

Iceland: Ring Road Tour

September 10-20, 2026

Led By: Sue Kissinger and Heidi Einarsdottir



Continuing Education
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point





An Itinerary for Iceland: Ring Road Tour

September 10-20, 2026

Embark on an unforgettable adventure along Iceland's famous Ring Road, a 1,322 km (820-mile) journey that circles the island and showcases its most breathtaking scenery—from thundering waterfalls and towering glaciers to volcanic landscapes, mountain passes, and dramatic fjords. This tour blends outdoor exploration, awe-inspiring geologic wonders, delicious Icelandic food and drink, and rich culture and folklore. You'll experience the classics of the Golden Circle, South Coast, and Reykjavík while also escaping the crowds to discover the stunning north and east.

Trip Leaders: Sue Kissinger and Heidi Einarsdottir

Trip is limited to 23 people.

Wednesday, September 9, 2026 - Departure

- Depart US and fly overnight to arrive in Keflavík (KEF), Iceland very early Thursday morning to begin your adventure (flights **not** included).
 - *If you would like to arrive in Iceland a few days early or stay later, Heidi can assist you with that!*

Thursday, September 10, 2026 - Ease Into It!

- Heidi will meet us at the airport and take us to breakfast at Viking World Museum
- Tour **Pingvellir National Park**
 - A true Icelandic treasure and the heart of the Golden Circle. Pingvellir is a UNESCO World Heritage site that is the site of Iceland's ancient parliament, the Alþingi (one of the 1st democracies in the world!) and where the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates are visibly pulling apart.
- Lunch and tour of **Friðheimar Tomato Farm**
 - A unique tomato greenhouse and restaurant that grows its crops using geothermal energy. They also breed Icelandic horses so you will have the opportunity to learn about these amazing animals.
- Visit **Skálholt Cathedral**
 - Skálholt is one of Iceland's most historical places as the country brought christianity into the young nation.
- Stay overnight at Hotel Geysir
- Breakfast and lunch included, dinner on own.

Friday, September 11, 2026 - Geysirs and Foss

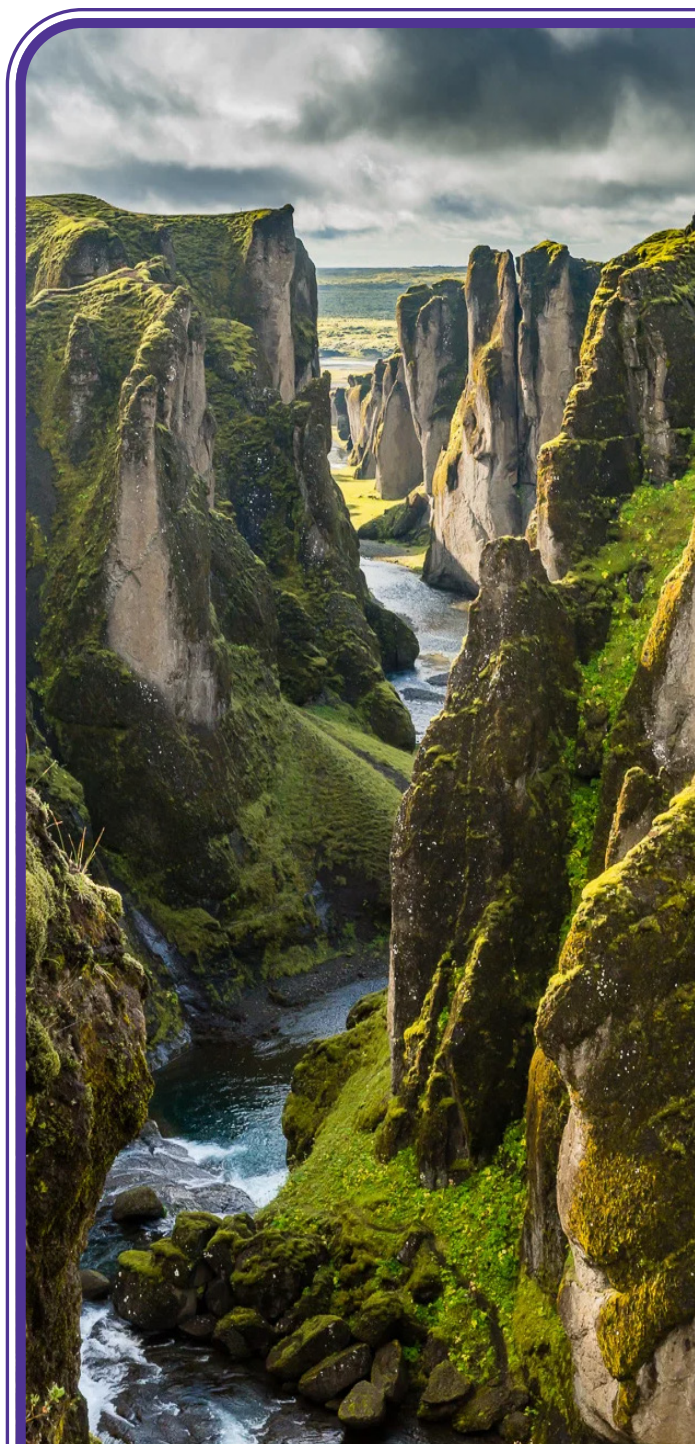
- Breakfast at hotel
- Tour the **Geysir Geothermal Area**
 - Witness the power of the geothermal activity in Iceland by walking through the paths at Geysir.
- Explore the beauty and power of **Gulfoss**, the Golden Waterfall
 - One of the most popular waterfalls in Iceland. Gullfoss is a two-tiered cascade that plunges into a narrow canyon creating a dramatic effect.
- Soak in ancient pools of **Hrunalaug**
 - The warm (100°F) geothermal, mineral rich, natural pools at Hrunalaug allow you to relax in the beauty of Icelandic nature. The original pool was built in 1890 and the farm has been in the same family since then.
- Stay overnight at Hotel Geysir
- Breakfast included, lunch and dinner on own.

