



Holland America Line®  
SAVOR THE JOURNEY

ms Zuiderdam

July 31, 2018



# Welcome to Exploration Central™

Why book your EXC Tours™ with  
Holland America Line?

## Quality & Service

- Our tours offer a wide range of activities with something for everyone
- Professional, local guides and independent tour operators offer exceptional guidance
- Expert advice from our EXC Tours staff on board

## Uncompromised Value

- Award-winning tours consistently rated “excellent” by our guests
- Superior quality and competitive pricing
- Priceless experiences

## Convenience & Peace of Mind

- Maximize your time ashore—go straight to the highlights you want to see without waiting, getting lost, negotiating fares or hassling with currency exchange
- Book online ahead of time or on board the ship
- Tour departure times coincide with the ship’s schedule as well as other tours, enabling you to take multiple tours if desired
- Worry-free return to the ship. In the very rare event that your tour is late and the ship must leave, we will arrange at our expense to get you to the next port of call. With independently booked tours, you are responsible for rejoining the ship at the next port of call



## Which EXC Tours Are Right for You?

Choose the tours that interest you by using the icons as a general guide to the level of activity involved, and select the tours best suited to your physical capabilities. These icons will help you to interpret this brochure.



**Easy Activity:** Very light activity including short distances to walk; may include some steps.



**Moderate Activity:** Requires intermittent effort throughout, including walking medium distances over uneven surfaces and/or steps.



**Strenuous Activity:** Requires active participation, walking long distances over uneven and steep terrain or on steps. In certain instances, paddling or other non-walking activity is required and guests must be able to participate without discomfort or difficulty breathing.



**Panoramic Tours:** Specially designed for guests who enjoy a slower pace, these tours offer sightseeing mainly from the transportation vehicle, with few or no stops, and no mandatory disembarkation from the vehicle during the tour. As vehicles outside the United States are rarely lift-equipped and ramps are seldom available, a very small amount of walking will be necessary. The pace is gentle and taking your time is encouraged.



**Limited Capacity:** The number of people able to participate in this tour is strictly limited. Reasons for limiting capacity may include the number of transportation seats available, or the need to maintain a safe ratio of guides for hikes, fishing and water activities. Tours require a minimum number of participants in order to operate.



**Meal:** This tour includes a meal—lunch on daytime tours, or dinner on evening tours.



**Snack:** This tour includes a small snack or tasting of local specialties. The snack is not a meal.



# Guests Using a Wheelchair or Other Mobility Aid Device

**I have a disability. How do I know which tours will best suit me?**

The tours are graded according to the relative level of activity they entail. The activity icons that appear at the beginning of each tour description provide a general idea of the level of activity to expect. Please see page 2 for specific information or speak to an EXC Tours specialist (1.888.425.9376). It is important to keep in mind that tour operators are subject to the laws of their own country with respect to accommodating the needs of guests with disabilities. In most foreign countries, the laws are not as stringent as those in the United States.

**Will I encounter difficulties (dis)embarking the ship when it's in port?**

Please see the on-board EXC Desk to help determine whether you can expect to encounter difficulties (dis)embarking the ship in a particular port of call. The decision whether or not to carry or provide other mobility assistance to a guest and their device (wheelchair, walker, etc.) up or down a ship's gangway, or on or off a tender boat, is at the sole discretion of the Captain, made based on his evaluation of guest and crew safety. We encourage you to bring a collapsible wheelchair as space limitations may restrict the ability of some tour operators to accommodate motorized mobility aid devices.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What should I wear?**

Comfortable walking shoes are recommended for all EXC Tours™. When you visit places of worship, we recommend dressing conservatively (no shorts or sleeveless tops), but casual clothing is perfectly acceptable. Dress in layers and have a jacket along. Bring an umbrella or raincoat, a hat and sunscreen.

### **What about meals?**

Most tour departures complement the ship's meal service hours. In-room dining is available on board.

### **How will I know what time each tour departs?**

The onboard EXC Tours Order Form in your stateroom will show departure times. This information will also be printed on your EXC Tours tickets, which you will receive on board. Approximate tour departure times are posted on our website at [hollandamerica.com](http://hollandamerica.com).

### **I am traveling with friends. Can we be accommodated on the same motorcoach?**

The departure location for each tour is printed on

your EXC Tours tickets. If you wish to travel with friends, please arrive at the designated meeting place together. This will enable the staff to allocate space for you on the same vehicle.

### **Tour durations**

The individual tour descriptions include approximate durations. To allow our EXC Tours managers flexibility to coordinate your time in port with meals and activities on the ship, exact departure times are published in the EXC Tours Order Form on board. For more information, please attend the EXC Tours Presentation or visit the EXC Desk.

### **Tour descriptions**

Tour descriptions may change after printing. Information that becomes available after this brochure is published will be posted in the EXC Tours section of our website, which can be found online at [hollandamerica.com](http://hollandamerica.com). Significant changes will be noted on the EXC Tours Order Form on board. Tour schedules are subject to change.



## Medallion Collection

Exclusive experiences designed to accommodate our most discerning guests, our Medallion Collection tours are each carefully chosen to provide an in-depth perspective. They offer unparalleled access to events and sights not normally readily available. First-class style and smaller groups for a privileged few.



## Encore Collection

Been there, done that? Think again. The Encore Collection lets you discover what lies beyond the well-known attractions you've already seen. Barbecue with Argentine gauchos, bike the tree-lined boulevards of Barcelona, ride an Icelandic pony across a windswept beach. These tours showcase hidden gems, unusual angles and inside stories that will bring you back time and again.



## World Wonders Collection

Natural treasures, architectural marvels, technical wonders: to the Seven Wonders of the World we add our own nominations based on decades of leadership in global travel—the sandstone city of Petra, the *moai* statues of Easter Island, and the Great Wall of China, among others. What they have in common is the ability to inspire awe.



## Cruise with Purpose

For every global citizen who has ever dreamed of either giving back or paying it forward, the innovative Cruise with Purpose Collection is quite simply about improving our planet one voyage at a time. Assist in scientific research, bring much-needed supplies to an orphanage, participate in a fair trade scheme or cultural exchange, replant native forest or restore fragile habitat—your footprint will be light and your soul enriched.

# The Collections of Holland America Line

What fascinates you? A cooking class with a local chef? A private car, complete with driver and guide, so you can explore near or far? A chance to encounter wildlife or view natural wonders up close? The Collections of Holland America Line represent a small subset of the tours you will find in this brochure. Each collection offers its own particular focus and is available only in select ports.



## Signature Collection

This exclusive touring option for independent-minded travelers lets you completely customize and maximize your time ashore by reserving private transportation (along with an English-speaking driver and guide) in advance. Whether you travel by car or minivan, customized boat, classic floatplane or stretch SUV limousine, you choose the companions, sights and pace that perfectly suit you.

### Booking on Board

The Signature Collection may be available for booking once you are on the ship, but this cannot be guaranteed. Please check with the EXC Desk on board.

### To Whom is the Signature Collection Suited?

The Signature Collection is for solo travelers, couples, families, friends and special interest groups traveling together. This may also be an excellent choice for non-ambulatory guests. Value and flexibility are just two of

the advantages of first-class touring and luxury transportation. Privacy, comfort, safety, and personalized guide service are also yours to enjoy.

### About the Transportation

Each type of transportation will be of the highest grade available in that port. Not all modes of transportation are available in all locations. For information about the transportation sizes and availability, please see our website at [hollandamerica.com](http://hollandamerica.com).

### Also Included

The cost includes the service of a driver and English-speaking guide, unlimited mileage, road tolls, parking fees and bottled water, unless otherwise noted.

### Not Included (Unless Otherwise Noted)

Guests' entrance fees for attractions are not included in the price due to the wide range of attraction possibilities, uncertain number of attractions to be visited, and varying number of guests participating. We strongly recommend





that you bring some local currency to cover such costs as credit cards are not readily accepted in all ports. Lunch will not be included on any tour, as many guests prefer to select their own dining venue.

#### Itinerary Planning

If you need help planning your personal itinerary, the EXC Guide™ and/or EXC Tours™ staff can assist you and will gladly answer your questions. This can be very helpful in many destinations where travel time, location, holidays, and opening hours of attractions need to be taken into consideration to maximize the efficiency of your time ashore.

#### Pricing

The cost of each type of transportation will be published online at [hollandamerica.com](http://hollandamerica.com).

#### Online Reservations

The fastest and easiest way for you to reserve and pay for your Signature Collection experience is online at [hollandamerica.com](http://hollandamerica.com). Please note the cost will be per mode of transportation (not per person), so only one person in the party needs to make the reservation. The price shown on the website is the total cost for the transportation, driver and guide (not a per-person price). In many ports, availability is extremely limited. We encourage you to reserve as early as possible.

#### Payment & Tour Vouchers

Your credit card will be charged after your reservation is confirmed. Next, start planning what you'll do with your Signature Collection experience in each port. On board the ship, you will be given a tour voucher and a form to advise the EXC Desk of the itinerary you have chosen.

#### Disembarking the Ship

In some disembarkation ports, a private vehicle, driver and guide can be used for sightseeing en route to the airport. When booking, please advise the amount of luggage for your party. Vehicle size and luggage space may limit the number of guests in the vehicle.



## Expand the Experience

Make the most of your time in each port by combining different half-day tours to complete a full day of sightseeing. You might want to consider a morning cooking class and an afternoon walking tour; a morning stroll through a mosaic-lined church and an afternoon of sampling local wine at a vineyard; or even a bike ride and an evening cultural performance—all in one day! Whatever your interests, and whichever pace suits you best, there's a huge variety of tours to mix and match in this brochure. Please consult with an EXC Tours specialist at 1.888.425.9376.

## EXC Tours™ Booking & Confirmation

Now you can choose your tour times, book your tours, and receive confirmation of your tour reservations 24 hours a day. Visit us online at [hollandamerica.com](http://hollandamerica.com).

Book online now, up until three days before sailing. Make your payment online via our secure website, and receive confirmation as well as your approximate tour departure times. You can also download the EXC Tours, view tour prices, find answers to frequently asked questions and read general information. And remember, online tour reservations are processed prior to any requests made on board the ship and receive priority handling. Please see the Reservations & Online Reservations paragraph in the General Information section for terms and conditions.



# Invergordon (Inverness), Scotland, United Kingdom - Thursday, August 2, 2018: The skirl of Highland bagpipes calls you ashore. Go in search of your clan tartan, and "Nessie," the spurious monster often sighted in Loch Ness.

## Cawdor Castle & Culloden Battlefield



Departs: 9:00 AM  
Approximately 4½ Hours  
Adult \$109.95; Child \$69.95

Explore the historic battlefield of Culloden Moor and the enchanting and romantic medieval fortification of Cawdor Castle.

As you travel south from Invergordon, the road follows the banks of the beautiful Cromarty Firth and crosses the Black Isle before turning inland. The landscape here is alternating open countryside and quiet woodland.

You'll soon reach the **Culloden Battlefield**. This eerie, windswept moorland is the site of the last battle on Scottish soil (1746) -- a turning point in the nation's history and the beginning of the end for the clan way of life in Scotland.

Next you will head to the conservation village of Cawdor and the impressive **Cawdor Castle** -- a truly beautiful, traditional medieval castle and residence with interesting ties to Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. The castle, dating back to 1372, is still in the hands of the Cawdor family after six centuries. Approach over the drawbridge and enter the castle for an inside visit (unguided), after which you will have time to roam through the exceptionally beautiful **gardens**. Soft fruits, flowers, vegetables, and orchards mingle closely together to form the North Garden.

The other part contains the Paradise Garden, Knot Garden and Thistle Garden, as well as an orchard with old fruit trees. The wild garden on the bank of Cawdor Burn (stream) leads into the wonderfully mysterious Cawdor Forest.

### Notes:

Flash photography is not allowed inside Cawdor Castle. Large bags cannot be carried inside. Admission to the visitor center at Culloden is not included; you can enter at your own expense (£11).

## Cruising Loch Ness



Departs: 9:15 AM  
Approximately 4½ Hours  
Adult \$99.95; Child \$49.95

This is a half-day tour to Scotland's most famous lake -- Loch Ness. It's also your opportunity to scour the loch's inky waters in search of Nessie -- the world's most famous waterhorse.

Traveling southwest from Invergordon, you'll follow the banks of the beautiful Cromarty Firth. Then, the drive passes through Muir of Ord and the town of Beauly (whose name means 'beautiful place'), with its atmospheric ruined abbey. A final descent winds down a steep hill towards the stupendous **Loch Ness**. This is Britain's largest volume of fresh water; its murky depths conjure up lurid tales of sightings of weird creatures including, of course, the Loch Ness Monster.

Upon arrival at the loch, step aboard a **boat** for a **cruise** out onto these legendary waters, learning about its geology, history and, of course, its most famous inhabitant. Have your camera ready -- at best, you'll capture a shot that will internationally immortalize you if "the wee beastie" should show herself; at worst, you'll have some beautiful photos by which to remember the dramatic mountainous scenery surrounding the loch.

Head to **Inverness** -- capital of the Highlands -- for a brief **city tour**. The town is brimming with historical landmarks, including the Gothic-style Town Hall, Inverness Castle and the Tollbooth Steeple.

From here, return to the ship at Invergordon.

### Notes:

The boat ride may not be exclusive to Holland America guests. Inside seating may be limited in the case of inclement weather. Bring a waterproof outer layer.

## Dunrobin Castle



Departs: 9:15 AM  
Approximately 4 Hours  
Adult \$129.95; Child \$69.95

**Dunrobin Castle**, ancient seat of the Earls of Sutherland, is the northernmost of Scotland's great houses. Standing in an immense park overlooking the sea, it is also the largest house in the Northern Highlands, with 189 rooms, and is one of Britain's oldest continuously-inhabited residences, dating in part from the early 1300s.

During your visit, see the opulent and fascinating collection of furniture, pictures, *objets d'art* and family memorabilia, displayed mostly in their original settings. Step out into the **Dunrobin Castle Gardens**, every bit as grand as the castle. These magnificent, formal 19th-century gardens were modeled on Versailles, designed in grand French style to echo the architecture of Dunrobin Castle.

### Notes:

Photography is not allowed inside the castle. Bags/backpacks cannot be taken into the castle. Participants must negotiate steep steps to the gardens.

**Glenmorangie Distillery & Lovely Dornoch**



Departs: 9:30 AM  
Approximately 3½ Hours  
Adult \$99.95; Child \$69.95



A short coach ride north brings you to the ancient Royal Burgh of **Tain** -- an attractive small town of grand, whisky-colored sandstone buildings.

Your destination is the **Glenmorangie Distillery**, which offers a fine view over the shores of the Dornoch Firth. Glenmorangie means 'Valley of Tranquility' -- a particularly appropriate description for this calm and scenic location. The distillery has been in production for more than 150 years and is famous for its highly-rated single malt, which is distributed all over the world. The traditions surrounding the art of distilling have been passed down from generation to generation through the local families who have made up the dedicated workforce over the years. During your leisurely visit, see the production area and absorb all the sights, sounds and aromas associated with the making of malt whisky. You'll also have the opportunity to try a wee dram.

Afterwards, spend a little time in the **Visitor Center** to discover the traditional skills of coopering and malting and the effects of wood on whisky.

Cross Dornoch Firth via the low causeway bridge to enter the enchanting, 12th-century town of **Dornoch**. This is indeed a very picturesque village, surrounded by sand

dunes and blessed with an exceptionally sunny climate. Solid Edwardian buildings, trees and flowers in profusion, miles of sandy beach, and a championship golf-course are the main attractions here. The town's oldest buildings are all gathered around its spacious and beautiful square, including the impressive medieval cathedral. This idyllic setting was the scene for Madonna's rock 'n' roll wedding and her son's baptism in 2000. Opposite stands the majestic 16th-century Bishop's Palace, with stepped gables and towers and, next door, the Old Town jail -- now home to a series of enticing galleries and shops.

Leaving Dornoch, travel south towards Invergordon and return to the ship.

**Notes:**

Photography is not allowed within the production area of the distillery. Wear comfortable walking shoes.

**Invergordon Private Touring - Full Day (Car)**



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 8 hours - Price is per vehicle, not per person.  
See additional NOTES below.  
Price \$1,299.00



Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide at your service. This exclusive tour is designed to allow you the chance to customize your time ashore and discover the most interesting sights in the comfort and privacy of your own vehicle. With your private vehicle, and the personalized attention of your driver and

English-speaking guide, you will have the flexibility and independence to design your itinerary ashore according to your own interests, and take in the sights at your own pace. See the famous sights, or go beyond to create your own intimate connections and unique cultural encounters. The Signature Collection is recommended for the single/solo traveler, couples, family, friends, and special interest groups traveling together. It can also be an excellent choice for guests with mobility limitations.

Capacity: 2 guests. Your private party may be of any size up to the maximum capacity.

**Notes:**

Private cars are ordered per vehicle (not per person), so only one person in the party needs to order the vehicle. The price shown is the total cost for the vehicle, driver, and English-speaking guide. Entrance fees for attractions are not included. In many destinations, the number of vehicles available is extremely limited, so guests are encouraged to secure their private vehicle reservation as early as possible.

**Invergordon Private Touring - Full Day (Minivan)**



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 8 hours - Price is per vehicle, not per person.  
See additional NOTES below.  
Price \$1,499.00



Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide at your service. This exclusive tour is designed

to allow you the chance to customize your time ashore and discover the most interesting sights in the comfort and privacy of your own vehicle. With your private vehicle, and the personalized attention of your driver and English-speaking guide, you will have the flexibility and independence to design your itinerary ashore according to your own interests, and take in the sights at your own pace. See the famous sights, or go beyond to create your own intimate connections and unique cultural encounters. The Signature Collection is recommended for the single/solo traveler, couples, family, friends, and special interest groups traveling together. It can also be an excellent choice for guests with mobility limitations.

Capacity: 7 guests. Your private party may be of any size up to the maximum capacity.

**Notes:**

Private minivans are ordered per vehicle (not per person), so only one person in the party needs to order the vehicle. The price shown is the total cost for the vehicle, driver, and English-speaking guide. Entrance fees for attractions are not included. In many destinations, the number of vehicles available is extremely limited, so guests are encouraged to secure their private vehicle reservation as early as possible.



**Invergordon Private  
Touring - Half Day  
(Car)**



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 4 hours - Price is  
per vehicle, not per person.  
See additional NOTES below.  
Price \$899.00



Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide at your service. This exclusive tour is designed to allow you the chance to customize your time ashore and discover the most interesting sights in the comfort and privacy of your own vehicle. With your private vehicle, and the personalized attention of your driver and English-speaking guide, you will have the flexibility and independence to design your itinerary ashore according to your own interests, and take in the sights at your own pace. See the famous sights, or go beyond to create your own intimate connections and unique cultural encounters. The Signature Collection is recommended for the single/solo traveler, couples, family, friends, and special interest groups traveling together. It can also be an excellent choice for guests with mobility limitations.

Capacity: 2 guests. Your private party may be of any size up to the maximum capacity.

**Notes:**

Private cars are ordered per vehicle (not per person), so only one person in the party needs to order the vehicle. The price shown is the total cost for the vehicle, driver, and English-speaking guide. Entrance fees for attractions

are not included. In many destinations, the number of vehicles available is extremely limited, so guests are encouraged to secure their private vehicle reservation as early as possible.

**Invergordon Private  
Touring - Half Day  
(Minivan)**



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 4 hours - Price is  
per vehicle, not per person.  
See additional NOTES below.  
Price \$1,099.00



Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide at your service. This exclusive tour is designed to allow you the chance to customize your time ashore and discover the most interesting sights in the comfort and privacy of your own vehicle. With your private vehicle, and the personalized attention of your driver and English-speaking guide, you will have the flexibility and independence to design your itinerary ashore according to your own interests, and take in the sights at your own pace. See the famous sights, or go beyond to create your own intimate connections and unique cultural encounters. The Signature Collection is recommended for the single/solo traveler, couples, family, friends, and special interest groups traveling together. It can also be an excellent choice for guests with mobility limitations.

Capacity: 7 guests. Your private party may be of any size up to the maximum capacity.

**Notes:**

Private minivans are ordered per vehicle (not per person), so only one person in the party needs to order the vehicle. The price shown is the total cost for the vehicle, driver, and English-speaking guide. Entrance fees for attractions are not included. In many destinations, the number of vehicles available is extremely limited, so guests are encouraged to secure their private vehicle reservation as early as possible.

**Inverness On Your  
Own**



Departs: 9:00 AM  
Approximately 4½ Hours  
Adult \$69.95; Child \$49.95



This **transfer** may suit you if you would like to explore on your own. It consists of a motor coach ride from the ship to **Inverness**, the capital of the Highlands. You will be dropped off at a central location, and the coach escort will advise you of the pick-up time for the return journey. You will have approximately **three hours of free time** in Inverness.

**Notes:**

Guide service, taxi transfers, entrance fees and lunch are not included in the transfer price. It will be your responsibility to be at the pick-up point at the given return time. An English-speaking escort will be aboard the transfer motor coach to answer questions en route. Travel time to Inverness is approximately 45 minutes each way.

**Loch Ness & Urquhart Castle  
Ruins**



Departs: 8:45 AM  
Approximately 4¼ Hours  
Adult \$129.95; Child \$69.95

Visit Scotland's stunning Loch Ness. This body of water is world famous thanks to Nessie -- the Loch Ness monster. No matter how skeptical you are regarding the existence of such a creature, it is impossible to drive alongside Loch Ness without scouring the dark waters in hope of a sighting.





Embark on a scenic drive through the Highlands to enjoy stunning views of the mountains and meadows. Your first stop will be at **Urquhart Castle**, built both as a fortress and as a residence. Romantics say that Nessie (or 'the Wee Beastie', as she is affectionately known locally) lives in a cave beneath the castle. Keep this in mind as you walk the pathway down to the lower level of the castle! At the Urquhart Castle **Visitor Center**, view the exhibits that illustrate the story of Urquhart and Nessie.

The road will bring you right along the banks of the loch, where there will be ample opportunity to snap photos of the mysterious lake before reaching the Highland capital -- **Inverness**. Enjoy a short orientation tour of this city and its delightful riverside setting.

**Notes:**

The pathway from the motorcoach down to the lower level of the castle is fairly steep, but you can remain on the upper level and enjoy panoramic views and photo opportunities.



