RussiaDiscovery Active trips and adventures in Russia

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Discover the fantastic nature of Iceland aboard the newest premium expedition ship. You will sail around the entire Iceland's coast and will find amazing landscapes and rich wildlife of the North Atlantic waters. Glacial caves and breathing fumaroles, idyllic lagoons and roaring waterfalls, seabirds and whales watching await you on this voyage.

Experiences you'll have

Iceland cruise

Unlike land travel in Iceland, the cruise format allows you to reach the most remote places of the archipelago, not accessible from land and rarely visited by tourists. Crossing a sea, you can also meet humpback whales, orcas, and fin whales.

On board the newest expedition ships SH Vega and SH Diana you can enjoy suites with fireplaces, outdoor infinity pool, sauna overlooking the glaciers, and gourmet restaurants with meals from renowned chefs.

Special offers:

up to 55% discount is available if booked by March 29, 2024 90% discount for children under 18 y.o. in a cabin with two adults

On a 10-day cruise around Iceland, you will:

observe the world's largest colony of Atlantic puffin on Heimaey Island

see vast lava fields and giant figures of frozen magma on Mývatn Lake

reach Látrabjarg Cliffs, the westernmost point in Europe admire the beauty of Iceland's largest cascading Dynjandi waterfalls, falling from a height of 100 m

visit Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon and see icebergs of bizarre shapes

cross the Arctic Circle and land on Grímsey Island to admire vertical basalt cliffs and fields of flowering lupines discover the colorful wooden huts and traditional turf-roofed houses in Akureyri, the northern capital of Iceland

The cost of the cruise depends on the date and cabin type selected. See details in the Accommodation section.

Itinerary

The journey begins in Reykjavik, where you should get to on your own.

This is a general plan of the expedition, the route may vary depending on the weather.

Day 1

You will be met at Reykjavik airport and transferred to the

hotel where you will spend the night before the cruise. On this day you can explore the capital of Iceland on your own.

The most popular sights in and around Reykjavík are

Hallgrímskirkja Lutheran Church, Blue Lagoon geothermal center, and the Golden Circle in Thingvellir National Park, including Gullfoss waterfall and Strokkur geyser. Day 2

After breakfast, you will be transferred to the port and

board the ship. During a welcome cocktail, you will meet the ship's crew and expedition members. The ship will sail out to the sea in the evening, passing the picturesque bay. Day 3

Today you will visit Iceland's largest series of waterfalls on

the Dynjandi River. They are located near the Dynjandisvogur Fjord, an area with stunning views, picturesque coastlines, and rich fauna.

Water cascades falling from a height of 100 m, flowing

over moss-covered rocks. Climbing up to the observation deck

Most popular

North pole and Arctic

Around Iceland

Difficulty	0
Age	from 8 y.o.
Group size	to 152
Duration	10 days

Accomodation at the trip



Языки

(EN) guide

from 4 410 EUR





Not far away there is the Hrafnseyri town. It is the

birthplace of Jón Sigurðsson, 19th-century leader of the Icelandic Independence movement. A local museum tells the history of Iceland, and the property also includes a church and a prototype of a traditional Icelandic turf-roofed house. Day 4

Today you arrive in Ísafjördur, the largest town on the

Westfjords peninsula in northwest Iceland. The first settlements appeared here shortly after the Vikings landed in Iceland. Today it is a lively fishing town with colorful wooden houses of the 18th and 19th centuries. People come here to see Rauðisandur beach on the west coast of Westfjords and the abandoned American radar.

You will also visit Vigyur, the largest and most picturesque

island in the Ísafjarðardjúp Fjord. Here you will find the country's only surviving windmill, the oldest metal-hulled ship, and the smallest post office in Europe.

Nearby are the Látrabjarg Cliffs, Iceland's westernmost

point, where hundreds of seabirds nest. It is one of the world's best places to see the famous Atlantic puffins. They are nicknamed "sea parrots" because of their massive beaks and colorful plumage. Day 5

On this day, you will cross the Arctic Circle boundary that

runs through the small Grímsey Island. You will be given certificates of your achievement.

The island is very picturesque: it is covered with flowering

meadows where the local population grazes sheep and Icelandic horses. The vertical basalt walls of the cliffs gently transition into slopes overgrown with colorful lupines. From here you can see the Arctic Ocean stretching to the horizon in all its glory.

