

WOMEN OF THE MIDWEST

Travel Solo Together

CO | IA | KS | MN | MO | NE

ICELAND

with Women of the Midwest

September 13-20, 2024



Dear Women of the Midwest,

Join me on a magical journey to a magical island, Iceland!

Just a bit smaller than Kentucky, it's a thrilling destination for nature enthusiasts like me (the photo below is from my first trip to Iceland), outdoor lovers, and those just seeking the unexpected, set in soul-stirring scenery. You will also find the world's most northern capital city with the friendliest people you will ever encounter, making this trip even more joyful.

Our journey goes to an island anchored near the top of the globe, with a raw beauty sculpted by its volcanic nature. Rumbling ice-covered volcanoes, black sandy beaches, gigantic glaciers silently gnawing away at mountains, crystal clear lagoons speckled with glistening icebergs, gurgling hot springs, explosive geysers, fields punctuated with stoic Viking horses and long-haired sheep, thunderous waterfalls adorned with absurdly perfect rainbows, and ever-changing light. Wonders only experienced in Iceland!

We will listen to the stories of the Northern Gods and Goddesses, learn about Norse mythology, taste delicious and original local products, take an unforgettable journey into the heart of a glacier, a man-made ice cave, and have the opportunity to swim in the Blue Lagoon.

And Icelandic wool is something you will want to take a closer look at. It contains two different types of hair that serve as a natural barrier to wet and cold weather. The outer layer comprises coarse, long hair, which Icelanders call "tog." The tough and fleecy tog is a water-resistant layer. Consider taking some home with you; let's have fun shopping for wool!

What an adventure, what an awe-inspiring destination! Follow your instinct and join me, solo or two-by-two. Let's explore this gorgeous island.

Sincerely yours,

Lora Black,

Ambassador, Women of the Midwest



Call Executive Travel's Group Department today at 402-435-8888. Space is limited.

Ice & Fire!



September 13, 2024 - Friday Traveling to Iceland

Iceland is a place you must see to believe! Our adventure begins as we take an overnight flight to Reykjavik. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service as you travel to this very special destination.

September 14, 2024 - Saturday Reykjavik

Upon our early arrival at Reykjavik airport, we will meet our English-speaking tour guide, who will follow us throughout our journey. We are off on a short drive to Reykjavik to be introduced to this cute town. We make our way to Hallgrímskirkja, a Lutheran church and one of the highest structures in Iceland. The elevator will take us to the top to get the best views of the world's most northern capital. Soak in the colorful houses, blue waters, and mountains in the distance. Next, we stroll at our own pace down the bustling shopping street Laugavegur and make a stop for lunch at a local restaurant. We continue our walking tour along the lovely city lake Tjörnin before making our way to the Harpa Concert Hall by the water. We finish our tour by visiting the Sólarið ("Sun Voyager") sculpture. It is time to check into our hotel, relax, and unwind for the remainder of the day. L

September 15, 2024 - Sunday Into the Glacier

After a hearty breakfast, we are off to a

Icelandic Rye Bread



once-in-a-lifetime experience. We start the journey from Reykjavik and head towards the beautiful fjord of Hvalfjörður. Hvalfjörður means "Whale Fjord" because of the large number of whales in the surrounding waters. We will stop at the hot spring Deildartunguhver. Deildartunguhver churns out 180 liters of boiling water per second (a rate of flow that tops all other European hot springs). Some of the water from the hot spring is used for heating purposes and is piped to nearby villages. We arrive in Husafell, and our adventure leading us to the untouched beauty and raw nature of Langjökull, Iceland's second-largest glacier, begins. You will receive crampons to tie onto your shoes or boots. Next, we board a modified glacier vehicle to explore the glacier environment and enjoy the views as we drive on the top of the ice cap. Our specialist guide will teach us all about glaciers before going deep inside the man-made ice tunnels leading to the blue heart of the glacier. This is truly one of the many highlights of the journey. Lunch is served at a local restaurant before heading to our beautiful hotel in Grímsborgir, one of the best hotels Iceland offers. En route, we stop at Hraunfossar and Barnafoss waterfalls. Camera out; these falls are stunning! After a wonderful day, we will arrive at our hotel in time for a delicious dinner. Enjoy the outdoor hot tubs; you may catch the Northern Lights! Off to bed for a good night's rest. B | L | T | D

Seljalandsfoss Waterfall



September 16, 2024 - Monday Golden Circle

After breakfast, we embark on a full-day tour of the Golden Circle, a route home to some of Iceland's most beautiful natural attractions. We make our way to visit the UNESCO-listed Thingvellir National Park, the site of a magnificent rift valley where the historical and geological wonders of the American and Eurasian tectonic plates are pulling apart at a rate of a few inches per year. It is clearly visible! This place is also the home of the largest natural lake in Iceland. Next, we will see the spectacular Gullfoss Waterfall before reaching the spouting geysers in the geothermally active valley of Haukadalur. Lunch is served in Geysir before we enjoy yet another taste of Iceland's local delicacies: the delicious rye bread, made in the old traditional way by baking it underground using the natural geothermal heat found in the area. On our way back to the hotel, we will stop and visit Fridheimar Green House to learn all about how to grow tomatoes in Iceland. A soul-warming Bloody Mary is served before we depart this special place. We return to our hotel in time for dinner. Enjoy a spa treatment tonight (optional) or simply relax, taking in the stunning views of the surrounding nature.

