



Iceland Adventure

Exclusive SAMPLE Itinerary

Private Custom - Self Drive

Designed by Jo Ann Taylor, President, Walking Connection

Please note that the details of this itinerary are subject to change. Many of the planned activities are organized according to availability, events or seasonal dates, appropriate weather conditions or the discretion of our guides. We make every effort to provide the experience described in the itinerary with the understanding that some things may change.

Day 1 – Welcome to Iceland!

Arrival in Keflavík, private transfer to Reykjavík, stay in centrally located downtown hotel one night. Early check in.

Free evening. Dinner recommendation Dill restaurant:

Note: Pick up your reserved rental car at the airport on arrival. Otherwise you could pick it up in town in the evening or the next morning.

Overnight: [Reykjavik Canopy Hotel](#) Premium Rooms

Day 2 - Geothermal River Hike

Depart Reykjavík and drive approximately 1 hour to meet your private guide for **a hike through Reykjadalir Valley**. You will witness a wide variety of geothermal springs and beautiful landscape in an area that is known for its wild and rough beauty. **The highlight is that you will be hiking to a geothermal hot river so that you can bathe in the warm water and enjoy the magnificent nature surrounding you.** As a private hike you can explore with your guide anywhere from 4 – 6 hours and request for the hike to be as hard or as easy as you would like.

After the hike you will continue on by driving for about a one hour to Selfoss.

Accommodations: Check in to **your unique accommodations where traditional Icelandic culture meets modern luxurious standards** - Take a look: [Torfhús Retreat](#).

Here the rejuvenating tranquility, mesmerizing scenery and innovative gastronomy come together in a place far away from everyday routine.

Your stay is in a standalone 1 or 2 bedroom house with a living turf roof, a spacious living room, private veranda and basalt stone hot pool. Iceland has a long and rich tradition of bathing in warm geothermal pools. Bathing in natural stone hot pools is frequently recorded in Icelandic folklore and Torfhús proudly carries on the tradition for their guests.

Cuisine at Torfhús Retreat is inspired by Icelandic tradition and the finest, freshest local ingredients. It's creative, dramatic and accomplished. Chef Thorarinn Eggerston, uses the freshest of Icelandic ingredients mostly sources from within a 10 mile radius.

Meals: Breakfast

Overnight: Torfhús Retreat

Day 3 - Your Choice!

Explore on your own or just enjoy the surrounding area at your retreat.

Adventure Ideas:

- Drive the Golden Circle area where you can cover Þingvellir, Gullfoss, Geysir in approximately 4-5 hours.
- Optional activities offered at Torfus: [South Iceland Activities to Enjoy while Staying at Torfhús \(torfhus.is\)](https://torfhus.is)
- Drive to Landmannalaugar

Meals: Breakfast

Overnight: Torfhús Retreat

Day 4 - Transfer to the Heart of Southern Iceland

Check out after breakfast.

Here are today's options!

Landmannalaugar: A **nature reserve** in the Icelandic Highlands, known for multicolored mountains, hot springs, blue lakes and hikes through raw nature. Landmannalaugar means the "peoples' pools," named for its unique hot spring pools that have warmed up Icelanders for centuries. It's an otherworldly experience to experience the sheer vastness of this raw and magnificent place.

This would be a full day selfdrive to explore the area on your own as you transfer to your next location. The drive from Torfhús to Landmannalaugar is approximately 2.5 hours. When you arrive in Landmannalaugar there are various hikes so that you can hike as you like. There is a natural pool to bathe (bring your towel). The drive on to Hvolsvöllur would be approximately another 2.5 hours

South Coast: Drive from Hvolsvöllur to the first scenic waterfall Seljalandsfoss. Follow the coast to village Vík, stop at Skógarfoss waterfall, Dyrhólaey cape, **Reynisfjara black beach** and the same way back. You can time it such that you are in Vík at lunch, many nice options Smiðjan brewery is a favorite and for coffee Skoolbean Café. Other sites to visit: Reynisfjara and Dyrhólaey.

Accommodations: Enjoy staying at a **fourth generation farm** where the main focus is on both breeding Icelandic horses and offering Icelandic hospitality. [Skálakot Manor House](#) with only 14 rooms is located in the very heart of southern Iceland, surrounded by stunning nature and the wide expanses of the Icelandic highlands.

Meals: Breakfast

Overnight: [Skálakot Manor House](#)

Day 5 - Kayak & Glacier Walk Experience

Full day guided experience combining a kayaking tour on the Sólheimajökull glacier lagoon with a Glacier Walk. Meeting your expert guide at the Sólheimajökull Base (30 minute drive from Skálakot) where you will get geared up with a drysuit and paddle for your kayaking adventure. Following a short tutorial, you will set off on your sit-on-top kayak and paddle on the calm, iceberg filled lagoon. During the hour-long tour, you will witness stunning icebergs and a view of the glacier that is inaccessible to people on land. Right after kayaking, you will return to basecamp for a half-hour break before you begin the next activity.