Also, you will see a lighthouse and a church built in 1867

from driftwood nailed to the shore. Day 6

Today you will find yourself in the Northern Capital of

Iceland, Akureyri city. Approaching it you can see humpback whales, dolphins, and porpoises.

Akureyri is located at the mouth of the picturesque

Eyjafjörður fjord and is surrounded by mountains. It is the second largest city in the country, but only about 20,000 people live here. Walking through its streets, you will see traditional houses with turf roofs, the Arctic Botanical Garden, and unusual traffic lights glowing with red hearts.

Then you will head to the suburbs, to the famous Mývatn

Lake. You will see vast lava fields, volcano craters, giant figures made of frozen magma, and a hot water cave. Nearby are the Game of Thrones filming locations and Goðafoss, one of Iceland's most famous waterfalls.

Day 7

You will move to the east coast of Iceland and visit the

Seyðisfjörður's port. Fantastic views of mountains, fjords, and waterfalls attract many artists here.

While walking around the town, you will see the old

wooden structures built by the first settlers, Danish traders. At the beginning of the 20th century, this small port town was the site of a technological breakthrough: the first telegraph station in Iceland, a modern power station, and a machine shop powered by hydroelectricity were built here. Day 8

With a population of only about 1,700, Höfn is nevertheless

the largest city in eastern Iceland. It is located on the Atlantic Ocean, next to Europe's largest glacier, Vatnajökull. Only the glaciers of Greenland and Antarctica are bigger than it in terms of water reserves. The area of the glacier is about 8,300 km², and under its massif, there are several active volcanoes.

In the vicinity of the city is the Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon.

Here melted glacial water mixes with salty sea water, and ice blocks breaking off from the glacier form a variety of bizarre shapes. The waters of the lagoon are full of fish, which are hunted by seals.

Day 9

Heimaey is the largest and only inhabited island in the

Vestmannaeyjar archipelago. We recommend you be on the open decks when approaching the island: this region is known as the best place in Iceland to see orcas and fin whales. It is also home to the largest colony of Atlantic puffins in the world, and millions of birds come here every summer.

Cape Stórhöfðii on the south side of the island is the best

point to see and capture nesting puffins up close. There is also an early 20th-century lighthouse and a viewing point overlooking the sea

Next, a city tour awaits you. In the Eldheimar Museum, you

will be told about the large-scale volcano eruption in 1973 and how firefighters used seawater to stop the lava.

In the evening the ship will take a course back to

Reykjavik. You will enjoy a gala dinner with the captain, officers, and expedition team. **Day 10**

Day 10

In the morning, the ship will anchor in the port of

Reykjavik. After breakfast, a transfer to the airport will be organized for you.

Accomodation at the trip

A 15% prepayment is needed to make a reservation. The final payment of 85% is paid 65 days before the start of the cruise.

Rates depend on the travel date and cabin type selected. The price is per person with double occupancy in a cabin.

31 May - 9 June 2024 | SH Diana

Oceanview D4 (deck 4, bow) - 9,864 4,410 USD Oceanview M4 (deck 4, center) - 10,297 4,635 USD Balcony D5 (deck 5, bow and aft) - 12,463 5,460 USD Balcony M5 (deck 5, center) - 13,032 5,760 USD Balcony D6 (deck 6) - 14,299 6,285 USD Junior Suite (deck 5 and 6) - 16,108 7,260 USD Suite (deck 5 and 6, center) - 18,662 7,635 USD Premium Suite (deck 6, aft) - 21,666 8,385 USD

15-24 June 2024 | SH Vega

Oceanview D4 (deck 4, bow) – 9,864 4,485 USD Oceanview M4 (deck 4, center) – 10,297 4,785 USD Balcony D5 (deck 5, bow and aft) – 11,260 5,685 USD Balcony M5 (deck 5, center) – 11,766 5,835 USD Balcony D6 (deck 6) – 12,892 6,435 USD Suite (deck 5 and 6) – 14,878 7,785 USD Premium Suite (deck 6) – 17,215 8,610 USD

9-18 August 2024 | SH Vega

Oceanview D4 (deck 4, bow) – 9,864 6,360 USD Oceanview M4 (deck 4, center) – 10,297 6,735 USD Balcony D5 (deck 5, bow and aft) – 11,260 7,935 USD Balcony M5 (deck 5, center) – 11,766 8,235 USD Balcony D6 (deck 6) – 12,892 9,135 USD Suite (deck 5 and 6, center) – 14,878 11,010 USD Premium Suite (deck 6, aft) – 17,215 12,135 USD

Cabin types:

Oceanview (19 sq.m.): 2 single beds (convertible to a double bed), sitting area with a sofa, soothing flame-effect fireplace, luxurious bathroom, panoramic windows

Balcony (28 sq.m.): 2 single beds (convertible to a double bed), sitting area with a sofa, soothing flame-effect fireplace, luxurious bathroom, private balcony 6 sq.m.

