ANZA-BORREGO DESERT NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION

PRESENTS
A GUIDED TOUR OF

ICELAND

JULY 13 – 23, 2023





Join Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association and geologist Don Barrie on a grand tour of Iceland's natural wonders: waterfalls, glaciers, icebergs, volcanoes, geysers, hot springs, lakes, beaches, birdlife, and more. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the ABDNHA. Registration form is available at **www.geotours.us/tour/abdnha-iceland-2023**

LAND COST = $3090 - includes lodging in a double/twin room, private tour bus, many entries and activities, Professor Don Barrie as group leader, GeoTours guide Matt Ebiner, breakfasts, high-quality digital photos of the entire tour.

AIRFARE is additional, and costs approximately $1000 round-trip from Los Angeles or San Diego to Reykjavik.

INCLUDED ENTRIES/ACTIVITIES

- Reykjavik – Hallgrimskirkja Church Tower
- Kerid Volcanic Crater
- Strokkur Geyser
- Gullfoss Waterfalls
- Pingvellir – Rift zone between tectonic plates
- Lava Centre – Museum of Iceland's geology
- Laugarvatn Fontana – geothermal pools
- Seljalandsfoss & Skogafoss Waterfall
- Skogar Folk Museum
- Reynisfjara - Black sand beach & volcanic cliffs
- Laki Craters (weather permitting)
- Fjadrargljufur Canyon
- Vatnajokull National Park - Skaftafell section
- Svinafell Glacier
- Ingolfshofdi Nature Reserve – Puffins
- Fjallsarlon & Jokulsarlon - Iceberg lagoons
- Dettifoss Waterfall
- Viti Crater Lake
- Hverir - Bubbling mud pits and fumaroles
- Myvatn Bird Museum
- Godafoss Waterfall
- Akureyri Botanical Gardens



Contact: Don Barrie – DBARRIEGEO@GMAIL.COM - 619-208-6507
Matt Ebiner (GeoTours) – MATTEBINER@GEOTOURS.US – 310-686-8171

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS BY:
GEOTOURS LLC
WWW.GEOTOURS.US
INFO@GEOTOURS.US






ABDNHA ICELAND TOUR – JULY 13-23, 2023

TRIP COST = $3090 (lodging, ground transport, entries/activities, breakfasts)
AIRFARE = $1000 - approximate cost round-trip to Reykjavik from San Diego or Los Angeles



Thu 7/13/23 Depart USA
Depart from USA to Reykjavik, Iceland

Fri 7/14/23 Arrive Reykjavik, Iceland
Arrive Reykjavik, capital city of Iceland. Take a short walking tour of Reykjavik and visit Hallgrimskirkja church tower, with great views over Reykjavik. One night in Reykjavik at CenterHotel Arnarhvoll, excellently located in the city center across the street from Harpa Concert Hall.



Sat 7/15/23 Golden Circle
See some of Iceland's top highlights: Pingvellir National Park where the North American plate is pulling apart from the Eurasian plate, Kerid crater lake, Strokkur Geyser exploding every few minutes, and Gullfoss waterfalls. One night in the lakefront village of Laugarvatn. Evening swim, soak, or sauna at Laugarvatn Fontana geothermal pools.

Sun 7/16/23 South Coast to Skogar
Visit the excellent Lava Center with high-tech exhibits of Iceland's geology. See 2 magnificent waterfalls: Seljalandsfoss (which you can walk behind) & thundering Skogafoss. Stroll along a black sand beach at Reynisfjara, backed by volcanic cliffs. See traditional turf-roof houses at Skogar Folk Museum. One night at Hotel Skogafoss, steps away from one of Iceland's most beautiful waterfalls.



Mon 7/17/23 Skogar – Laki Craters – Vatnajokull National Park
Travel 30 miles inland across several unbridged rivers to reach Laki Craters (weather permitting), site of devastating volcanic eruptions in the 1780s. See colorful Fjadrargljufur Canyon, a gorge carved into the volcanic landscape. Two nights at Hotel Skaftafell, within view of the glaciers of Vatnajokull National Park.

Tue 7/18/23 Vatnajokull National Park
Great hiking opportunities (up to 5 miles) in Vatnajokull National Park to see glaciers and waterfalls. In the afternoon marvel at Fjallsarlon, a lagoon with icebergs in front of a massive glacier.



Wed 7/19/23 Glacier Lagoons to Berunes
See puffins and other birdlife at Ingolfshofdi Nature Reserve. Visit Diamond Beach and Jokulsarlon lagoon, with icebergs in a lagoon. One night in Berunes at a farmhouse on a fjord.

