

28 DAY TOUR - 12 JULY 2021

# Iceland & Ireland

## Tour INTRODUCTION

From the vast glaciers and majestic waterfalls of Iceland to the rolling countryside and historical castles of Ireland, this 28-day tour invites you to take in two of Europe's most picturesque destinations.

Journey through volcanic and ice-covered landscapes, set sail on glimmering lagoons surrounded by icebergs and soak in the rejuvenating Mývatn Nature Baths during your Iceland experience.

Adventure along one of the top ten coastal drives in Europe and take in the rolling green countryside, history-filled castles and thatched cottage adorned towns that have made Ireland so famous.

This experience is one you won't easily forget!

Jayes  
TRAVEL  
women

### DAY ONE

12 JULY 2021

We'll pick you up from your home\* for an easy transfer to Sydney Airport. We'll depart in the evening for an overnight flight to Dubai.

(Meals: Meals in Flight)

### DAY TWO

13 JULY 2021

Arriving early in the morning at Dubai, we will be transferred to our hotel in the centre of the city. To ensure rest and relaxation after the overnight flight, we will have guaranteed early check in. The afternoon marks our first opportunity to explore the city.

(Meals: Meals in Flight, Dinner)

### DAY THREE

14 JULY 2021

Dubai is known for its world-class attractions. Whether you are a professional shopper, an adventure-seeker, a keen foodie, or a history buff, Dubai has something for you. Spend your time exploring its shopping, dining and entertainment districts, enjoying the picturesque beaches, visiting the vast deserts, or taking in the culturally rich heritage sites. We've created a selection of activities for you to choose from today.

(Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)

### DAY FOUR

15 JULY 2021

Start the day with an early flight to our first European country - Iceland. Volcanoes, geysers, hot springs, lava fields and spectacular natural beauty await.

(Meals: Meals in Flight, Dinner)

### DAY FIVE

16 JULY 2021

This morning we will be in Iceland's capital, Reykjavik, amid Icelandic culture and history. Today we will explore the oldest part of the city on a walking tour. We will locate the colossal Hallgrímskirkja Church, the harbour, City Hall, and the oldest building in Reykjavik. The Harper Concert Hall is currently home to the Kraum Icelandic Design Center. The Hall is a wonder of modern architecture with its famous glass

façade. Dipping further into Icelandic culture, we will enjoy a traditional meal at a local restaurant to close the day.

(Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)

### DAY SIX

17 JULY 2021

Today we journey along the Golden Circle; the gateway to Iceland's natural wonders. We will stop at a family-owned dairy farm to enjoy a range of cheeses. Continuing, we will walk between two continents at Thingvellir National Park as we stand at the crest of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. The UNESCO World Heritage site marks the meeting of the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates. Gullfoss' (Golden Falls) 30-metre double cascade waterfall is next on our agenda, followed by Strokkur, a fountain geyser with a 27-metre vertical spout.

(Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)

### DAY SEVEN

18 JULY 2021

As if pulled straight from a postcard, Southern Iceland is home to splendid views, enchanting waterfalls, extensive glaciers and glassy black sand beaches.

Snæfellsnes Peninsula is almost a whole other world. Featuring black and white sand beaches and rocky coastlines, alongside towering waterfalls, volcanic craters, small fishing villages, and the renowned Snæfellsnes glacier, there is no shortage of features to admire. We will get to experience all of this on our way to Vik, where we will be staying for two nights.

(Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)

### DAY EIGHT

19 JULY 2021

Today we are en route to the Skógar Museum, driving along the panoramic south shore. The museum itself is a collection of turf-built houses, home to collections of farm and domestic artefacts that capture the aspects of Icelandic life. Nearby discover the Skógafoss waterfall, which is one of the largest waterfalls in Iceland. Then we are off to the black volcanic sand beach of Reynisfjara. The beach itself is scattered with caves and enclosed by basalt columns and cliffs. See if you

can spot some of the bird life; fulmars, black guillemots, razorbills, gannets, and seagulls often frequent this beach. Later, we will see the unique natural rock formations at Dyrhólaey.

(Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)

### DAY NINE

20 JULY 2021

The Fosshotel Glacier Lagoon is our destination today and where we'll spend our next night. The hotel is located between Skatafell and Jokulsárlón Glacier Lagoon, two of Iceland's most spectacular attractions.

