

**GTC**  
**GREENHILLS**  
**TRAVEL CENTRE**

# ICELAND'S NORTHERN LIGHTS & SCANDINAVIAN CAPITALS



## 24-day Small Group Tour

19 September - 13 October 2023

**Includes** Return economy flights from Sydney or Brisbane • Accommodation • Many meals • Private tour escort • Fully escorted coach tour in Iceland • City Tours in Bergen, Copenhagen, Oslo and Stockholm • Entrance fees • Sightseeing as per itinerary • Airport transfers

**\$15,000\* pp twin share**

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# ITINERARY

**19 Sept. Depart Greenhills Travel Centre for overnight accommodation at Sydney Airport Hotel (B)**

**Day 1 20 Sep. Sydney - Copenhagen (B)**

**Day 2 21 Sep. Copenhagen (B)**

Arrive Copenhagen and transfer to your hotel for a 3-night stay. Dane's rank among the world's most happy people. In Copenhagen and the beautiful surrounding region, you'll learn why. The buzzing capital mixes royal history, modern architecture and loads of culture with sustainable living and a mouth-watering restaurant scene. This afternoon is free for you to roam the city or settle into your accommodation.

**Day 3 22 Sep. Copenhagen City Tour (B, D)**

Enjoy a private city tour this morning and have the afternoon free to spend how you wish. Tonight, visit the famous Ice Bar, Copenhagen's coolest bar, then enjoy a three-course dinner.

**Day 4 23 Sep. Copenhagen (B)**

Free day to use your Hop on Hop Off bus pass.

**Day 5 24 Sep. Copenhagen - Stockholm (B, D)** Depart by train at 8.00am and arrive in Stockholm at 1.30pm to check in to your hotel. Have the afternoon free to explore this amazing city.

**Day 6 25 Sep. Stockholm (B)**

Stockholm the capital of Sweden, encompasses 14 islands and more than 50 bridges on an extensive Baltic Sea archipelago. The cobblestone streets and ochre-coloured buildings of Gamla Stan (the old town) are home to the 13th-century Storkyrkan Cathedral, the Kungliga Slottet Royal Palace and the Nobel Museum, which focuses on the Nobel Prize. Ferries and sightseeing boats shuttle passengers between the islands. Today we enjoy an escorted Stockholm City Tour and a free afternoon to spend how you wish.

**Day 7 26 Sep. Stockholm (B)**

Explore more of Stockholm using your Hop on Hop Off Bus Pass.

**Day 8 27 Sep. Stockholm - Reykjavik (B)**

This morning you'll have free before we transfer to the airport for our flight to Reykjavik to commence our Northern lights tour. One-night pre tour will be spent at Centerhotel Plaza.

**Day 9 28 Sep. Reykjavik (B, L)**

Our tour begins to discover Iceland, a land and culture forged by fire and ice. Steaming lava fields and massive glaciers sculpt mountains and valleys, leaving thundering waterfalls and plunging fjords. In this land of many natural wonders, enjoy the rare opportunity to see the aurora borealis — one of nature's most dazzling light displays, also known as the northern lights.

Join a local expert for a walking tour of the city's old section featuring the city hall, the harbor, the Parliament building and the nearby cathedral, dating from 1796. Then, get to know your fellow travellers during an Icelandic lunch at a popular local restaurant before checking into your hotel in the later afternoon.

**Day 10 29 Sep. Reykjavik - Golden Circle - Reykjavik (B)**

Travel the Golden Circle and experience renowned natural wonders, including the double-cascade Gullfoss waterfall, the explosive Geysir thermal area, and the famous Thingvellir National Park, where you'll stand upon the crest of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. Along the way, stop at a family-run dairy farm to enjoy various organic dairy specialties and their famous ice cream. Your day ends with a visit to Friðheimar's stud farm and greenhouse cultivation centre. Discover how pesticide-free produce is grown with the aid of geothermal energy and then learn about the tradition of breeding Icelandic show horses before returning to Reykjavik.

**Day 11 30 Sep. Reykjavik - Snæfellsnes - Breiðafjörður Cruise - Stykkishólmur (B, D)**

Explore the Snæfellsnes Peninsula and take in black sand beaches, volcanic craters and the Snæfellsjökull glacier. Here, it's your choice! Experience total darkness in Vatnshellir Cave descending 100 feet to an 8,000-year-old lava tube or walk along the coastline, passing cliff and columnar basalt formations, putting your camera to work snapping photos of this dramatic landscape. Connect with the local culture and visit a family that practices a 400-year-old tradition of catching and preserving the Greenland shark; you'll also taste hákarl - cured shark meat. End your day on a Sea Tours nature cruise of Breiðafjörður Bay and sample fresh scallops and sea urchin roe straight from the ocean. You might spot puffins, cormorants, and the white-tailed eagle soaring along the shoreline. Stay overnight at the Fosshotel Stykkisholmur.

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**Day 12 1 Oct. Jökul Stykkishólmur - Lava Exhibition Centre - Vík (B, D)**

Learn about geothermal renewable energy on a visit to Hellisheiðavirkjun, the largest power station in Iceland, and the second largest geothermal power station in the world. Visit the Lava Exhibition Centre and delve into Iceland's past and present volcanic eruptions. We arrive in Vík, Iceland's southernmost village and one of the most remarkable spots. Three-night stay at Hotel Katla By Kea Vík.