<p>Wear comfortable walking shoes.</p> <p><b>Loch Ness, Water Monsters &amp; Highland Castles</b></p>  <p>Departs: 8:30 AM Approximately 8 Hours Adult \$189.95; Child \$129.95</p> <p>Today's excursion will introduce you to Scotland's famous <b>Loch Ness</b> and two of the country's most romantic medieval castles -- one in ruins, the other an opulent-but-homey residence.</p> <p>Traveling southwest from Invergordon, the coach skirts the banks of the beautiful Cromarty Firth, then drives through Muir of Ord and past the town of Beaulay. Keep your eyes peeled for a glimpse of its atmospheric ruined abbey.</p> <p>Descending a steep hill, you will see the splendid Loch Ness -- Britain's deepest freshwater lake -- whose murky depths inspire lurid tales of fantastical creatures. Not the least of these is the fabled Loch Ness Monster. Her real name is Nessie, but you can call her 'the wee beastie', as the locals do.</p> <p>Stop at the 14th-century <b>Urquhart Castle</b>, situated right on the edge of the loch. This is one of the most picturesque areas in Scotland and boasts a state-of-the-art <b>Visitor Center</b>. Don't miss the captivating audiovisual that brilliantly brings to life the castle's dark and dangerous history, with an ending that leaves many visitors gasping in astonishment.</p> <p>Head to <b>Inverness</b>, capital of the Highlands. A city tour introduces you to some of the</p>	<p>historic sites, such as the Gothic-style Town House and Tolbooth Steeple, as well as the pretty, tree-lined River Ness.</p> <p>After you've enjoyed <b>lunch</b> at a local hotel, the coach ride turns inland through a landscape of alternating open countryside and quiet woodland. You'll drive past Culloden Moor -- perhaps Scotland's most famous battlefield. This eerie, windswept stretch of land is the site of the last battle on Scottish soil -- a turning point in the nation's history and the beginning of the end for the clan way of life in Scotland.</p> <p>Next, you will head to the conservation village of Cawdor and the impressive <b>Cawdor Castle</b> -- a truly beautiful, traditional medieval castle with exceptionally lovely gardens.</p> <p>At the conclusion of your visit, return to Invergordon and the ship.</p> <p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p>Flash photography is not allowed inside Cawdor Castle. Large bags cannot be carried inside. Wear comfortable walking shoes.</p> <p><b>Panoramic Loch Ness</b></p>  <p>Departs: 12:45 PM Approximately 3¼ Hours Adult \$79.95; Child \$59.95</p> <p>Depart from Invergordon for a <b>panoramic drive</b> along the banks of the Cromarty Firth, pausing briefly at the town of Beaulay on your way to <b>Drumnadrochit</b> village.</p> <p>Catch your first glimpse of world-renowned</p>	<p><b>Loch Ness</b> as you approach the water from the hillside high above. The largest volume of freshwater in Scotland, Loch Ness is famous around the world for being the home of a mysterious mythical water creature that goes by the nickname of Nessie. Keep an eye out, and be sure to let your guide know if you spot the elusive 'wee beastie'.</p> <p>Continue the stunning drive along the main road running the length of the loch, and stop at the Clansman Hotel, located at the loch's edge. This brings you as close to the water (and Nessie) as possible without venturing out in a boat. Leave the coach and have a look around. Snap some photos before returning to Invergordon via the western shore of the loch and the Highland capital of Inverness.</p> <p><b>Photographic Expedition in the Scottish Highlands</b></p>  <p>Departs: 8:30 AM (Waitlisted), 12:45 PM Approximately 3¼ Hours Price \$189.95</p> <p>Designed especially for the professional photographer or serious amateur, this excursion is your opportunity to <b>explore and photograph the Northern Highlands of Scotland</b> -- indisputably one of the most picturesque and photogenic areas in the UK.</p> <p>Your driver and expert guide is a <b>professional photographer</b> with ample experience exploring and photographing the Highlands. Let him/her share with you his/her passionate interest in the people, places and wildlife of the Highlands as well as an irrepressible enthusiasm for this remote and beautiful area. (S)he will take you to just the right locations</p>	<p>to capture those very special shots, providing instruction that will enable you to get the best out of your camera.</p> <p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p>Dress in layers. Wear comfortable walking shoes.</p> <p><b>Scenic Highland Drive &amp; Dornoch</b></p>  <p>Departs: 8:30 AM Approximately 4 Hours Price \$69.95</p> <p>A relaxed <b>panoramic motorcoach drive</b> illustrates the contrast between gentle wild moors and rugged mountains of the Highlands.</p> <p>You'll leave the coach and <b>walk</b> with your guide along an unpaved path through the trees until you reach the stretch of the falls on the River Shin. This is not a raging waterfall -- rather, it is a cascade of water over a bed of rocks. The river is only five miles long, but its drop of 270 feet from Loch Shin to the Kyle of Sutherland presents a challenge to the salmon that return to spawn upriver, making this one of the best places in the country (seasonally) to watch salmon jumping.</p> <p>Continue along the north side of the Dornoch Firth before turning off to climb up over the moors. The circular route then takes you via the Highland village of Spinningdale toward the coast, where you will visit the small town of <b>Dornoch</b>. Mellow stone houses stand in broad, tree-lined streets and Dornoch, full of character, retains an old-world dignity despite its popularity as a vacation resort.</p>
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Visit the **craft center** and town jail, or the ancient cathedral dating from 1224.

At the conclusion of your visit, descend towards the Cromarty Firth and return to Invergordon.

**Notes:**

Wildlife sightings are likely but are not guaranteed. Wear sturdy walking shoes.

**The Wild West Highlands & Romantic Eilean Donan Castle**



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 8 Hours  
Adult \$179.95; Child \$99.95

Begin your day with a **panoramic drive** from Invergordon along the banks of the beautiful Cromarty Firth. Descending a steep hill, you will see splendid Loch Ness -- the largest volume of fresh water in the UK -- home of the Loch Ness Monster. Enduring legend, clever hoax, or the real thing? You decide. Pause briefly for photos on the banks of **Loch Ness**; then, head south, skirting the banks of the loch en route to the hamlet of Invermoriston.

Continuing through some of Scotland's most rugged and wild landscapes, you'll pass Loch Clunie and Glen Shiel, with a dramatic ridge that boasts no fewer than seven Munros (mountains that stand at more than 3,000 feet). This is the site of a famous Jacobite battlefield.

Magical, iconic and unforgettable **Eilean**

**Donan Castle** is your next destination. This astonishingly graceful castle presides over the once strategically-important confluence of Lochs Alsh, Long and Duich. Its imposing tower rises from the water's edge and is joined to the shore by a narrow stone bridge, with the sheer mountains as a backdrop. Spend two hours exploring as your guide provides detailed information on the castle's vivid history, which dates back to the 13th century.

The drive back to the port at Invergordon is a three-hour scenic adventure through the wilderness of the Highlands. You'll see some of Scotland's most awe-inspiring countryside -- breathtakingly rugged landscapes, seascapes and towering mountains. Pass Loch Carron, Glen Carron, and the forbidding Achnasheen ('field of storms'). A series of four tranquil lochs (Achanalt, A Chuilinn, Luichart and Garve), and the impressive Victorian town of Strathpeffer, ease you back to Invergordon.

**Notes:**

Photo stops are time and traffic conditions permitting. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Photography is not allowed inside the castle. Bags/backpacks cannot be taken into the castle.

# South Queensferry (Edinburgh), Scotland, United Kingdom - Friday, August 3, 2018:

Your jumping-off point for the highlights of Edinburgh, including historic Edinburgh Castle, housing the Scottish crown jewels and the palace that was once home to Mary Queen of Scots.

## A Stroll Down the Royal Mile



Departs: 8:45 AM  
Approximately 4 Hours  
Adult \$79.95; Child \$69.95

The best way to appreciate the historical past of **Edinburgh** is to explore the **Royal Mile** on foot. This famous thoroughfare was the heart of the Old Town of Edinburgh during medieval times, and stretches from the high hillside setting of Edinburgh Castle for approximately a mile downhill to the Palace of Holyrood House. It is really a continuation of four streets joined together -- Castle Hill, Lawnmarket, High Street and Canongate. Edinburgh Castle, an imposing castle-fortress, stands proudly at one end of the Royal Mile.

You'll pass **Gladstone's Land**, where some of the features of this interesting, tall, early 17th-century building can be admired, including an outside staircase, arcaded ground floor, oak shutters, leaded glass, and crow-stepped gables.

**Lady Stair's House**, a literary museum dedicated to the works of Burns, Scott and Stevenson, can be seen from a secluded close that opens into a spacious courtyard.

**St Giles Cathedral** with its crown spire is a much-recognized landmark standing adjacent to **Parliament Square**, where the buildings now house the **Law Courts of Scotland**.

Famous church reformer John Knox once lived here, and his 16th-century house has been rebuilt extensively through the years. It has a red-tiled gable roof, projecting timber gallery and outside stairs.

Your guide will point out the Church of Canongate, where many historical figures are buried in the churchyard, including the murdered Italian secretary of Mary, Queen of Scots. At the bottom of the Royal Mile, visit **Holyrood House** -- the British Monarch's official residence in Scotland and a magnificent palace closely associated with Bonnie Prince Charlie and Mary, Queen of Scots, who resided here for six long and lonely years. Your guided visit will include the state apartments, which are filled with tapestries, paintings, and impressive furniture. Of special note is the picture gallery with more than 80 portraits of Scottish Monarchs.

### Notes:

Tour is available only on select sailings.

## Britannia & the Best of Edinburgh



Departs: 8:45 AM  
Approximately 8½ Hours  
Adult \$169.95; Child \$129.95

Travel to the port of **Leith** to visit **Britannia** -- the Queen's Royal Yacht from 1953 to 1995. Your tour ranges from the Queen's Cabin to the engine room in an upstairs-downstairs look at this legendary craft that was the setting for Charles and Diana's honeymoon. Walk through the comfortable drawing room to the formal dining room. Tour the bridge, the Admiral's Suite and the officers' wardroom. Then, head below decks to see the spotless crew's quarters, the sickbay and laundry. Britannia gleams with polished wood and brass work and offers an intriguing glimpse into the private life of the royals.

Stepping ashore, continue to **Edinburgh** and to a local hotel for **lunch**.

The crowning glory of this magnificent city is **Edinburgh Castle** -- a great medieval fortress perched atop an eroded volcanic crag. Enter the superb fortress complex on Crown Square and allow your guide to orient you to all that can be seen on the grounds. You will explore the interior rooms and the grounds on your own. Highlights include the Crown Room housed within the 14th-century Old Royal Palace, where **Scotland's Crown Jewels** can be found. View the chamber where Mary, Queen

of Scots, gave birth to James VI of Scotland -- later crowned James I of England and founder of the Stuart Dynasty

Enjoy some **free time** to explore the many shops, boutiques, galleries and cafés on **Princes Street** before returning to South Queensferry.

### Notes:

At the castle, there will be an uphill walk from the coach parking area to the castle entrance, over cobblestone surfaces that are uneven in places. Use of an audio headset (included) aboard Britannia will enhance your tour experience.

## Edinburgh Highlights & Castle






Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 4½ Hours  
Adult \$99.95; Child \$59.95

History and beauty unite in the proud city of **Edinburgh**.

Travel along the main road to arrive at Princes Street, with its array of fine stores on one side, and the beautifully laid out formal gardens on the other.

Visit **Edinburgh Castle**, home of Scottish kings and queens for centuries, perched on its rocky site 445 feet above the city. This castle

<p>has witnessed many tense moments in its thousand-year history. Inside, don't miss the 15th-century <b>Old Royal Palace</b>, which houses the Scottish Crown Jewels. See the apartment in which Mary, Queen of Scots gave birth to the future King James VI of Scotland who also became James I of England.</p> <p>Driving through the Old Town, you will see the historic stretch of road known as the <b>Royal Mile</b>, including Canongate and Lawnmarket with delightful multi-storied houses and quaint side streets. Pass Holyrood House, the official Scottish residence of the Queen, before returning to the pier.</p> <p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p>There are three floors and 30 steps within the Royal Palace where the Crown Jewels are displayed. The cobblestone entrance paths are very steep and are difficult to access by wheelchair. A vehicle is available to transport guests to the top but it does not accommodate wheelchairs.</p> <p><b>Edinburgh, Floors Castle &amp; Dryburgh Abbey</b></p>  <p>Departs: 8:30 AM Approximately 9¼ Hours Adult \$169.95; Child \$119.95</p> <p>Every inch of the area of Scotland known as the <b>Borders</b> has been fought over, bitterly and often, from prehistoric times until the middle of the 17th century. Whole towns were sacked and hastily rebuilt, heavily fortified after the lessons learned.</p> <p>The Border country is a checkerboard of</p>	<p>fertile farmland laced with wooded river valleys within a rim of undulating hills. Enjoy this peaceful region as you travel to <b>Kelso</b>, a compact market town, where two famous Border rivers, the Teviot and the Tweed, meet under the city walls.</p> <p>You will visit <b>Floors Castle</b>, the home of the Duke of Roxburghe and the 'ancestral home of Tarzan', having been the location of the movie <i>Greystoke</i> . Built by William Adam between 1721 and 1725, this immense mansion, flanked by vast pavilions, with minarets and cupolas, has an almost Eastern look. A tree in the grounds marks the spot where James II was killed by an exploding cannon in 1460. The apartments display an outstanding collection of French 17th- to 18th-century furniture, many fine works of art and tapestries, Chinese and Dresden porcelain, and a Victorian collection of birds.</p> <p>Continue to Dryburgh and visit the abbey there -- one of the quartet of 12th-century Border abbeys founded by David I. Built in 1150, <b>Dryburgh Abbey</b> is today a beautiful ruin, but its cloister buildings are more complete than those of other Scottish monasteries. In common with the other abbeys, Dryburgh was ravaged by the English until 1545, when Hertford, acting for Henry VIII, left it a smoking ruin. It was robbed of its usefulness, but not of its tranquil beauty, nor its atmosphere of sanctity.</p> <p>Look out for the <b>tomb of Sir Walter Scott</b>. The stately cedars that throw their shade across the grass were brought back from the</p>	<p>Holy Land during one of the crusades.</p> <p><b>Lunch</b> is served at a small country hotel and your excursion continues with a drive through more typical Border country and scenery</p> <p>Arriving in <b>Edinburgh</b>, a <b>panoramic sightseeing tour</b> takes you along Princes Street, with its elegant shops on one side and the neat gardens on the other side. See Edinburgh Castle perched on its lofty rock overlooking the Old Town -- the most ancient part of Scotland's capital.</p> <p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p>Tour is available only on select sailings.</p> <p>Tour not available on all sailings.</p> <p><b>Falkirk Wheel &amp; Stirling</b></p>  <p>Departs: 9:15 AM Approximately 6 Hours Adult \$99.95; Child \$69.95</p> <p>Almost 100 years ago, a series of eleven locks was used to connect the Forth and Clyde Canals, running from Glasgow to Edinburgh's Union Canal. As part of a Millennium initiative to encourage waterway usage, the <b>Falkirk Wheel</b> was designed and constructed to provide a 21st-century solution to more speedily link the canals. The Wheel is a truly unique and awesome spectacle -- Scotland's most exciting example of modern engineering. More than just the world's first rotating boat elevator, the Falkirk Wheel is also a symbol heralding the dawn of Britain's new Canal Age. Its role may be simple, but its</p>	<p>shape is far from conventional -- it is an eye-catching, working sculpture.</p> <p>Embark a <b>canal boat</b> to experience a journey through a canal tunnel and across an aqueduct. Upon your return, the canal seems to simply drop off the end, but in fact your boat is gently lowered to the next level by the Falkirk Wheel. Boat elevators are nothing new -- the last one made in Britain was built in 1875. A rotating boat elevator, however, is quite unique and the result is both awe-inspiring and beautiful.</p> <p>Back on dry land, re-board the motorcoach and continue the short distance to <b>Stirling</b>. You will have <b>free time</b> here in the town to spend sightseeing, shopping or visiting the castle of great renown (at your own expense).</p> <p>Please note This tour is offered as an alternative to 'Falkirk Wheel &amp; the Antonine Wall'.</p> <p><b>Mary Kings Close</b></p>  <p>Departs: 8:45 AM Approximately 4½ Hours Price \$119.95</p> <p>Step back in time and experience Mary Kings Close, a network of narrow underground alleys found beneath the City Chambers along Edinburgh's famous Royal Mile. Mary Kings Close was at the heart of Edinburgh's busiest and most vibrant streets in 1645, but 400 years later these became underground. Discover how and why as your costumed guide in character from the past takes you on</p>
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a tour through the close, sharing fascinating and intriguing stories about this mysterious place. Following your visit to Mary Kings Close, you'll have a guided walk of the famous Royal Mile before returning to the ship.

Notes:

Group will be split into groups of 20 to visit Mary Kings Close.

Panoramic Edinburgh



Departs: 9:00 AM  
Approximately 3½ Hours  
Adult \$69.95; Child \$39.95

Depart from the ship at South Queensferry and drive into the heart of **Edinburgh** city.

Begin your **panoramic tour** on Princes Street, Edinburgh's main thoroughfare and shopping district. Catch a glimpse of **St Giles Cathedral** with its soaring crown spires, and travel down the Royal Mile, Edinburgh's main street in medieval times.

You will also see Holyrood Palace, official home to the Queen when she visits, and the **Sir Walter Scott Memorial**. Take advantage of the opportunity to stop and stretch your legs if you wish to get off the coach for a photo opportunity at the new Scottish Parliament building -- an unusual, modern building with a strong influence from Gaudí.

Drive around Holyrood Park, a green oasis of lakes and ponds; then, if time permits, you will stop for a photo opportunity in the grounds of Holyrood Palace.

Notes:

It is a five-minute walk from the ship to the motor coach loading area. The photo stop is optional; participants may remain on the coach.

Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo: Side Stand Seating



Departs: 5:45 PM  
Approximately 5½ Hours  
Price \$229.95

Traditionally, the 'tattoo' was the signal given by drumbeat that warned British soldiers to return to their quarters for the night. Innkeepers promptly turned off their liquor taps and the drums continued to beat for a half hour -- the grace period during which the soldiers were allowed to return home before being reported AWOL. The custom eventually developed into a ceremonial performance of military music by massed bands, held a few hours after sunset.

This evening, you will transfer into the city of Edinburgh for the world-famous **Edinburgh Military Tattoo**. Against the majestic backdrop of Edinburgh Castle, the world-renowned Massed Pipes & Drums together with the impressive Massed Military Bands and the Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland are among those who will gather for Scotland's sensational Edinburgh Tattoo. The Tattoo concludes with that most moving of all Scotland's performances -- the lone piper, floodlit on the battlements, haunting tones reaching out across the darkened arena to echo in your heart long after the music stops. The tattoo will leave you with lasting

memories of your Scottish evening out. After the show, you'll **walk** back down the **Royal Mile** to your waiting motor coach for the transfer back to South Queensferry.

Notes:

Evenings are cool; bring a warm jacket or sweater. Wear comfortable walking shoes. This excursion is available only on select sailings and does not operate on Sundays. In this category seating zones range between zone 3 or 4 or 5 or 12 or 13 or 14 in different categories and are priced accordingly. Not all categories are available on all sailings. Not advisable for guests with mobility limitations. Participants must walk 20-30 minutes, partly uphill from the coach park to the castle. The actual performance is 1½ hours, but it is necessary to leave plenty of time for the journey into central Edinburgh, and for settling into your reserved seat.

South Queensferry Private Touring - Full Day (Car)



Departs: 9:00 AM  
Approximately 8 hours - Price is per vehicle, not per person.  
See additional NOTES below.  
Price \$1,199.00



Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide at your service. This exclusive tour is designed to allow you the chance to customize your time ashore and discover the most interesting sights in the comfort and privacy of your own vehicle. With your private vehicle, and the personalized attention of your driver and English-speaking guide, you will have the

flexibility and independence to design your itinerary ashore according to your own interests, and take in the sights at your own pace. See the famous sights, or go beyond to create your own intimate connections and unique cultural encounters. The Signature Collection is recommended for the single/solo traveler, couples, family, friends, and special interest groups traveling together. It can also be an excellent choice for guests with mobility limitations.

Capacity: 2 guests. Your private party may be of any size up to the maximum capacity.

Notes:

Private cars are ordered per vehicle (not per person), so only one person in the party needs to order the vehicle. The price shown is the total cost for the vehicle, driver, and English-speaking guide. Entrance fees for attractions are not included. In many destinations, the number of vehicles available is extremely limited, so guests are encouraged to secure their private vehicle reservation as early as possible.

South Queensferry Private Touring - Full Day (Minivan)



Departs: 9:00 AM  
Approximately 8 hours - Price is per vehicle, not per person.  
See additional NOTES below.  
Price \$1,499.00



Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide at your service. This exclusive tour is designed to allow you the chance to customize your

time ashore and discover the most interesting sights in the comfort and privacy of your own vehicle. With your private vehicle, and the personalized attention of your driver and English-speaking guide, you will have the flexibility and independence to design your itinerary ashore according to your own interests, and take in the sights at your own pace. See the famous sights, or go beyond to create your own intimate connections and unique cultural encounters. The Signature Collection is recommended for the single/solo traveler, couples, family, friends, and special interest groups traveling together. It can also be an excellent choice for guests with mobility limitations.

Capacity:5 guests. Your private party may be of any size up to the maximum capacity.

**Notes:**

Private minivans are ordered per vehicle (not per person), so only one person in the party needs to order the vehicle. The price shown is the total cost for the vehicle, driver, and English-speaking guide. Entrance fees for attractions are not included. In many destinations, the number of vehicles available is extremely limited, so guests are encouraged to secure their private vehicle reservation as early as possible.

**South Queensferry Private Touring - Half Day (Car)**



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 4 hours - Price is per vehicle, not per person.  
See additional NOTES below.  
Price \$799.00



Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide at your service. This exclusive tour is designed to allow you the chance to customize your time ashore and discover the most interesting sights in the comfort and privacy of your own vehicle. With your private vehicle, and the personalized attention of your driver and English-speaking guide, you will have the flexibility and independence to design your itinerary ashore according to your own interests, and take in the sights at your own pace. See the famous sights, or go beyond to create your own intimate connections and unique cultural encounters. The Signature Collection is recommended for the single/solo traveler, couples, family, friends, and special interest groups traveling together. It can also be an excellent choice for guests with mobility limitations.

Capacity: 2 guests. Your private party may be of any size up to the maximum capacity.

**Notes:**

Private cars are ordered per vehicle (not per person), so only one person in the party needs to order the vehicle. The price shown is the total cost for the vehicle, driver, and English-speaking guide. Entrance fees for attractions

are not included. In many destinations, the number of vehicles available is extremely limited, so guests are encouraged to secure their private vehicle reservation as early as possible.

**South Queensferry Private Touring - Half Day (Minivan)**



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 4 hours - Price is per vehicle, not per person.  
See additional NOTES below.  
Price \$999.00



Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide at your service. This exclusive tour is designed to allow you the chance to customize your time ashore and discover the most interesting sights in the comfort and privacy of your own vehicle. With your private vehicle, and the personalized attention of your driver and English-speaking guide, you will have the flexibility and independence to design your itinerary ashore according to your own interests, and take in the sights at your own pace. See the famous sights, or go beyond to create your own intimate connections and unique cultural encounters. The Signature Collection is recommended for the single/solo traveler, couples, family, friends, and special interest groups traveling together. It can also be an excellent choice for guests with mobility limitations.

Capacity:5 guests. Your private party may be of any size up to the maximum capacity.

**Notes:**

Private minivans are ordered per vehicle (not per person), so only one person in the party needs to order the vehicle. The price shown is the total cost for the vehicle, driver, and English-speaking guide. Entrance fees for attractions are not included. In many destinations, the number of vehicles available is extremely limited, so guests are encouraged to secure their private vehicle reservation as early as possible.

