

The Land of "Fire & Ice" and geological wonders awaits your presence up close & personal on this amazing island. Iceland, the name alone conjures images of cold, ice, even active volcano's and a barren yet, amazingly beautiful landscape. Don't be fooled, this island nation has 330,000 happy residents that are waiting patiently to show us their unique & beautiful island.

Make plans now and input June 2-11, 2018 on your travel calendar to secure your spot on this *Fine Travel Experience* to Iceland. 9 nights and 10 days of nature's best handy-work. As with all FTE programs, space is limited due to the size of the boutique hotels and only so many hotels to choose from with this itinerary.

Many of the sites we will visit have challenging Icelandic & Nordic origin names so bear with me, I will name them here in the itinerary however, the proper pronunciation will come with our local Icelandic guide, Petra, once there. A true Icelander with encyclopedic knowledge of her island providing us with a wonderful educational program not only with the Nordic language, but the long history and Saga's of the island itself. From the Vikings to the current day hearty souls that stay yearround. Join us on this beautiful early summer program we have planned. We welcome you with open arms.



Your |celandic Experience |tinerary;

## Arrival Day Saturday June 2, 2018 – Welcome to Reykjavik, Iceland

Arrival this morning into Keflavik – You will be met at the airport by Michael and fellow staff just outside baggage claim once through customs & immigration. Depending upon your respective arrival time, we will either transfer into Reykjavik city center or with the main group to the Hotel Budir on the western Peninsula. Settle in, relax, enjoy a walk or short hike around the area. Pending the group arrival time, we may have brief sightseeing plans for today or simply relaxing on the hotel grounds. This evening Introduce and reacquaint yourself with your fellow travelers at the welcome reception and included dinner this evening. We are here at Hotel Budir for 2 nights (R, D)



The glorious view from Hotel Budir

Day 2 – Sunday June 3,

This morning we're off to Snaefellsnes National Park to see Budir Beach and the Hellnar cliffs. Whilst on the coast, and a short hike away, visit Djupalonssandur beach with its unique black pearl stones. We also visit Arnarstapi harbour, one of Iceland's most naturally beautiful and unique. Bring your camera and your walking stick, you'll want to absorb all of this today.

(B)

#### Day 3 - Monday June 4,

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast in the hotel this morning followed by the largest hot spring, Deildartunguhver. Hraunfosser is on tap after the hot springs, a unique waterfall. Pingvellir National park including where the two continental plates come together at the base of the highlands.

This evening we land in the village of Hveragerdi famous for its geothermal activity eventually taking us into the *Frost & Fire Hotel* for 4 nights where perhaps an evening soak in the natural hot springs is in order. Dinner is on your own this evening at the hotel.



Day 4 - Tuesday, June 5, A soft mattress-like bed of moss grows on lava fields

After breakfast this morning, it's Gullfoss, the most popular waterfall in Iceland, it's easy to understand why. In route back, the Old faithful of Iceland, Geysir, is worth a quick stop. It was the first geyser described in a printed source and the first known to modern Europeans. Scientists believe this geyser has been erupting for 10,000 years. This afternoon, we take advantage of the healing waters of Fontana Geothermal Baths. Take time to soak in the warm pools & healing waters. There are several pools of varying temperatures including the traditional jump into the lake! Jump in like a local Icelander, then come back into a nice warm pool. Bring your "spa suit" and a towel along today. This evening we are back to the Frost & Fire Hotel to relax and enjoy a marvelous dinner. (B, L, D)



Hotel Budir – Western Peninsula

#### Day 5 – Wednesday June 6 –

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel.

Today we dive into Icelandic history with a visit to Pjorsardur. This area is rich with ruins of former Vikings and is also known as the "Pompei of Iceland". The former Viking stronghold, called "Stong" is said to have been completely wiped out by a volcanic eruption in 1104. The Stong Farm was excavated in 1939 and has been rebuilt and resurrected to its original form. While in the area of the island, we take the opportunity to see the glorious Haifoss Waterfall, one of Iceland's highest and most impressive! Another great day in Iceland. (B, L)



#### Day 6 – Thursday June 7

Following breakfast in the hotel, we start our day with a view of the south coast of the Iceland and the 12<sup>th</sup> century Strandarkirkja Church, often referred to as the 'miracle church' with the locals' longstanding belief that it has profound & divine powers. The church has been a beacon for sailors traveling at sea for centuries. Travel to Krysuvik, hot springs, a large geothermal area in the middle of the fissure zone on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge which traverses Iceland. Afterwards, walk across the bridge between two continents and visit the site of Iceland's ancient Parliament, *Althing. Althing* is the oldest Parliament in the world-established as an outdoor assembly and used until the year 1800 and subsequently moved to Reykjavik (B)

#### Day 7 – Friday June 8

Today is yet, another interesting and educational day beginning with a south coast drive to Klastur with a visit to Skogafoss waterfall, one of the widest and largest in the country complete with a local Viking legend to go along with it. We also drive across one of Iceland's largest lava fields. The Skaftahraun lava flow in Iceland dates back to 1783. Stop and see a quick film of the latest eruption and its after-effects. Since August 2014, the lava has gushed from fissures just north of Iceland's largest glacier in Vatnajokull National Park and has spread over 32 square miles. We end our day at the Isolated yet lovely, Glacier Lagoon hotel. (B)



#### Day 8 – Saturday June 9

Enjoy a hearty breakfast in the hotel prior to leaving for the day to Vatnajokull National Park. Today we hike on a living & breathing glacier for those seeking a little more adventure while here. Visit 2 glacier lagoons including infamous "Diamond Beach". A Zodiac tour through the lagoon is an option as well. Return to the Glacier Lagoon hotel this afternoon for the final night just outside the park. Dinner is on your own this evening at the hotel. (B)

## Day 9 - Sunday June 10

Take your time with a leisurely breakfast in the hotel this morning prior to the drive to Reykjavik for our final night on the Iceland Island. In Route to Reykjavik, we make a few sight-seeing stops including the wonderful Skogar Museum. Spend the late afternoon exploring the sites of Reykjavik prior to our farewell dinner this evening at Skolabrú Restaurant to celebrate our Icelandic Experience. This evening transfer to Keflavik Hotel for those returning home the following morning. (B, D)

## Day 10 – Monday June 11, 2018

Breakfast is served in the restaurant this final morning prior to your transfer to Keflavik airport for the return flight home. For those wishing to extend their stay in Reykjavik, you are on your own to enjoy various adventures in and around the city. End of FTE Services

# Included in your *[celandic [ xperience* program:

- > Airport meet & greet by Mike & Staff upon arrival into Keflavik airport
- Transfer immediately into Reykjavik or with the remainder of the group directly to Hotel Budir
- Welcome reception and dinner in the Hotel Budir on arrival day
- > All hotel porterage/luggage handling on arrival and departure from each hotel
- > Various lunch & dinner meals listed in the itinerary above
- > All breakfasts each morning throughout the program
- > Farewell dinner on final evening in Reykjavik
- Local beer & house wine with included dinners (1 each)
- Professional and knowledgeable English speaking local Icelandic guide to accompany the group throughout the program
- All sightseeing activities as outlined in the itinerary, all entrance fees, and guided tours, museums, etc.
- Glacier Hiking equipment
- All coach travel/transportation in modern coach 20 seat mini coach specifically designed for touring Iceland.
- > Free time on your own to sightsee, explore, or relax in the hotel
- > Gratuities for porterage, included restaurant meals
- Veteran Travel Director/Tour Leader, Michael Jensen, to accompany and oversee all aspects of the program from beginning to end

## Not included in your *[celandic [ xperience* program:

- Your round-trip flight inbound & outbound to Reykjavik, Iceland
- Any excess baggage fees/airline fees-imposed by airlines
- Passport fees & taxes

- Gratuities to our guide & coach driver (Petra), restaurant servers, other guides, etc.
- Hotel upgrades/suite upgrades (please advise early for possible upgrades)
- Added or extra hotel nights outside of scheduled program dates in Reykjavik
- Transfer costs outside of scheduled program dates
- Personal amenities such as, phone calls, laundry, personal meals/room service, alcoholic beverages not listed in "included in program".
- US and Iceland Medical services, Hospital stays or emergency evacuations
- Personal travel insurance (recommended please inquire)

# Price per-person based on both single & double occupancy \$ 5619

For further program details & reserving your seat, please contact: Michael Jensen at: (702) 245 0301 or via email <u>finetravelexperience@gmail.com</u> or see online, <u>www.finetravelexperience.com</u>

Reserving your space on the Icelandic Experience

- A deposit of \$1000 per-person is required to secure your space. Please contact <u>Michael Jensen</u> to receive your initial reservation documents via email. Accepted and preferred forms of deposit payment are; <u>personal check</u>, Visa, Master, Discover card and Paypal. If submitting deposit via personal check, please make payable to: *Michael Jensen* and return along with the necessary registration forms via usps mail, fax, or email.
- Credit card & Paypal payments will be assessed an additional 2.5% fee to offset bank card processing fees
- Payment schedule will be listed on your reservation application. Optional & flexible payment plans are accepted. Please note, final payment will be due 30 days prior to program start date of June 2, 2018

This tour program is operated by "Fine Travel Experiences" also known as; <u>Inthewindmi.llc</u>, a private Tour Company located in Las Vegas, Nevada partnering with third party vendors in Reykjavik, Iceland



#### Tour note:

This program requires significant outdoor walking and light hiking to waterfalls, glaciers, coastal areas and various sites listed in the itinerary. Hiking shoes/boots are highly recommend as well as proper attire for wind & rain. Water/weather proof shoes & outter clothing including hats should be considered standard wear. Iceland weather patterns can be unpredictable and change rapidly. In early June the temperatures should hover in the low to mid 50's to 60 degrees with slightly cooler evenings. In early June the sun is high in the sky bringing long days with daylight lasting all night long. It will not get completely dark during our stay. All hotels have black-out curtains for sleeping.

Tour schedule may change however, slightly. Any changes to the itinerary will be for the benefit of the program and schedule. We will see all destinations & sites listed above during the program as well as bonus sites not listed.



# Fine Travel Experiences

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