**Day 13 2 Oct. Vík - Skógar Museum - Vík (B, D)**

Drive along the scenic south shore to the Skógar Museum. Discover its turf-built houses and its collection of farm and domestic artifacts. Nearby is the impressive Skógafoss waterfall, one of the tallest in Iceland. View Reynisfjara, a black volcanic sand beach scattered with caves and surrounded by basalt columns and cliffs. The beach is rich with bird life, such as the fulmar, black guillemot, razorbill, and gannet. You might also spot some nesting puffins along the unique natural rock formations at Dyrhólaey, a volcanic peninsula towering over the ocean.

**Day 14 3 Oct. Vík - Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon - Skaftafell National Park - Vík (B, D)**

Set sail along the huge icebergs of the Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon. Keep your eyes peeled for possible seal sightings and get to taste the 1,000-year-old ice that surrounds you. Later, stop at Skaftafell National Park, gateway to Vatnajökull Glacier. Marvel at the vistas of Iceland's highest mountains, as well as the Vatnajökull glacier, Europe's largest ice cap.

**Day 14 4 Oct. Vík - Seljalandsfoss - Blue Lagoon or Perlan Centre - Reykjavík (B, D)**

Make a picture stop at Seljalandsfoss, where you'll walk behind a waterfall for views from the inside-out. In the afternoon, it's your choice! Visit the Blue Lagoon and soak in the warm, mineral-rich waters located in the heart of a dramatic lava field or, visit the Perlan Centre to explore the wonder of Iceland through interactive exhibits such as the Ice Cave, the Planetarium, the virtual aquarium and more. Gather with your fellow travellers for a local dining experience and share stories of your days in Iceland.

**Day 16 5 Oct. Reykjavík - Bergen (B, D)**

Depart for airport with memories of your Icelandic adventure.

**Day 17 6 Oct. Bergen (B)**

Today, enjoy a morning walking tour of Bergen and have the afternoon free to use your Hop on Hop Off bus pass.

**Day 18 7 Oct. Norway in a Nutshell, Bergen - Voss (B, D)**

This morning at 9.28am depart for Voss and enjoy one of the world's most scenic rail journeys as you travel through magnificent landscapes of farmland, forests and glacier capped mountains. On arrival at check into our hotel and then we take a ride on the Voss Gondola. Voss Gondola is the largest and most modern gondola in northern Europe, starting at the Voss train station and ending at the spectacular Hangurstoppen in less than 7 minutes. Overnight Voss.

PLEASE NOTE: You are only allowed an overnight/carry on bag for the next three nights. Luggage will be transported to Oslo and will be at your hotel when you arrive.

**Day 19 8 Oct. Norway in a Nutshell, Flam (B, D)**

Check out of your hotel and go by bus to Gudvangen then take a ferry through the breathtaking narrow Naeroyfjord to Flam. The afternoon is free to explore Flam with free entry to the Flam Railway Museum. Tonight, we will savour the local fare with a Viking Plank for Dinner.

**Day 20 9 Oct. Norway in a Nutshell, Flam - Oslo (B, D)**

From Flam we take the famous Flam Train (a marvel of railway engineering) to Myrdal change trains and continue to Oslo, where we arrive mid-afternoon. A 5-minute walk to our hotel from the train. Comfort Hotel Grand Central is Oslo's most central hotels. Right in the newly opened Østbanehallen, packed with restaurants, cafes and shops. Combine this with modern design in New York style, and you get a hotel experience beyond the ordinary.

**Day 21 10 Oct. Oslo (B)**

At 10.00am we embark on a discovery tour to explore Oslo's must see attractions. Feel the cosy atmosphere in the city centre, admire stunning views over Oslo fjord from Holmenkollen Ski Jump, get in touch with the art of the most prolific Norwegian sculptor as you stroll through Vigeland Park encompassing more than 200 sculptures in bronze, granite and wrought iron. Then, on Bygdøy Peninsula you will enhance your Oslo experience by visiting two unique museums: the Fram Museum and the Norwegian Museum of Cultural History (the Open-Air Museum). Transportation by coach, services of local guide and entrance fees to attractions are all included.

**Day 22 11 Oct. Oslo (B)**

Free day to use your Hop on Hop Off bus pass.

**Day 23 12 Oct. Oslo - Sydney (B)**

Your morning is free before checking out of your hotel and transferring to the airport for your flight home.

**Day 24 13 Oct. Sydney - Maitland (B)**

Arrive in Sydney and transfer back to Maitland with a lifetime of memories.

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## 24-day tour from **\$15,000\*** pp

### Inclusions:

- Return economy airfares from Sydney or Brisbane including all taxes and fuel surcharges
- Accommodation
- Private tour escort
- 25 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 11 Dinners
- Fully escorted coach tour in Iceland
- Entrance fees to all attractions
- Sightseeing as per itinerary
- Airport transfers
- City tours in Bergen, Copenhagen, Oslo and Stockholm
- Maximum 24 passengers

Visit our [website](#) to see our other small group tours.

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