**Spirit of Scotland Show**



Departs: 5:30 PM  
Approximately 5 Hours  
Price \$159.95

Travel into **Edinburgh**, anticipating a great welcome and an introduction to the wonderful, if somewhat mysterious, world of the Scots and their extraordinarily long-standing culture and lore. A **Highland bagpiper**, dressed in traditional gear from head to toe, or from Glengarry to ghillie brogues, as the case may be, will greet you and pipe you into the venue.

Take your seat and settle in for the **Spirit of Scotland Show** -- an evening of fine food and dazzling entertainment. Among the surprises awaiting you is the **Ceremony of the Haggis** -- a rather dramatic rendition of Robert Burns' hilarious poem. It tells the tale of the 'pudding race' and the demise of the poor wee haggis, which ends up being sampled by none other than you! It's a love-it-or-hate-it taste, but once you've gone there, you're deemed to be part-Scot for the rest of your life.

After dinner, enjoy a captivating show featuring the highlights of **Scottish music and**

**dance** -- bagpiping, drumming, the sword dance, hornpipes and jigs -- with an interactive part of the evening where you may be invited to **dance the Gay Gordons**. Don't forgo this opportunity to be part of the fun.

At the end of the show, travel back to the ship with a wealth of fun memories and perhaps a few new dance steps to try at home.

**St Andrews: Home of Golf**



Departs: 1:15 PM  
Approximately 4¼ Hours  
Adult \$69.95; Child \$39.95

Confident, poised and well-groomed, the town of **St Andrews** is most famous as the home of golf. It is also well known for its university -- the oldest higher-learning institution in Scotland.

St Andrews faces the sea from above a wide bay on the coast of Fife, and has always been at the heart of Scottish history. The town takes its name from the Apostle Andrew, whose relics, according to legend, were brought here by St Rule.

On arrival in this medieval cathedral town, you will transfer to the famous **Royal & Ancient Golf Club** for an independent stroll across of the Old Course. You will not play a game of golf.

There will be some **free time** for **shopping** before you transfer back to South Queensferry.

**Notes:**

Wear comfortable walking shoes.

**The Edinburgh Tattoo - Premium Front Seating**



Departs: 6:00 PM (Waitlisted)  
Approximately 5¼ Hours  
Price \$389.95

A "tattoo" was the traditional signal that warned British soldiers to return to their quarters for the night. Innkeepers turned off the liquor taps at "taptoe" and the drums continued to beat for half an hour -- the grace period during which the soldiers were allowed to return to the barracks. The custom eventually developed into a ceremonial performance of military music played by massed bands a few hours after sunset.

This evening, you will transfer into the city of Edinburgh for the world-famous **Edinburgh Military Tattoo**. **Walk** to the majestic backdrop of Edinburgh Castle, where the world-renowned Massed Pipes & Drums together with the impressive Massed Military Bands and the Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland gather for Scotland's sensational Edinburgh Tattoo.

The Tattoo concludes with the most moving of all Scotland's performances -- the lone piper, floodlit on the battlements, with haunting tones reaching out across the darkened arena to leave you with lasting memories of your Scottish evening out.

After the show you'll walk back down the Royal Mile to your waiting motorcoach for the transfer back to Rosyth.

**Notes:**

Wear comfortable shoes. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Wear long pants and bring a waterproof and windproof outer layer. If the evening is at all cool, you may wish to bring gloves, a warm hat and a scarf.

Tour is only available on select sailings and is not available on Sundays. Not advisable for guests with mobility limitations. Participants must walk 20-30 minutes, partly uphill from the coach park, to the castle. The actual performance is 1½ hours, but it is necessary to leave plenty of time for the journey into central Edinburgh and for settling into your reserved seat.

**The Edinburgh Tattoo -Front Corner Seating**



Departs: 6:00 PM  
Approximately 5¼ Hours  
Price \$309.95

Traditionally, the 'tattoo' was the signal given by drumbeat that warned British soldiers to return to their quarters for the night. Innkeepers promptly turned off their liquor taps and the drums continued to beat for a half hour -- the grace period during which the soldiers were allowed to return home before being reported AWOL. The custom eventually developed into a ceremonial performance of military music by massed bands, held a few hours after sunset.

This evening, you will transfer into the city of Edinburgh for the world-famous **Edinburgh**

**Military Tattoo**. Against the majestic backdrop of Edinburgh Castle, the world-renowned Massed Pipes & Drums together with the impressive Massed Military Bands and the Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland are among those who will gather for Scotland's sensational Edinburgh Tattoo. The Tattoo concludes with that most moving of all Scotland's performances -- the lone piper, floodlit on the battlements, haunting tones reaching out across the darkened arena to echo in your heart long after the music stops. The tattoo will leave you with lasting memories of your Scottish evening out. After the show, you'll **walk** back down the **Royal Mile** to your waiting motor coach for the transfer back to South Queensferry.

**Notes:**

Evenings are cool; bring a warm jacket or sweater. Wear comfortable walking shoes. This excursion is available only on select sailings and is not available on Sundays. In this category, seating zones range between 6, 7, 10, & 11 in different categories and are priced accordingly. Not all categories are available on all sailings. Not advisable for guests with mobility limitations. Participants must walk 20-30 minutes, partly uphill from the coach park to the castle. The actual performance is 1½ hours, but it is necessary to leave plenty of time for the journey into central Edinburgh, and for settling into your reserved seat.

The Edinburgh Tattoo with Private Seating & Reception



Departs: 6:15 PM  
5 Hours  
Price \$759.95

A "tattoo" was the traditional signal that warned British soldiers to return to their quarters for the night. Innkeepers turned off the liquor taps at "taptoe" and the drums continued to beat for half an hour -- the grace period during which the soldiers were allowed to return to the barracks. The custom eventually developed into a ceremonial performance of military music played by massed bands a few hours after sunset.

Today you will witness the **Edinburgh Military Tattoo** -- without question Scotland's most impressive entertainment spectacle and the most popular annual event on the Scottish calendar. It is one of the great visual and musical events in the world. Its ancient, historic setting, on the esplanade of Edinburgh Castle, is matchless. The venue is perched high above the skyline of the oldest and most popular part of the city, atop an extinct volcano some 440 feet above sea level.

This once-in-a-lifetime experience is about an hour from the pier by minibus. Your small coach has **VIP access** to the Edinburgh Castle esplanade, where you will be dropped off. From here, **walk** the short distance to the **Royal Gallery** to take your seat in the VIP area. As you watch from your reserved seat, this internationally acclaimed event unfolds in front of the floodlit castle -- a truly

magnificent and memorable experience.

When this dramatic display of national pride and musical talent comes to an end, gather for an **after-event champagne reception**.

Finally, it will be time to return to the pier and the ship with an unforgettable evening and the dramatic city of Edinburgh behind you.

Notes:

Wear comfortable shoes. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Wear long pants and bring a waterproof and windproof outer layer. If the evening is at all cool, you may wish to bring gloves, a warm hat and a scarf. Tickets for the Military Tattoo will be allocated in January. The number of tickets available is limited; please waitlist everyone in your party as early as possible for the best chance of confirmation. When tickets become available, confirmations are processed in the order of joining the waitlist. You will be notified by email if/when your party is confirmed.

The Trossachs Panoramic



Departs: 1:00 PM  
Approximately 4½ Hours  
Adult \$69.95; Child \$39.95

Begin your tour of one of Scotland's most beautiful areas with a drive that follows the south side of the **Firth of Forth** and en route you'll view the towering **Wallace Monument**. Completed in 1869 after eight years of construction, the 220-foot-tall Wallace

Monument sits prominently on the Abbey Craig, two miles north of the city of Stirling. It was from this hilltop in 1297 that William Wallace watched the English army cross Stirling Bridge. He led the Scots into the battle of the same name, and to victory.

Head to **Stirling** -- a city whose historic quarter feels like a step back in time with its steep, cobblestone streets. Stirling Castle, traditionally of huge strategic importance, comes into view. It is set high atop a rocky promontory. Not surprisingly, local lore held that whoever controlled the Castle at Stirling controlled Scotland of old.

Relax for a brief coach tour through the **Old Town**, then drive on through the **Trossachs** -- an area boasting a magnificent diversity of scenery with dramatic peaks and mysterious forest-covered slopes. This area of wild glens and sparkling lochs between Callander and Aberfoyle is often regarded as the 'Highlands in miniature' and was immortalized by Scott's poem, *Lady of the Lake*. At its heart, you'll see the forested slopes of Ben Venue rising above the still waters of Loch Achray. Pass through **Achray Forest** and drive over Dukes Pass with panoramic views of the surrounding tree-clad mountains and distant lochs. This is also Rob Roy country, named for the famous 17th-century Clan MacGregor outlaw and folk hero who roamed these parts.

You'll stop in **Aberfoyle**, gateway to the Trossachs and a base for adventurers engaging in outdoor pursuits. Return to the ship via the **Lake of Menteith** -- this is

Scotland's only lake, as all the others are lochs.



**Seydisfjordur, Iceland - Sunday, August 5, 2018:** Surrounded on three sides by stunning mountain vistas and open to the sea, this idyllic harbor town boasts the largest number of early 19th century preserved wood buildings in Iceland. From its splendid waterfalls to its peaceful lagoon and deep fjord, explore the natural beauty of this small haven.

### Chasing Waterfalls



Departs: 1:30 PM  
Approximately 2½ Hours  
Adult \$89.95; Child \$39.95

The nature surrounding the town of Seyðisfjörður is a spellbinding display of waterfalls, mountains and the ocean. This hiking tour provides an excellent opportunity to explore the beauty of the Icelandic landscape.

With your guide you will **hike** up to a part of the **Vestdalur Valley** near Seyðisfjörður. The valley is a protected nature reserve due to its remarkable flora. Eventually you'll reach the abandoned buildings of the former town of Vestdalseyri. The town was inhabited for roughly a century (1851-1963). Originally there was a whaling station and it was home to one of the largest cooperatives in the country. Despite its beautiful and sunny location, the town declined steadily, with the last inhabitant leaving in 1963.

As you continue your journey, you'll walk past a series of beautiful **waterfalls** that will provide ideal photo opportunities.

You'll then head back to the coach and return to the pier.

#### Notes :

This tour is for fit, outdoorsy guests. It is very strenuous and is considered a grade 4 - 5 hike

(with 5 being the most difficult). Please realistically assess your physical fitness and abilities prior to booking this tour. This is an uphill hiking tour to various sites and the paths and sites consist of gravel, grass and uneven terrain. Dress warmly and in layers, outer layer should be waterproof/windproof. Wear sturdy, non-skid walking shoes; hiking shoes are preferable. Bring a bottle of water and snacks (nuts, chocolate or sandwich are recommended).

### Scenic East Iceland Express



Departs: 1:30 PM  
4 Hours  
Adult \$169.95; Child \$79.95

Leaving Seyðisfjörður, your coach follows the winding road uphill and over the impressive Fjarðarheiði mountain pass to Egilsstaðir -- a town of about 2,000 inhabitants and the commercial center of eastern Iceland.

Watch for Iceland's third-largest lake -- Lagarfljót -- whose bed lies 300 feet below sea level. The lake is famous for the mythical monster that resides in its deepest reaches.

Your journey continues to the **Snæfellsstofa Visitor Center**, covering the east side of Vatnajökull National Park. Enjoy an interactive way to explore the nature of the area.

You'll walk to **Skriðuklaustur** -- an unusual building of basalt blocks with white cement. It

is the former home of one of Iceland's greatest writers, Gunnar Gunnarsson. Today, this building acts as a residence for artists and writers, both Icelandic and foreign.

Passing **Hallormsstaður** -- one of the county's most successful government forestry stations -- you will view the beautiful Hallormsstaðaskógur Forest from the coach. More than forty species of tree from various parts of the world grow here and it is a favorite with Icelanders who seldom encounter trees among their typical landscape of stunted bushes and sweeping volcanic outfall.

En route back to **Seyðisfjörður**, you will stop in **Egilsstaðir** and step inside a **souvenir shop** that offers handcrafted items made by local artists.

#### Notes:

Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator. Please see the EXC Tours staff on board. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Outer layer should be waterproof and windproof. Bring gloves, a warm hat and a scarf. Wear sturdy, non-skid walking shoes.

### Seydisfjordur Bird Cliffs



Departs: 1:30 PM (Waitlisted)  
Approximately 2¼ Hours  
Adult \$189.95; Child \$169.95

Leave Seyðisfjörður's harbor by boat and head down the large and beautiful **Seyðisfjörður fjord**. You'll be surrounded by snowy mountains and gorgeous waterfalls.

Your destination is **Skálanesbjarg** -- a magnificent cliff, 810 feet tall. It is absolutely amazing to look at the cliffs from this perspective. Watch for the rich and diverse birdlife that nests among the nooks and crannies on the sheer face. During high season, the fjord and the cliffs are home to about 47 different bird species, including guillemot, fulmars, puffins and many more.


And what better way to embrace this wonderful natural environment, and to finish your tour, than with some sightseeing on the fjord. On your way back to Seyðisfjörður, keep an eye out for hungry seals prowling these fish-laden waters.

#### Notes:

Tour operates weather permitting; it may be canceled by the operator in the event of extremely bad weather or unsuitable conditions. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Outer layer should be waterproof and windproof. Bring

gloves, a warm hat and a scarf. Take care when stepping onto the boat, as the flooring can be slippery. Wildlife sightings are likely but not guaranteed. Many birds start migrating around mid-August.

**Seydisfjordur on Foot**



Departs: 1:30 PM  
Approximately 2½ hours  
Adult \$69.95; Child \$49.95

Enjoy a leisurely, guided walking tour of Seyðisfjörður, considered the cultural center of eastern Iceland. Situated on a winding 10-mile-long fjord, this charming little village of only 800 souls is completely surrounded by mountains. To the west, you can see Mt Bjólfur rising 3,559 feet, and across from the port is a lovely waterfall, just one of many that dot the area.

Seyðisfjörður is renowned for its impressive, yet simple, architecture. As you **walk** through the narrow streets you'll pass many well-preserved and brightly-painted wooden structures. These homes, businesses and public buildings were imported from Norway in kitset form between 1895 and 1922. View the striking Blue Church -- immortalized in the movie *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* . It is now the local cultural center and features modern art exhibitions.

At the **Technical Museum**, you'll learn that Seyðisfjörður was a technological leader in its heyday. In fact, in 1906, this quaint, out-of-the-way fishing village was the site of Iceland's first telegraph station. A year later the first machine shop to run on hydroelectricity opened and, in 1913, the first


modern electric power station was built. The museum chronicles all these accomplishments. Some of the exhibits include the original telegraph station and the machine shop, including original belt-driven metalworking machines, turbines, a foundry furnace and a blacksmith's forge.

Before you return to the pier, stop at a **viewpoint** to take photos of this picture-perfect ethereal landscape.

**Notes:**

It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Outer layer should be waterproof and windproof. Bring gloves, a warm hat and a scarf. Wear sturdy, non-skid walking shoes. Not advisable for guests with mobility limitations. Participants will encounter several steps and inclines.

**Skalanes Nature Reserve**



Departs: 1:30 PM (Waitlisted)  
Approximately 3½ Hours  
Adult \$199.95; Child \$99.95

Enjoy this outstanding opportunity to visit one of Iceland's most remote places -- few Icelanders have had this same pleasure.

From the pier, you will begin your journey on a regular motorcoach, until you reach the starting point for the off-road driving. Here, you will switch vehicles and step aboard a **4x4 adapted truck** for 'F-road' driving.

Your journey begins with a drive to **Þórarinsstaðir** for a look at an important

archeological site complete with artifacts from the earliest years of Iceland's settlement.

Continue your **panoramic drive** through a green valley surrounded by tall mountains. The valley is dotted with lonely farms abandoned long ago, reminding the traveler that this peaceful landscape was once home to a number of families.

Your destination is the **Skálanes Heritage Center**. The Skálanes Nature Reserve covers 3,000 acres, and the goal here has been to create a site where the Iceland's environment and cultural history can be researched and interpreted while maintaining a model for sustainable tourism. The area is home to about 47 different species of birds during the summertime. Eider ducks nest in great numbers around the pond.

From the house at Skalanes, set out with your guide on a **walk** to the **coastal cliffs** at Skalanes. They are almost 2,000 feet tall and offer a chance to come in very close proximity to nesting seabirds. This is a windswept and wild place -- a very real glimpse of rugged Iceland.

Enjoy refreshments before heading back to Eskifjörður and the ship.

**Notes:**

Wildlife sightings are likely but are not guaranteed. Many birds start migrating away around mid-August. Not advisable for guests with mobility limitations. Walking is required on uneven, unpaved terrain. The vehicle is a 4x4 adapted vehicle, exclusive for off-road

driving. The steps to board the vehicle are high and steep; guests must be able to board without assistance. Please realistically assess your physical fitness and ability prior to booking. The optional walk to the cliffs is approximately a half-mile over an unpaved, uneven path with a slight incline. Some areas may be muddy. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Outer layer should be waterproof and windproof. Bring gloves, a warm hat and a scarf. Wear sturdy, non-skid walking shoes. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

# Akureyri, Iceland - Monday, August 6, 2018: Iceland's second-largest city offers a picturesque harbor as well as numerous artists' workshops and galleries. Explore the lunar landscape near Lake Myvatn, marveling at its tumultuous volcanic crater lake, boiling mud pools and steaming earth.

## A Taste of Akureyri



Departs: 1:00 PM  
Approximately 3½ Hours  
Adult \$159.95; Child \$59.95

From Akureyri, you'll drive to one of Iceland's most famous turf houses at Laufás. The 19th-century **turf farmhouse** here was built in the traditional Icelandic style of stone and turf, and it is now one of the last of its kind in the country. It is an interesting regional museum and has the original implements and equipment so essential to life in past centuries, and a beautiful **country church** (1865). The Icelandic turf house was the product of a difficult climate, offering superior insulation compared to buildings solely made of wood or stone. The relative difficulty of obtaining other construction materials in sufficient quantities also played a significant role in the adoption of turf as a building material. This is a genuine glimpse into the Icelanders' way of life from the 9th century to the 19th century.

Return to **Akureyri**, the capital of the north. The influences of its Danish trading past prevail in this town. You will notice the many contrasts in its interesting and varied architecture.

Stop at the **Nonni Museum**, where an exhibit commemorates the children's books written by Pastor Jón Sveinsson in the 1913-1940s. 'Nonni' left Iceland at a young age, lived all over Europe and wrote his books in German.

He died during World War II in Cologne in 1944.

Next, head to **Akureyri Church** to enjoy the fantastic view over the fjord and your ship.

Walk down **Art Alley**, where artisans keep their workshops and galleries.

Your final stop is at one of Akureyri's excellent caf  s -- the **Bl  a Kannan Caf  **, situated in the center of town. The caf   is renowned for its homemade *terta* . The name comes from Latin word *torta* , but it is a **cake** that is commonly made in Icelandic homes for special occasions. Among the choices are Devil's Terta, Marens (meringue) Terta, Chocolate Terta, Orange Terta, and Vienna Terta -- you absolutely cannot go wrong! Enjoy coffee or tea, or the caf  s popular hot chocolate with fresh cream.

**Walk** off your snack with some **free time** for browsing or **shopping** in the core of Akureyri. Guests who wish to stay in town to shop or explore independently are welcome to do so, but must return to the ship on their own.

### Notes:

Dress warmly in layers. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid shoes. This tour includes some walking and a steep descent from Akureyri Church down to the caf  . The museums have uneven floors, narrow hallways, low ceilings and, in some areas, narrow wooden steps. Not

advisable for guests using a wheelchair or for those with mobility limitations. Please realistically assess your physical fitness and ability prior to booking. All walking is optional and most sights can be viewed through the motorcoach windows. There are some inclines to negotiate and rough grass/mud/gravel paths. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid walking shoes. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

## Akureyri & Santa's House Giftshop



Departs: 1:00 PM  
Approximately 3 Hours  
Adult \$109.95; Child \$39.95

Akureyri has 18,000 inhabitants and is Iceland's second most important commercial and industrial center. As you travel through its timeline of cityhood, stop in front of a beautiful **modern church** and stroll through the lovely **Botanical Gardens**.

You will also visit the **Nonni Museum**. An exhibit here commemorates the children's books written by Pastor J  n Sveinsson in the 1930s-1950s. See the fishing boats in the busy harbor en route to **Listagil Street**, where artisans keep their workshops and galleries.

A short time is allocated for browsing or **shopping**; then, you'll drive out to **Santa's House** -- a Christmas store that operates all

year round. This is a great opportunity to pick up a memento of your trip to Iceland.

### Notes:

All walking is optional and most sights can be viewed through the motor coach windows. There are some inclined surfaces to negotiate and rough grass/mud/gravel paths. Suitable for guests with mobility limitations with a companion to assist. Not advisable for guests using a wheelchair. The museum has uneven floors, narrow hallways, low ceilings and, in some areas, narrow wooden steps. Santa's House is not wheelchair accessible. All walking is optional and most sights can be viewed through the motor coach windows. There are some inclines to negotiate and rough grass/mud/gravel paths. Dress warmly in layers. Wear sturdy, non-skid walking shoes. Depending on weather, the botanical gardens are usually in full bloom in June, with fall dieback beginning in August. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

**Akureyri Adventure: Polar Flight to Grimsey**



Departs: 8:40 AM  
Approximately 3 Hours  
Adult \$419.95; Child \$399.95

Transfer to Akureyri airport to board a light aircraft and enjoy a **20-minute scenic flight** over Iceland's picturesque **northern region**.

Bring your spirit of adventure as you cross the **Arctic Circle** to visit the remote island of **Grimsey** -- population 155. Only three square miles in size, Grimsey is green and grassy on the top, and surrounded by steep shoreline cliffs. You'll hear colorful tales illuminating the local life and culture during a highly informative **guided walk** on the island.

The Arctic Circle passes straight through the middle of Grimsey, and you will receive a souvenir certificate to prove that you have crossed it.

**Notes:**

Aircraft used is a Twin Otter, Piper Chieftain or Fokker F-50. Many species of birds migrate away from Grimsey from mid-August so bird sightings may be limited after this time. Guests must be able to fit comfortably into the seating provided. There are some inclined surfaces to negotiate and rough grass/mud/gravel paths. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Outer layer should be waterproof and windproof. Bring gloves, a warm hat and a scarf. Part of the tour on Grimsey Island is a walking tour. Wear sturdy non-skid walking shoes.

The island of Grimsey is the northernmost region of Iceland, located at the Arctic Circle and sometimes it can get very foggy. For safety reasons, the aircraft supplier reserves the right to cancel the flight if weather or fog conditions are unfavorable. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

**Akureyri Private Touring - Half Day Minivan**



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 4 Hours  
Price \$1,199.00



Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle, and English-speaking driver-guide at your service. This exclusive tour is designed to allow you the chance to customize your time ashore and discover the most interesting sights in the comfort and privacy of your own vehicle. With your private vehicle, and the personalized attention of your English-speaking driver-guide, you will have the flexibility and independence to design your itinerary ashore according to your own interests, and take in the sights at your own pace. See the famous sights, or go beyond to create your own intimate connections and unique cultural encounters. The Signature Collection is recommended for the single/solo traveler, couples, family, friends, and special-interest groups traveling together. It can also be an excellent choice for guests with mobility limitations.