Thu 7/20/23 Berunes to Husavik
Hike to impressive Dettifoss, Europe's largest waterfall. Continue to the beautiful fishing town of Husavik. Optional evening whale watching (sunset 11:30 pm). Stay one night at Fosshotel Husavik.



Fri 7/21/23 Husavik to Akureyri
See the geological wonders around Lake Myvatn: Viti crater with a beautiful lake, Hverir geothermal area with bubbling mud pits and fumaroles, Grjotajia cave with an aquamarine pool inside, and more. Learn about the prolific bird life at Lake Myvatn at Sigurgeir's Bird Museum. See beautiful Godafoss waterfall. One night at Hotel Kea in Akureyri, Iceland's 2nd largest city.

Sat 7/22/23 Akureyri to Reykjavik
Visit Akureryri's Botanical Gardens, with beautiful summer flower beds. Return to Reykjavik by early afternoon with time for shopping. One final night in Iceland at CenterHotel Arnarhvoll.

Sun 7/23/23 Blue Lagoon and Depart Iceland
Visit the Blue Lagoon to see Iceland's most famous geothermal waters. Depart Reykjavik for the USA.

A B D N H A - I C E L A N D 2023





GENERAL INFORMATION – ABDNHA ICELAND TOUR 2023

Tour Dates

- Depart USA, Thursday, July 13, 2023; arrive Reykjavik in the morning, Friday, July 14, 2023.
- Depart Reykjavik, Sunday, July 23, 2023; arrive in USA in the afternoon or evening, Sunday, July 23, 2023.

Land Cost

- $3090, including lodging in a twin/double room, ground transport, many entries/activities, English-speaking guide, breakfasts.
- A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association.
- Iceland is an expensive country. This trip has breakfasts included. Restaurant meals are expensive ($15-50 for dinners). Lunches (additional cost) will usually be simple (soup, sandwiches) at snack bars, small cafeterias, or markets.

Airfare

- Additional cost (about $1000) for round-trip to Reykjavik from the USA. GeoTours will provide flight recommendations.

Registration Procedure

- Open to all ages; it is not necessary to be a member of Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association, but registration through November 15, 2022 is only open to ABDNHA members and their roommates.
- Registration will open 8:00 AM on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2022.
    - The registration link will be found at: **WWW.GEOTOURS.US/TOUR/ABDNHA-ICELAND-2023.**
- After completing the online registration form you must submit a $500 deposit to GeoTours LLC within 7 days (see payment info in the next section).
- If there are any problems registering online then you should contact GeoTours at 310-686-8171 or info@geotours.us.

Payment Schedule

- Payments can be sent by check to GeoTours LLC, 1547 E. Puente St., Covina CA 91724, or online through Venmo or Zelle to payment@geotours.us or 310-686-8171 (GeoTours phone #).
- 1st payment of $500 is due within 7 days of registration.
- 2nd payment of $600 is due on December 15, 2022.
- 3rd payment of $700 is due on February 15, 2023.
- Final payment is due April 30, 2023.
- Payments made after May 15, 2023 will be assessed a $100 late fee.

Cancellations

To cancel your participation, you need to inform GeoTours in writing or by email. Cancellation date is the date when GeoTours receives your written notice. *Cancellation penalty is the amount shown below PLUS any non-recoverable expenses already paid on behalf of the passenger, such as nonrefundable tickets or hotel rooms.

Date of Cancellation	Cancellation Penalty
On or before November 30, 2022	$100*
December 1 – 31, 2022	$200*
January 1 – 31, 2023	$300*
February 1 – 28, 2023	$500*
March 1 – April 30, 2023	$600*
After May 1, 2023	No Refund

Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association

Leader/Guide & Group Size

- ABDNHA board member and geologist Don Barrie will lead the group.
- GeoTours guide (Matt Ebiner) will accompany, direct, and guide the tour.
- Group size will be around 20-24 people, plus Don Barrie, Matt Ebiner, and an Icelandic driver.

A B D N H A - I C E L A N D 2023

Accommodations

- Price is based on double occupancy (sharing a room); if you don't have a preferred roommate, we will try to match you with a roommate of the same sex. Single rooms are limited. A single room costs +$800.
- Lodging is at hotels in rooms with an attached, private bathroom, and one night at Berunes Guest Farm, where some rooms have a shared bathroom. Rooms in Iceland are sometimes small and simple but always clean and usually in a beautiful location.

Transportation and Pace/Physical Effort

- Private tour bus (38 seats) with English-speaking driver.
- This trip has a moderate pace and participants should be able to walk up to 5 miles on the longest day.
- The average bus travel time is 3-4 hours per day, but a couple of days have 5-7 hours on the bus.
- The weather is cool in August (average high usually around 45-55°F) and rain is likely about 3 days per week.

Safety & Travel Insurance

- Iceland is a safe, peaceful country with almost zero crime, but international travel always has inherent risks for injury, sickness, or loss. Trip participants must agree to the Terms and Conditions below.
- Travel insurance is STRONGLY RECOMMENDED. Compare different travel insurance policies at squaremouth.com.
  - Trip participants should get Travel Insurance with Trip Cancellation (including Covid-19 cancellation coverage), Trip Interruption, Medical Evacuation, Medical (for Covid or anything else), and Lost/Stolen Baggage.
  - Cancellation coverage means that travel insurance will reimburse nonrefundable trip costs if you cancel for a covered reason, like getting COVID before or during the trip. Cancellation coverage only works if you purchase the insurance BEFORE a sickness or injury forces you to cancel, and an insurance claim requires a physician's written advice that you should cancel your trip due to your illness or injury.
  - ***Trawick Safe Travels Explorer*** (found on **www.squaremouth.com/)** costs $171 for a 60-year old, $4000 trip cost, destination Iceland, July 13-23, 2023. The cost depends on age, costing more for older travelers.

Covid Policy

- Trip participants must follow Covid policies of Iceland and the USA. At the time of writing (September 2022) neither country requires vaccination, testing, or quarantine for travelers or Covid-positive individuals. GeoTours will inform participants of any changes in Covid-related restrictions before the trip.
- ABDNHA recommends that trip participants are fully vaccinated against Covid with a booster shot after September 1, 2022.
- ABDNHA recommends that trip participants self-test for Covid within 48 hours of departure, using an at-home antigen test. If someone tests positive, they should consider not joining the trip, and to seek reimbursement through their travel insurance.
- ABDNHA recommends that trip participants wear masks while traveling through airports, on flights, and on the tour bus.
- It is recommended that trip participants bring approved Covid test kits for personal use.
- Trip participants who test positive for Covid during the tour will not be required to leave the group. They will decide for themselves what their best course of action should be, in consultation with the trip leaders. Such actions might include leaving the group, or continuing the trip with social distancing, mask wearing, and skipping group meals.
- Neither GeoTours nor ABDNHA will reimburse trip participants for COVID-related costs incurred before, during, or after the trip.
- Neither GeoTours nor ABDNHA will refund trip participants for any portion of the trip missed due to Covid or any other reason.
- Participants should seek reimbursement from their travel insurance carrier for any Covid-related costs, or for trip cancellation or trip interruption.

Terms and Conditions

The program participant agrees that GeoTours LLC and Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association (ABDNHA) assume no liability whatsoever for loss of property, injury, accident, illness, death, irregularity, and delays during the duration of the tour. In addition, the program participant agrees to hold GeoTours LLC and ABDNHA harmless for damage, delay, or cancellation due to equipment problems, quarantine, pandemic, declared or undeclared war and insurrection, terrorist and criminal activity, revolt, civil disturbance, hostility, military action, strikes, labor unrest, any "act of God" or nature and for any act of any third party. The participant, by registering for this tour, agrees that GeoTours LLC and ABDNHA are not responsible for delay, rerouting, omission, and additional expense resulting from the passenger's improper travel documents such as passport, visa, and health document. Any losses and expenses related to such circumstances are within the responsibility of the program participants and not of GeoTours LLC or ABDNHA. GeoTours LLC and ABDNHA are not responsible for acts of any government authority. GeoTours LLC and ABDNHA reserve the right to adjust itinerary and contents and to substitute accommodation providers as deemed necessary. GeoTours LLC and ABDNHA reserve the right to accept or decline any person as a program participant as well as to refuse to retain any participant's membership in the program. Participants that do not participate in an activity or entry, or who leave the tour early or arrive late, will not be entitled to any refund. By registering for this tour, the participant agrees to all such terms and conditions.

Any Questions? Please contact:

- ABDNHA board member and geologist Don Barrie - **dbarriegeo@gmail.com**; 619-208-6507
- GeoTours guide Matt Ebiner - **mattebiner@geotours.us**; 310-686-8171

Travel arrangements by GeoTours LLC, CST # 2099683-40
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Website: www.geotours.us