

Vassar Travel Program

Educational Excursions for Alumnae/i, Family, and Friends

An Icelandic Interlude

March 20 - 24, 2014

Join fellow Vassar travelers for a long weekend escape to exotic Iceland. From steamy hot springs to top-notch spas, magnificent malls to art museums, this unique land is the perfect place to relax, recharge, and explore.

Reykjavik has a population of 170,000 and offers a unique mix of culture and local village roots. Where else can you explore the impressive Great Geysir, glaciers, magnificent waterfalls and icecaps, as well as a program of familiar city joys? The combination of remarkable natural features with art museums, theaters, an opera house, and a symphony orchestra offers a rejuvenating experience for all tastes and interests.

Legends say that the ancient gods themselves guided Iceland's first settler, Ingolfur Arnarson, to make his home in Reykjavik ("Smoky Bay"), named after the geothermal steam he saw. Today this geothermal energy heats homes and outdoor swimming pools throughout the city – a pollution-free energy source that leaves the air outstandingly fresh, clean and clear.

Dine on Icelandic specialties, including delicious seafood, ocean-fresh from the morning's catch; highland lamb; and unusual varieties of game. It's purely natural food imaginatively served to delight the most discerning of diners. Reykjavik is also renowned as one of Europe's hottest nightspots, where the action on the friendly pub and nightlife scene lasts right through the long winter nights.

The compact city places everything within your reach. With its long main streets and large Kringlan mall, Iceland's capital is a great place to shop, too – with a bonus of tax-free shopping for visitors! Be on the lookout not just for souvenirs (especially woollens and handicrafts) but also for stylish consumer goods and designer labels at competitive prices.

The cost of this itinerary, per person, double occupancy, is:

Boston or New York departure: **\$1910**
Single supplement: **\$290**

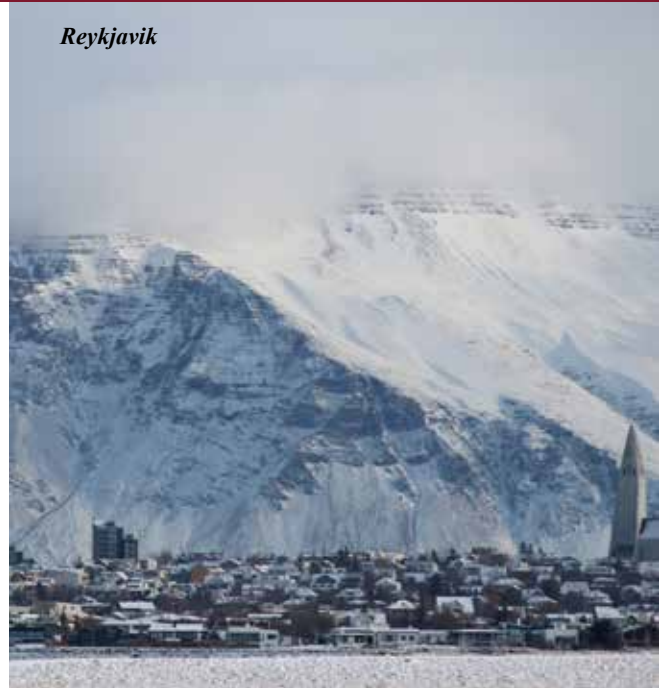
*Prices are available from many other departure cities.
Please call for details*

Inclusions:

- Airfare:** Roundtrip airfare from Boston or New York, including all customs fees and airport taxes.
Hotels: 3 nights' accommodation in a first-class hotel. All hotel taxes and service charges included.
Coaching: All ground transportation as detailed in the itinerary.
Meals: 4 breakfasts and 2 dinners.
Guides: Local guides for all sightseeing tours.
Expenses: Porterage of one large suitcase per person.
Entrances: Entrance fees to all sites as detailed in the itinerary.

Please Note: This trip departure is being shared with Smith College

Reykjavik



Take advantage also of optional tours for both traditional and offbeat attractions – including elf-spotting tours, Viking feasts, whale watching, horseback riding, lava fields, and a variety of sports and leisure activities. This Vassar alumni adventure offers the best of a guided tour plus time to explore on your own.



The Blue Lagoon



Day 1, Thursday March 20th

Evening departure from Boston or New York, JFK, Airports, aboard our direct Iceland Air service to Iceland.

