



VMFA

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

EXPLORING ICELAND

August 1-11, 2019

11 days from \$6,297 total price from Washington, DC
(\$5,995 air & land inclusive plus \$302 airline taxes and fees)



This tour is provided by
Odysseys Unlimited,
six-time honoree
Travel & Leisure's World's
Best Tour Operators award.



**An Exclusive Small Group Tour for
Members of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts**
With Travis Fullerton, Director of Imaging Resources at VMFA



Dear VMFA Members,

Journey with VMFA on an exclusive 11-day small group tour to explore the unique country of Iceland, a land of astonishing natural beauty, diverse landscapes, and a fascinating history. Traveling with you will be **Travis Fullerton, Director of Imaging Resources at VMFA.**

A journey to the land of fire and ice brings you face-to-face with the wondrous forces of nature. Travel to Lake Myvatn, one of the world's natural wonders, and stand on the edge of Europe's largest and most powerful waterfall, Dettifoss. Experience Hljodaklettar's remarkable basaltic rock columns, caves, and twisting towers then gaze into a long canyon created by enormous glacial floods at Asbyrgi. See the site of the country's historic parliament founded in 930 CE in Thingvellir National Park. Walk along the black sand beach at Reynisfjara, visit Seljalandsfoss and Skogafoss waterfalls, and visit the region where one of Iceland's beloved medieval sagas was set. Conclude your journey in lively, cosmopolitan Reykjavik.

Space on this program is limited to 24 VMFA members. We expect it will fill quickly; your early reservations are encouraged.

Sincerely,

Adele "Hutch" Livingston
Coordinator of Member Travel

VMFA RESERVATION FORM: EXPLORING ICELAND

Enclosed is my/our deposit for \$____(\$500 per person) for ____ person(s) on **Exploring Iceland** departing **August 1, 2019**. I/We understand the final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, VISA, or by personal check. **Please make check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., and send, with completed reservation form, to: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., Attn: Special Interest Groups, One Newton Place, 275 Washington Street, Suite 300, Newton, MA 02458. You may also call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765, or you may fax your reservation to 617-454-9199.**

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

E-mail(s) _____ Badge Name(s) _____

Please book my/our air from _____ I/We request a Business Class upgrade

I will share a room with _____ I request a single room (limited availability)

Please Note: The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for **Exploring Iceland, August 1-11, 2019**, and agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions.

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

Method of Payment Check American Express Discover MasterCard VISA

Account # _____ Security Code _____ Exp. Date _____

Name of Cardholder _____

Signature _____

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure and is payable by check or credit card.

EXPLORING ICELAND

11 days from \$6,297 total price from Washington, DC
 (\$5,995 air & land inclusive plus \$302 airline taxes and fees)

It's a surprising, even astonishing land; one of massive glaciers and rumbling volcanoes, bubbling mud holes and powerful waterfalls; hugely abundant bird life and just 340,000 people; and where the sun never sets for six splendid weeks. It's also perfect for exploring in a small group, as we discover traveling the breadth of the country and getting an up-close view of this natural "wonderland."



Day 1: Depart U.S. for Reykjavik, Iceland

Day 2: Arrive Reykjavik/Borgarbyggo Upon our early morning arrival in Iceland's capital, we meet our Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and enjoy a scenic drive north, stopping for breakfast along the way. Then we take an excursion to the thermal areas of Deildartunguhver, site of the country's largest thermal spring, and Hraunfossar Falls, beautiful and unusual cold springs that well up through the lava landscape. We also visit the Settlement Center, an interactive museum detailing the story of Iceland's earliest settlers, including that of famed 10th-century Viking Egil Skallagrimsson. After reaching our hotel mid-afternoon, we have time to relax before this evening's briefing on the journey ahead followed by a welcome dinner. *B,D*

Day 3: Borgarbyggo/Snaefellsnes Peninsula

Today we encounter the stupendous scenery of the Snaefellsnes Peninsula. We begin with a walk along the shell sand beach at the abandoned fishing village of Budir, surrounded by a vast lava field. We also explore the caves and bizarre rock formations along the rugged shore at Arnarstapi, site of thousands of nesting cliff birds. After stopping for lunch – a traditional fresh seafood soup – at a rustic oceanfront restaurant, we visit Djupalonssandur where we see the haunting remains of abandoned coastal farms. *B,L,D*