Set sail amongst the Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon icebergs, keeping an eye out for seals along the way. Believe it or not, you can even taste the 1,000-year-old ice that surrounds us. Adjacent to the lagoon is another black volcanic sand beach. The icebergs from the lagoon drift ashore and melt here, creating a stunning setting. We will walk, explore, and marvel the unique scenery as we move through the icebergs.

(Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)

### DAY TEN

21 JULY 2021

Going back towards Reykjavik, we will visit the famous Blue Lagoon. Located in the middle of a lava field, the Blue Lagoon is a geothermal wonder. It's warm and mineral-rich waters are certainly something to behold.

(Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)

### DAY ELEVEN

22 JULY 2021

Today we experience more of Iceland's natural wonders as we travel north. In the morning we will fly to Akureyri, the "Capital of the North". On our way we will see Goðafoss, one of the most historic waterfalls in Iceland. It was where Iceland was converted to Christianity in A.D. 1000. We will be staying at our accommodation for the next three nights.

(Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)

### DAY TWELVE

23 JULY 2021

Grenjaðarstaður is our first stop of the day. It features an abundance of turf settlement homes. We then move on to



GULLFOSS WATERFALL

the town of Húsavík, the first place in Iceland settled by the Norse according to ancient tales. First visiting the town's whaling museum, we then take to the sea, gearing up to join expert whale watchers on Skjálfandi Bay. With thermal wear to keep us warm out on the Bay, the specialised zodiacs will get us as close as you can be to the whales. You might spot humpback, minke, fin, orca or giant blue whales, all of which can all appear in these waters.

*(Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)*

### DAY THIRTEEN 24 JULY 2021

Today we explore the scenic circuit that covers over 257 kilometres; the Diamond Circle. We start with the strongest waterfall in Europe, the Dettifoss waterfall. The volcanic Lake Mývatn is next; its surrounding volcanic and geothermal phenomena is second to none. While at the lake you will get to explore the Dimmuborgir rock formations. Reaching Skútustaðagígar we get up close to rootless cones, which were formed by Lake Mývatn's waters meeting lava, rather than a volcanic eruption. We then visit the Mývatn Nature Baths - the Blue Lagoon of the North. Here we will reflect on the activities and sights of the day while taking a rejuvenating soak in the man-made lagoon.

*(Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)*

### DAY FOURTEEN 25 JULY 2021

The word scenic doesn't do justice to what you will see along the 466-kilometre drive to Stykkishólmur, the gateway to the Snæfellsnes Peninsula. The gleaming fjords, volcanic peaks, and the the Snæfellsjökull ice cap gave Stykkishólmur its nickname of "Iceland in Miniature". The beauty of a transfer day in Iceland is the time to take in the scenery. We will drive through the northern horse country of Gauksmyri, with pastures surrounded by mountains. The quaint fishing town of Stykkishólmur is our next stop and where you can spend the afternoon exploring. The town is home to shops, museums, and an overabundance of scenery to take in.

*(Meals: Breakfast, Lunch)*



### DAY FIFTEEN 26 JULY 2021

We continue our journey to Snæfellsnes Peninsula today. The Peninsula is home to a plethora of natural spectacles, including black sand beaches, cliffs, mountain peaks, volcanic craters, waterfalls, rocky coastlines, and fishing villages.

*(Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)*

### DAY SIXTEEN 27 JULY 2021

Today we embark on an Icelandic cultural adventure as we travel south on the Snæfellsnes Peninsula. We will learn about catching and preserving Greenland shark, which is a 400-year-old tradition.

Your culinary courage will be tested today as we are offered a taste of the local specialty, hákarl (cured shark meat). Visiting the Settlement Museum, we will learn about the origins of Icelandic heritage and the works of Viking poet Egill Skallagrímsson. Tonight marks our final night of accommodation in Reykjavik. Get an early night so we can rest up in preparation for our morning travel.

*(Meals: Breakfast, Lunch)*

### DAY SEVENTEEN 28 JULY 2021

The Emerald Isle is our destination for today! Flying to Dublin, Ireland, is the first item on our agenda. Whether you are interested in making new friends over a pint in a pub, travelling through the hills, admiring the striking castles, or enriching yourself in the culture, Ireland will exceed your expectations.