Capacity: 7 guests. Your private party may be

of any size up to the maximum capacity.

**Notes:**

Private cars are ordered per vehicle (not per person), so only one person in the party needs to order the vehicle. The price shown is the total cost for the vehicle and English-speaking driver-guide. Entrance fees for attractions are not included. In many destinations, the number of vehicles available is extremely limited, so guests are encouraged to secure their private vehicle reservation as early as possible. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board. Dress warmly in layers. Wear sturdy walking shoes. Small black flies (midges or "no-see-ems") populate the Lake Myvatn area. Although they don't bite, they can be quite annoying. Wear insect repellent and bring a light scarf or net to cover your face and/or mouth.

**Akureyri, Falls & Farmland**



Departs: 8:15 AM  
4 Hours  
Adult \$109.95; Child \$59.95

Leaving Akureyri, cross the waters of the fjord and travel along the slopes of **Vadlaheidi Mountain**, via the **Fnjóskadalur Valley** to **Vaglaskogur Forest** -- one of Iceland's rare woodlands -- which is part of an extensive soil and vegetation reclamation project.

Travel to historic **Godafoss** -- waterfall of the heathen gods, which figures prominently in Iceland's 12th-century Book of Settlement.

Continue to one of Iceland's most famous turf houses at Laufás. The 19th-century **turf farmhouse** here was built in the traditional Icelandic style of stone and turf, and it is now one of the last of its kind in the country. It is an interesting regional museum and has the original implements and equipment so essential to life in past centuries, and a beautiful **country church** (1865). The Icelandic turf house was the product of a difficult climate, offering superior insulation compared to buildings solely made of wood or stone.

Return to **Akureyri** for a short **panoramic sightseeing** tour of the city, including an outside view of the modern church and a stop at the **Botanical Gardens**.

**Notes:**

All walking is optional and most sights can be viewed through the motorcoach windows. There are some inclines to negotiate and rough grass/mud/gravel paths. Suitable for guests with mobility limitations with a companion to assist. The museum is not wheelchair accessible; it has uneven floors, narrow hallways, low ceilings and, in some areas, narrow wooden steps. Dress warmly in layers. Wear sturdy non-skid walking shoes. Depending on weather, the botanical gardens are usually in full bloom in June, with fall dieback beginning in August. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.



Dutch Guided: Jewels of the North



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 6½ Hours  
Adult \$199.95; Child \$89.95

A Dutch-speaking guide leads this tour (or a guide with a Dutch interpreter). A limited number of Dutch guides and interpreters are available in this port; book early to avoid disappointment. This is not a bilingual tour; EXC tours guided in English are available at Exploration Central on our website.

Begin with a drive along the coast of Iceland's longest fjord, **Eyjafljóður**, with an excellent view of Akureyri and its surrounding mountains.

After crossing **Víkurskard Pass**, you will view **Fnjóskadalur Valley**, where geological remains of glacial and post-glacial times can clearly be seen.

Stop at **Godafoss** -- the waterfall of heathen gods and one of the most spectacular waterfalls in Iceland. The Skjalfandafljót River falls from a height of 36 feet over a breadth of 100 feet.

You'll drive directly to the **Lake Myvatn** area, stopping by the **Skutustadir Craters** before **lunch**. After lunch visit the **Dimmuborgir lava labyrinth** -- a paradise of towering lava castles, natural arches and countless unexplored grottos.

The last stop is at the gurgling purple and yellow sulfur cauldrons at the high-temperature geothermal field of **Namaskard**.

You'll also enjoy a short panoramic drive through the town of **Akureyri** if time allows.

Notes:

All walking is optional and most sights can be viewed through the motorcoach windows. There are some inclines to negotiate and rough grass/mud/gravel paths. Suitable for guests with mobility limitations with a companion to assist. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Outer layer should be waterproof and windproof. Bring gloves, a warm hat and a scarf. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid walking shoes. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board. Small black flies (midges or "no-see-ems") populate the Lake Myvatn area. Although they don't bite, they can be quite annoying. Wear insect repellent and bring a light scarf or net to cover your face and/or mouth.

Jewels of the North



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 6½ Hours  
Adult \$199.95; Child \$89.95



Begin with a drive along the coast of Iceland's longest fjord, **Eyjafljóður**, with an excellent view of Akureyri and its surrounding mountains.

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The last stop is at the gurgling purple and yellow sulfur cauldrons at the high-temperature geothermal field of **Namaskard**.

You'll also enjoy a short panoramic drive through the town of **Akureyri** if time allows.

Notes:

All walking is optional and most sights can be viewed through the motorcoach windows. There are some inclines to negotiate and rough grass/mud/gravel paths. Suitable for guests with mobility limitations with a companion to assist. Dress warmly in layers. Wear sturdy, non-skid walking shoes. Dietary requests for lunch venues must be received at least 48 hours prior to the ship's arrival in Akureyri. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board. Small black flies (midges or "no-see-ems") populate the Lake Myvatn area. Although they don't bite, they can be

quite annoying. Wear insect repellent and bring a light scarf or net to cover your face and/or mouth.

Lake Myvatn Ultimate Flight





Departs: 8:45 AM, 10:45 AM  
Approximately 1¾ Hours  
Price \$499.95

This brilliant flightseeing tour takes you over the dramatic landscape where **Game of Thrones** and **Oblivion** were filmed. Take off from Akureyri and head out with your pilot for a bird's-eye view of numerous scenic attractions and natural geothermal phenomena.

(S)he will fly you over impressive Godafoss waterfall, the Lake Myvatn area and magical lava rocks. Watch for the Vatnajökull Glacier National Park and see Dettifoss -- the most powerful waterfall in Europe. Watch the water rushing through the magnificent Jokulsargljufur canyons, including stunning Asbyrgi Canyon. Legend holds that Asbyrgi was formed when Sleipnir -- the eight-legged horse owned by the Norse god Odinn -- took a giant step that created a horseshoe-shaped canyon surrounded by high cliffs. Scientists say that enormous, catastrophic glacial bursts carved out Asbyrgi's deep ravines and rocky basins. What do you think? No matter how it came about, this area is famed for its beauty and is known as the Diamond of the North.

In the territory where Paganism met Christianity, you'll fly over Godafoss waterfall. Keep in mind that this is the waterfall into which statues of the pagan gods were thrown when Iceland converted to

<p>Christianity a thousand years ago.</p> <p>You'll land back at Akureyri's airstrip and visit the <b>Flight Museum</b> just a couple of minutes away. The museum offers a brief overview of Iceland's aviation history. It's the perfect way to end the day before you return to the ship.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <p>Guests must be able to fit comfortably into the seating provided. Seats are similar to compact car seat size. Legroom is limited. Each guest will receive headphones to wear during the flight. Go-Pro cameras are sometimes allowed; please check with the tour operator, who takes no responsibility for any damage to equipment. The tour operator reserves the right to cancel the tour in the case of unfavorable conditions.</p> <p><b>Myvatn Nature Baths</b></p>  <p>Departs: 10:45 AM Approximately 5 Hours Adult \$179.95; Child \$59.95</p> <p>Leave Akureyri and the fjord, and head to <b>Godafoss</b> (Waterfall of the Gods) -- one of the most spectacular waterfalls in Iceland.</p> <p>The <b>Nature Baths at Myvatn</b> offer bathers a completely natural, relaxing dip amid clouds of steam, and a luxurious swim in a pool of geo-thermal water drawn from depths of 7,000 feet. Active volcanoes and belching steam vents populate the vicinity. The baths contain a unique blend of minerals, silicates and geo-thermal microorganisms. The warm, soothing waters are beneficial to skin and</p>	<p>spirit alike. Facilities include a reception area and café, changing rooms and showers, as well as three natural steam baths and a 53,000-square-foot outdoor geo-thermal bathing pool maintained at a constant temperature of 100 - 104° F. Due to its chemical composition, undesirable bacteria and flora cannot live in the lagoon, making chlorine or other disinfectants redundant.</p> <p>Relaxed and rejuvenated by your <b>geothermal dip</b>, you will return to Akureyri.</p> <p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p>Local custom and pool regulations mandate that all guests shower and wash thoroughly with soap and water (without swim attire) before entering the baths. A limited number of curtained shower cubicles are available. Separate shower facilities for men and women are available on site. Lockers are free of charge and all items and clothing can be stored in the lockers. Jewelry is not recommended in the water as the minerals might stain metals. Shoes are not to be worn inside the locker facility; they are either stored outside the locker area on designated shoe shelves, or put in plastic bags to store inside the lockers. Swimwear must be worn in the thermal baths. Light-colored swimwear can be discolored by the minerals in the water. Bring your swimsuit and a towel from the ship (or these items can also be rented at the facility at your own expense). Bring sandals or flip-flops. Minimum age is 3 years. There are some inclines to negotiate and rough grass/mud/gravel paths. Dress warmly in layers. Wear sturdy, non-skid walking shoes.</p>	<p><b>Whale Watching from Akureyri</b></p>  <p>Departs: 8:30 AM Approximately 4 Hours Adult \$139.95; Child \$69.95</p> <p>Iceland is one of the best locations in the world to enjoy <b>whale watching</b>. The abundance of marine life in the waters around Akureyri provides ideal feeding grounds, attracting more than twenty species of whales, dolphins and porpoises.</p> <p>The whale watching <b>boat</b> is only a short <b>walk</b> from the pier in Akureyri. The friendly crew welcome you on board before you set off on the pristine waters of Eyjafjordur Fjord. Tall, snow-capped mountains line the seemingly endless fjord. Your exciting search for the ocean's gentle giants is both thrilling and beautiful.</p> <p>The tour enjoys a 95% success rate for spotting whales. Many species have been sighted here, including blue-fin, humpback, minke and sei whales. The best period for whale watching in Iceland is the late spring to early fall months (May - September). Guests who wish to stay in town to shop or explore independently are welcome to do so, but must make their own way back to the ship.</p> <p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p>The boat may not be exclusive to Holland America Line guests. Wildlife sightings are likely but are not guaranteed. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Outer layer should be waterproof</p>	<p>and windproof. Bring gloves, a warm hat and a scarf. Wear sturdy, non-skid walking shoes. Bring sunglasses and binoculars. Tour requires some walking from the pier to where the boat is docked (15-20 minutes from the ship) on paved and even ground. There are steps on board the boat to reach the viewing platforms and to access the cabin area downstairs.</p>
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**Isafjordur, Iceland - Tuesday, August 7, 2018:** This busy fishing port runs to sizable shipyards as well as shrimp and fish factories– all ready to handle the catch of the day from the icy waters of the Denmark Strait. Perfect jumping-off place for hiking, biking and kayaking.

### Arctic Foxes & Avalanches



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 3 Hours  
Adult \$149.95; Child \$49.95

Learn about the Arctic fox during a visit to the charming and quaint village of Súðavík. The drive from the pier to Súðavík village is a scenic one, with majestic snow-white and gray-striped mountains set against the sky and the ever-changing ocean below.

**Súðavík** is small, with only 200 inhabitants. It was founded in the 19th century when Norwegian fishermen established two whaling stations in the fjord thus creating new employment possibilities. The village is divided into two halves -- the Old Town and the New Town. The Old Town was hit by a huge avalanche during the winter of 1995, destroying part of the village and claiming numerous lives. After the avalanche the villagers sought a safer place to build new houses and that's how the New Town came into existence.

In the middle of the divided town you will find the **Arctic Fox Center** -- a non-profit research center and museum dedicated to the only native terrestrial mammal in Iceland. The museum focuses on the biology and natural history of the Arctic fox as well as the social history of Iceland in relation to it. Enjoy coffee and **refreshments** in the lovely café.

Visit the local **church** for a traditional Icelandic music program. The church was originally built in Hesteyri -- a village that later was abandoned. Several decades later it was moved to its current location despite vehement protests by the former villagers of Hesteyri.

Continue your drive to the **Langeyri Pensinula**. Two whaling stations that used to be located here provided work for more than a hundred people. Little remains of this industry today except for a few old whalebones that lie on the coast.

Before heading back to Ísafjörður and the ship, you'll stop briefly in the fjord to visit the avalanche memorial.

#### Notes:

It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid shoes. Bring a wind- and waterproof outer layer and a hat. Due to Sudavik's remoteness and the scarcity of professional guides, all guiding is handled by locals; some are not professional but all have great experience of guiding and extensive knowledge of the area. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

### Biking in Bolungarvik



Departs: 9:00 AM  
Approximately 3 Hours  
Price \$239.95

This biking tour for the really adventurous guest involves **cycling** along a ghost road -- a road once used by traffic but now closed to vehicles and open only for non-motorized recreational use.

Once reputedly among Iceland's "most dangerous" roads, Óshlíð connects two towns in the West Fjords -- Ísafjörður and Bolungarvík. It is famous for its enormous cliffs and steep mountains on one side, and the roaring ocean on the other. It is perfect for bikers and runners -- for anyone seeking fresh air, rugged landscape views, fjord scenery and the great outdoors.

Your bike adventure starts out in the town of Ísafjörður, where you will gear up with a bike and set off towards the small village of Hnifsdalur. **Hnifsdalur** is home to only 250 people, but its depth of history is evident as you pass through.

En route to Bolungarvík, a couple of stops allow you to rest and take some beautiful photographs, including a stop at an elevated viewpoint of the Nature Reserve. The stunningly beautiful aesthetic enhancement to your adventure is the deep, cold and beautiful Icefjord.

Upon arrival in **Bolungarvík**, board a mini-coach for transportation back to Ísafjörður.

#### Notes:

Due to Sudavik's remoteness and the scarcity of professional guides, all guiding is handled by locals; some are not professional but all have great experience of guiding and extensive knowledge of the area. This tour is only for the very physically active. It is three hours of cycling over 15 miles with an elevation gain of 1,180 feet. The road is unpaved in places and the surface is rough; the tall cliffs tend to slough rocks and gravel onto the right of way. Dress in layers. Wear a daypack, sunglasses, comfortable clothing, and shoes suitable for a bike ride. Bring a waterproof outer layer and bottled water. Minimum weight is 77lbs. Minimum age is 12 years.

### Calm Fjord Kayaking



Departs: 11:30 AM  
Approximately 2 Hours  
Price \$139.95

Grab a paddle and get ready for an unforgettable adventure. **Fjord kayaking** is not only a healthy and rewarding way to spend the day; it's also a perfect way to get to know Icelandic nature up close. The Westfjords have earned a deserved reputation for being the ultimate nature- and adventure-lovers' paradise.

Kayaking will appeal to those wishing to approach the fjord's beauty from another angle. Paddling a kayak under the magnificent mountains towering over the town offers proximity to nature from a new and exciting perspective. Weather permitting, guests will enjoy paddling the kayak while embracing the stunning scenery.

Notes:

Due to Sudavik's remoteness and the scarcity of professional guides, all guiding is handled by locals; some are not professional but all have great experience of guiding and extensive knowledge of the area. Tour operates rain or shine, but may be cancelled by the operator in the event of extremely bad weather or unsuitable conditions. Double kayaks will be used; but single kayaks can be requested well in advance. See the EXC Tours staff on board the ship. Minimum age is 12 years. Participants must walk approximately 400 yards to the kayaks. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing (no jeans) in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Wear sturdy non-skid walking shoes. Bring a wind-and waterproof out layer and a hat, as well as extra clothing in case you get a little wet.

Dynjandi Waterfall & Sudureyri: A Taste of the Westfjords



Departs: 9:00 AM  
Approximately 6½ Hours  
Adult \$279.95; Child \$139.95

In a land blessed with thousands of waterfalls, it is indeed a privilege to visit the one that many Icelanders claim is the most beautiful of all. Dynjandi Falls is your destination today.

From Ísafjörður, you'll set out on a panoramic drive through the breathtaking scenery of the Westfjords area. The route takes you across an unforgiving landscape of jagged mountain ridges and narrow passes. The coast is lined with steep slopes and deep fjords, where farms and villages huddle together on narrow strips of land that reluctantly yield a living for the hardy souls that tend them. Take advantage of a number of scenic photo opportunities along the way.

The **Dynjandi waterfall** itself features a tall upper cascade and tiered terraces, ending with a free-fall into the pool below. Your guide will lead you on a walk up to the falls for a closer view.

Next, acquaint yourself with beautiful **Suðureyri village** -- a destination you feel like you've got all to yourself. In Suðureyri, it's all about fish. This is your chance to hear about life at the edge of the Arctic Circle and to see for yourself how this thriving community processes Iceland's ocean bounty. Enjoy a taste of fresh fish while listening to local stories. Learn how Iceland's first-class export produce can be on your dinner plate in North America just 36 hours after leaving the icy-

cold Atlantic Ocean. It might also surprise you to hear that sustainability is king here -- this small, forward-thinking village has an eye on the future at all times.

Notes:

Due to Sudavik's remoteness and the scarcity of professional guides, all guiding is handled by locals; some are not professional but all have great experience of guiding and extensive knowledge of the area. Some walking is required, mainly on paved flat surfaces, with some inclines and a few steps as well as a few gravel paths and uneven surfaces. Approximate distance covered on foot is one mile. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Not advisable for guests using a wheelchair or for those with mobility limitations. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid shoes. Bring a wind- and waterproof outer layer and a hat. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

Fjords & Flowers



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 3 Hours  
Adult \$164.95; Child \$79.95

Driving among the mountains of Ísafjörður affords an excellent view of the harsh local landscape, where narrow passes cross sharp mountain ridges, deep fjords shelter farms and villages huddled on narrow strips of land.

Visit **Skrúður** -- the first Icelandic **botanic garden**, founded in 1909. This small garden is the brainchild of the former minister and principal of Núpur -- cultivation pioneer of Iceland. He grew plants and vegetables that nobody ever dreamed could germinate so far north or in such a rugged landscape and harsh climate.

You'll drive to **Flateyri village**, which was formed around the shark-fishing industry in the mid-19th century. In Flateyri, leave the bus at a charming, small and intimate church, quite typical of the smaller towns in Iceland. Step into the church to hear an **Icelandic music program**; then, **stroll** with your guide down the small main street of Flateyri.

Visit the **old bookstore** and the **merchant's home**, where you'll find an exhibit explaining the history of Flateyri.

In the next building, you might possibly see the women of the town making pieces of art in their **handicrafts workshop**. Stop here for a **coffee** break. Homemade **Icelandic cakes** are served with coffee or tea.

Notes:

Due to Sudavik's remoteness and the scarcity of professional guides, all guiding is handled by locals; some are not professional but all have great experience of guiding and extensive knowledge of the area. Flowers may not be in full bloom in May or September. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate



in this excursion. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid shoes. Bring a wind- and waterproof outer layer and a hat. Walking is required for this tour on gravel paths and uneven surfaces. Not advisable for guests using a wheelchair. Suitable for guests with mobility limitations with a companion to assist. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

Hesteyri & Glacier Fjord Cruise



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 4½ Hours  
Adult \$169.95; Child \$79.95

Visit the abandoned village of **Hesteyri**, reached only by a 70-minute **boat ride**.

The landscape in Jökulfirðir Fjord is very beautiful, with impressive, steep snow-flecked mountains and quiet, secluded coves. In the late 1940s, all 80 inhabitants of Hesteyri village made the decision to move away. At the time, they were living without telephone, electricity and roads. By 1952, the village was completely abandoned.

**Stroll** through the village with your guide, enjoying **traditional Icelandic refreshments** at the old doctor's house. You will feel the distinctly eerie atmosphere of this unusual place where time seems to have stood still.

A renowned crime and thriller Icelandic author Yrsa Sigurðardóttir wrote a fantastic ghost story Ég Man Þig (Remember You) whose plot takes place on Hesteyri Island. The story was recently made into a movie filmed on location here during the winter.

Notes:

Due to Sudavik's remoteness and the scarcity of professional guides, all guiding is handled by locals; some are not professional but all have great experience of guiding and extensive knowledge of the area. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid shoes. Bring a wind- and waterproof outer layer and a hat. Walking is required for this tour on gravel paths and uneven surfaces. You will transfer from the boat to a smaller inflatable boat in order to land at Hesteyri. Guests must be physically fit. There is a 200-yard walk from the ship to where the tour boat is docked. Not advisable for guests using a wheelchair. The boats are not wheelchair accessible. Suitable for guests with mobility limitations with a companion to assist. The boats do not have restrooms. There is no guiding during the boat portion of the tour.

It's A Viking Thing



Departs: 9:00 AM  
Approximately 3 Hours  
Adult \$299.95; Child \$159.95

This blast from the past is your invitation to step back in time and learn about the Viking ways and how these hardy people lived off the land.

Your journey begins with a **panoramic drive** from Isafjordur to the old **Viking village of Thingeyri**. Walk through a recreated Viking area, learning about what is fact and what is fiction in the many stories you've heard about

the famous Vikings. A short hike brings you to the old ruins of the Viking meeting place called a *Thing* -- the closest translation of this in English is 'parliament'.

Step inside the interactive **Viking Museum** for a chance to dress up in authentic hand-sewn Viking clothing, take photographs, drink Icelandic Viking beer, bake your own Viking bread, and explore the museum -- all part of learning more about Viking ways.

After your Viking experience, head back to before heading back to Isafjordur.

Notes:

Walking is required, mainly on paved flat surfaces, with some inclines and a few steps as well as a few gravel paths and uneven surfaces. Approximate distance covered on foot is one mile. Not advisable for guests using a wheelchair or for those with mobility limitations. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid walking shoes. Due to Sudavik's remoteness and the scarcity of professional guides, all guiding is handled by locals; some are not professional but all have great experience of guiding and extensive knowledge of the area. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

Life & Culture of Isafjordur



Departs: 9:00 AM  
Approximately 3 Hours  
Adult \$154.95; Child \$79.95

From Isafjörður harbor, you will head through the center of town with a stop at the Osvör 19th-century **fisherman's hut**, restored in 1988.

Drive through Bolungarvík village and back to Isafjörður with views of the magnificent mountains and Westfjord -- a beautiful but sometimes harsh landscape.

You will also see the Buná Tunguá River and the waterfall in Tunguskogur, and **sip fresh mountain water** that flows down the stream. What could be more clear and refreshing!

Finally, see the **Maritime Museum of Isafjörður**, located in one of the town's oldest houses (1780).

Notes:

Approximately 50 steps must be negotiated at the Osvör Museum. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid shoes. Bring a wind- and waterproof outer layer and a hat. Due to Sudavik's remoteness and the scarcity of professional guides, all guiding is handled by locals; some are not professional but all have great experience of guiding and extensive knowledge of the area.

Parents traveling with children under the age

of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

Off the Beaten Track:  
Cruise to Vigur Bird  
Island



Departs: 9:00 AM  
Approximately 3 Hours  
Adult \$179.95; Child \$89.95



Leave Ísafjörður harbor by **boat** to cruise Djupfjord and reach the **island of Vigur**. This island offers a wealth of **magnificent bird life** including puffins, eider ducks and arctic terns. The only windmill of the country, almost 160 years old, is still maintained on the island. Here, the farmers live off the land and by harvesting the down of eider ducks.