Day 4: Borgarbyggo/Siglufjordur

We travel towards the northeast corner of Iceland today, through the beautiful Norourardalur Valley. Along the way we stop at Grabrok Crater for scenic views, and at a Gauksmyri farm featuring famed Icelandic horses – small, hardy, and with long manes. We also tour Glaumbaer, a folk museum featuring authentic turf houses. We reach this small fishing village and our hotel in time for dinner there tonight. *B,D*

Day 5: Siglufjordur/Lake Myvatn/Jokulsargljufur National Park

Today we travel to beautiful Lake Myvatn. One of the world's natural wonders, Lake Myvatn and its environs of bubbling mud flats, lava

Small Group Tour Highlights

Accommodations in well-located, atmospheric small hotels • Stunning, unique natural scenery • Touring the beautiful Snaefellsnes Peninsula • Godafoss, "waterfall of the gods" • Visit to Icelandic Breed horse farm • Lake Myvatn's bubbling mud flats, lava fields, and volcanic craters • Dettifoss, Iceland's "Niagara" • Glacial River Canyon National Park • Thingvellir National Park • Dramatic bird-watching coastal cruise • Popular Skogafoss waterfall • Sophisticated Reykjavik • Hellisheidi geothermal power plant

Day Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1 Depart U.S. for Reykjavik		
2-3 Borgarbyggo	Hotel Husafell	First Class
4 Siglufjordur	Siglo Hotel	First Class
5-6 Lake Myvatn	Mývatn Icelandair	First Class
7-8 Selfoss	Hotel Selfoss	First Class
9-10 Reykjavik	Hotel Reykjavik Centrum	First Class
11 Depart Reykjavik for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.

Cover photo: Skogafoss, which we visit on Day 8, often features rainbows on sunny days.



Iceland's landscape reveals an austere beauty.

fields, and lunar-like volcanic craters comprise a stunning national park. Our explorations begin with a stop at Godafoss, the “waterfall of the gods” named for the carvings of Norse gods discarded here when the country was declared Christian a thousand years ago. We continue with a walk to view the fascinating Hverfjall crater, a local landmark. Later we see the region’s unique “pseudo craters,” the boiling mud pots at Namaskard, the bizarre lava formations at Dimmuborgir, the explosive crater at Viti, and the flat volcano system at Krafla. Our last stop is at the incredible Glacial River Canyon National Park (Jökulsárgljúfur), yet another of Iceland’s natural wonders, where we walk to jaw-dropping Dettifoss, Europe’s most powerful waterfall and Iceland’s “Niagara.” After this day of stunning scenery, we arrive at our hotel in time for dinner together tonight. *B,L,D*

Day 6: Lake Myvatn/Husavik This morning we visit Hljodaklettur Echo Cliffs, where we explore the labyrinth of “echoing rocks” created by the spiral basalt formations of the arches and canyons here. We travel next to Asbyrgi, a huge canyon enveloped by towering walls; in the middle of the partially wooded canyon sits a huge hoof-shaped rock called “The Island.” Then continue on to Husavik, where mid-afternoon we embark on a bird-watching cruise to Puffin Island to see the thousands of seabirds here (based on seasonality): puffins, black guillemots, fulmars, and Arctic terns. *B,D*

Day 7: Lake Myvatn/Reykjavik/Selfoss This morning we fly to Reykjavik; upon arrival we coach to Thingvellir National Park, known both for its historic import and as the place where the fissure between the geological plates of North America and Europe is most evident. It’s also a gem of nature, with canyons, caves, waterfalls, and ponds surrounded by

snowcapped mountains. We learn about the historic parliament founded here in 930 CE, and walk along a gorge into the rift valley itself. After a lunch at a local restaurant, we depart for famed Great Geysir and Gullfoss, Iceland’s immensely popular “golden”



On Day 4 we visit a farm featuring famed Icelandic horses.

“HISTORY IS ALWAYS
ENTIRELY DIFFERENT TO
WHAT HAS HAPPENED.”