*(Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)*

### DAY EIGHTEEN 29 JULY 2021

To start we visit the Royal County Meath, named after the region's history as the ancient seat of the High King of Ireland. First, we visit the medieval fortress of Trim Castle. Overlooking the River Boyne, Trim was built on this high ground in the 1100s and remains the largest Norman castle in Ireland. Fun fact: Mel Gibson's Braveheart was filmed at Trim Castle in 1994! We also stop at Slane Castle, which overlooks the Battle of The Boyne site. Located in the stables is the 250-year-old Distillery; which we will be visiting before we return to Dublin.

*(Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)*

### DAY NINETEEN 30 JULY 2021

Through the countryside of County Wicklow and The Garden of Ireland, we arrive at New Ross; John F. Kennedy's ancestral hometown. We will learn about the history of the starving Irish immigrants and their journey on the Dunbrody Famine Ship to flee the potato famine. Then, we will continue to Waterford.

*(Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)*

### DAY TWENTY 31 JULY 2021

The Waterford Crystal Factory is a highlight for us today. Located across the River Suir, we will visit the Factory to browse the showrooms filled with hand-crafted crystal pieces. There will be opportunities to invest in the pieces available if they take your fancy. After we will travel to Killarney, stopping along the way to visit Blarney Castle and pursue the 'gift of the gab' by kissing the famous Blarney Stone.

*(Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)*

### DAY TWENTY-ONE 1 AUGUST 2021

Our focus for today is the Ring of Kerry. This wonder is home to mountains, lakes, and green countryside; and will remain one of the most scenic areas of our trip. Daniel O'Connell's Cahirciveen, the fishing village of Waterville, Moll's Gap and Black Valley are all a part of today's sightings.

*(Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)*

### DAY TWENTY-TWO 2 AUGUST 2021

Named by National Geographic as one of the top ten coastal drives in Europe, our trip to Galway today will be a stunner. Ruins of castles and monasteries line the route. We will also see the Cliffs of Moher, which are renowned for the 214m height of the rock face and the incredible views from the top. We will have a three-night stay in Galway.

*(Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)*

### DAY TWENTY-THREE 3 AUGUST 2021

With the aim of experiencing the "Real Gaelic" side of Ireland, we venture to Aran Islands. The Dún Aengus fortress, sandy beaches and thatched cottages are just some features of the Aran Islands on Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way. Keep an eye out for the traditional Aran sweater, a great souvenir!

*(Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)*

### DAY TWENTY-FOUR 4 AUGUST 2021

Today we tread in the footsteps of Oscar Wilde as we explore Connemara. On the drive to Kylemore



Abbey we will admire the scenic views surrounding us. Once we arrive at the Abbey, now a Benedictine monastery, we will visit the country's most romantic castle, and stroll through the Victorian Walled Garden.

*(Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)*

### DAY TWENTY-FIVE 5 AUGUST 2021

To finish with a bang, today we will travel to Ashford Castle, where we will be staying for the night. Our accommodation is a 141-hectare estate filled with rooms and suites, antique-furnished interiors, unique features and stunning fabrics. Feel free to adventure or just relax and take in this beautiful location before we start our journey home tomorrow afternoon.

*(Meals: Breakfast, Lunch)*

### DAY TWENTY-SIX 6 AUGUST 2021

Enjoy lunch to mark our final moments in the castle before heading back to Dublin to catch our evening flight to Sydney via Dubai. *(Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Meals in Flight)*

### DAY TWENTY-SEVEN 7 AUGUST 2021

This day is spent in-flight, as we cross over time zones on our way home.

*(Meals: Meals in Flight)*

### DAY TWENTY-EIGHT 8 AUGUST 2021

We will arrive at Sydney airport in the morning. Once bags are collected, you will be transferred\* back to your home address\*\*.

Jayes  
TRAVEL  
Women

## IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW

- Only 12 spots available!
- Inclusive touring
- 4 star accommodation
- Pick up from your home address in Newcastle/Hunter/Lake Macquarie\*
- Pre-tour get together to meet your travelling companions

