sólfarid; after crossing the downtown we stop at the Hallgrímskirkja; Lake Tjörninn; the old harbour and *Fly Over Iceland*. Flight to Akureyri, near arctic circle and considered the most beautiful town in Iceland. City tour and Overnight stay in Akureyri.

Day 3 | 4. 12 (Saturday) Akureyri – Godafoss – Mývatn (Mývatn baths and Traditional Dinner w/ Yule Lads)

Breakfast in the hotel. Trip to Godafoss (the waterfall of the gods), symbol of the implementation of Christianity in Iceland, followed by lake Mývatn which is a natural conservation area and a place for birdwatchers, photographers and nature lovers since 1974. Stop by the pseudo-craters of Skutustadir and the petrified magma and basalt constructions of Dimmuborgir, which is believed to be inhabited by elves. The trip continues along the volcanic crater Hverfell, to the fumaroles and mud and lava pots of Namaskard, a place with orange ground which reminds us of Mars, with an intense sulphur smell. Time to bathe in the *Mývatn Baths with the Christmas Yule Lads*. The water have minerals coming from inside of the earth. Possible to see the Northern Lights. *Traditional Christmas dinner* and Overnight stay in Mývatn.

Day 4 | 5. 12 (Sunday) Mývatn – Akureyri Christmas House - flight to Reykjavík – Reykjavík

Breakfast in the hotel. We go to the Eyjafjörður to visit the *Christmas house* at the edge of the fjord and where once again, you will live the magical world of Icelandic fables and legends. In Akureyri we visit the ski resort of Hlidarfjall, where you will enjoy a panoramic view of the fjord. *Return flight to Reykjavík*. Overnight stay in Reykjavík.

Day 5 | 6. 12 (Monday) Reykjavík – Golden Circle – Reykjavík

Breakfast in the hotel. Trip for the Golden Circle, the oldest day tour of the island. Next, Geysir Park, which showed these phenomena to the world and where the Strokkur geyser expels hot water over 35 meters high, followed by Gullfoss waterfall. The trip ends at the Thingvellir natural park, where it is possible to see the oldest parliament in the world, admire the natural beauty and experience the separation of the two tectonic plates. Overnight stay in Reykjavík.

Day 6 | 7. 12 (Tuesday) Reykjavík – Keflavík airport

Breakfast in the hotel. Transfer to the airport.

Christmas Dinner: The traditional Christmas dinner includes sea soup, smoked salmon, traditional trout, Mývatn style lamb, different dishes, laufabrauð - leaf bread, Skyr and traditional cakes - products that have been part of this season for centuries in Iceland.



Included: Hotel B&B 4**** in Reykjavík - 3 nights | Hotel B&B 3*** in Akureyri and Mývatn | English speaking guide
BUS w/ transfers (transfers from and to the international and domestic airports)

Flight Reykjavík - Akureyri | Flight Akureyri - Reykjavík | Traditional Christmas Dinner | Blue Lagoon | Fly Over Iceland | Mývatn Baths

Optional: 3 dinners

* Any changes to the programmes due to weather conditions or other force majeure will be safeguarded.

Ice Tourism | Inspired by Iceland!