Junior Suite* (35 sq.m.): king-size bed, sitting area with a sofa, soothing flame-effect fireplace, luxurious ensuite bathroom, private balcony 7 sq.m. **SH Diana only*

Suite (44 sq.m.): king-size bed, separate living room with a soothing flameeffect fireplace, luxurious ensuite bathroom, private balcony 6 sq.m.

Premium Suite (47-49 sq.m.): king-size bed, separate living room with a soothing flame-effect fireplace, luxurious ensuite bathroom, spacious walk-in wardrobe, private balcony 12 sq.m.

Ship's description

SH Vega and SH Diana are new 5-star expedition ships built in Finland's famous Helsinki Shipyard in 2022 and 2023. They are equipped with icestrengthened hulls and extra-large stabilizers.

A small number of guests – 152 on SH Vega and 192 on SH Diana – provide a friendly, informal atmosphere aboard as well as dynamic activities of the ships.

All public areas have fireplaces and panoramic windows. You can admire the Antarctic scenery from anywhere on board.

Onboard facilities: club lounge with 24-hour food service, observation lounge equipped for lectures and live music evenings, outdoor infinity pool, sauna with hot tubs with panoramic ocean views, SPA, gym, main restaurant, basecamp, library, and laboratory.



What to bring with me

You will be given a branded waterproof and windproof expedition jacket, and high expedition rubber boots will be provided during sea walks and landings.

Clothing:

- waterproof pants for boat landings and landwalks (Gore-Tex and similar membrane fabrics are preferred. Wear them over your regular pants)
- thermal underwear (2 sets)
- thermal socks (3 pairs)
- shirts and T-shirts
- jeans or other comfortable pants (several pairs)
- turtlenecks (suitable for wearing under a warm sweater and for wearing on board)
- wool or fleece sweaters
- dressy clothes (for the welcome dinner and farewell cocktail with the captain)
- warm mittens and thin gloves (2 pairs)
- warm hat to protect your head and ears
- warm scarf

Footwear:

- comfortable shoes to wear on board
- shoes for the cities where your cruise begins and ends

Personal items and gear:

- sunglasses
- high SPF sunscreen
- protective lip balm
- waterproof backpack for your camera and other essentials on disembarkation
- waterproof case for your gear
- swimming gear
- binoculars (optional for animal watching)
- camera
- battery pack/spare batteries

Who will be my guide

The crew of the liner consists of 120 employees, including an expedition team of experienced guides, speakers, and lecturers. On the ship and during zodiac boat trips they will tell about the nature and history of Iceland's exploration, give lectures, presentations, and master classes.

Meals

The price includes full board meals on the ship and an open bar (tea, coffee, soft drinks and alcoholic beverages, except premium brands). You will also enjoy a welcome cocktail with the captain and crew, a farewell gala dinner, and 24-hour cabin service.

Medical insurance

Medical insurance covering emergency evacuation from inaccessible and remote places is required for the journey. It is not included in the tour price and is paid additionally. We are ready to help with its registration. If necessary, please leave a comment in the application form.

Special offer

Purchasing this cruise will give you a 5% discount on all future journeys with RussiaDiscovery.

y.o.

Booking

North pole and Arctic

Around Iceland

Difficulty	
Age	from 8 y.
Group size	to 152
Duration	10 days

from 4 410 EUR

What's included in the price:

pre-voyage night in Reykjavík hotel (with breakfast)

- accommodation on the ship in a cabin of the chosen category

- all transfers between the hotel, port and airport
- full board service
- all excursions and landings as per the program
- lectures from the expedition team

- rental of rubber boots and branded expedition jacket as a gift

- standard Wi-Fi
- port charges and tip on board





Extra charge:

<u>airfare to Reykjavík</u>

 mandatory health insurance with emergency evacuation from remote locations coverage (+11 USD pp daily)

Most popular

premium alcoholic drinks at the bar, not included in the price

personal expenses on board (laundry, calls, spa, etc.)



Personal tours Discounts for regular clients