To prepare for your Glacier Walk, you will get an ice axe, crampons, harness and short safety briefing from your guide. On the glacier, you will be led through an otherworldly icy landscape of stark contrasts. The blue and white ice mixed with the dark volcanic ash from past eruptions is stunning. You will explore some of the many crevasses and ice sculptures of the glacier and learn about the geology and the history of the area.

Note: This guided experience usually has 2 – 8 guests/guide. If you prefer a private adventure we will check on the additional cost.

Meals: Breakfast

Overnight: Skálakot Manor House

Day 6 - Super Jeep to E15

Check out after breakfast. Drive from Skálakot to Hvolsvöllur (approximately 30 minutes) and meet your super jeep private guide and driver. Depending on conditions you will have a full day's adventure to the top of Eyjafjallajökull.

This internationally well known landmark is famous for the **2010 eruptions** were a period of volcanic events caused enormous disruption to air travel across western and northern Europe over an initial period of six days in April of that year.

In the afternoon, after your excursion you will be taken to Þórsmörk and for your arrival at Volcano Huts.

Accommodations: Glamping in the great outdoors! Your comfortable and fully furnished tent is an idealic way to experience Icelandic nature. In the evening after a great day you can sit by your tent and enjoy the view over the Þórsmörk mountains or sit by the campfire and exchange stories of the day's adventures.

Meals: Breakfast

Overnight: [Volcano Huts](#)

Day 7 - The Cat's Back

Your Hike: In the morning after breakfast, you will meet your Walking Connection private guide for a full day hike. This is a spectacular one day hike that will offer you an amazing challenge on what is becoming one of Iceland's most popular and important footpaths. You will follow the (Fimmvörðuháls) 5 Cairns Pass trail that depending on how far you choose to hike can ultimately take you between two volcanoes, (Eyjafjallajökull [E-15] and Mýrdalsjökull). The large eruption that we're all familiar with in April of 2010 formed two new craters named Magni and Móðiin (Sons of Thor - Gods of Thunder) and our goal will be to walk towards them on an out and back trail.

You will need to walk from your glamping tent to the Basur Huts to meet your guide. From there you will hike through the canyon and then up the escarpment, which is approximately 600 meters of elevation, gain. There are some steep sections, but permanently installed guide ropes provide additional support for those who may require it. Once above, much of the trail levels out into rolling plateaus until you reach the final ascent to the two craters and The Five Cairn Pass. This ascent is steep, but a well traveled pass and tops out at an additional 300 meters for a total elevation change of about 900 meters. There is one section called "The Cat's Back" which traverses a ridge with significant drop offs on both sides. Beyond that you will find the trail quite wide.

Meals: Breakfast, Boxed Lunch

Overnight: Volcano Huts

Day 8 - Reykjavik and Dining Experience at ÓX

Have a relaxed morning before your private super jeep transfer from Þórsmörk to Hvolsvöllur to pick up your rental car. (Approx. 1.5 hours) Continue by driving to Reykjavík (Approx another 1.5 hours). Check in at Reykjavik hotel.

[Dinner at ÓX](#), Iceland's smallest and finest restaurant. Let the magical and exclusive 16 course journey begin...

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner with matching wine

Overnight: [Reykjavik Canopy Hotel](#) Premium Rooms

Day 9 - And to Top It All Off...

Breakfast at hotel. Your private Walking Connection guide will pick you up for a morning hike to Fagradalsfjall volcano as well as a tour of the area. (approximate total time, plan 6 hours) After your hike your guide will bring you back to your hotel.

Late afternoon experience at [Sky Lagoon](#): "Revive your senses at the end of the world" at this beautiful thermal spa inspired by nature and culture. Sky Lagoon is about that Icelandic feeling of warmth and wonder – the perfect place to toast to your 10 day adventure!

Meals: Breakfast

Overnight: [Reykjavik Canopy Hotel](#)

Day 10 - Time to Say Farewell

Check out.

Drive to airport and return car.

Meals: Breakfast

THANK YOU!

Price per person:

- This is a sample itinerary. Your price will be determined according to the dates of travel, number of guests in your group, type of vehicle rented, level of accommodations and meals requested.

QUESTIONS? GET A FAST ANSWER VIA TEXT MESSAGE!

Use "Iceland" as your subject. Then text your question to
The Walking Connection Text Line: 602-800-3649!

(Number not available for voice mail or calls).

This itinerary, like all Walking Connection itineraries, is designed by Jo Ann Taylor, President of The Walking Connection. At the heart of her business are the people whom she has personally selected to provide accommodations, food and meals, guiding and transportation. They are local businesses that meet the best business practices and high quality standards set by Jo Ann. Best of all, throughout her network, each travel partner is held accountable for their portion of each guest's experience and we maintain ongoing communications with them during your trip to provide continual backup for you should anything change, or difficulties arise during your adventure.

So what does that mean for you?

An Extra Layer of Security. Comfort. Confidence.

Booking with The Walking Connection provides you with a high level of security, comfort and back up so you have confidence that your adventure will meet the expectations set by this itinerary. As a global reseller of their local services on an ongoing basis, they strive to meet the standard we set with the understanding that if they don't, we'll cease to include them in our network as a travel partner. The only way they can keep us happy, is to keep you happy. We've got your back!

Are You Ready? We know The Way...