Day 2, Friday March 21st

Early morning arrival in Iceland; we will be met at the airport and escorted to our hotel in Reykjavik. Most hotels know that Americans arrive early and will do everything possible to help you check in upon arrival. However, this may not always be possible and we may need to wait a bit for our rooms, but the hotel will assist us and make sure we are comfortable in the interim. This

afternoon we tour Reykjavik for a wonderful introduction to Europe's smallest capital city! The tour covers the Old Town, the shopping districts, the Parliament, Hofdi House, Hallgrim's church and much more! Dinner at a restaurant near the hotel this evening. **(B, D)**

Day 3, Saturday March 22nd

Today we capture the essence of Iceland - the Golden Circle tour. We see the majestic dual-folding Gullfoss waterfall and gaze upon the Great Geysir, which spouts steam with amazing force. We'll pass close by the Eyjafjalajokull Volcano, which recently caused so much chaos with European air traffic, and stop to peer into the watery depths of Keri volcanic crater. We'll enjoy a traditional Icelandic lobster feast at a local restaurant on our way back to the hotel. **(B, D)**



Day 4, Sunday March 23rd

A free day in Reykjavik. Explore the galleries and museums of the city, enjoy the tax-free shopping or pamper yourself in one of the many local spas. There will also be a variety of optional activities available; from taking a snowmobile safari to the top of a glacier, riding an Icelandic pony to going in search of the Northern Lights. **(B)**

Day 5, Monday March 24th

Today we take a brief tour of the exotic, moonlike Reykjanes peninsula. Our first visit is to Bessastadir, official estate for Iceland's President. Then we bathe in the renowned Blue Lagoon, an azure pool of mineral-rich warm water amid a lava field. There are wonderful facilities to shower and change at the site before we continue to the airport for our return flights to Boston or New York. **(B)**



Key to included meals: **B** = Breakfast, **L** = Lunch, **D** = Dinner



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Registration Form

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Please type or print.
2. Make checks payable to DISCOVER EUROPE, LTD.
3. Be sure to read the Terms & Conditions and the Refund Policy contained on the reverse before signing.
4. Complete both sides of this form.
5. Detach the bottom section and mail it to Discover Europe with your registration payment of \$500 per person. Keep the top section for your records.

DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Passenger Details:

- i). Name(s). Please make sure that your name appears on this form exactly as it does on your passport.
- ii). Address. If you have a different address, please let us have the details, including dates that you are there, on a separate sheet.
- iii). Passport Details. Having your passport details ahead of time enables Discover Europe to speed the check-in process at hotels and helps in the event of lost or stolen documents.
- iv). Dietary Requirements. Please let us know if you require any special meals both for the hotels and the airlines.
- v). Health Information. A certain amount of walking is involved in this trip. Check the itinerary with your physician to ensure a safe and comfortable journey. Travel-

ers requiring special assistance must be accompanied by a companion.

2. Emergency Contact:

This information is essential.

3. Independent Flight Arrangements.

If you are arranging your own flights, please provide your complete flight information, giving the following: dates of travel, airline(s), flight numbers, departure and arrival airports and departure and arrival times for all flight segments that you have booked. Transportation to and from the hotel for arrival and departure arrangements that are separate from the group can be made at an additional cost.

4. Rooming Requirements:

Please tick the appropriate boxes. We will book non-smoking rooms (where available) unless otherwise requested.

- i). If you are sharing a room, please let us know with whom. If you would like to share a room but do not have a roommate, we will be happy to try and match you up but unfortunately cannot guarantee that this will be possible. **If no match is available, the single supplement will apply.**
- ii). A twin room has two separate single beds in it. A double room has one large bed. Please let us know your preference.

