



2014

## ICELAND - A PHOTOGRAPHIC SAFARI

for Members of Photographic Clubs



Following on from the success of last year's **Photo Safari** we laying on a further visit for members of photographic clubs. Partners and dependents also welcome so long as they can put up with photographers' needs to spend time selecting their shots!

This tour recognises that photographers' needs differ from those of the regular visitor. The programme needs to be very flexible and allow time for the participants to make and take their shots. In this respect the interests of the participants will be gauged prior to departure.

Iceland is remarkable for its unusual landscapes, clear air, big skies, sub-arctic plants, bird life and historic sites relating to the Viking history and folklore.

**COSTS** (full board based on there being 15 people in the group):

**Twin Room:** £930/person; **Single Room:** £1003/person **inclusive of** flights, taxes, coach transport (fully air-conditioned 4WD or fixed-wheel), full board accommodation, Westman Islands ferry, Eruption Centre, Guiding. [Optional extra: Blue Lagoon - approx £34 ([www.bluelagoon.is](http://www.bluelagoon.is)) [a unique experience!]

**Departure Dates: 15 - 20 May 2014**

If you are interested please let us know as soon as possible: [info@trex.is](mailto:info@trex.is)

**Your Guide:**

Tony Escritt, a member of Buxton Photographic Club, who has been visiting Iceland regularly for over 50 years. Tony is author of "Iceland - The Traveller's Guide" (O/P but some still on Amazon!).

**Your Accommodation:**

The accommodation will be at Hjarðarból Guesthouse ([www.hjardarbol.is](http://www.hjardarbol.is)) for two nights with the remaining nights at Hótel Dyrhólaey ([www.dyrholaey.is](http://www.dyrholaey.is)), which is situated on a bluff looking south over Mýrdalur and the Dyrhólaey Nature Reserve.

**Some of last year's reactions:**

*"The tour was amazing and your package was definitely 200% value for money!!! Everywhere we went was so amazing and I thought your sense of humour was great too!!!!!" (Lucie, Wallingford)*

*"Awesome. Can't wait to go again!" (Rita, Buxton)*

*"Diverse and awe inspiring scenic trip of a lifetime with stunning scenery around every corner." (Bernard, Goring)*

*"The trip was simply magical" (James, Norfolk)*

**You can view some of last season's images on our Flickr site:**

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/82763166@N00/set>





## PHOTOGRAPHIC SAFARI (Provisional)



Details and timing will be dependent on weather conditions and the amount of time that the group opts to spend at any particular place

*[Typical photographic subjects indicated in italics]*

DAY	ACTIVITY
<b>Day 1</b>	1100: Check in at Heathrow T1. Dep 1300: Arr 1410 at Keflavik Airport*. Optional swim in the <b>Blue Lagoon</b> . Bus transfer to Reykjavik for supper beside the old harbour [ <i>fishing boats, harbour life</i> ] Drive east through lava fields & across the mountains to our guesthouse near to the village of Hveragerði.
<b>Day 2</b>	Breakfast 0800. Dep 0900 (packed lunch provided): Drive to the site of the world's first democratic parliament at <b>Pingvellir</b> . Walk (3) into the rift and visit sites of interest [ <i>rock forms, rifts, birdlife, old church</i> ] Drive to the <b>Geysir</b> to visit the geothermal site [ <i>geysers, solfataras</i> ] Continue to Brattholt to walk (4) along the top of the canyon leading to the <b>Gullfoss</b> waterfall. Ascend to the higher viewpoint. [ <i>waterfall, spray, gorge</i> ] Drive to the south coast and to our hotel. Supper at the guesthouse.
<b>Day 3</b>	Breakfast 0730. Dep 0830 (packed lunch provided). Drive into the beautiful valley, <b>Pórsmörk</b> , and through rivers to the Húsadalur oasis to walk (3) through to the main valley. [ <i>glacier, shrub land, rock forms, dust storms</i> ] Optional ascent (2) of the mountain <b>Valahnjúkur</b> for 360° views over the mountains and icecaps. [ <i>impressive valley, icecap, vegetation</i> ] Subject to timing, visit the <b>Seljalandsfoss</b> waterfall which you can walk behind. Supper at the hotel in Mýrdalur.
<b>Day 4</b>	Breakfast 0800. Dep 0900 (packed lunch provided): Drive to the <b>Landeyarhöfn</b> ferry terminal to sail (10.00am) to the <b>Westman Islands</b> where the 1973 eruption occurred. [ <i>bird life, islands, harbour, cliffs</i> ] Visit a hide to look for puffins (not guaranteed!) Walk (1) down to the 1973 lava and to the <b>Páskahellir</b> lava tube [ <i>lava shapes, cave, volcanic cone</i> ] Back on mainland visit the 2010 <b>Eruption Centre</b> at Thorvaldseyri <b>[Film]</b> Continue to the <b>Sólheimajökull glacier</b> (1.5) [ <i>ice formations</i> ] Supper at the hotel in Mýrdalur.
<b>Day 5</b>	Breakfast 0730. Dep 0830 (packed lunch provided): Drive east across the open <b>Mýrdalssandur</b> outwash plain to the <b>Fjaðragljúfur</b> canyon (1) via unusual moss covered lava. [ <i>weird shapes, vegetation, steep canyon</i> ] Continue east and across the <b>Skeiðarársandur</b> outwash plain (flooded in the eruption of 1996) to the <b>Vatnajökull National Park</b> . [ <i>open expanses of sands/gravels to icecap &amp; steep glaciers</i> ] Further east is the <b>Jökulsárlón</b> iceberg lake (made famous by the James Bond film "A View to a Kill"). [ <i>huge glacier tongue, icebergs, bird life</i> ] Returning to Skaftafell there will be various options including <b>Svartifoss</b> waterfall (3); <b>Skaftárfellsjökull</b> glacier (1). Hopefully Iceland's highest mountain, the volcano <b>Hvannadalshnúkur</b> (2119m), will be clear of cloud. Supper at the hotel in Mýrdalur.
<b>Day 6</b>	Breakfast 0700. Dep 0745 (packed lunch provided): Drive to the coast local to the hotel for spectacular beach scenes including <i>polygonal basalt columns, natural rock arch, black sand beach</i> . Transfer to Keflavik Airport Check in at Keflavik: 1415; Depart: 1610. Arr. Heathrow 2010

(Figures in brackets are estimated kilometres)