

Go whale spotting for humpbacks, orca and minke; snowmobile up on Snæfellsjökull glacier dubbed the 'eternal pyramid of snow' or take a trip out to Breiðafjörður with your boat overflowed by puffins, elders, kittiwakes and white tailed eagles. Move on to Iceland's most ruggedly hardcore corner: the western fjords with their signature fan shaped waterfall Dynjandi and ruggedly indented coastline before visiting Skagafjörður, the centre of horse breeding on the island. As well as riding (of course), the glacier rivers Jökulsá Vestari and Austari have some of the best river rafting in Iceland and both Drangey & Málmeý Islands are worth a visit.

Whales, Fjords & Horse country



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WHALES, FJORDS & HORSE COUNTRY

DAY 1 UK-REYKJAVÍK Scheduled Icelandair flight to Reykjavík. Transfer to Hotel Reykjavík for 2 nights.

DAYS 2 REYKJAVÍK Time to chill out, hang out or take a city tour including Hafnafjörður.

DAY 3 REYKJAVÍK - RUNDARFJORDUR Courtesy transfer to collect your hire car, drive out of Reykjavík via the Whale Bay tunnel to Borgarnes (the newly opened Settlement Centre there is a good place to catch up on your Saga's), along the southern side of the Snæfellsnes peninsula and round its very tip to Grundarfjörður. Overnight at Hotel Framnes for 2 nights.

DAY 4 GRUNDAFJORDUR A take your pick day! Whale spot from Ólafsvík (10 June – 15 September); bird watch on Breiðafjörður; take the car round to the vertiginous bird cliffs at Arnarstapi (the hike between there and Hellnar is beautiful) or snowmobile on the Snæfellsjökull glacier.

DAY 5 GRUNDAFJORDUR - ISAFJÖRDUR Drive along the peninsula's north shore, dropping in on Stykkishólmur with its eclectic mix of modernistic church and traditional wooden buildings, before continuing round on the southern side of the fjords, past Dynjandi (a series of falls, uppermost of which is the much photographed fan shaped one) to Isafjörður. Overnight at Hotel

Isafjörður for 2 nights.

DAY 6 ISAFJÖRDUR Time to explore this, the most remote of Iceland's towns. Once home to a prosperous fishing industry, the decline of same has thrown up some quirky alternatives including swamp mud football!

DAY 7 ISAFJÖRDUR - HVAMMSTANGI Drive along the fjord roads, crossing over to Steingrímsfjörður and across to Laugarbakki for 2 nights at Gauksmyri Lodge in the heart of horse breeding country.

DAY 8 HVAMMSTANGI The hotel has its own Horse Centre offering riding tours, horse shows and riding lessons. Relax in the hotel's hot pot or enjoy some bird watching by Gauksmyrartjörn pond.

DAY 9 HVAMMSTANGI - KEFLAVIK AIRPORT Drive to Keflavik airport, drop off hire car and return flight back to the UK.



WHALE SPOTTING TOURS

Ólafsvík 10 June – 15 Sep
Reykjavík May – Sep

DEPARTURE DATES

Daily May – September

Prices in £ per person

WHALES, FJORDS & HORSE COUNTRY		IA3001
DATES	TWIN	
May	1015	
1 – 9 June, 22 – 31 August	1155	
10 June – 21 August	1260	
September	1060	

Prices include return scheduled Icelandair flights from Heathrow, Glasgow* or Manchester* to Reykjavík • All airport departure taxes and passenger service charges • IN FLIGHT CABIN SERVICE • 8 nights accommodation in twin room(s) with private WC/shower • Breakfasts throughout • Rental car for 7 days (7 x 24 hrs) (group A, Toyota Yaris or similar) including unlimited mileage & theft protection; collision damage waiver insurance and all local taxes, pick up Reykjavik town and drop off Keflavik • ROAD ATLAS, ALL ICELAND GUIDE, CD AREA GUIDE *Flight schedule may dictate amended itinerary.