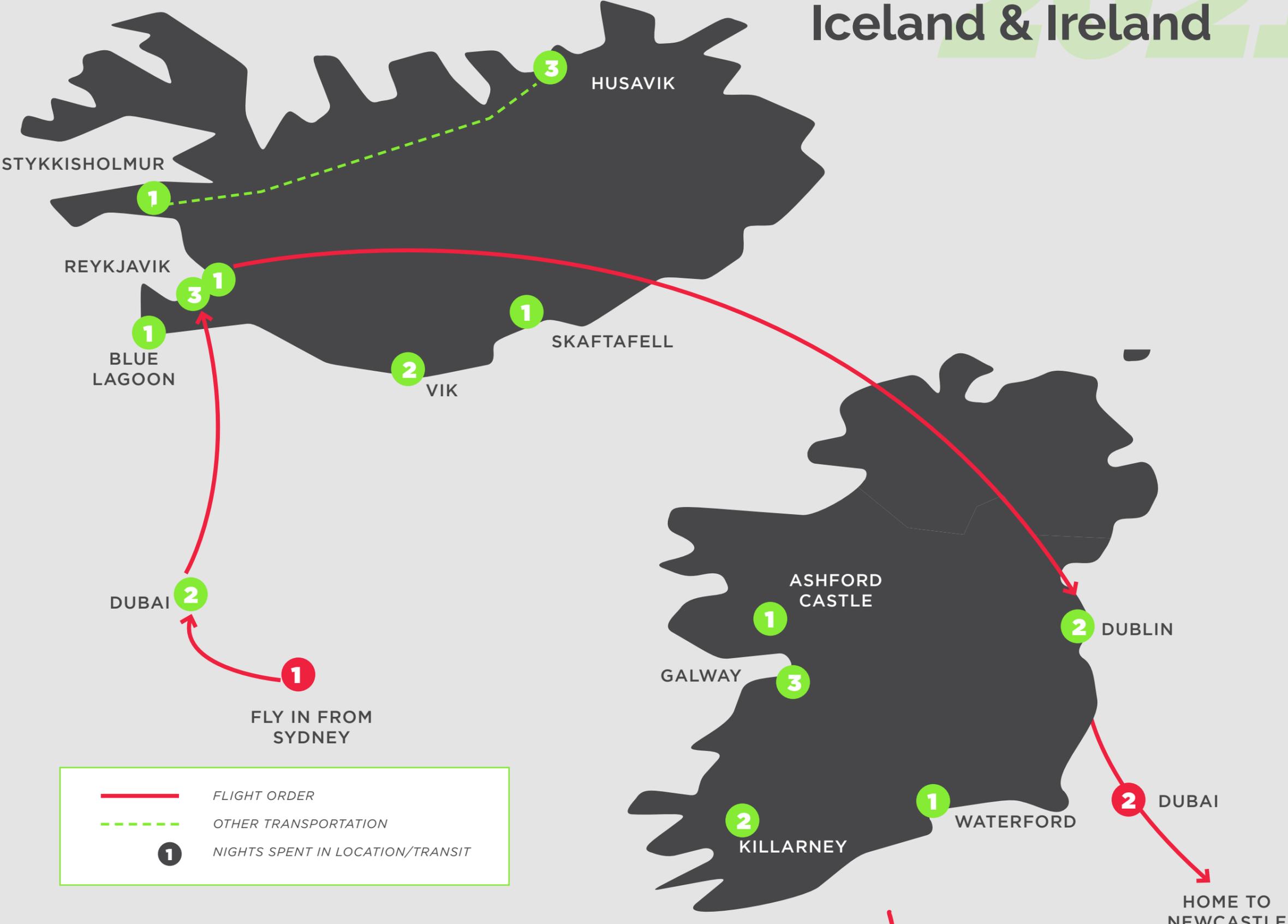
Secure your place by contacting Jayes Travel on 1300 891 100

\*Stopover subject to change depending on availability.

\*\*Jayes Travel Women includes home pick-ups from Newcastle, Lake Macquarie and the Hunter Valley. Outside of these regions, a supplement may apply. There is no reduction in tour cost if you choose not to use the transfers from Newcastle.

IRELAND

# Iceland & Ireland



## Tour HIGHLIGHTS

- Dip into Icelandic culture and explore its famous architecture and heritage sites
- Take in double cascade waterfalls, stunning ice glaciers and glassy black sandy beaches
- Set sail amongst icebergs and spot whales on Skjálfandi Bay
- Explore the scenic Diamond Circle and soak in the rejuvenating Mývatn Nature Baths
- Visit the small fishing villages of Iceland and the iconic castles of Ireland
- Travel through Ireland's lush green countryside and discover its rich culture and history
- Stay in Ashford Castle, a 350acre estate filled with many rooms and suites
- Enjoy divine local Irish foods and, of course, beers

## Tour DETAILS

- Twin Share Cost per person \$16,800
- Single Share Supplement \$6,500

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