**Vigur village** is like a time warp. Its ten friendly inhabitants welcome you with their relaxed, easy manner. A leisurely **walk** around the island gives you an opportunity to see an abundance of birds in their natural habitat during high season.

Enjoy some refreshments at the old **Cow House** before returning to the boat.

A farmer's family will serve **refreshments** in a mid-19th-century house -- the perfect way to complete your visit before returning to Ísafjörður.

Notes:

It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Wear sturdy non-skid

walking shoes. Bring a wind- and waterproof outer layer and a hat. About an hour of walking is required for this tour on gravel paths and uneven surfaces. There is also a 200-yard walk from the ship to where the tour boat is docked. The boat is not wheelchair accessible. Not advisable for guests using a wheelchair or for those with mobility limitations. Participants must be able to step onto the boat and up to the island from the dock. Most of the bird species start migrating away from Vigur around the 10th of August. Wildlife sightings are likely but are not guaranteed. The boat ride is unguided. There is no restroom on the boat.

Sudureyri: A Taste of the  
Westfjords



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 3 Hours  
Adult \$109.95; Child \$39.95

Visit the beautiful village of **Suðureyri village** -- a destination you feel like you've got all to yourself. In Suðureyri, it's all about fish. This is your chance to hear about life at the edge of the Arctic Circle and to see for yourself how this thriving community processes Iceland's ocean bounty.

Enjoy a **taste of fresh seafood** as you listen to local stories. Learn how Iceland's first-class export produce can be on your dinner plate in North America just 36 hours after leaving the icy-cold Atlantic Ocean. It might also surprise you to hear that sustainability is king here -- this small, forward-thinking village has an eye on the future at all times.

Notes:

Wear comfortable walking shoes. Some walking is required, mainly on paved flat surfaces but with some inclines and a few steps, as well as a few gravel paths and uneven surfaces. Approximate distance covered on foot is one mile. Not advisable for guests using a wheelchair or for those with mobility limitations. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid shoes. Bring a wind- and waterproof outer layer and a hat. The fish-processing plant may or may not be operating during your visit. Due to Sudavik's remoteness and the scarcity of professional guides, all guiding is handled by locals; some are not professional but all have great experience of guiding and extensive knowledge of the area. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

Surf & Turf in Isafjordur



Departs: 9:00 AM  
Approximately 3 1/4 Hours  
Adult \$199.95; Child \$109.95

An amazing **panoramic drive** takes you along Isafjardardjup -- the largest fjord in Iceland -- for fantastic views of the stunning Westfjords region and some great photo opportunities.

You're headed to the small **Litlibær turf farm**. This is a coastal setting where you may be lucky enough to spot some friendly seals lounging about in their natural habitat. Your visit to the turf farm is an opportunity to learn how the Icelanders use to live in the

early 1900s -- often a struggle in the harsh environment of the vast Icelandic countryside. Look inside the farm buildings and experience how Icelanders lived back in the day. Churn fresh cream into butter and then taste it on traditional Icelandic flatbread.

Explore the farm and enjoy refreshments of **coffee with a waffle and homemade jam**.

Heading back to Isafjordur, sit back, relax and enjoy the stunning scenery of the fjords.

Notes:

Wildlife sightings are likely but not guaranteed. Some walking is required, mainly on paved flat surfaces, with some inclines and a few steps as well as a few gravel paths and uneven surfaces. Approximate distance covered on foot is one mile. Not advisable for guests using a wheelchair or for those with mobility limitations. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Wear sturdy non-skid walking shoes. Due to Sudavik's remoteness and the scarcity of professional guides, all guiding is handled by locals; some are not professional but all have great experience of guiding and extensive knowledge of the area. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

The Back Streets of Isafjordur



Departs: 11:00 AM  
Approximately 2 Hours  
Adult \$79.95; Child \$39.95

**Stroll** through Westfjord's largest town, **Ísafjörður**, with your local guide. Ísafjörður is interesting to explore on foot -- its back streets and old houses are unique in all of Iceland.

The town boasts a significant role in the history of this isolated country and many well-known persons have made their homes here, including Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson -- Iceland's fifth president.

Snap a photo of some of the local landmarks - - including the fisherman's monument -- and peer into the windows of the local shops.

End your tour outside the Maritime Museum. Take a photos and, if you wish, you can step inside the museum to explore some more (at your own expense). Your guide will bid you goodbye in front of the museum and you can walk back to the pier (just a couple of minutes away). Guests who wish to stay in town to shop or explore independently are welcome to do so, but must make their own way back to the ship.

Notes:

Not advisable for guests with mobility limitations. Wear comfortable walking shoes.

Notes:

Due to its remoteness and with scarcity of professional guides, all guiding is handled by locals, some are not professional but all have great experience of guiding and good knowledge of the area. The Maritime Museum is not included; the guide will leave you outside the museum and you are free to enter on your own and at your own expense. You will walk back to the pier unescorted -- it is only a couple of minutes away. Not advisable for guests with mobility limitations. Suitable for guests using a wheelchair, with a companion to assist. Restrooms are not wheelchair accessible. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Bring a wind- and waterproof outer layer and a hat. Wear sturdy, non-skid walking shoes.

Whale Watching from Isafjordur by RIB Boat



Departs: 9:00 AM  
2 Hours  
Adult \$249.95; Child \$139.95

Head out on a thrilling two-hour sightseeing and **whale safari** from Ísafjörður. This small town in the Westfjords of Iceland offers a magnificent view over the surrounding landscape. You'll explore this scenery from a seaside perspective.

Board a **RIB boat** (rigid inflatable), providing an intimate experience while being environmentally friendly. You'll start with safety briefing and put on a set of warm overalls and a life jacket. These will keep you warm out on the sea. Heading away from the

town, you will skim across the water to Ísafjarðardjúp -- the stunning fjord region just a short distance from Ísafjörður. The area is very remote, and typically the **whales** are both plentiful and friendly, sometimes even showing off for visitors. You'll pass the beautiful bird island of Vigur or the Snæfjallaströnd (Snow Mountain Coast). Watch for several different kinds of birds that make their homes here -- puffins, eider ducks and other seabirds. It is also common to see seals frolicking in the waters. You'll stop for photos as needed.

Weather and wildlife conditions dictate the route, so every outing brings an entirely unique adventure.

Notes:

Minimum age is 4 years. Not suitable for pregnant women or for guests with a heart condition, back conditions or mobility limitations. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Outer layer should be waterproof and windproof. Bring gloves, a warm hat and a scarf. Do not wear jeans. Wear warm underclothes and sturdy, non-skid shoes with thick, warm wool socks. Wear the warmest appropriate footwear you have, as it can be quite cold on the fjord. The tour enjoys a 90%+ success rate in spotting whales. Wildlife sightings are likely but not guaranteed. Many seabirds start migrating away around mid-August. Due to Sudavik's remoteness and the scarcity of professional guides, all guiding is handled by locals; some are not professional but all have great experience of guiding and extensive

knowledge of the area.

Reykjavik, Iceland - Wednesday, August 8, 2018: Geysers, hot springs and fields of cooled lava are testament to Iceland's volcanic origins. Swim in the naturally warmed Blue Lagoon.

A Taste of Iceland



Departs: 10:00 AM  
Approximately 5 Hours  
Adult \$179.95; Child \$79.95



Combine a taste of Iceland with interesting hot springs and a scenic ocean route, and you'll have a memorable day.

Depart via the Blue Mountains to **Eyrarbakki** fishing village on the south coast. Many of the old houses here have been renovated, forming a lovely hub of traditional homes. The oldest house, Húsid, was built in 1756.

There is nothing more Icelandic than a seafood restaurant in a typical fishing village; so you will continue to the small fishing village of **Stokkseyri** for a **lunch** feast. **Icelandic lobster** (langoustine) fresh from the ocean, is served sizzling in the pan, along with a variety of side dishes.

Drive along the coast to **Lake Kleifarvatn**, set in fascinatingly stark, moon-like surroundings. Near the lake's southern end lies the **Krysuvík Geothermal Area** with powerful jets of steam escaping from beneath the earth's crust and sulfurous gases rising from numerous vents.

Enjoy a **panoramic drive** through Reykjavík's city center before reaching the pier.

Notes:

All walking is optional and most sights can be

viewed through the motor coach windows. There are some inclined surfaces to negotiate and rough grass/mud/gravel paths and uneven steps. Suitable for guests with mobility limitations with a companion to assist. Dress warmly and in layers for the day's weather conditions. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid shoes. Special dietary requests must be received at least 48 hours prior to ship's arrival. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board

Bathing in the Blue Lagoon



Departs: 9:45 AM, 11:30 AM, 5:30 PM, 5:45 PM, 7:30 PM, 7:45 PM  
Approximately 3½ Hours  
Adult \$179.95; Child \$109.95



The **Blue Lagoon** is located southeast of Reykjavík, near the fishing village of Grindavík, on the Reykjanes peninsula.

A high-temperature geothermal field supplies the Reykjanes district with hot water and steam to run a power plant, and it is the mineral-rich overflow water from this operation that fills the bathing lagoon. The geothermal water is pumped up from 6,000 feet below the earth's surface. High levels of silica, minerals and algae give the Blue Lagoon its rich, blue color and also form a light natural sediment on the bottom.

Don't miss this chance to relax in the refreshing waters of the Blue Lagoon, whose healing properties are legendary. You'll head straight to the lagoon where you will spend approximately two hours relaxing in the delightfully warm water and enjoying the natural resources of Iceland.

The Blue Lagoon Comfort Package offers you a silica mask, a towel, and a cooling drink while enjoying the warm waters of the Blue Lagoon.**Notes:**

Minimum age is 2 years. Bring your swimsuit. Towels are provided. The changing rooms are gender divided, but are European-style (not private). Lockers (locked with digital wristbands), showers, hair conditioner and soap are included. US dollars (bills only; no coins), euros or Icelandic kroner and major credit cards are accepted. Hygiene regulations require that you shower with soap and without a swimsuit before entering the lagoon. Shoes are not to be worn inside the locker room area; they are to be stored on shoe shelves or in plastic bags inside lockers. The water is very warm. Please ensure you are hydrated. The minerals in the water make hair dry and coarse, but it returns to normal after a few showers. You may wish to ensure you don't get your hair wet. The Blue Lagoon sells special hair conditioners and recommends that long hair is put up before you enter the lagoon. Do not wear jewelry in the water, as the minerals can stain metal. Although the lockers are safe, you are advised not to bring valuables to the lagoon. Floors may be slippery; take care when walking

inside locker area and out to the lagoon. Guests with heart conditions should seek advice from their doctor prior to booking.

Best of the Golden Circle: Evening Edition



Departs: 2:30 PM  
Approximately 7½ Hours  
Adult \$189.95; Child \$79.95

Conducted in broad daylight, this evening tour from Reykjavík takes you past the city's geothermal power plant for a quick photo stop. You'll also pass through Hveragerdi village, where geothermally heated water is used to support an extensive greenhouse produce-growing industry.

Broad Lyngdalsheidi Heath leads to the fertile farmlands of the south and to perhaps Iceland's most beautiful waterfall -- **Gullfoss**. Nearby is the truly fascinating **Geysir geothermal area**, with its multitude of hot springs. The most active geyser spouts every few minutes and is riveting to watch. A two-course **dinner** and coffee are served at a restaurant nearby.

Next up is a short drive over to the stunning **Thingvellir National Park** -- a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** and a primary site of Iceland's geological and political heritage. Walk through a massive geological fault to the place where Europe's oldest national legislative assembly, the Icelandic Althingi, was established in AD 930. Astonishingly, this age-old parliament convened here in



magnificent natural surroundings every summer for nearly eight centuries.

Cross the Mosfellsheidi Heath and pass through the Reykjavík city center en route back to the pier.

**Notes:**

Dress for the weather. Wear sturdy walking shoes. Guests who prefer to stay on the coach may do so at most stops; however, all guests must leave the coach during the driver's break . Guests using a cane, walker, or manual collapsible wheelchair must be able to negotiate a few steps in order to (dis)embark the coach. Collapsible wheelchairs/scooters can be stored on the coach; full measurements of the wheelchair/scooter must be provided to the EXC Tours desk on board the ship at least 48 hours prior to arrival in Reykjavík. Most attractions are wheelchair/scooter accessible; please be mindful that accessible areas may offer a slightly different angle/point-of-view than ambulatory guests may encounter. The dinner venue is wheelchair accessible.

**Best of the Golden Circle: Thingvellir, Gullfoss & Geysir**



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 8 Hours  
Adult \$189.95; Child \$89.95



From Reykjavík, you will drive across the Mosfellsheidi Heath to beautiful **Thingvellir National Park** -- a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** and a primary site of Iceland's geological and historic heritage.

Walk through a massive geological fault to the place where Europe's oldest national legislative assembly, the Icelandic Althing, was established in AD 930. Astonishingly, it convened here in grandiose surroundings every summer for nearly eight centuries.

Your tour continues over the Lyngdalsheidi Heath into the fertile farmlands of the south, for a visit to Iceland's most beautiful waterfall -- **Gullfoss**.

Nearby, you'll also stop at the **Geysir Geothermal Area** with its multitude of hot springs. The most active geyser spouts every few minutes.

A two-course **lunch** and coffee will be served at a restaurant nearby. Returning through the Grímsnes region, you will also pass Hveragerði Village, where geothermal water has been used to build an extensive greenhouse industry.

Enjoy a panoramic drive through Reykjavík's city center before reaching the pier.

**Notes:**

Guests who prefer to stay on the coach may do so at most stops; however, all guests must leave the coach during the driver's lunch break. Collapsible wheelchairs/scooters can be stored on the coach; full measurements of the wheelchair/scooter must be provided to the EXC Tours office on board the ship a few days prior to arrival in Reykjavik. The attractions are mostly wheelchair/scooter accessible; please be mindful that accessible areas may offer a slightly different

angle/point-of-view than ambulatory guests may encounter. The lunch venue is wheelchair accessible. Dietary requests must be received 48 hours before ship's arrival. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

**Countless Craters by Helicopter**



Departs: 1:00 PM (Waitlisted)  
Approximately 1¼ Hours  
Price \$809.95

Explore the countless craters of the Reykjanes Peninsula, with absolutely amazing scenery, on this **helicopter flight**.


Catch a glimpse of the rough but magical beauty that embodies Iceland's volcanic landscape. As you soar above the lunar-like Reykjanes Peninsula, you'll truly appreciate its grandeur on a scale that is possible only from air. You will see virtually endless volcanic craters, the Seltún geothermal area, rugged coastline, the Blue Lagoon, Lake Kleifarvatn and Lake Grænavatn. This area is a constant reminder of the untamed power that sculpted the island.

**Notes:**


Your flight departs from Reykjavík's domestic airport, located in the heart of the city. Participants must be able to walk unassisted up 5-10 steps into the aircraft. Boarding the helicopter may present difficulties for guests with mobility limitations. Dress warmly in layers Wear sturdy, non-skid shoes. Guests weighing 265 lbs (120 kg) or more will be

required to pay an additional surcharge over the published fare.

**Dutch Guided: Best of the Golden Circle: Thingvellir, Gullfoss & Geysir**



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 8 Hours  
Adult \$189.95; Child \$89.95



A Dutch-speaking guide leads this tour (or a guide with a Dutch interpreter). A limited number of Dutch guides and interpreters are available in this port; book early to avoid disappointment. This is not a bilingual tour; please see Best of the Golden Circle: Thingvellir, Gullfoss & Geysir for the same tour guided in English.

From Reykjavík, you will drive across the Mosfellsheidi Heath to beautiful **Thingvellir National Park** -- a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** and a primary site of Iceland's geological and historic heritage.

Walk through a massive geological fault to the place where Europe's oldest national legislative assembly, the Icelandic Althing, was established in AD 930. Astonishingly, it convened here in grandiose surroundings every summer for nearly eight centuries.

Your tour continues over the Lyngdalsheidi Heath into the fertile farmlands of the south, for a visit to Iceland's most beautiful waterfall -- **Gullfoss**.

Nearby, you'll also stop at the **Geysir Geothermal Area** with its multitude of hot

springs. The most active geyser spouts every few minutes.


A two-course **lunch** and coffee will be served at a restaurant nearby. Returning through the Grímsnes region, you will also pass Hveragerdi Village, where geothermal water has been used to build an extensive greenhouse industry.

Enjoy a panoramic drive through Reykjavík's city center before reaching the pier.

Notes:

Guests who prefer to stay on the coach may do so at most stops; however, all guests must leave the coach during the driver's lunch break. Collapsible wheelchairs/scooters can be stored on the coach; full measurements of the wheelchair/scooter must be provided to the EXC Tours office on board the ship a few days prior to arrival in Reykjavik. The attractions are mostly wheelchair/scooter accessible; please be mindful that accessible areas may offer a slightly different angle/point-of-view than ambulatory guests may encounter. The lunch venue is wheelchair accessible. Dietary requests must be received 48 hours before ship's arrival. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

### Easy Reykjavik



Departs: 9:30 AM  
Approximately 2½ Hours  
Adult \$49.95; Child \$29.95

View Reykjavík's highlights -- perfect for guests with mobility limitations and for those wishing to see and learn a lot in a relatively short space of time.

The **Reykjavík** capital area consists of seven municipalities with approximately 190,000 inhabitants. With plenty of space, clean air and natural green energy, Reykjavík clearly revels in its reputation as being one of the most modern, forward-thinking societies in Europe. The city's 'Pure Energy' slogan says it all.

View such landmarks as the Laugardalur sport and recreational area with its open-air geothermal swimming pool, the spectacular coastline and harbor area, and Höfði House. The latter is where the Cold War officially ended in 1986 with a meeting between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev.

Take a panoramic drive to picturesque Hafnarfjörður (Harbor Fjord). This lovely town is a friendly seaside community, home to varied birdlife, numerous natural wonders, and -- for true believers -- the home of the *huldufólk*. These mysterious but friendly elves live in the many lava rocks scattered throughout the town. Hafnarfjörður is also known as the land of lava and Vikings.

Driving back to Reykjavík, you will drive past

Hallgrímskirkja Church and through Reykjavík's colorful old quarter with its quaint wooden houses and narrow streets.

Learn the basics of geothermal energy, observe a little of Iceland's geological phenomena, and enjoy the varied landscapes. You will also see the many faces of Iceland's amazing architecture, both past and present.

**Notes:**

Dress warmly in layers Wear sturdy, non-skid shoes. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board. This tour predominantly consists of sightseeing from the coach.

### Glacier Safari by 4-Wheel-Drive & Ice Cave



Departs: 9:00 AM  
Approximately 8½ Hours  
Adult \$529.95; Child \$399.95



Today's great adventure begins at the pier as you board a larger-than-life modified **super-truck**. Head out to the **UNESCO World Heritage Site** of **Thingvellir**, where you will stop among the landscape of Iceland's early parliament before delving into its majestic hinterland.

Drive along the dramatic Cold Valley to **Langjokull Glacier**. Langjokull (Long Glacier) is 4,460 feet long and covers an area of about 366 square miles about 4,000 feet above sea level.

Upon arrival at the glacier, it's all action, and your expert driver will take your super-truck adventure to the next level. This involves a once-in-a-lifetime journey over the ice and snow to the **Ice Cave** -- a classy new attraction located on the flanks of Iceland's second-largest glacier. The Ice Cave is a manmade cave that stretches deep into the glacier and consists of a series of tunnels and caves carved through solid glacier ice. Crevasses that pull the glacier apart, along with sunlight penetrating the packed ice, are among the natural wonders you'll see. A cave-like tunnel leads into the icy underground and as the ice gets older the color changes from white to a magnificent, deep blue. The Ice Cave is located about 100 feet below the glacier's surface and stretches approximately 800 feet in length.

During your guided glacier visit, you'll enjoy an introduction to glaciology and learn about the effect climate change has on glaciers. The cave also provides glaciologists, meteorologists and other scientists with an opportunity to study the glacier in a new way.

Following this amazing experience, head back to the woodlands of Húsafell to your **lunch** destination.

After lunch, you will drive to the nearby **Hraunfoss and Barnafoss waterfalls** -- two of Iceland's most picturesque cascades.

The ride back to Reykjavík will take you through the Hvalfjörður Tunnel, along the coastline and back to the pier.

Notes:

The vehicles ride in a convoy formation; commentary may be provided through the vehicle's radio system. Tour operates rain or shine, but may be cancelled by the operator in the event of extremely bad weather or unsuitable conditions. Heavy rains can cause icing on the glacier, preventing the super-4x4 from driving all the way to the Ice Cave; in this event, guests may be asked to switch to glacier super-trucks that drive to the ice cave. Suitable only for guests who are physically fit. Please realistically assess your physical fitness and ability prior to booking. Minimum age is 8 years. Pregnant women are not allowed to participate. Not suitable for guests with back or neck conditions. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Outer layer should be waterproof and windproof. Bring gloves, a warm hat and a scarf. Wear sturdy, non-skid walking shoes. The ice cave operator provides crampons and boots. The ice cave is very wet in some areas with water dripping from above. The vehicles ride high; participants must be able to (dis)embark the vehicle without assistance.

Glacier Walk & Waterfalls



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 9 Hours  
Price \$319.95

Many travelers may dream about the opportunity to **walk on an Icelandic glacier**, but few will ever live the dream. Today, you will do exactly that.

Leaving the city, relax and enjoy a **panoramic drive** southeast towards the town of Hveragerði, passing over Hellsheiði -- a mountain that offers a magnificent view of the wide plains formed by glacial rivers. See the fertile farmland on the south coast of Iceland and some of the fantastic greenhouses built to harness geothermal energy for the food and horticulture industry. Continue driving east, passing small villages and farmland, and past the majestic mountains towering above the coast. On a clear day, you might be able to see snow-shrouded Hekla, the country's most active volcano. Keep an eye out too for a glimpse of the ice-capped Eyjafjallajökull volcano, whose 2010 eruption brought Europe's aviation industry to a standstill.

Enjoy a short stop at the beautiful **Seljalandsfoss Waterfall** en route.

Continuing your journey, you will reach **Mýrdalsjökull Glacier** and meet the experts that will guide you through your glacier hike. Walk to the frozen glacial tongue named Sólheimajökull -- it is an other-worldly scene, a rugged, raw and ever-changing hub of ancient frozen water. Step onto the glacier and observe the spectacular surroundings that seem quite surreal.

Once the glacier hike is over, you will journey back to Reykjavík with a stop at the magnificent **Skógafoss Waterfall**. Enjoy a late **lunch** here before returning to the city.

Notes:

Prior glacier hiking experience is not

required. Participate at your own risk. Waiver must be signed and medical conditions disclosed. Safety lines, ice axes and crampons are provided. Tour operates rain or shine, but may be cancelled by the operator in the event of extremely bad weather or unsuitable conditions. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Outer layer should be waterproof and windproof. Bring gloves, a warm hat and a scarf. Jeans and other cotton clothing are not allowed. Excellent hiking shoes are required. (UGG's, light sneakers and smooth soles are not fit for glacier walks). Walking and hiking is required of all participants and this tour is a grade 4 hike (5 being the most difficult). Please realistically assess your physical fitness and ability prior to booking. Suitable only for guests who are physically fit. Bring bottled water, chocolate, nuts or a light snack, as lunch is served after the hike. Minimum age is 10 years.

