

Private Trek – Craig Coppola

Iceland

5th – 12th September

2 pax

Rough itinerary:

B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner

Day 1: Arrive to Iceland. Drive to Reykjavík airport. Helicopter to Skógar. Hike to Þórsmörk. Camp. L,D.

Day 2: Hike from Þórsmörk to Álftavatn. Camp. B,L,D.

Day 3: Hike from Álftavatn to Landmannalaugar. Camp. B,L,D.

Day 4: Hike from Landmannalaugar to Landmannahellir. Drive to Hvítárnes. Camp. B,L,D.

Day 5: Hike from Hvítárnes to Þjófadalir. Camp. B,L,D.

Day 6: Hike from Þjófadalir to Hveravellir. Drive to Reykjavík via Golden Circle. Hotel Radison Blu 1919. B,L.

Day 7: Free day in Reykjavík. Hotel Radison Blu 1919. B.

Day 8: Depart from Iceland. B.

Flights:

Monday 5th September – arriving at 9:05 am

Monday 12th September – depart 8:30 am

Price:

1.978.000 total

This includes: a mountain guide from day 1-6, all transportation, helicopter from Reykjavík to Skógar, all meals and snacks from days 1-5 (except breakfast on day 1 and dinner on day 6), breakfast on day 7 & 8, camping fees and gear, hotel in Reykjavík (2 nights).

Detailed itinerary:

Day 1 – 5th September.

When you arrive to Keflavík airport, your guide will meet you there. We'll drive for about 40 min to Reykjavík airport, where we'll catch the helicopter that will take us Baldvinsskáli hut mid way on Fimmvörðuháls trail, that starts at Skógar and ends in Þórsmörk. The distance between Baldvinsskála hut to Þórsmörk is approx. 14 km. At the top of Fimmvörðuháls pass, we can explore the volcanic site from the eruption of 2010, located between Eyjafjallajökull and Mýrdalsjökull glaciers. The craters are called Magni and Móði, named after the sons of Thor. From the the craters we start descending down to Þórsmörk Glacier valley, where will find our camp site for the night. L,D.

Day 2 – 6th September.

From Þórsmörk we start hiking the Laugavegur trail after breakfast. The first part of the day is between Þórsmörk and Emstrur. On the way we walk through Almenningar area and underneath the characteristic mountain Einhyrningur. Couple of rivers need to be crossed on this day. The distance of this part is about 15 km. The next part of the day is between Emstrur and Álftavatn. On this part of the trek we will see the Markarfljótsgljúfur canyon, carved by the glacier river and the flat top Hattfell volcano. We will walk through a black sand desert of Mælifellssandur before we reach Hvanngil hut. Just a couple of km further we reach our next camp site at Lake Álftavatn. This part is about 15 km and involves crossing three rivers. The total length of the day is about 30 km. B,L,D.

Day 3 – 7th September.

After breakfast, we start hiking from Álftavatn to Landmannalaugar, this is the most difficult part of the Laugavegur trail, because it involves the most ascending, about 490 meters. Soon after we start, we cross a small stream before ascending to Jökultungur area. At the top of Jökultungur, we'll find the highest point of the trek at Hrafninnusker hut, one of the most remote hut in Iceland. From Hrafninnusker we continue to Landmannalaugar, which is surrounded by colorful mountains. We'll pass Stórhver hot spring as we start descending into Landmannalaugar. We'll walk alongside Mt. Brennisteinsalda and Laugarhraun Lava field. When we arrive into Landmannalaugar,

we can have a well earned bath in Landmannalaugar hot springs. We'll camp for the night at Landmannalaugar. The total distance of the day is about 22 km. B,L,D.

Day 4 – 8th September.

The hiking distance from Landmannalaugar to Landmannahellir is about 16,5 kilometres long. It starts at 590 meters above sea level and ends at the same level. First the rugged Laugahraun lava field is crossed, then the small alluvial plain, Vondugilsaurar, to the right along the western edge of the lava field. From there, the trail ascends the ridge Uppgonguhryggur, where it continues over the highest point, 823 meters, to valley Domadalur. At Domadalshals it is possible to choose one of two possible trails, past the western side of lake Lifrarfjallavatn, and the northern side of lake Lodmundarvatn to Hellisfjall to the huts at Landmannahellir. At Landmannahellir, we'll get picked up, and driven to Hvítárnes. The drive is about 3.5 hours long. B,L,D.

Day 5 – 9th September.

We start our morning with a breakfast before we start the journey on the ancient Kjalvegur trail, the path between the North and the South. This trek starts from Hvítárnes hut, which offers breathtaking views of Langjökull glacier entering Hvítárvatn Lake. Via Þverbrekknamúli hut the trail takes you to the green valley of Þjófadalir (Valley of the Thief's). In Þjófadalir, we'll camp for the night. The distance that we cover for this day is approx. 32 km. B,L,D.

Day 6 – 10th September.

We will wake up in Þjófadalir, have breakfast and pack our gear. This is the last day of hiking and at the end of the trail a well earned hot spring bath awaits us at Hveravellir. After lunch break, we will get picked up and we head back to Reykjavík. On our way back to Reykjavík, we will drive the famous Golden Circle. Our first stop on the Golden Circle is magnificent Gullfoss Waterfall, where you can see how it drops into a deep canyon. Close by is our next stop is the Geysir hot spring, where you can see the geothermal water erupt from the ground reach up to 15-20 meters in the air, every 10 minutes. The final stop of the Golden Circle is the UNESCO site Þingvellir National Park. This is the site where Icelanders established their parliament back in 930 AD. It's also the location where the two tectonic plates of North America and Europe meet. From

Pingvellir to Reykjavík, there's about 40 min drive. We'll drop you at your hotel for the next two nights, Hotel Radison Blu 1919. B,L.

Day 7 – 11th September.

Free day in Reykjavík. Hotel Radison Blu 1919. B.

Day 8 – 12th September.

On this this day you will be picked up from your hotel at 5 am and taken to Keflavík airport.

Disclaimer:

All trips are undertaken on the responsibility of its participants. Arctic Adventures does not assume any responsibility for accidents which are caused by its customers or can be traced to their own actions. Participants may have to sign a waiver before undertaking all trips stating that they realize that all outdoor activities carry an inherit risk.