B | L | T | D

September 17, 2024 - Tuesday Southern Tour

After enjoying breakfast, we will tour the

Wool for Everyone!



southern part of Iceland. Our views today will include farmlands, glaciers, volcanoes, and waterfalls. We will pass from the volcano Hekla and the glacier-volcano Eyjafjallajökull, which erupted in 2010, causing enormous disruption to air travel and affecting ten million travelers. Reaching the southern coast, we will see the Westman Islands rise from the sea. We will stop at the black beach of Reynisfjara, and you will witness the spectacular basalt columns at the hillside and the characteristic rock pillars - a nesting place for puffins and other seabirds during the summer season. You will have the opportunity to walk the path of the Seljalandsfoss waterfall, passing behind the falling waters. Another impressive waterfall is Skogafoss. You will feel the power being released in a spray cloud once the water hits the pool at the bottom. Lunch is served at a local restaurant today, and dinner is at our wonderful hotel. Yet another day of "cameras out"; the photography opportunities are exceptional! B | L | D

September 18, 2024 - Wednesday Lava Tunnel, Blue Lagoon

After breakfast, we head towards a very special lava tunnel. We will walk inside the tunnel (you decide how far and deep you wish to go) while listening to stories about the Thunder God Thor and some interesting Norse mythology. Thor played an essential role in Icelanders' beliefs, and the

Reynisfjara Beach



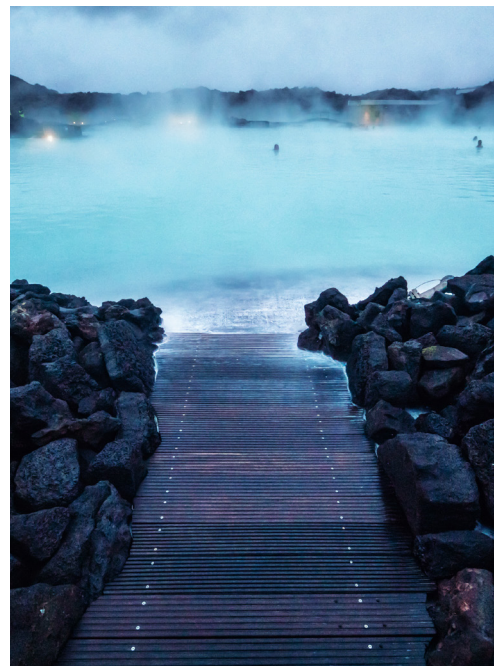
influence of the Pagan religion is evident in many location names spread far and wide across the country. Next, you will be mesmerized by the most extraordinary geological wonders and again witness some of the most dramatic and spectacular scenery at Gunnhverfium fumarole and the "bridge between continents" on our way back to Reykjavik. Lunch is served at a local restaurant. Our last stop today is at the world-famous Blue Lagoon to enjoy a relaxing afternoon. Located on an old lava field, it is considered one of the 25 Wonders of the World. Being a natural geothermal spa, the warm sea waters are rich in minerals and silica, which gives the water its mesmerizing bright blue appearance. You can enjoy a swim and a free mud mask from the "Mud Bar," and you can order drinks on your electronic entrance wristband once in the water. What's not to love?! In the afternoon, we arrive in Reykjavik to check into our hotel. The evening is yours to enjoy this charming city.

B | L

September 19, 2024 - Thursday Reykjavik - Viking Feast

A day at leisure to explore more of Reykjavik and everything this city has to offer. Don't miss the local hotdog stands and the delicious bakeries; the cinnamon rolls are the best in the world! A special Viking Feast farewell dinner will be enjoyed, including special Icelandic

The Blue Lagoon



shots! A good night's rest awaits!

B | D

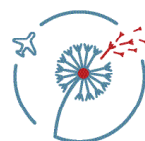
September 20, 2024 - Friday Perlan - Return Home

Breakfast at leisure before we pack our bags, load our motorcoach, and head out for our last visit to yet another special place: the interactive Perlan Museum. The Perlan Museum, with its rotating glass dome, stands on top of a hill in Reykjavik, surrounded by a forest. It is one of the capital's most distinctive landmarks. Your ticket includes visiting the Planetarium show, observation deck, and ice cave experience. In the early afternoon, we will transfer to Reykjavik airport in plenty of time to check in for our flight and to clear security. You may wish to do some last-minute shopping at the duty-free stores before boarding and flying west across the Atlantic Ocean back to the United States. B

Itinerary is subject to change.