Golden Circle & Horse Show



Departs: 9:00 AM  
Approximately 8½ Hours  
Adult \$219.95; Child \$99.95



Enjoy an in-depth perspective of the **Golden Circle** with some extra attractions.

From Reykjavík you will drive over the **Mosfellsheiði Heath** to beautiful **Thingvellir National Park** -- a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** and a primary site of Iceland's geological and historic heritage. It was here in AD 930 that the Vikings formed the *Althingi* -- the oldest parliament in the world still in

existence today.

Continue over the **Lyngdalsheiði Heath** into the fertile farmlands of the south to visit the **Gullfoss** golden waterfall.

A light lunch will be served at the Gullfoss Café.




A few minutes' drive away is the great **Geysir Geothermal Area**, which has given its name to hot springs (geysers) all over the world. Here, you will see one of the most active geysers in the area, Strokkur, spouting up to 90 feet every few minutes.

Next, you'll drive to **Faxi Waterfall** to view Icelandic sheep pens and a salmon ladder.

At Fridheimar, watch a professional display showcasing the particular tolt gait of the **Icelandic horse**. The show is both educational and entertaining, and gives an insight into a magnificent breed that has been intertwined with the culture and history of the Icelandic nation through the centuries. After the show, check out the **stables**, where you can get close to the horses, take pictures and chat with the riders.

Then, it's on to the Grímsnes region with a stop at the impressive **Kerid volcanic crater**, which forms part of a group of volcanic hills thought to have been created around 6,000 years ago.

Head back to Reykjavík via **Hellsheiði Heath** with a short stop at the Hellsheiði Power Plant.

<p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p>All walking is optional and most sights can be viewed through the motor coach windows. There are some inclined surfaces to negotiate and rough grass/mud/gravel paths. Dress warmly in layers. Wear sturdy, non-skid walking shoes. Special dietary requests must be submitted 48 hours prior to the ship's arrival. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.</p> <p><b>Iceland Tomorrow: The Ancient Ring of Fire</b></p>  <p>Departs: 1:15 PM Approximately 5 Hours Adult \$119.95; Child \$54.95</p> <p>This is a predominantly green-focused tour that circles the active 2,635-foot <b>Hengill Volcano</b>, located just a couple of miles from Reykjavík. Hengill last erupted approximately 2,000 years ago, but its numerous natural hot springs, colorful steam vents and fumaroles still dot the surrounding landscape. Hengill produces hydro and geothermal power, which provide the capital with plentiful hot water and electricity.</p> <p>Stop at the <b>Hellisheidi Geothermal Plant Visitor Center</b> to learn a little about volcanoes, geosciences, and geothermal technology.</p> <p>Continue to the town of <b>Hveragerdi</b>, located on top of an old magma chamber. Hot springs bubble and hiss all around this unique community.</p>	<p>A short, <b>scenic drive</b> takes you past the town's trademark greenhouses and a short <b>walk</b> leads to the new hot spring area. <b>Refreshments</b> are served here.</p> <p>Follow the River Sogid past the Ljóssafoss Hydro Station to the <b>UNESCO World Heritage Site</b> of <b>Thingvellir</b>. Approaching Thingvellir, you'll literally drive from one continent to another as you cross the neo-volcanic rift zone that slices through Iceland from northeast to southwest. Pause at the viewpoint to soak up a little of the nation's history, for it is here that the world's oldest existing parliament was formed in AD 930.</p> <p>At the time of Iceland's settlement (in the 9th century) an estimated one fourth of the country was covered by birch woodlands. Today, forests cover just a little over one percent of Iceland. The forests were felled for timber, cleared for agriculture, and grazed by domestic animals brought by the settlers. Since 1950, the emphasis has been on reforestation and also afforestation -- planting of forests where they didn't previously exist. On this shore excursion, you have contributed to Iceland's afforestation program with the <b>planting of a tree</b>.</p> <p>The road leading past Iceland's largest natural lake at Thingvallavatn takes you to a <b>viewpoint</b> on the lower flanks of the volcano. Take in the fascinating sight of the countless hot springs that continuously belch their sulfur-rich deposits over the amazing scenery. The drive back to Reykjavík takes you through a lunar-like landscape of volcanic phenomena.</p>	<p>Notes:</p> <p>All walking is optional and most sights can be viewed through the motor coach windows. There are some inclined surfaces to negotiate and rough grass/mud/gravel paths. Suitable for guests with mobility limitations with a companion to assist. Dress warmly and in layers for the day's weather conditions. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid shoes. The water in the geothermal area is very hot. Do not touch or approach the hot springs. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.</p> <p><b>Iceland on Horseback</b></p>  <p>Departs: 10:00 AM Approximately 2½ Hours Adult \$159.95; Child \$69.95</p> <p>This is an excellent opportunity for horse experts and novices alike to enjoy <b>horseback riding</b> in the Icelandic countryside on the famous breed of <b>Icelandic pony</b>. It is a purebred descendent of the horses brought to Iceland by the Vikings more than 1,000 years ago. Hardy, sure-footed and friendly by nature, Icelandic horses are extremely pleasant to ride.</p> <p>This excursion is accompanied by an expert rider, and takes you through scenic and interesting areas of farmland and valleys.</p> <p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p>Maximum weight is 220 lbs. Minimum age is</p>	<p>8 years. There will be no galloping; a comfortable pace will be maintained. There are some inclined surfaces to negotiate and rough grass/mud/gravel paths. Dress warmly and in layers for the day's weather conditions. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid shoes. Participants are not permitted to use their own riding gear due to Icelandic Customs laws. Riding gear will be provided by the riding center. Waiver must be signed.</p> <p><b>Iceland's Quirky Quaffs</b></p>  <p>Departs: 8:00 PM Approximately 1½ Hours Price \$119.95</p> <p>This outing should be viewed as a treat for your taste buds, a boost to your immune system, and a noteworthy step in your global cultural edification. The <b>Ölgerðin Brewery</b>, Iceland's oldest, invites you to an evening <b>tasting of the quirky beverages of Iceland</b>. You'll also hear about the nation's drinking culture as it once was in the past, and how it has evolved up to today.</p> <p>On this light-hearted evening adventure, you'll take a look at the brewery, dive into the drinking habits of the locals, and experience the spirit of Iceland, both literally and figuratively, at Ölgerðin's stylish new headquarters in Reykjavík.</p> <p>Your expert guide will introduce you to Icelandic <b>mead</b> -- this is what the Vikings brewed and it's definitely not for the faint of heart. You'll also taste a <b>beer substitute</b> so you can get a feel for what Icelanders drank during the misery of the prohibition years. Make sure you down a shot of <b>Brennivín</b> -- a</p>
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schnapps made from potato pulp and caraway seed that is sometimes called the Black Death. Brennivín could well be the origin of the saying, 'what doesn't kill you makes you stronger'.

Other extraordinary beverages you'll try include **Gull Beer** and **Malt & Appelsín** -- nicely rounding out your taste of Iceland's fascinating liquor line-up.

Notes:

Minimum age is 20 years. The Mead is only served upon availability.

Let's Go Volcano!



Departs: 8:45 AM  
Approximately 6 Hours  
Price \$399.95



embark on a once-in-a-lifetime adventure discovering the volcanic environs of the reykjanes peninsula.

the adrenaline kicks in pier side as you board your specially **modified super truck** -- your transportation for today's volcanic journey. your first stop is at the perfectly formed **lava ring and crater of stóra eldborg** (3,000 years old) where you will take an invigorating **hike** up the steep flanks of the crater, enjoying breath-taking views of the lunar-like surroundings on your way to the way to the top.

next on the agenda is a **lava-tube caving** experience. following a short drive, and subsequent walk over spongy moss and

uneven ground, your guide will locate the almost undetectable cave entrance via gps. gear up, donning a safety helmet, and grab a high-beam flashlight to embark on a journey into the mysterious depths of the icelandic underworld.

visit the bubbling hot springs and fumaroles at the high temperature **geothermal field of krýsuvík**, located in the middle of the fissure zone that traverses iceland.

in the nearby fishing village of grindavík, a **lunch** of lobster (langoustine) soup is served with freshly baked bread.

returning to civilization, you will head back to reykjavik and the ship.

notes:

walking and caving are required of all participants. this tour is a grade 4 hike (with 5 being the most difficult). suitable only for guests who are physically fit. please realistically assess your physical fitness and ability prior to booking, as the walk is uphill, over unpaved, rough walking tracks with many steps and the walk up to stóra eldborg crater is a large area of very loose gravel. pregnant women are not allowed to participate. not suitable for guests with back or neck conditions. minimum age is 8 years. dress warmly in layers. wear sturdy, non-skid walking or hiking shoes. the cave is small and tight; not suitable for persons that suffer from claustrophobia. helmets with headlights are provided. the vehicle rides very high; participants must be able to (dis)embark the vehicle without assistance. dietary requests

must be made on board the ship well prior to the call at reykjavík.

Lunar Landscapes



Departs: 1:30 PM  
4¼ Hours  
Adult \$99.95; Child \$54.95

Leaving Reykjavík, a **panoramic drive** takes you to the volcanic **Reykjanes Peninsula**, where you will find several dormant volcanoes and extensive lava fields.

You'll drive through the fishing town of Hafnarfjörður on your way to beautiful Kleifarvatn Lake. After a brief stop here, continue to the southern shore of the peninsula to see the amazing Krýsuvík moonscape of bubbling sulfuric mud pools and steam vents whose, geothermal activity originates deep in the earth.

Drive through the lively little fishing village of Grindavík, with its many fishing boats.

Before you return to Reykjavík, you will visit the **Viking World Museum**, home to the amazing full-scale replica of the Gokstad Viking longship that was discovered in Norway in 1882. A relaxing drive through the mossy lava fields leads back to Reykjavík, where your coach will drop you off at the pier.

Notes:

All walking is optional and most sights can be viewed through the motorcoach windows. There are some inclines to negotiate and

rough grass/mud/gravel paths and uneven wooden steps. Suitable for guests with mobility limitations with a companion to assist. Dress warmly and in layers for the day's weather conditions. Wear sturdy, non-skid walking shoes. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

Picture-Perfect Iceland



Departs: 11:15 AM  
Approximately 5 Hours  
Adult \$189.95; Child \$99.95



If you're an enthusiastic nature and landscape photographer, you already know that there are very few places left in the world that offer a dramatic and accessible landscape that has not been over exposed. Rejoice, for you have stumbled upon Iceland -- one of the best-kept secrets in the world of photography!

Iceland is every photographer's dream -- without a doubt the most visually exciting place for those seeking inspiration in a new and challenging location. Whether you are a keen amateur or a dedicated professional, Iceland's fascinating, photogenic terrain will set your pulse racing.

This tour takes you to wonderful panoramic views over vast lava fields, hot springs, mountain ranges, lakes and unspoiled nature, all waiting to be discovered through your camera lens.

Notes:

Bring your own camera and camera equipment. Dress warmly and in layers for the day's weather conditions. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid shoes. The water in the geothermal area is very hot. Do not touch or approach the hot springs. The tour operator will do its absolute best to provide specialized photography guides, but this cannot be guaranteed. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

**Reykjavik 64 Degree Distillery: In Partnership with Food & Wine Magazine**



Departs: 4:45 PM  
Approximatley 2½ Hours  
Price \$129.95

Meet your guide and board a coach for the short and scenic drive through Hafnarfjörður to the **64° Reykjavik Distillery**. Located in the town of lava, Vikings and elves, 64° Reykjavik was established in 2009 and is the first Icelandic distillery of its kind.

This is a special **behind-the-scenes tour** so, when you arrive at the distillery, you'll be greeted by the **owner, Snorri Jonsson**. Snorri is an expert on Iceland's old-time foraging culture. He will personally guide you through the distillery, offering snippets of history, explaining the process and, of course, letting you **taste his handcrafted spirits**.

Jonsson and his team of distillers are passionate about capturing the diverse flavors of Iceland, and they harvest all the ingredients locally, from blueberries, juniper, crowberry

and rhubarb to wild herbs. This fun and informative visit sets the tone for a very personalized and intimate glimpse of Reykjavik.

**Notes:**

In the unusual event that owner Snorri Jonsson is not available to greet you, another distiller will lead you through the facility. Minimum age to sample the spirits is 20 years.

**Reykjavik Highlights**



Departs: 9:00 AM  
Approximately 3 Hours  
Adult \$79.95; Child \$49.95

Begin your tour of Reykjavik, the world's northernmost capital, at the **Árbær Open-Air Museum**, whose specific purpose is to preserve and showcase a selection of old Icelandic houses, furnishings and implements.

Next, relax for a panoramic drive past Reykjavik's largest outdoor swimming pool in Laugardalur, heated with water from natural hot springs under the city. Watch for the sculpture garden adjacent to the Asmundur Sveinsson Museum.

Stop briefly at Höfði House, where the Reagan-Gorbachev summit took place in 1986, ending the Cold War.

Continue driving to **the Pearl** -- a glass dome built over the hot water tanks that store water for the greater Reykjavik area -- enjoy panoramic vistas of the city from the viewing

deck.

Watch for the beautiful Hallgrímskirkja Church, whose steeple is a Reykjavik landmark.

Your tour will be complete with a drive into the charming city center where you will see various landmarks including the Town Hall, the cathedral, and other interesting buildings.

**Notes:**

Walking at the Perlan Viewpoint is over paved and even surfaces. Elevators take visitors to the viewing platform on the 4th floor. Dress warmly and in layers for the day's weather conditions. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid shoes.

This note did not come with a tour name or description:

**Notes:**

The Árbær Museum is an open-air museum with gravel paths and some inclines between houses. The houses are small and have narrow entrances and low ceilings. Take care when entering the houses, as some have low doorways. Dress warmly in layers. Wear sturdy non-skid walking shoes. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

**The Golden Circle by Private Accessible Van**



Departs: 9:00 AM  
Approximately 7 Hours  
Price \$1,249.00



From Reykjavik you will drive over the Mosfellsheidi Heath to beautiful **Thingvellir National Park** -- a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a primary site of Iceland's geological and historic heritage.

Walk through a massive geological fault to the place where the Icelandic Althingi -- Europe's oldest national legislative assembly -- was established in AD 930. Astonishingly, the Althingi convened here in grandiose surroundings every summer for nearly eight centuries. It eventually moved to Reykjavik.

Continue over the Lyngdalsheidi Heath and into the fertile farmlands of the south for a visit to the enormous, spectacular, roaring **Gullfoss**. Many people feel that this is Iceland's most beautiful waterfall -- what do you think?

Nearby, you'll also stop at the **Geysir Geothermal Area** with its multitude of hot springs. The most active geyser spouts every few minutes, erupting in an eye-popping display of boiling water and cooling spray. This is a glimpse of the raw power of nature.

Returning through the Grímsnes region, you will also see Hveragerdi Village, where geothermal water has been used to build an extensive greenhouse industry. Pass through the city center en route back to the pier.

Notes:

This tour is by private wheelchair-accessible vehicle with a lift -- a sprinter van that fits one guest in a wheelchair plus additional guests depending on size of vehicle. Many of the sites are gravel, with wooden steps and platforms, and uneven terrain, but are accessible with a companion to assist. The water at the hot springs is extremely hot. Do not touch or approach the hot springs and do not throw objects or coins into the waters at Thingvellir National Park or at the hot springs. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board. Bookings not marked with an access requirement for a lift vehicle will be removed from the tour's inventory.

Whale Watching Experience



Departs: 9:30 AM  
Approximately 4 Hours  
Adult \$149.95; Child \$59.95

Iceland is widely recognized as the 'whale watching capital of northern Europe'.

Enjoy this exciting three-hour **boat** trip searching for **whales**. The potential for seeing them is excellent, with so many species of whales (blue, fin, humpbacks, minke and sei whales). About half of the 36 whale species that live in the North Atlantic can be seen in Icelandic waters. No two trips are ever the same and consequently there is always an air of excitement and anticipation.

On board the boat, you will find a

comfortable dining room with a bar. There is also seating on the boat's deck for those who want to enjoy close proximity to spectacular Icelandic nature and seascapes.

Notes:

Tour operates weather permitting. The tour operator reserves the right to cancel the tour if conditions are unfavorable. Guests who suffer from motion sickness should consider this tour before booking and/or take appropriate medication. Wildlife sightings are likely but not guaranteed; however, the success rate for seeing whales on this tour is very high. Refreshments are not included, but can be purchased on board at your own expense. There are several steps to negotiate on the boat; flooring can be very slippery. Not advisable for guests using a wheelchair; although the whale-watching boat itself is accessible, the cafeteria and shelter from weather are not accessible and there is not accessible restroom on board. Bring a warm down (or similar) jacket; wear long thermal underwear and several layers of wool and/or polypro (not cotton) as it is very cool out on the water. Bring a hat, gloves and scarf. Wear sturdy, non-skid walking shoes. The whale watching boat may not be exclusive to Holland America Line guests.

# Reykjavik, Iceland - Thursday, August 9, 2018: Geysers, hot springs and fields of cooled lava are testament to Iceland's volcanic origins. Swim in the naturally warmed Blue Lagoon.

## A Taste of Iceland



Departs: 10:00 AM  
Approximately 5 Hours  
Adult \$179.95; Child \$79.95



Combine a taste of Iceland with interesting hot springs and a scenic ocean route, and you'll have a memorable day.

Depart via the Blue Mountains to **Eyrarbakki** fishing village on the south coast. Many of the old houses here have been renovated, forming a lovely hub of traditional homes. The oldest house, Húsid, was built in 1756.

There is nothing more Icelandic than a seafood restaurant in a typical fishing village; so you will continue to the small fishing village of **Stokkseyri** for a **lunch** feast. **Icelandic lobster** (langoustine) fresh from the ocean, is served sizzling in the pan, along with a variety of side dishes.

Drive along the coast to **Lake Kleifarvatn**, set in fascinatingly stark, moon-like surroundings. Near the lake's southern end lies the **Krysuvík Geothermal Area** with powerful jets of steam escaping from beneath the earth's crust and sulfurous gases rising from numerous vents.

Enjoy a **panoramic drive** through Reykjavík's city center before reaching the pier.

### Notes:

All walking is optional and most sights can be

viewed through the motor coach windows. There are some inclined surfaces to negotiate and rough grass/mud/gravel paths and uneven steps. Suitable for guests with mobility limitations with a companion to assist. Dress warmly and in layers for the day's weather conditions. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid shoes. Special dietary requests must be received at least 48 hours prior to ship's arrival. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board

## Bathing in the Blue Lagoon



Departs: 7:30 AM, 7:45 AM, 11:30 AM, 11:45 AM  
Approximately 3½ Hours  
Adult \$179.95; Child \$109.95



The **Blue Lagoon** is located southeast of Reykjavík, near the fishing village of Grindavík, on the Reykjanes peninsula.

A high-temperature geothermal field supplies the Reykjanes district with hot water and steam to run a power plant, and it is the mineral-rich overflow water from this operation that fills the bathing lagoon. The geothermal water is pumped up from 6,000 feet below the earth's surface. High levels of silica, minerals and algae give the Blue Lagoon its rich, blue color and also form a light natural sediment on the bottom.

Don't miss this chance to relax in the

refreshing waters of the Blue Lagoon, whose healing properties are legendary. You'll head straight to the lagoon where you will spend approximately two hours relaxing in the delightfully warm water and enjoying the natural resources of Iceland.

The Blue Lagoon Comfort Package offers you a silica mask, a towel, and a cooling drink while enjoying the warm waters of the Blue Lagoon. **Notes:**

Minimum age is 2 years. Bring your swimsuit. Towels are provided. The changing rooms are gender divided, but are European-style (not private). Lockers (locked with digital wristbands), showers, hair conditioner and soap are included. US dollars (bills only; no coins), euros or Icelandic kroner and major credit cards are accepted. Hygiene regulations require that you shower with soap and without a swimsuit before entering the lagoon. Shoes are not to be worn inside the locker room area; they are to be stored on shoe shelves or in plastic bags inside lockers. The water is very warm. Please ensure you are hydrated. The minerals in the water make hair dry and coarse, but it returns to normal after a few showers. You may wish to ensure you don't get your hair wet. The Blue Lagoon sells special hair conditioners and recommends that long hair is put up before you enter the lagoon. Do not wear jewelry in the water, as the minerals can stain metal. Although the lockers are safe, you are advised not to bring valuables to the lagoon. Floors may be slippery; take care when walking inside locker area and out to the lagoon.

Guests with heart conditions should seek advice from their doctor prior to booking.

## Best of the Golden Circle: Thingvellir, Gullfoss & Geysir



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 8 Hours  
Adult \$189.95; Child \$89.95



From Reykjavík, you will drive across the Mosfellsheidi Heath to beautiful **Thingvellir National Park** -- a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** and a primary site of Iceland's geological and historic heritage.






Walk through a massive geological fault to the place where Europe's oldest national legislative assembly, the Icelandic Althing, was established in AD 930. Astonishingly, it convened here in grandiose surroundings every summer for nearly eight centuries.

Your tour continues over the Lyngdalsheidi Heath into the fertile farmlands of the south, for a visit to Iceland's most beautiful waterfall -- **Gullfoss**.

Nearby, you'll also stop at the **Geysir Geothermal Area** with its multitude of hot springs. The most active geyser spouts every few minutes.