1. Passenger Details:

Passenger Name(s): 1. _____

2. _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Telephone: (____) _____

Work Telephone: (____) _____

Date(s) of Birth: 1. _____

Date(s) of Birth: 2. _____

Trip Name: _____ **An Icelandic Interlude** _____

Departure/Return Dates: _____

Passport Number: 1. _____ Expiration Date: _____

Passport Number: 2. _____ Expiration Date: _____

e-mail address: _____

Special Dietary Requirements: _____

Year of Graduation from Vassar: _____

Other Comments or Notes: _____

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

1. Please be sure to complete both sides of this form.
2. Instructions to aid you can be found overleaf.
3. Space on this journey is limited and registrations are accepted strictly on a first come, first served basis.
4. Registration and payment imply acceptance of the terms and conditions described herein. This information, as well as your itinerary description regarding dates, inclusions and prices, form the basis of your individual contract with Discover Europe, Ltd.
5. Registration and payment waive and release Discover Europe, Ltd., and Vassar College, their affiliates, directors, officers, employees, including any person or entity employed or utilized by them, from all claims arising from any injury, loss, damage, accident, delay or expense resulting from events beyond their control, including, without limitation: natural disasters, war, strikes, incidents of politically-motivated violence, sickness or quarantine, government restrictions or regulations, and in the absence of its own gross negligence, arising from the use of any vehicle or from any act of omission by any bus or car rental agency, airline, taxi or tour service, hotel, restaurant, or other firm, agency, company or individual.
6. Discover Europe, Ltd. reserves the right to substitute hotels, airlines, activities or excursions in response to changes in availability, local events or weather conditions, provided such substitutions do not adversely affect the overall quality of the tour. Such substitutions do not constitute grounds for withdrawal with full refund.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

1. A deposit of \$500 must accompany this completed form.
2. The remaining balance will be billed and payable 60 days prior to trip departure.

TOUR COST ADJUSTMENTS:

Discover Europe makes every effort to guarantee that the published cost of your chosen tour will not change. However we do reserve the right to make adjustments in the following circumstances:

1. Exchange rates. Should the value of the dollar fall against the currency of the countries visited on your tour by more than 10% in the 6 months prior to trip departure.

2. Group size. This tour has been based on a group size of 20 participants. Should we end up with less than 20 people, Discover Europe will work with Vassar Travel Program and Smith College to determine a course of action which will involve either paying a surcharge to keep the tour as is, or making adjustments to the tour in order to keep the cost the same.
3. Airfares. If your tour includes airfare, Discover Europe reserves the right to pass along increases in costs (taxes, airport fees, fuel surcharges, etc.) that are charged by the airline involved.

REFUND POLICY:

1. Participants who withdraw more than 60 days prior to tour departure will receive a refund of all monies received by Discover Europe, Ltd., less a \$200 cancellation penalty.
2. Participants who withdraw less than 60 days and more than 30 days prior to tour departure will receive a refund of all monies received by Discover Europe, Ltd., less a \$1000 cancellation penalty.
3. Participants who withdraw less than 30 days prior to tour departure will not receive a refund unless they have purchased travel insurance.
4. Trip cancellation insurance is **not** included in your Discover Europe tour package. Discover Europe, Ltd., strongly advises that you purchase travel insurance for your upcoming trip. Vassar Travel Program will be happy to provide information describing the services of a recommended insurance company, which will fully detail the coverages, provisions, limitations, and exclusions of the insurance offered.
5. All cancellation requests must be received in writing (either by mail or e-mail).
6. There is no provision for refund for any activities missed due to the participant's absence once the tour has started.

INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS:

1. All inclusions on *An Icelandic Interlude* are listed on the day-by-day itinerary and registration form.
2. The following are not included (unless specifically mentioned in the itinerary): travel insurance, transportation to and from the participant's home to their chosen departure airport, passport fees, excess baggage charges, tips to couriers and tour bus drivers, items of a personal nature.



Discover Europe, Ltd.,
12 Oxbow Rd., Dublin, NH 03444
Tel: (603) 563-7077, Toll Free: (866) 563-7077, Fax: (603) 563-7137



3. Emergency Contact Information:

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Home Telephone: (_____) _____

4. Flight Information:

Do you want Discover Europe to book your flights: Yes No
 From Boston or New York
 Flight details (if self-arranged) _____

5. Rooming Requirements:

- I will be sharing with: _____
 We would like a double twin bedded room
 I would like a single room (see itinerary for supplement)

6. Signatures:

The undersigned has read the tour itinerary and recognizes and accepts any risk inherent therein. The undersigned also understands and hereby agrees for and on behalf of his/her dependents, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns to abide by the conditions set forth in the terms and conditions listed in this brochure and to release and hold harmless Vassar College and any of their officers, trustees, agents, licensees, or representatives, from any and all liability for delays, injuries, or death or for the loss of or damage to his/her property however occurring during any portion of, or in relation to, the tour.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____