Saturday, September 12, 2026 - Explore the South Coast

- Breakfast at hotel
- Hike behind the majestic, 200' tall **Seljalandsfoss**
- Explore (from above and below) the 197' **Skógafoss**
- Hike to **Kvernufoss**
 - A 97 foot gem hidden away in a magical gorge.
- Visit **Reynisfjara**
 - Also known as the Black Sand Beach, it is famous for its dramatic landscapes including basalt columns, sea stacks, and the Hálsanefshellir sea cave.
- Hike **Fjaðrárgljúfur Canyon** (1.5-2 miles)
 - A magnificent and massive canyon, about 300' deep that was carved by the River Fjaðrá.
- Stay overnight at Hotel Hunkubakkar
- Breakfast, lunch, and dinner included.

Sunday, September 13, 2026 - Glaciers!

- Breakfast at hotel
- Hike in **Skaftafell National Park** to Svartifoss (Black Falls)
 - A 1.8 mile hike to a stunning 60' waterfall that is beautifully framed by columnar basalt.
- **Jökulsárlón (Glacial Lagoon) Boat Tour**
 - Its breathtaking scenery, with blue icebergs, dramatic mountain backdrops, and abundant wildlife, makes it a must-see destination.
- Brewery tour and tasting at **Horn Brewery**.
- Stay overnight at Hotel Berjaya
- Breakfast and dinner included, lunch on own.



Monday, September 14, 2026 - East Coast Villages and Sites

- Breakfast at hotel
- Explore coastal villages including Djúpivogur, Stöðvarfjörður, Fáskrúðsfjörður, and Seyðisfjörður
- Tour **Petra's Stone Collection**
- Dinner on own
- Stay overnight in Egilsstaðir at Lake Hotel
- Breakfast, lunch, and dinner included.

Tuesday, September 15, 2026 - Jewels of the North

- Breakfast at hotel
- Hike in the stunning **Stuðlagil Canyon**
- Explore **Dettifoss**
 - The most powerful waterfall in Europe - wear your raincoats as you will get sprayed by the massive force! Optional hike to nearby Selfoss - a beautiful cascading falls.
- Explore **Mývatn** area
 - Hike Dimmuborgir
 - The unique geothermal and lava formations will make you feel like you've stepped into another world!
 - Check out the unique Skútustaðagígar pseudo craters
 - Explore Goðafoss
 - The god waterfall, an historically significant and stunning waterfall.
- Stay overnight in Akureyri - Hotel TBD
- Breakfast and lunch included, dinner on own.