A two-course **lunch** and coffee will be served at a restaurant nearby. Returning through the Grímsnes region, you will also pass Hveragerdi Village, where geothermal water has been used to build an extensive



<p>greenhouse industry.</p> <p>Enjoy a panoramic drive through Reykjavik's city center before reaching the pier.</p> <p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p>Guests who prefer to stay on the coach may do so at most stops; however, all guests must leave the coach during the driver's lunch break. Collapsible wheelchairs/scooters can be stored on the coach; full measurements of the wheelchair/scooter must be provided to the EXC Tours office on board the ship a few days prior to arrival in Reykjavik. The attractions are mostly wheelchair/scooter accessible; please be mindful that accessible areas may offer a slightly different angle/point-of-view than ambulatory guests may encounter. The lunch venue is wheelchair accessible. Dietary requests must be received 48 hours before ship's arrival. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.</p> <p><b>Countless Craters by Helicopter</b></p>  <p>Departs: 1:00 PM Approximately 1½ Hours Price \$809.95</p> <p>Explore the countless craters of the Reykjanes Peninsula, with absolutely amazing scenery, on this <b>helicopter flight</b>.</p> <p>Catch a glimpse of the rough but magical beauty that embodies Iceland's volcanic landscape. As you soar above the lunar-like Reykjanes Peninsula, you'll truly appreciate its</p>	<p>grandeur on a scale that is possible only from air. You will see virtually endless volcanic craters, the Seltún geothermal area, rugged coastline, the Blue Lagoon, Lake Kleifarvatn and Lake Grænavatn. This area is a constant reminder of the untamed power that sculpted the island.</p> <p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p>Your flight departs from Reykjavik's domestic airport, located in the heart of the city. Participants must be able to walk unassisted up 5-10 steps into the aircraft. Boarding the helicopter may present difficulties for guests with mobility limitations. Dress warmly in layers. Wear sturdy, non-skid shoes. Guests weighing 265 lbs (120 kg) or more will be required to pay an additional surcharge over the published fare.</p> <p><b>Dutch Guided: Best of the Golden Circle: Thingvellir, Gullfoss &amp; Geysir</b></p>   <p>Departs: 8:30 AM Approximately 8 Hours Adult \$189.95; Child \$89.95</p> <p>A Dutch-speaking guide leads this tour (or a guide with a Dutch interpreter). A limited number of Dutch guides and interpreters are available in this port; book early to avoid disappointment. This is not a bilingual tour; please see Best of the Golden Circle: Thingvellir, Gullfoss &amp; Geysir for the same tour guided in English.</p> <p>From Reykjavik, you will drive across the Mosfellsheidi Heath to beautiful <b>Thingvellir</b></p>	<p><b>National Park -- a UNESCO World Heritage Site</b> and a primary site of Iceland's geological and historic heritage.</p> <p>Walk through a massive geological fault to the place where Europe's oldest national legislative assembly, the Icelandic Althing, was established in AD 930. Astonishingly, it convened here in grandiose surroundings every summer for nearly eight centuries.</p> <p>Your tour continues over the Lyngdalsheidi Heath into the fertile farmlands of the south, for a visit to Iceland's most beautiful waterfall -- <b>Gullfoss</b>.</p> <p>Nearby, you'll also stop at the <b>Geysir Geothermal Area</b> with its multitude of hot springs. The most active geyser spouts every few minutes.</p> <p>A two-course <b>lunch</b> and coffee will be served at a restaurant nearby. Returning through the Grímsnes region, you will also pass Hveragerdi Village, where geothermal water has been used to build an extensive greenhouse industry.</p> <p>Enjoy a panoramic drive through Reykjavik's city center before reaching the pier.</p> <p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p>Guests who prefer to stay on the coach may do so at most stops; however, all guests must leave the coach during the driver's lunch break. Collapsible wheelchairs/scooters can be stored on the coach; full measurements of the wheelchair/scooter must be provided to the EXC Tours office on board the ship a few</p>	<p>days prior to arrival in Reykjavik. The attractions are mostly wheelchair/scooter accessible; please be mindful that accessible areas may offer a slightly different angle/point-of-view than ambulatory guests may encounter. The lunch venue is wheelchair accessible. Dietary requests must be received 48 hours before ship's arrival. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.</p> <p><b>Easy Reykjavik</b></p>   <p>Departs: 2:00 PM Approximately 2½ Hours Adult \$49.95; Child \$29.95</p> <p>View Reykjavik's highlights -- perfect for guests with mobility limitations and for those wishing to see and learn a lot in a relatively short space of time.</p> <p>The <b>Reykjavik</b> capital area consists of seven municipalities with approximately 190,000 inhabitants. With plenty of space, clean air and natural green energy, Reykjavik clearly revels in its reputation as being one of the most modern, forward-thinking societies in Europe. The city's 'Pure Energy' slogan says it all.</p> <p>View such landmarks as the Laugardalur sport and recreational area with its open-air geothermal swimming pool, the spectacular coastline and harbor area, and Höfði House. The latter is where the Cold War officially ended in 1986 with a meeting between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev.</p>
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Take a panoramic drive to picturesque Hafnarfjörður (Harbor Fjord). This lovely town is a friendly seaside community, home to varied birdlife, numerous natural wonders, and -- for true believers -- the home of the *huldufólk*. These mysterious but friendly elves live in the many lava rocks scattered throughout the town. Hafnarfjörður is also known as the land of lava and Vikings.

Driving back to Reykjavík, you will drive past Hallgrímskirkja Church and through Reykjavík's colorful old quarter with its quaint wooden houses and narrow streets.

Learn the basics of geothermal energy, observe a little of Iceland's geological phenomena, and enjoy the varied landscapes. You will also see the many faces of Iceland's amazing architecture, both past and present.

**Notes:**

Dress warmly in layers Wear sturdy, non-skid shoes. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board. This tour predominantly consists of sightseeing from the coach.

**Glacier Safari by 4-Wheel-Drive & Ice Cave**



Departs: 7:00 AM  
Approximately 8½ Hours  
Adult \$529.95; Child \$399.95



Today's great adventure begins at the pier as you board a larger-than-life modified **super-truck**. Head out to the **UNESCO World Heritage Site** of **Thingvellir**, where you will stop among the landscape of Iceland's early parliament before delving into its majestic hinterland.

Drive along the dramatic Cold Valley to **Langjokull Glacier**. Langjokull (Long Glacier) is 4,460 feet long and covers an area of about 366 square miles about 4,000 feet above sea level.

Upon arrival at the glacier, it's all action, and your expert driver will take your super-truck adventure to the next level. This involves a once-in-a-lifetime journey over the ice and snow to the **Ice Cave** -- a classy new attraction located on the flanks of Iceland's second-largest glacier. The Ice Cave is a manmade cave that stretches deep into the glacier and consists of a series of tunnels and caves carved through solid glacier ice. Crevasses that pull the glacier apart, along with sunlight penetrating the packed ice, are among the natural wonders you'll see. A cave-like tunnel leads into the icy underground and as the ice gets older the color changes from white to a magnificent, deep blue. The Ice Cave is located about 100 feet below the glacier's surface and stretches approximately 800 feet in length.

During your guided glacier visit, you'll enjoy an introduction to glaciology and learn about the effect climate change has on glaciers. The cave also provides glaciologists, meteorologists and other scientists with an opportunity to study the glacier in a new way.

Following this amazing experience, head back to the woodlands of Húsafell to your **lunch** destination.

After lunch, you will drive to the nearby **Hraunfoss and Barnafoss waterfalls** -- two of Iceland's most picturesque cascades.

The ride back to Reykjavík will take you through the Hvalfjörður Tunnel, along the coastline and back to the pier.

**Notes:**

The vehicles ride in a convoy formation; commentary may be provided through the vehicle's radio system. Tour operates rain or shine, but may be cancelled by the operator in the event of extremely bad weather or unsuitable conditions. Heavy rains can cause icing on the glacier, preventing the super-4x4 from driving all the way to the Ice Cave; in this event, guests may be asked to switch to glacier super-trucks that drive to the ice cave. Suitable only for guests who are physically fit. Please realistically assess your physical fitness and ability prior to booking. Minimum age is 8 years. Pregnant women are not allowed to participate. Not suitable for guests with back or neck conditions. It is essential that you

wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Outer layer should be waterproof and windproof. Bring gloves, a warm hat and a scarf. Wear sturdy, non-skid walking shoes. The ice cave operator provides crampons and boots. The ice cave is very wet in some areas with water dripping from above. The vehicles ride high; participants must be able to (dis)embark the vehicle without assistance.

**Glacier Walk & Waterfalls**



Departs: 7:00 AM  
Approximately 9 Hours  
Price \$319.95

Many travelers may dream about the opportunity to **walk on an Icelandic glacier**, but few will ever live the dream. Today, you will do exactly that.

Leaving the city, relax and enjoy a **panoramic drive** southeast towards the town of Hveragerði, passing over Hellisheiði -- a mountain that offers a magnificent view of the wide plains formed by glacial rivers. See the fertile farmland on the south coast of Iceland and some of the fantastic greenhouses built to harness geothermal energy for the food and horticulture industry. Continue driving east, passing small villages and farmland, and past the majestic mountains towering above the coast. On a clear day, you might be able to see snow-shrouded Hekla, the country's most active volcano. Keep an eye out too for a glimpse of the ice-capped Eyjafjallajökull volcano, whose 2010 eruption brought Europe's aviation industry to a standstill.

Enjoy a short stop at the beautiful **Seljalandsfoss Waterfall** en route.

Continuing your journey, you will reach **Mýrdalsjökull Glacier** and meet the experts that will guide you through your glacier hike. Walk to the frozen glacial tongue named Sólheimajökull -- it is an other-worldly scene, a rugged, raw and ever-changing hub of ancient frozen water. Step onto the glacier and observe the spectacular surroundings that seem quite surreal.


Once the glacier hike is over, you will journey back to Reykjavík with a stop at the magnificent **Skógafoss Waterfall**. Enjoy a late **lunch** here before returning to the city.

**Notes:**


Prior glacier hiking experience is not required. Participate at your own risk. Waiver must be signed and medical conditions disclosed. Safety lines, ice axes and crampons are provided. Tour operates rain or shine, but may be cancelled by the operator in the event of extremely bad weather or unsuitable conditions. It is essential that you wear warm, layered clothing in order to fully enjoy and participate in this excursion. Outer layer should be waterproof and windproof. Bring gloves, a warm hat and a scarf. Jeans and other cotton clothing are not allowed. Excellent hiking shoes are required. (UGG's, light sneakers and smooth soles are not fit for glacier walks). Walking and hiking is required of all participants and this tour is a grade 4 hike (5 being the most difficult). Please realistically assess your physical fitness and ability prior to booking. Suitable only for

guests who are physically fit. Bring bottled water, chocolate, nuts or a light snack, as lunch is served after the hike. Minimum age is 10 years.

**Golden Circle & Horse Show**



Departs: 7:30 AM  
Approximately 8½ Hours  
Adult \$219.95; Child \$99.95



Enjoy an in-depth perspective of the **Golden Circle** with some extra attractions.

From Reykjavík you will drive over the **Mosfellsheidi Heath** to beautiful **Thingvellir National Park** -- a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** and a primary site of Iceland's geological and historic heritage. It was here in AD 930 that the Vikings formed the *Althingi* -- the oldest parliament in the world still in existence today.

Continue over the **Lyngdalsheidi Heath** into the fertile farmlands of the south to visit the **Gullfoss** golden waterfall.

A light lunch will be served at the Gullfoss Café.

A few minutes' drive away is the great **Geysir Geothermal Area**, which has given its name to hot springs (geysers) all over the world. Here, you will see one of the most active geysers in the area, Strokkur, spouting up to 90 feet every few minutes.

Next, you'll drive to **Faxi Waterfall** to view Icelandic sheep pens and a salmon ladder.

At Fridheimar, watch a professional display showcasing the particular tolt gait of the **Icelandic horse**. The show is both educational and entertaining, and gives an insight into a magnificent breed that has been intertwined with the culture and history of the Icelandic nation through the centuries. After the show, check out the **stables**, where you can get close to the horses, take pictures and chat with the riders.



Then, it's on to the Grímsnes region with a stop at the impressive **Kerid volcanic crater**, which forms part of a group of volcanic hills thought to have been created around 6,000 years ago.

Head back to Reykjavík via **Hellisheidi Heath** with a short stop at the Hellisheidi Power Plant.

**Notes:**

All walking is optional and most sights can be viewed through the motor coach windows. There are some inclined surfaces to negotiate and rough grass/mud/gravel paths. Dress warmly in layers. Wear sturdy, non-skid walking shoes. Special dietary requests must be submitted 48 hours prior to the ship's arrival. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

**Iceland Tomorrow: The Ancient Ring of Fire**



Departs: 9:00 AM  
Approximately 5 Hours  
Adult \$119.95; Child \$54.95



This is a predominantly green-focused tour that circles the active 2,635-foot **Hengill Volcano**, located just a couple of miles from Reykjavík. Hengill last erupted approximately 2,000 years ago, but its numerous natural hot springs, colorful steam vents and fumaroles still dot the surrounding landscape. Hengill produces hydro and geothermal power, which provide the capital with plentiful hot water and electricity.

Stop at the **Hellisheidi Geothermal Plant Visitor Center** to learn a little about volcanoes, geosciences, and geothermal technology.

Continue to the town of **Hveragerdi**, located on top of an old magma chamber. Hot springs bubble and hiss all around this unique community.

A short, **scenic drive** takes you past the town's trademark greenhouses and a short **walk** leads to the new hot spring area. **Refreshments** are served here.

Follow the River Sogid past the Ljóssafoss Hydro Station to the **UNESCO World Heritage Site** of **Thingvellir**. Approaching Thingvellir, you'll literally drive from one continent to another as you cross the neo-volcanic rift zone that slices through Iceland from northeast to southwest. Pause at the viewpoint to soak up a little of the nation's

<p>history, for it is here that the world's oldest existing parliament was formed in AD 930.</p> <p>At the time of Iceland's settlement (in the 9th century) an estimated one fourth of the country was covered by birch woodlands. Today, forests cover just a little over one percent of Iceland. The forests were felled for timber, cleared for agriculture, and grazed by domestic animals brought by the settlers. Since 1950, the emphasis has been on reforestation and also afforestation -- planting of forests where they didn't previously exist. On this shore excursion, you have contributed to Iceland's afforestation program with the <b>planting of a tree</b>.</p> <p>The road leading past Iceland's largest natural lake at Thingvallavatn takes you to a <b>viewpoint</b> on the lower flanks of the volcano. Take in the fascinating sight of the countless hot springs that continuously belch their sulfur-rich deposits over the amazing scenery. The drive back to Reykjavik takes you through a lunar-like landscape of volcanic phenomena.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <p>All walking is optional and most sights can be viewed through the motor coach windows. There are some inclined surfaces to negotiate and rough grass/mud/gravel paths. Suitable for guests with mobility limitations with a companion to assist. Dress warmly and in layers for the day's weather conditions. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid shoes. The water in the geothermal area is very hot. Do not touch or approach the hot springs. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3</p>	<p>must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.</p> <p><b>Iceland on Horseback</b></p>  <p>Departs: 10:00 AM Approximately 2½ Hours Adult \$159.95; Child \$69.95</p> <p>This is an excellent opportunity for horse experts and novices alike to enjoy <b>horseback riding</b> in the Icelandic countryside on the famous breed of <b>Icelandic pony</b>. It is a purebred descendent of the horses brought to Iceland by the Vikings more than 1,000 years ago. Hardy, sure-footed and friendly by nature, Icelandic horses are extremely pleasant to ride.</p> <p>This excursion is accompanied by an expert rider, and takes you through scenic and interesting areas of farmland and valleys.</p> <p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p>Maximum weight is 220 lbs. Minimum age is 8 years. There will be no galloping; a comfortable pace will be maintained. There are some inclined surfaces to negotiate and rough grass/mud/gravel paths. Dress warmly and in layers for the day's weather conditions. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid shoes. Participants are not permitted to use their own riding gear due to Icelandic Customs laws. Riding gear will be provided by the riding center. Waiver must be signed.</p>	<p><b>Into the Blue: Fissure Snorkeling</b></p>  <p>Departs: 8:30 AM Approximately 3½ Hours Price \$279.95</p> <p>The <b>Silfra fissure</b> is one of Iceland's best-kept secrets and Into the Blue is a thrilling adventure in an environment that most travelers will encounter only in their dreams.</p> <p>Silfra is an otherworldly scene and is located in the heart of <b>Thingvellir National Park</b>, near the site of the world's oldest parliament. The crystal-clear water in the deep fissure gives you a feeling of being weightless as you float down with the lazy current. Rated one of the world's top ten dive sites, the Silfra Fissure offers up to 300 feet of underwater visibility and is located atop of the rift between the European and American tectonic plates.</p> <p>Gear up with a drysuit and snorkel, and get into the water. The journey takes you through the Big Crack -- Silfra's narrowest section.</p> <p>The fissure then widens into Silfra Hall, where the water color and clarity are unmatched. Enter the Silfra Cathedral to view the boulders and glacial silt of the deep. Your adventure ends with the limitless visibility of the stunning Silfra Lagoon.</p> <p>After 30-40 minutes of <b>snorkeling</b>, climb out and head back to the transportation.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <p>Wear warm outdoor clothing (fleece sweater and pants recommended and a change of</p>	<p>clothing. Warm socks are a must. Snorkeling gear and drysuit provided. No prior knowledge of snorkeling is required. Participants must be able to swim, be comfortable in deep water and be willing to wear a tight and constricting drysuit. Minimum height is 4'11" (150 cm); maximum height is 6'6" (200 cm). Minimum weight is 99 lbs (45 kg); maximum weight is 265 lbs (120 kg). Pregnant women are not allowed to participate. Participants must be physically fit. Please realistically assess your fitness level prior to booking. Minimum age is 12 years; maximum age is 65 years. Guests age 60 years and older must request a copy of the medical waiver form from Holland America EXC Tour Reservations prior to boarding the ship. If a guest answers YES to any question on the form, he/she must bring a certificate of doctor's approval. Each guest must provide the on-board EXC Tours manager with height, weight and shoe size on cruise embarkation day. Participants must walk in full gear for up to 350 yards. Your head and hands are exposed to the 36° F (2° C) water through a semi-insulated material. Part of your face is not covered by the hood and comes in direct contact with the water. There is a slight current in Silfra; participants must be able to swim against it during the last part of the tour.</p>
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Let's Go Volcano!



Departs: 8:45 AM  
Approximately 6 Hours  
Price \$399.95



embark on a once-in-a-lifetime adventure discovering the volcanic environs of the reykjanes peninsula.

the adrenaline kicks in pier side as you board your specially **modified super truck** -- your transportation for today's volcanic journey. your first stop is at the perfectly formed **lava ring and crater of stóra eldborg** (3,000 years old) where you will take an invigorating **hike** up the steep flanks of the crater, enjoying breath-taking views of the lunar-like surroundings on your way to the way to the top.

next on the agenda is a **lava-tube caving** experience. following a short drive, and subsequent walk over spongy moss and uneven ground, your guide will locate the almost undetectable cave entrance via gps. gear up, donning a safety helmet, and grab a high-beam flashlight to embark on a journey into the mysterious depths of the icelandic underworld.

visit the bubbling hot springs and fumaroles at the high temperature **geothermal field of krýsuvík**, located in the middle of the fissure zone that traverses iceland.


in the nearby fishing village of grindavík, a **lunch** of lobster (langoustine) soup is served with freshly baked bread.

returning to civilization, you will head back to reykjavik and the ship.

**notes:**

walking and caving are required of all participants. this tour is a grade 4 hike (with 5 being the most difficult). suitable only for guests who are physically fit. please realistically assess your physical fitness and ability prior to booking, as the walk is uphill, over unpaved, rough walking tracks with many steps and the walk up to stóra eldborg crater is a large area of very loose gravel. pregnant women are not allowed to participate. not suitable for guests with back or neck conditions. minimum age is 8 years. dress warmly in layers. wear sturdy, non-skid walking or hiking shoes. the cave is small and tight; not suitable for persons that suffer from claustrophobia. helmets with headlights are provided. the vehicle rides very high; participants must be able to (dis)embark the vehicle without assistance. dietary requests must be made on board the ship well prior to the call at reykjavík.

**Lunar Landscapes**



Departs: 9:00 AM  
4¼ Hours  
Adult \$99.95; Child \$54.95

Leaving Reykjavík, a **panoramic drive** takes you to the volcanic **Reykjanes Peninsula**, where you will find several dormant volcanoes and extensive lava fields.

You'll drive through the fishing town of Hafnarfjörður on your way to beautiful Kleifarvatn Lake. After a brief stop here,

continue to the southern shore of the peninsula to see the amazing Krýsuvík moonscape of bubbling sulfuric mud pools and steam vents whose, geothermal activity originates deep in the earth.

Drive through the lively little fishing village of Grindavík, with its many fishing boats.

Before you return to Reykjavík, you will visit the **Viking World Museum**, home to the amazing full-scale replica of the Gokstad Viking longship that was discovered in Norway in 1882. A relaxing drive through the mossy lava fields leads back to Reykjavík, where your coach will drop you off at the pier.

**Notes:**

All walking is optional and most sights can be viewed through the motorcoach windows. There are some inclines to negotiate and rough grass/mud/gravel paths and uneven wooden steps. Suitable for guests with mobility limitations with a companion to assist. Dress warmly and in layers for the day's weather conditions. Wear sturdy, non-skid walking shoes. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

Picture-Perfect Iceland



Departs: 10:15 AM  
Approximately 5 Hours  
Adult \$189.95; Child \$99.95



If you're an enthusiastic nature and landscape photographer, you already know that there are very few places left in the world that offer a dramatic and accessible landscape that has not been over exposed. Rejoice, for you have stumbled upon Iceland -- one of the best-kept secrets in the world of photography!

Iceland is every photographer's dream -- without a doubt the most visually exciting place for those seeking inspiration in a new and challenging location. Whether you are a keen amateur or a dedicated professional, Iceland's fascinating, photogenic terrain will set your pulse racing.


This tour takes you to wonderful panoramic views over vast lava fields, hot springs, mountain ranges, lakes and unspoiled nature, all waiting to be discovered through your camera lens.

**Notes:**

Bring your own camera and camera equipment. Dress warmly and in layers for the day's weather conditions. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid shoes. The water in the geothermal area is very hot. Do not touch or approach the hot springs. The tour operator will do its absolute best to provide specialized photography guides, but this cannot be guaranteed. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat

from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

**Reykjavik Highlights**



Departs: 9:45 AM  
Approximately 3 Hours  
Adult \$79.95; Child \$49.95

Begin your tour of Reykjavík, the world's northernmost capital, at the **Árbær Open-Air Museum**, whose specific purpose is to preserve and showcase a selection of old Icelandic houses, furnishings and implements.

Next, relax for a panoramic drive past Reykjavík's largest outdoor swimming pool in Laugardalur, heated with water from natural hot springs under the city. Watch for the sculpture garden adjacent to the Asmundur Sveinsson Museum.

Stop briefly at Höfði House, where the Reagan-Gorbachev summit took place in 1986, ending the Cold War.

Continue driving to **the Pearl** -- a glass dome built over the hot water tanks that store water for the greater Reykjavik area -- enjoy panoramic vistas of the city from the viewing deck.

Watch for the beautiful Hallgrímskirkja Church, whose steeple is a Reykjavík landmark.

Your tour will be complete with a drive into the charming city center where you will see various landmarks including the Town Hall, the cathedral, and other interesting buildings.

**Notes:**



Walking at the Perlan Viewpoint is over paved and even surfaces. Elevators take visitors to the viewing platform on the 4th floor. Dress warmly and in layers for the day's weather conditions. Wear sturdy, closed-toe, non-skid shoes.

This note did not come with a tour name or description:


**Notes:**

The Árbær Museum is an open-air museum with gravel paths and some inclines between houses. The houses are small and have narrow entrances and low ceilings. Take care when entering the houses, as some have low doorways. Dress warmly in layers. Wear sturdy non-skid walking shoes. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board.

**The Golden Circle by Private Accessible Van**



Departs: 8:15 AM  
Approximately 7 Hours  
Price \$1,249.00



From Reykjavík you will drive over the Mosfellsheidi Heath to beautiful **Thingvellir National Park** -- a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a primary site of Iceland's geological

and historic heritage.

Walk through a massive geological fault to the place where the Icelandic Althingi -- Europe's oldest national legislative assembly -- was established in AD 930. Astonishingly, the Althingi convened here in grandiose surroundings every summer for nearly eight centuries. It eventually moved to Reykjavík.

Continue over the Lyngdalsheidi Heath and into the fertile farmlands of the south for a visit to the enormous, spectacular, roaring **Gullfoss**. Many people feel that this is Iceland's most beautiful waterfall -- what do you think?

Nearby, you'll also stop at the **Geysir Geothermal Area** with its multitude of hot springs. The most active geyser spouts every few minutes, erupting in an eye-popping display of boiling water and cooling spray. This is a glimpse of the raw power of nature.


Returning through the Grímsnes region, you will also see Hveragerdi Village, where geothermal water has been used to build an extensive greenhouse industry. Pass through the city center en route back to the pier.

**Notes:**

This tour is by private wheelchair-accessible vehicle with a lift -- a sprinter van that fits one guest in a wheelchair plus additional guests depending on size of vehicle. Many of the sites are gravel, with wooden steps and platforms, and uneven terrain, but are accessible with a companion to assist. The water at the hot springs is extremely hot. Do

not touch or approach the hot springs and do not throw objects or coins into the waters at Thingvellir National Park or at the hot springs. Parents traveling with children under the age of 3 must rent a child's car seat from the tour operator; please see the EXC Tours staff on board. Bookings not marked with an access requirement for a lift vehicle will be removed from the tour's inventory.

**Whale Watching Experience**



Departs: 9:30 AM  
Approximately 4 Hours  
Adult \$149.95; Child \$59.95

Iceland is widely recognized as the 'whale watching capital of northern Europe'.

Enjoy this exciting three-hour **boat** trip searching for **whales**. The potential for seeing them is excellent, with so many species of whales (blue, fin, humpbacks, minke and sei whales). About half of the 36 whale species that live in the North Atlantic can be seen in Icelandic waters. No two trips are ever the same and consequently there is always an air of excitement and anticipation.

On board the boat, you will find a comfortable dining room with a bar. There is also seating on the boat's deck for those who want to enjoy close proximity to spectacular Icelandic nature and seascapes.

**Notes:**

Tour operates weather permitting. The tour operator reserves the right to cancel the tour if conditions are unfavorable. Guests who suffer from motion sickness should consider

<p>this tour before booking and/or take appropriate medication. Wildlife sightings are likely but not guaranteed; however, the success rate for seeing whales on this tour is very high. Refreshments are not included, but can be purchased on board at your own expense. There are several steps to negotiate on the boat; flooring can be very slippery. Not advisable for guests using a wheelchair; although the whale-watching boat itself is accessible, the cafeteria and shelter from weather are not accessible and there is not accessible restroom on board. Bring a warm down (or similar) jacket; wear long thermal underwear and several layers of wool and/or polypro (not cotton) as it is very cool out on the water. Bring a hat, gloves and scarf. Wear sturdy, non-skid walking shoes. The whale watching boat may not be exclusive to Holland America Line guests.</p>				
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# Runavik, Faroe Islands - Saturday, August 11, 2018:

## Countryside of Eysturoy



Departs: 1:00 PM  
Approximately 3½ Hours  
Adult \$99.95; Child \$49.95

The three villages of Sydrugøta, Gotugjógv and Nordragøta comprise the region of Gøta, located at the head of Gøtuvíkfjord.

Discover the ruins of a farm that once belonged to a famous Viking chieftain, Tróndur í Gøtu, who was considered to be a very clever and crafty man. He defended the old Viking ways against the Norwegian King and the Faroese chieftain, Sigmundur Brestisson, who wanted to convert the Faroese people to Christianity.

The **Blásastova Museum** provides insight into the culture and way of life in the Faroes in past centuries.

Take advantage of a short stop at a viewpoint over Fuglafjord.

Before heading back to the ship, you will pause at the village of **Rituvík** and at Navia. **Navia Knitwear** is a company that develops and produces new and exciting knitwear products, inspiring creativity in the maker and comfort for the user.

## Faroe Panorama



Departs: 2:00 PM  
Approximately 2 Hours  
Adult \$69.95; Child \$39.95

board your motorcoach and set out from runavík, traveling north along skálafjord and passing idyllic villages. this **panoramic drive** takes you through the tunnel to the west side of eysturoy.

head towards the village of eidi and cross the mountains to gjógv, with a stop at the nordskála and eidi viewpoints. further north you are treated to a view of the giant and the hag -- two very distinctive sea stacks.

watch for the highest mountain in the faroe islands -- slættaratindur -- at nearly 3,000 feet tall, and take photos during a panoramic stop overlooking the village of funning and the northern isles.

from here you will head back to the ship in runavík.

## Gjogv & Northern Eysturoy



Departs: 8:30 AM, 12:45 PM  
Approximately 3½ Hours  
Adult \$109.95; Child \$59.95

From Runavík, you'll drive north along **Skálafjord**, passing idyllic villages and heading through the tunnel to the west side of Eysturoy.

The village of Eidi is beautifully scenic and from there you'll cross the mountains to

Gjógv. On the way, you're treated to a view of the Giant and the Hag -- two very distinctive sea stacks. You'll also pass the highest mountain in the Faroe Islands, Slættaratindur (2,893 feet).

In **Gjógv**, you'll find a **gorge** 616 feet long, which forms a natural harbor for fishing boats. **Walk** the many steps down the gorge or take a short walk out to the cliff edge with a fantastic scenic view of the island of Kallsoy. You'll also have time to visit the small **church** here.

Return to Runavík via the mountain road, down past the village of Funning. It is said that Grímur Kamban lived here. According to the Færeyinga Saga, written in AD 1200, this man was the first settler in the Faroe Islands, arriving at the beginning of the 9th century.

## Medieval Farmstead & Costal Villages



Departs: 8:45 AM  
Approximately 3½ Hours  
Adult \$99.95; Child \$49.95

From Runavík, you'll drive north through **Skálafjord** passing idyllic villages, and through the tunnel to the west side of Eysturoy en route to the village of Saksun. The Bridge over the Atlantic, as it is sometimes called, spans the narrow channel of Sundini to connect Eysturoy with the larger island of Streymoy. Because the channel is so narrow, spectacular eddies form at the base of the bridge when the current is running strong with the tide. Approaching the village, you will be delighted with the views revealed by

every twist in the road.

**Saksun** is one of the most distinctive villages in the Faroes, and its ancient farm, **Duvugardar**, is now a **National Heritage Museum**. It, and the other outbuildings that comprise the museum, provide an insight into rural life in the Faroes. Below the farm, a round bay once formed a natural harbor, but today it is unusable due to sand deposits that have made its water very shallow. Accessible only to small boats at high tide, the bay is nonetheless a very beautiful landmark.

After visiting Saksun, return to Runavík via the mountain road -- the highest elevation in the Faroes -- with spectacular scenery.

## Torshavn: Capital of the Faroes



Departs: 9:00 AM  
Approximately 4 Hours  
Adult \$74.95; Child \$49.95

**Tórshavn** began with a Viking *thing* -- a parliamentary gathering. The *thing* was followed by the marketplace, which later became a thriving town, and today it is one of the smallest and most pleasant capital cities in the world. Your destination today, Tórshavn delightfully blends the historic and picturesque with all the features of a modern city.

From Runavík, you'll drive north through Skálafjord, passing idyllic villages and through the tunnel to the west side of Eysturoy. En route to the capital, you will take the scenic mountain road and stop at the viewpoint overlooking Tórshavn.



Stop briefly at the beautiful **Nordic House Cultural Center** and drive through the modern sections of the city. In the city center, set out on a short **walk** through Tinganes -- the Old Town area of Tórshavn.

Heading back to Runavík, you will stop briefly at a viewpoint overlooking the city.

**Vestmanna Seacliffs**



Departs: 8:30 AM (Waitlisted)  
Approximately 4½ Hours  
Adult \$149.95; Child \$99.95

Ride by coach to the village of **Vestmanna**.

Board a **boat** and sail out to the famous **bird cliffs**. All your senses will awaken with the sound of thousands of sea birds, the salty scent of the sea and the cool spray on your face. The stunning, weather-beaten cliff formations are home to a raucous riot of birds.

You'll cruise along the cliff wall and the boat slowly enters one of the many **grottoes**, where sheer rock walls rise vertically on both sides towards the sky and for a moment, daylight disappears. Darkness and the sound of dripping water surround you and then, suddenly, you emerge on the other side.

The boat stops for a while so you can enjoy the scenery. Take photographs to help you remember the details.

After the boat trip, return to Runavík and the ship.

**Notes:**

Many species of birds migrate from the bird cliffs starting mid-August. Wildlife sightings are likely but are not guaranteed.

# Lerwick, Shetland Islands, United Kingdom - Sunday, August 12, 2018: Explore Jarlshof's Stone, Bronze and Iron age ruins; take a ferry to Mousa to see the 200-year-old "broch," or castle. Meander narrow streets, stop for a pint at the pub, and pause to pet the ponies that hail from here.

## Jarlshof & Scenic Mainland Drive



Departs: 8:45 AM, 10:00 AM  
Approximately 4 Hours  
Adult \$109.95; Child \$64.95

**Shetland** is a mosaic of more than a hundred islands inhabited by approximately 22,000 people and an abundance of wildlife.

Travel one hour south of Lerwick to visit **Jarlshof**. In the winter of 1896, a violent storm uncovered this remarkable archaeological site, revealing remains from New Stone Age (Neolithic), Bronze and Iron Age settlements. Rectangular stone houses from an ancient Viking community can also be seen here. Explore with your guide the remains of these village settlements, sprawled over a low green promontory by the sea.

Continue the short distance to the small, historic village of **Hoswick** and a 45-minute stop at the **Visitor Center**. Here, you'll gain an understanding of the history and culture of Shetland through interpretive displays. Those interested in a little **shopping** can purchase original Shetland garments in Shetland wool from the knitwear shop.

As you travel, you'll also see the small agricultural areas where sheep farming is important. Distinctive black and brown Shetland sheep graze in pastures enclosed by neat dry-stone walls, and **small crofting communities** nestle on narrow peninsulas, never far from the sea. Peat is now rarely used

in Shetland to heat homes, but you will see the areas where peat is cut as you continue across the moorland on the 45-minute return drive to Lerwick.

## Mousa Island Discovery



Departs: 9:45 AM, 11:15 AM  
Approximately 4 Hours  
Adult \$119.95; Child \$69.95

**Mousa Sound** is one of Scotland's most important sites for the threatened harbor porpoise. Locally known as *neesicks*, these animals are present between May and September, taking advantage of the abundant food supply of sand eels, herring and mackerel.

You'll drive 30 minutes south from Lerwick to the small community of **Sandwick**. A short **ferry** ride will transport you to the tranquil and picturesque island of Mousa, home to the world-famous **Iron Age Broch**. Mousa Broch is a dry-stone castle, more than 2,000 years old and standing 43 feet tall. On your island walk, explore the small beehive chambers and marvel at the workmanship of the Iron Age builders. Climb the internal stairway to admire the panoramic views of the island and gaze across to the ruins of the Broch of Burraland on the mainland.

Mousa's **abundant wildlife** makes it one of the best locations in Shetland to watch the shy common and grey seals basking around the island's shallow pools. Mousa is also famous

for its abundance of breeding seabirds, including hundreds of graceful Arctic terns, Arctic skuas and their larger relatives the great skua, which sometimes swoop very close when defending their nests. The fragile-looking Arctic terns are amongst nature's greatest travelers; they can live up to 25 years and in that time fly the equivalent of the distance from Earth to the moon. Mousa is also home to around 6,000 pairs of tiny, nocturnal storm petrels.

### Notes:

Mousa is an island full of history and a natural sanctuary for wildlife. It is also part of a working farm. You are welcome to walk around the island, courtesy of the landowner and farmer. Wear sturdy walking shoes or boots (no sandals or flip-flops allowed) and a wind- or waterproof jacket dependent on the weather. Participants must be physically fit. Not advisable for guests with mobility limitations. Approximately 1½ - 1¾ hours are spent on Mousa Island. Wildlife sightings are likely but are not guaranteed.

## Scenery of Western Shetland




Departs: 9:00 AM, 9:15 AM, 12:30 PM  
Approximately 3 Hours  
Adult \$99.95; Child \$54.95

Shetland is the crossroads of the northern seas and is unlike anywhere else in Scotland. It is 112 miles of moors and wiry pasture, penetrated by great sea inlets. The sight and sound of the sea is ever-present, woven into the island's maritime heritage. As you come ashore, you will notice that Lerwick, with its narrow Main Street and small shops, seems almost to be built on top of the water.

Travel across heather-clad hills to **Scalloway**, former capital of Shetland. You'll see Scalloway Castle and stop to take a few photos. Visit the nearby **Scalloway Museum**, which displays local artifacts and exhibitions on fishing, and learn about the Shetland Bus - one of the dramatic stories to emerge from the Second World War.

Head towards the fertile **Tingwall Valley**. This is an area of uninterrupted views across farmland, small lochs and streams. A handful of houses and the occasional church stand out against the skyline. Head north through a peat- and heather-covered landscape before, suddenly, the road passes a belt of trees -- the only ones of any significance in the barren Shetlands.

At **Weisdale Voe**, the landscape changes dramatically. You'll have time here for a little

<p><b>shopping</b> as you visit the small workshops of <b>Shetland Jewellery</b>, which manufactures a wide range of silver and gold jewelry, featuring Celtic, Viking and local wildlife designs. The showroom also stocks a selection of <b>local crafts</b>.</p> <p><b>Shetland Ponies &amp; Scalloway Castle</b></p>  <p>Departs: 8:00 AM, 11:30 AM Approximately 2½ Hours Adult \$79.95; Child \$54.95</p> <p>begin your tour with a brief <b>panoramic orientation drive</b> through <b>lerwick</b>, the only town in shetland. this tiny capital dates from the 1600s. from there, you'll head to the central and west mainland. a half-hour drive brings you to <b>scalloway</b>, the former shetland capital.</p> <p>visit <b>scalloway castle</b>, built in 1600 by the pompous tyrant earl patrick stewart by way of forced labor, oppression, extortion, and outrageous taxation of the poor. in completely unrelated news, patrick and his equally unpopular son were later beheaded. scalloway castle was eventually used as the administrative center for shetland and as a barracks for oliver cromwell's troops (1650s). you will see that, although the original tower house has been restored, the surrounding walls and buildings are gone. a spiral staircase provides access to rooms in the south wing of the castle, part of which is open to visitors.</p> <p>the <b>scalloway museum</b> houses a special shetland bus exhibit, depicting the village's unique role in world war ii. the story of the shetland bus goes back to the german</p>	<p>occupation of norway resulting in a stream of refugees heading to shetland. norwegians began training with units of the british armed forces, knowing that there were thousands of norwegian servicemen hiding in their own country who needed only arms and communications to become an effective underground movement. it's a great story.</p> <p>stop to visit <b>carol's ponies</b>. carol breeds top-quality animals and is a true enthusiast. she, or a member of her staff, will be delighted to share with you their knowledge of these hardy beasts.</p> <p>passing through peat- and heather-covered landscapes, you'll begin the return journey to lerwick. snap some photos of the spectacular vistas of many of the islands that make up the shetland archipelago and hear more about shetland's culture and heritage from your local guide.</p> <p><b>notes:</b></p> <p>wear comfortable walking shoes.</p>			
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# Copenhagen, Denmark - Tuesday, August 14, 2018: The *Little Mermaid* greets you at the harbor. At its center is Tivoli, whose gardens, lakes and fountains are said to have inspired Walt Disney.

## Copenhagen Private Touring - Half Day (Car)



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 4 hours - Price is per vehicle, not per person.  
See additional NOTES below.  
Price \$1,399.00



Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide at your service. This exclusive tour is designed to allow you the chance to customize your time ashore and discover the most interesting sights in the comfort and privacy of your own vehicle. With your private vehicle, and the personalized attention of your English-speaking guide, you will have the flexibility and independence to design your itinerary ashore according to your own interests, and take in the sights at your own pace. See the famous sights, or go beyond to create your own intimate connections and unique cultural encounters. The Signature Collection is recommended for the single/solo traveler, couples, family, friends, and special interest groups traveling together. It can also be an excellent choice for guests with mobility limitations.

Capacity: 2 guests. Your private party may be of any size up to the maximum capacity.

### Notes:

Private cars are ordered per vehicle (not per person), so only one person in the party needs to order the vehicle. The price shown is the

total cost for the vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide. Entrance fees for attractions are not included. In many destinations, the number of vehicles available is extremely limited, so guests are encouraged to secure their private vehicle reservation as early as possible.

## Copenhagen Private Touring - Half Day (Minivan)



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 4 hours - Price is per vehicle, not per person.  
See additional NOTES below.  
Price \$1,599.00



Explore at your own pace with a private vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide at your service. This exclusive tour is designed to allow you the chance to customize your time ashore and discover the most interesting sights in the comfort and privacy of your own vehicle. With your private vehicle, and the personalized attention of your English-speaking guide, you will have the flexibility and independence to design your itinerary ashore according to your own interests, and take in the sights at your own pace. See the famous sights, or go beyond to create your own intimate connections and unique cultural encounters. The Signature Collection is recommended for the single/solo traveler, couples, family, friends, and special interest groups traveling together. It can also be an excellent choice for guests with mobility limitations.

Capacity: 6 guests. Your private party may be of any size up to the maximum capacity.

### Notes:

Private minivans are ordered per vehicle (not per person), so only one person in the party needs to order the vehicle. The price shown is the total cost for the vehicle, driver and English-speaking guide. Entrance fees for attractions are not included. In many destinations, the number of vehicles available is extremely limited, so guests are encouraged to secure their private vehicle reservation as early as possible.

## Dragor Fishing Village with Airport Transfer



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 3 Hours  
Adult \$129.95; Child \$69.95

This scenic tour will take you to **Dragoer** -- one of Denmark's oldest and quaintest fishing villages. This exceptionally well-preserved town owes its lovely ambience to the fact that conservation work was started very early here, way back in 1934. In 1978, Dragoer became Denmark's first pedestrian-only town. This was quite avant-garde at the time.

Follow your guide on a leisurely **stroll** through the narrow cobblestone streets of historic Dragoer village to the quiet harbor, where the clear waters of the Baltic Sea invite you dip a toe in. Don't miss the fantastic view of the Oresund Bridge connecting Denmark

and Sweden -- a stunning juxtaposition of old and new.

Take advantage of some **free time** to explore the village on your own, or perhaps to visit some of the small **shops** that line the main street.

A **snack** of coffee or tea and a Danish **pastry** will be served at the waterfront hotel before you return to Copenhagen.

### Notes:

Participants must be able to walk for about an hour on uneven surfaces and cobblestones. Wear comfortable walking shoes. This tour is available only to guests whose cruise ends in Copenhagen and with flights after 2pm.

## Wonderful Copenhagen with Airport Transfer



Departs: 8:30 AM  
Approximately 3 hours  
Adult \$99.95; Child \$39.95

Copenhagen is one of the most fascinating cities in the Baltic region, and on this **panoramic introduction** to the Danish Capital you will see close to 850 years of recorded history.

From the coach, watch for City Hall. The mile-long Stroeg pedestrian street, brimming with shops, boutiques and cafés, connects City Hall Square with the King's New Square.



See world-famous Tivoli Gardens, founded back in 1843, offering a wealth of flowers, restaurants and entertainment.

Pass the Glyptotek Art Museum and Christiansborg Palace -- home of the Danish Parliament and the Queen's Reception rooms. You will see the old Stock Exchange building in Dutch Renaissance style, with its spire of entwined dragon tails. Drive through the colorful canal area of Nyhavn -- once a grubby sailors' quarter consisting of bars offering entertainment of questionable taste, but now perhaps the most charming part of Copenhagen, with brightly colored houses stretching along the canal.

View Amalienborg -- the royal winter residence with its four identical rococo palaces and octagonal palace square -- and say hello to the world-famous **statue of the Little Mermaid** who watches over Copenhagen Harbor at Langelinie.

You will drive by Rosenborg Castle before you transfer to Copenhagen Airport.

**Notes:**

This tour is available on select sailings only and only to guests whose cruise ends in Copenhagen, with flights departing after 2pm. If you have already purchased an airport transfer with your cruise booking, it will be refunded on board, as this excursion already includes a transfer.

# EXC Overland Packages & EXC Overnights

For those with a thirst for adventure as well as luxury cruising, we offer a selection of special EXC Overland Packages and EXC Overnights to take you deep into the heart of the lands we visit. Varying in length from two to several days, these tours will take you through breathtaking scenery and to historical sites that allow you to explore each region more thoroughly.

## Clothing

Comfortable, layered clothing and walking shoes are strongly recommended.

## Flights, Meals & Accommodation

As flight times have not been confirmed at the time this brochure was printed, some meals and visits to some attractions may be adjusted for your comfort and convenience, to accommodate the schedule. EXC Overland Packages and EXC Overnights include all meals (unless otherwise specified), transportation and overnight accommodations in the finest hotels available and are escorted by a member of Holland America Line's staff.

## Advance Bookings

We are increasingly aware that many discerning travelers are enthusiastic to participate in our comprehensive program of spectacular EXC Overland Packages and EXC Overnights. Because it is not always possible to guarantee space beyond the tours booking deadline on these exciting journeys, we earnestly encourage you to use the Holland America Line website well in advance to secure space on the overland or overnight experience

of your dreams. Space is limited! We suggest that you book early to avoid missing these truly enticing tours which have been arranged to give you an in-depth view of inland areas.

## Physical Limitations

Due to the in-depth nature of these tours, most areas are not accessible to wheelchairs.

## Luggage

Luggage must be limited to one small checked bag per person on EXC Overland Packages and EXC Overnights.

## Special Notes

- Wear comfortable footwear at all times
- Bring a lightweight sweater or jacket in case of cooler temperatures
- Book early. Capacity is limited on many EXC Overland Packages and EXC Overnights
- Book your EXC Overland Packages and EXC Overnights online at [hollandamerica.com](http://hollandamerica.com)

## Visas, Vaccinations & Tourist Cards

It is each guest's sole responsibility to obtain (before traveling) any visas, vaccinations and/or tourist cards that are required for participating in EXC Overland Packages and EXC Overnights, unless noted otherwise in the description. Please be aware that you may need a visa for any and/or all countries that you will depart from and travel through as part of your overland adventure or overnight tour, and for the country in which you will re-join the ship.

# General Information

## Tour Durations & Prices

The information in this brochure is designed to help you select the tours most suited to your interests. The individual tour descriptions include approximate durations. Prices can be found on our website at [hollandamerica.com](http://hollandamerica.com) and are quoted in U.S. funds. Prices are subject to change without notice. To allow the EXC Tours™ staff the flexibility to coordinate your time in port with meals and activities on the ship, exact departure times are published in the EXC Tours Planning Form on board. For more information, please attend the EXC Tours presentation or visit the EXC Desk.

## Tour Descriptions

Tour descriptions may change after printing. Information that becomes available after this brochure is published will be posted in the EXC Tours section of our website, which can be found online at [hollandamerica.com](http://hollandamerica.com). Significant changes will be noted on the EXC Tours Planning Form on board. Tour schedules are subject to change.

## Guides, Services & Transportation

In certain interesting, off-the-beaten-track places, professional guides and vehicles are at a premium. The best available are engaged. For all tours other than the Signature Collection, it is exceptional for drivers of public hire vehicles to speak any language but their own and it is not always possible to obtain air-conditioned buses or taxis in many ports. However, we do our utmost to find the very best packages for your touring pleasure. Guests who leave during a tour for which transportation is included must thereafter provide for their own transportation and services at their own expense. Transportation standards vary from country to country.