– HALLDOR LAXNESS

waterfall. Then we drive down to the southern coast to the beautiful agricultural area of Selfoss. *B,L*

Day 8: Selfoss/Vik This morning we walk along the black-sand beach at Reynisfjara, lined with columnar basalt-filled caves. Next we visit picturesque Seljalandsfoss, Iceland's most visited waterfall. From here we travel to nearby Skogafoss, one of Iceland's most popular waterfalls, known for its rainbows on sunny days. After lunch on our own in lovely Vik, Iceland's southernmost town, we're free to explore on our own and to shop for items of locally produced wool. En route to our hotel, we stop by the Solheimajokull "sliding" glacier, so named for its rapid advance in the 1990s. *B,D*

Day 9: Selfoss/Reykjavik Heading back to Reykjavik today we travel through "saga" country, the setting of one of the country's famous medieval stories. We stop along the way to see the geothermal exhibit at the Hellisheidi Power Plant, Iceland's largest. Upon arrival in Reykjavik, we have lunch at a local restaurant then embark on a city tour of the Icelandic capital. Home to more than half of Iceland's population, Reykjavik ranks as one of the world's safest and cleanest cities. Later, we check in at our hotel. Dinner tonight is on our own in this stylish city. *B,L*

Day 10: Reykjavik Today is at leisure to explore and enjoy Reykjavik as we please; those who wish can join in an optional tour to the Blue Lagoon for a soothing bath in geothermal waters rich with silica, sulfur, and other minerals. The city is a sophisticated European urban center with museums and galleries; theater, symphony, and dance; boutiques and restaurants. Tonight we celebrate our adventure over a farewell dinner. *B,D*

Day 11: Depart for U.S. Today we depart for the airport and our return flights to the U.S. *B*

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities; flight within itinerary
- 9 nights' accommodations in First Class hotels
- 21 meals: 10 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 7 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers

Guest Photographer



Travis Fullerton is the Director of Imaging Resources at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. He received a BFA and MFA in Photography from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Travis is also a celebrated fine art photographer, specializing in landscape and architecture. His photographs have been exhibited nationally and have received numerous awards. Travis was the 2010 recipient of the Theresa Pollak Prize for Excellence in the Arts for Photography. He served on the Board of 1708 Gallery for 5 years and served as Board President in 2008. He currently also teaches photography at Virginia Commonwealth University and John Tyler Community College.

Tour Departs: August 1, 2019

Prices include int'l airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

Boston, New York, Washington, DC	\$6,297
Baltimore, Denver, Minneapolis, Philadelphia, Seattle	\$6,597
Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Miami, Orlando, Tampa	\$6,697
Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Portland (OR), San Francisco	\$6,797
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$5,595

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$302, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,395. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Business Class upgrade on round-trip international flight per person, in addition to the costs above: \$1,495 from Boston, New York, Newark, Washington, DC (Dulles); \$2,195 from Chicago, Minneapolis; \$2,395 from Denver, Seattle (upgrade is subject to availability and pricing is subject to change).

Please note: This trip involves considerable walking on uneven terrain in a natural environment. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy this tour to the fullest.

For reservations and information, please call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765

**Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–7:00 PM, Eastern Time
For further information, contact VMFA
Member Travel at
804-340-1519**



VMFA Travel
200 N. Boulevard
Richmond, VA 23220-4007

Presorted
Standard
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Odysseys
Unlimited, Inc.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a \$500 deposit per person represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Not Included in Tour Price

Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas, if required; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per traveler, per day); optional sightseeing; and travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Cancellations, Refunds, and Changes

If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.'s receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$200 charge; cancel 94-65 days before departure: 25% of tour price; cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 29-0 days before departure: no refund.** If you make any changes to your reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a \$100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. **No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure. Upon reservation, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, as well as your date of birth and gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.**

Responsibility

The liability of VMFA, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary, if unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

Health and Medical Issues

We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a considerable amount of walking, and **you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own.** We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our tour itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Air Transportation – Important Information

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown, and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignment on your international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. **Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.**



JOIN US FOR AN EXCLUSIVE
VMFA TOUR TO ICELAND!

August 1-11, 2019