Wednesday, September 16, 2026 - Beautiful Akureyri

- Breakfast at hotel
- Relax in the **Forest Lagoon**, one of the newest geothermal spas in Iceland
- Quick visit to **Jólahúsið** (the Christmas House)
- Free afternoon to explore Akureyri - optional activities include:
 - Akureyri Botanical Garden (free)
 - Akureyri Art Museum
 - Akureyri Swimming Pool
 - Nonnarus Museum
 - Whale Watching (several options)
- Stay overnight in Akureyri at Hotel TBD
- Breakfast included, lunch and dinner on own.

Thursday, September 17, 2026 - Sea Angling, Herring, and Beer

- Breakfast at hotel
- Morning of sea angling for cod on the North Atlantic with a tasty meal prepared on board (if you catch any fish)
- Guided tour of the **Herring Era Museum**
- Tour and tasting at the family owned **Segull 67 Brewery**
- Stay overnight at Hotel Siglunes
- Breakfast and lunch included, dinner on own.



Friday, September 18, 2026 - Heading South

- Breakfast at hotel
- Soak in the **Hofsós Swimming Pool**
- Hike to the top of the **Grábrók Crater** (*optional*)
- Free time to explore **Reykjavík**
- Stay overnight at Centers Hotel Plaza
- Breakfast included, lunch and dinner on own.

Saturday, September 19, 2026 - Explore Reykjavik

- Breakfast at hotel
- Reykjavík on Foot (free guided city tour with Heidi) (*optional*)
- Free Day to explore Reykjavik. Some options available:
 - Hallgrímskirkja
 - Sun Voyager sculpture
 - Harpa Concert Hall
 - Museums: Reykjavik Art Museum, Icelandic Phallicological Museum, Whales of Iceland Museum, National Museum of Iceland, National Gallery of Iceland
 - Sky Lagoon
 - Blue Lagoon
 - Fly Over Iceland
 - Shop on Laugavegur - the main shopping street!
 - Into the Glacier Tour
 - Inside the Volcano Tour
 - Snowmobiling on Glacier (several operators)
 - Snorkeling & Diving: Silfra Fissure at Þingviller NP (several operators)
- Stay overnight at Centers Hotel Plaza
- Breakfast included, lunch and dinner on own.

Sunday, September 20, 2026 - Departure Day

- Breakfast at hotel
- Tour of the Hellisheiði Power Station
- Farewell lunch
- Transportation to airport in Keflavik (KEF)
- Breakfast and lunch included.



Pricing

Registration Fee

Double occupancy rates: **\$7,900 per person**

***Registration closes March 13, 2026 (or sooner if filled)**

Payment Schedule:

\$450 deposit due at registration (*This fee is nonrefundable*)

\$3,725 is due on March 27, 2026

\$3,725 is due on May 29, 2026

*Since we make financial commitments in advance, no refunds will be issued for cancellations less than 90 days prior to the trip. Cancellations received more than 90 days before the trip will receive a full refund minus \$450. However, you may send a substitute in your place. Please email us at uwspceweb@uwsp.edu to inform us of a cancellation or substitution.

Price includes:

- 10 Nights Accommodations
- 11 breakfasts
- 6 lunches
- 3 dinners
- All In-Country Transportation (as listed in the itinerary)
- All Group Activities/Tours/Admission Fees/Equipment Rental (as listed in the itinerary)
- 1 UWSP Trip Leader
- 1 In-Country Icelandic Guide

UWSP Continuing Education does not provide travel insurance, medical, or emergency evacuation and thus you are 100% responsible for these expenses. Visit [Travel Insurance Review](#) to answer any of your travel insurance questions, get tips, and advice, or compare different providers.

Meet Your Trip Leaders



(Right) Sue Kissinger has traveled extensively throughout the United States, Canada, Central America, South Africa and Europe. She recently retired from UWSP where she worked for 30 years as a Career Specialist and Academic Adviser. Sue has a BS in Forestry and an MS in Natural Resources from UWSP. She has led 32 UWSP international trips for students and the public, including 12 to Iceland!

(Left) Heidi Einarsdottir was born and raised on a farm in South Iceland, and has been involved with the tourism industry in Iceland since 2005. For 6 years, Heidi worked in various fields of tourism at Visit Reykjavík, fostering international relationships, as Service Manager at the National Museum of Iceland and Regional Sales Manager for FlyOver Iceland. She loves to guide groups to every corner of Iceland, sharing her love for her home!