Sunrise in September: 7 AM
Sunset in September: 8 PM

B = Breakfast L = Lunch
T = Tasting D = Dinner



WOMEN OF THE MIDWEST
Travel Solo Together
CO | IA | KS | MN | MO | NE



To register contact:

ExecutiveTravel

1212 O Street • Lincoln, NE 68508

Phone: 402-435-8888 (ask for Group Department)

Fax: 402-435-2735

GroupDepartment@executivetravel.com

www.executivetravel.com

ONLINE REGISTRATION LINK:

Via our website www.WomenoftheMidwest.com/journeys

Package Price:

Per person in shared double room: \$4,795
Per person in a single room: \$5,995*

Triple rooms are not available.

We offer "Pair & Share" service for our Solo travelers. Ask us to assist in finding your roommate!

A non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person is required upon signing up. The deposit can be paid by cash, check, or credit card. The balance is due on May 16, 2024, is non-refundable, and can be paid by cash or check. Credit card payment (any payments after the deposit) will access a 3.5% processing fee.

EARLY BIRD BONUS - ZERO CREDIT CARD FEES:

Pay for your tour in full upon registration and minimum six months prior to departure using your credit card!

SAVE 3.5%!

This tour will be materialized with a minimum of 15 and a maximum of 22 travelers. Should the number fall below 15, all funds paid to Executive Travel will be refunded 90 days prior to departure.

Tour Activity Level: LEVEL 1 2 3 4

This tour involves a considerable amount of walking, stairs, longer periods of standing, outdoor activities, and steep areas within the places visited. This trip is not recommended for guests with walking difficulties. Comfortable, sturdy shoes/boots are recommended.

Travel Insurance:

We recommend travel insurance to help protect you and your trip investment against the unexpected. For your convenience, we offer a plan provided by Travelex Insurance Services. For rates and plan highlights, please ask us.

Travelex Insurance Services, Inc CA Agency License #0D10209. Travel Insurance is underwritten by Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company, NAIC #22276.

Group airfare:

Group airfare becomes available by the end of October 2023. All registered travelers will be notified.

Accommodations:

- Centerhotel Plaza, Reykjavik, or similar.
- Grimsborgir, Golden Circle, or similar.

Final accommodations will be confirmed 90 days prior to departure.

Included:

- 6 nights accommodation
- 6 x full breakfast
- 5 lunches
- 4 dinners
- Greenhouse visit and tasting
- Rye bread baking and tasting
- All transportation as per tour program with private deluxe motorcoach
- Porterage at hotels (1 suitcase per person)
- Professional English-speaking tour director during all days in Iceland
- Entrance fee to all mentioned sites
- Women of the Midwest Ambassador from day 1 through day 8
- All local taxes as of September 12, 2023

Excluded:

- Airfare and additional baggage fees
- Travel insurance
- Professional fees, \$75 per person due at the time of registration
- Gratuities (estimate a total of \$12-15 per person, per day)
- Personal expenses
- Meals other than mentioned in the tour program
- Entrance fees to monuments and/or museums other than mentioned
- Anything not mentioned in the inclusions



WOMEN OF THE MIDWEST

Travel Solo Together

CO | IA | KS | MN | MO | NE

A wholly-owned division of Executive Travel

Forwarding registration and deposit signifies that you agree to the terms and conditions found at executivetravel.com/eti-home/vacation/escorted-tours

Call Executive Travel's Group Department today at 402-435-8888. Space is limited.

9/12/2023

GROUP AIRFARE!

We have secured seats and offer group airfare with Delta Airlines and Icelandair:

September 13, 2024	Omaha* - Minneapolis	10:55 AM - 12:13 PM
September 13, 2024	Minneapolis - Reykjavik	7:25 PM - 6:35 AM (September 14, 2024)
September 20, 2024	Reykjavik - Minneapolis	4:45 PM - 6:10 PM
September 20, 2024	Minneapolis - Omaha*	9:35 PM - 10:40 PM

\$1,450 per person including taxes and fees, economy class.

*Ask us for airfare from a different hometown/state (a small difference in pricing may occur).

Two airline tickets will be issued and all checked baggage must be claimed at Minneapolis airport and re-checked with Icelandair on September 13. On the return, September 20, checked baggage must be claimed at Minneapolis airport and re-checked with Delta Airlines for the domestic part of your journey.

Delta Airlines: Baggage fees are not included on the domestic part of your journey. Expect \$40 for your checked bags.

Icelandair allows one free checked bag up to 50 lbs. per person, additional checked bags will be charged \$95 per bag. Baggage fees are subject to change.

Both airlines allow one free carry-on bag. Details will follow in your travel documents handed out approximately three weeks prior to departure.

Delta Airlines, seat assignments:

Group airfare comes with seat assignments 30 days prior to departure. Executive Travel/Women of the Midwest cannot confirm precise seat numbers earlier than 30 days prior to your departure and therefore cannot guarantee the availability of specific seating on the aircraft. We do our best to honor your preferences (window, aisle seat).

Icelandair, seat assignments:

Upgrades are based on availability and we are happy to assist with a quote for Saga Class seating. Please note, Icelandair is not a member of any alliance, thus you will not be able to use or gain frequent flier miles. Contact us if you have any questions, certain exceptions may exist.

Non-alcoholic beverages are offered free by both airlines. A snack is offered by Delta Airlines and snacks/food are available for purchase on board Icelandair.

SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE!