



Reykjanes peninsula

The Official Tourist Guide



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GENERAL INFORMATION





Tourist Info Centers:

Tourist Information and Free Booking Service Leifur Eiríksson international Airport, Arrivals hall Keflavíkurflugvelli, tel. + 354 570-7799 / +354 425 0330 airport@ita.is 570-7711 – free booking and service number

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SBK Keflavik Coaches Grófin 2-4, **230 Reykjanesbær,**Tel: 00 354 420 6000

Tourist Info Hafnargata 12a, **240 Grindavík**, Tel: 00 354 420 1190, Fax: 00 354- 420 1199, saltfisksetur@saltfisksetur.is

The Nature Center Garðvegi 1, **245 Sandgerði,** Tel: 00 354 423 7551, Fax: 00 354 423 7551, fsetur@ismennt.is

Garðskagi Folk Museum Skagabraut 100, 250 **Garður,** Tel: 00 354 894 2135, gardskagi@simnet.is

Tourist Information, Bæjarskrifstofunum, Víkurbraut 42, **240 Grindavík**, tel. + 354 420 1100. grindavik@grindavik.is, www.grindavik.is, www.visitgrindavik.is

Welcome to Reykjanes

The Suðurnes region on the Reykjanes peninsula is the home of some of Iceland's most popular tourist attractions. This official brochure will introduce an experience that we hope every tourist will enjoy while visiting this beautiful and powerful region. The areas of interest range from pure nature experience to golfing, deep-sea fishing, a bridge between continents, Gunnuhver hot spring, the Viking ship "Íslendingur", the Blue Lagoon and so much more. Within this guide you will find a host of attractions and details of how to get there. The guide has colour-coded sections to enable you to find the area of your choice quickly.

At the end of the guide is a comprehensive list of bus transport services, hotels, guesthouses, camp sites, restaurants, fast food restaurants and cafés. We will continue to update and improve this guide; your comments and observations would be most welcome. To assist us in this matter, we would be grateful to receive your comments by email to info@visitreykjanes.is



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TOWNS/VILLAGES



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Reykjanesbær

TheTown of Reykjanes is a young and vibrant rapidly growing town on Reykjanes peninsula. There has been a significant increase in the number of citizens in Reykjanesbær in the past years and they now total 14.200. Reykjanesbær profits from its proximity to the capital and it is also located at lceland's borders at the gate to the rest of the world. At the same time, other boundaries have vanished and now Ásbrú, the former US naval base, has been transformed into an innovative and progressive educational community.

The town boasts of diverse recreational activities and just on the town's doorstep there is pristine nature. With the new Ósabotna road the possibility of a roundtrip of Reykjanes peninsula with all of its recreation and spectacular scenery opens up before driving back to the capital on the four-lane lit Reykjanes highway (41). **www.reykjanesbaer.is**

TOWNS/VILLAGES





Welcome to Grindavík

The village of Grindavík is one of Iceland's special surprises for tourists. While best known for its world famous Blue Lagoon, Grindavík also offers visitors a variety of opportunities for recreation, leisure, and family fun.

This charming community of 2,850 promises endless possibilities for excitement and fun for the entire family. Grindavik boasts miles of hiking trails through breathtaking panoramas, a new modern campground and swimming facility, one of Iceland's best golf courses, Magma - House of culture and natural resources and a multitude of wonderful restaurants.

Travel historic trails such as Prestastastígur, Skógfellsvegur and Reykjavegur. Travel on an ATV, go horseback riding or tour by bicycle. Visit the Hópsnes circle with its shipwrecks and relics and the Reykjanes lighthouse and get a glimpse of life near the sea. Tour the fish processing facility in Stakkavík; fish in the harbor. Climb Porbjarnarfell Mountain and enjoy a spectacular view of Grindavik and the surrounding area. See natural gems such as Gunnuhver, Brimketill, Eldvörp, Kleifarvatn and Krísuvíkurberg. Summer in Grindavik is full of activity. Sjóarinn síkáti; one of the biggest festivals in the nation, the annual Midsummer's Night Eve

hike, Nature's Week in Reykjanes, and Grindavik's ever growing hiking fest the first week in August (for more information go to www.grindavik.is).

Welcome to Grindavik, Iceland's most popular tourist destination. Enjoy Iife. Enjoy Grindavik; a place with something for everybody.

Sandgerði

Sandgerði is one of the country's major fishing communities. Rich fishing-grounds are found just off the coast of Sandgerði. There are interesting things to do in the town, including bird-watching, golfing, seeing historicaly significant places, going swimming or having a meal in the restaurant. A great variety of Icelandic handmade souvenirs are on offer at the Listatorg souvenir shop. One can go visit the Nature Center, a museum with insight into Icelandic nature. It is possible to rent a

summer house in the northern part of town and a camping site with all of the necessary facilities has recently been built. A newly constructed road offers the traveller to take a round trip around the whole coast passing the Hvalsnes church, Stafnes village and onwards to the Hafnir village. **www.sandgerdi.is**



TOWNS/VILLAGES





Garður

Outdoor enthusiasts should not miss out on the chance of visiting the Town of Garður if they are traveling through the Reykjanes peninsula. The history of the town is based on the fishing industry. Being very near to good fishing grounds, Garður was once the most populated village in the South West coast, Suðurnes. On Garðskagi you can find diverse birdlife, dolphins or whales near the shore, untouched nature and an interesting regional museum with an extraordinary collection of engines.

The restaurant Flösin is very popular and the view from its balcony is beautiful. Guests can camp on Garðskagi in the magnificent nature. The facilities on the campsite include bathrooms, running water and electricity and is ideal for guests with tents, trailer tents and Winnabegos. After enjoying yourself out in nature you can visit the history museum at the old lighthouse guard farm, the local swimming pool or relax in the hot tubs. www.sv.gardur.is



Vogar

In the Town of Vogar you will find various services and can enjoy a walk along the sea, watch the birdlife by Vogatjörn pond and visit the monument Íslands Hrafnistumenn by Erlingur Jónsson. The monument is in memory of fishermen from the area. In August Family Day is held in the town of Vogar and then the town comes alive with people of all ages enjoying themselves together. At Kálfatjörn you will find an excellent 9-hole golf course, which is played around one of the largest wooden churches in Iceland. In the district of Vatnsleysuströnd are several landmarks, among them are Mount Keilir, Háibjalli, Snorrastaðatjarnir, Hrafnagjá and Staðarborg.Outdoor enthusiasts should therefore take a look at the district of Vatnsleysuströnd. www.vogar.is







The Lighthouse on Garðskagi

Originally a cairn with an iron pole was erected on the tip of Garðskagi coast in 1847 to guide the way for seamen. Now, there are two lighthouses, the older and smaller, built in 1897, was once regarded as one of the best lighthouses in Iceland because it stood low and therefore mist was not a problem, but risky because of being damaged by surf and that it was sometimes not visible because of storms at sea. Because of land erosion a bridge was built to it and a new lighthouse was finally built in 1944. At 28 meters it is the highest lighthouse in Iceland and came in second as the most favorite lighthouse in Iceland.







The Sunset Festival in Garðskagi





Hópsnes lighthouse

Pórkötlustaðanes - Hópsnes

A peninsula, called Þórkötlustaðanes on the eastern side and Hópsnes on the western side, was created by volcanic eruptions approx. 3000 years ago and stands out south dividing Grindavík in two. This part of Grindavík is called the village of Þorkötlustaðir. The peninsula gives shelter to the main harbour. An important part of history is found here and by





Festarfjall Hill

request locals will inform visitors about it. By walking along the old pathway, one will learn about the fishing industry in old times and how the local rescue squad has saved many seamen when boats have been stranded there. Shipwrecks and their memorials can be seen alongside the coast. Built in 1928 a lighthouse stands on the tip of the peninsula which can be seen 13 nautical miles off shore.



Reykjanes Lighthouse

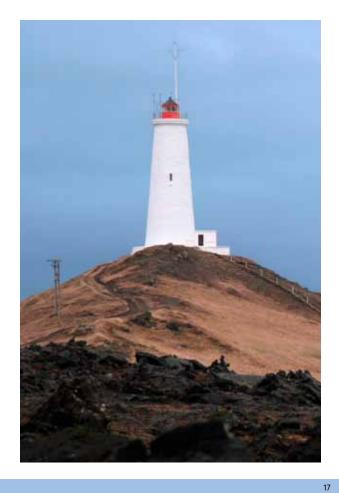
The first lighthouse in Iceland was built on Valahnúkur in Reykjanes in the year 1878. By 1905 earthquakes and surf had damaged Valahnúkur so much that there was the risk of the lighthouse falling into the sea. A new lighthouse was therefore built in 1907-1908 on Bæjarfell hill in Reykjanes and the old one was demolished on April , 1908. A survey done in 2007 for the Icelandic Maritime Administration led to the conclusion that Reykjanes lighthouse was the most popular lighthouse among Icelanders. The lightsignal height is 69 meters above sealevel but the actual height of the lighthouse is 26 meters. Reykjanes lighthouse also has a radio beacon with a correction signal. There is carved rock and concrete in the lighthouse. Architect

Frederik Kjørboe and engineer

Thorvald Krabbe designed the lighthouse. The operation of Reykjanes

Lighthouse is under the supervision of the Icelandic Maritime Administration.





COAST





Strandleið – the coastal hiking trail in Reykjanesbær.

A new 10 km long coastal hiking/walking trail lies from the Marina in Gróf up to the Stapi cliffs in Innri-Njarðvík. The trail gives an opportunity to enjoy the fresh sea air, the seabirds, various kind of coastal vegetation and insight into geology of various rocks and cliffs. Providing good physical refreshment, one can walk, jog, bike or roll on rollerskates.





Whales

The waters surrounding the Reykjanes peninsula are home to dolphins and various species of whales in the warmer months of the year, and in winter as well. Commonly found in the waters off Garður are white-beaked dolphins and minke whales. In winter, sightings of both dolphins and whales are common, even as close as outside the harbour in Keflavík and nearby. The area is an important habitat for these marine mammals, mainly as a seasonal feeding ground, rich in plankton. These waters provide excellent conditions for such fish species such as sand eel, herring, capelin, haddock and cod to thrive. Humpback whales are also commonly seen in July and August, and occasionally sei whales, fin whales and the enormous blue whales appear at the surface.





CULTURE & ARTS





Vikingworld

Vikingaheimar is the home of the Viking Ship İslendingur (The Icelander). Built in 1996, Icelander is an exact replica of the famous Gokstad ship, a remarkable archaeological find of an almost completely intact Viking ship, excavated in Norway in 1882.

Vikingaheimar is also home to a portion of the Viking millennium exhibition, Vikings: The North Atlantic Saga. This exhibition sheds light on the Norse settlement and explorations of unknown lands.



info@vikingaheimar.is



These two fine projects, both celebrating Iceland's central role in the discovery of North America 1000 years ago by the Norse Vikings, have now found a permanent home in Vikingaheimar, a spectacular modern building situated right by the Faxafloi bay in the town of Revkianes and can be easily spotted from the main road between the international airport and Revkiavík.

Fate of the Gods

Exhibition on Norse mythology and myths. Visitors are guided through this ancient ideology where the world of the Gods vividly appears through visual arts, storytelling and music. The exhibition is put together by reputable Icelandic contemporary artists and experts in Nordic studies to form an impressive and modern work of art about ancient cultural heritage.



230 Reykjanesbær,





 May – 1. Aug. every day from 11:00 - 17:00



+354 421 6700.

Website #



www.reykjanesbaer.is



Settlement Zoo

The zoo is situated near Vikingworld and is open during the summer, providing children with a chance to see lambs, goats, ducks, calves, rabbits, and hens, Admittance is free.



Duushús Cultural Center

The cluster of buildings that make up Duushús are among Iceland's most remarkable and historic man-made structures. Busy centers of commerce throughout their existence, their last role before their conversion was as a fish processing plant. With the oldest timber building completed in 1877 and the youngest concrete structure finished in 1954, together they span almost a century of Icelandic architectural history. Today, the complex includes four exhibition centers, which house the The Revkianes Art Museum. The Reykjanes Heritage Museum, The Old Cinema and The Reykjanes Maritime Center.



Duusgata 2-8, 230 Reykjanesbær



Mon.-Fr. 12:00 - 17:00. Sat.-Sun. 13:00 - 17:00

Disabled access

Access

Price =

No admission fee

Phone



00 354 421 3796





duushus@reykjanesbaer.is







Reykjanes Maritime Center

The Reykjanes Maritime Center was opened on May 11, 2002 and is home to a collection of 105 model boats built by retired local skipper Grímur Karlsson. Hand-crafted to a high degree of perfection and painstaking detail, they offer fascinating insight into Iceland's maritime history, beginning with the graceful masted schooners of the mid- and late 19th century, and ending with the steam and diesel-powered trawlers of the 20th century.







Reykjanes Art Museum

The Reykjanes Art Museum offers a superb view of Keflavík's picturesque marina and was opened in the year 2003 after extensive renovations. New art exhibitions open there every six weeks

In recent years the art exhibitions at the Reykjanes Art Museum have been considered to be among the best in Iceland regarding quality and variety. The museum is very popular and benefits being part of the Cultural Center which along with the Art Museum, also houses a collection of model boats and the local history museum, also offering a variety of musical concerts and cultural events.







The Reykjanes Heritage Museum

The Reykjanes Heritage Museum presents temporary exhibitions which address specific aspects in local history of the region and somewhat the whole country.

A new exhibition by the Reykjanes Heritage Museum, opens in the spring of 2012. It covers the winter fishing season, "Vetrarvertíðin": For centuries Icelanders travelled on foot from their homes to the fishing ports in West and South-West of Iceland. They arrived late in January and stayed for 3 months untill early May when they walked back. This was the best season to catch the fish as it came nearer the coast to spawn. The fish was then hung up to dry. The seasonal fishing was very important as dried fish was part of the daily food and the most important export of Icelanders. The foundation of the seaside towns and villages in the area is the nearby rich fishing grounds as is depicted in the exhibition.









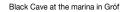
The Giantess

The Giantess in the mountain moved to the Town of Reykjanes during the family and cultural festival Night of Lights in 2008 and is now located in Black Cave at the marina in Gróf. There the Giantess has been settling in her nice cave with its superb view over the bay of Keflavík and Faxaflói. The Giantess is originally the creation of author Herdís Egilsdóttir who has written 16 stories about the little girl Sigga and her friend the Giantess in the mountain, the last one describing her migration to the Town of Reykjanes.

The design and making of the cave and the Giantess was in the hands of Norðanbál art group. The Giantess is full-size and sits sleeping in a rocking chair in the kitchen.



Location <



Open (U

Every day. 10:00 - 17:00,

Disabled access

Paved pathway

Price

Free admittance

Phone 🧳

00 354 421 3796/00 354 421 6700

Website

skessan@reykjanesbaer.is







Reykjanes Power Station and Power Plant Earth

In may 2006 electircal generation began in Reykjanes power station and through connection to the power plant an exhibition in a show room was assembled and named Earth Power Plant. The show covers various ways of developing energy resourses in the earth. The planets of our solar system have been situated in right porportion all around the Reykjanes area but the sun ists in the lava outside of Reykjanes power station at the main entrance to the show room. The power station is located near Reykjanes lighthouse and Gunnuhver hot spring which are also popular tourist attractions.







Kvikan

- House of culture and natural resources in Grindavík.
- Tourist Information Centre.

"The resources of the Grindavík municipality include hot and cold water, hot and cold subterranean sea water, geothermal energy, untouched nature, wide open spaces, clean air, terrestrial and marine fauna, wind, culture, minerals and marine energy/minerals."

The exhibition Saltfish Museum

Brings to light our seafaring history. The exhibition is very intriguing for foreign tourists. The people of Grindavík have long been among the most prolific in the production of dried salted cod. The exhibition about Iceland's history in the processing and sales of dried salted cod and it's significance to Iceland's economy is therefore well placed in Grindavík. Great care was taken to recreate the history of dried salted cod processing, and the exhibit has attracted much attention. The exhibition offers large pictures, a text detailing the history of dried salted cod processing along with some historical objects from characteristic harbor towns of old.

town. One is the famous **Saltfish museum** and the other is the **Earth Energy exhibition**, explaining the utilization of the geothermal energy in the vicinity of Grindavík.

The tourist information center in Grindavík is located in the Magma House.

Magma – house of culture and natural resources, is located only a few minutes away from the Blue Lagoon.





Earth Energy

Exhibition on geology, geothermal Heat and the harnessing of energy from the bowels of the earth. In Iceland there are unique possibilities to see and investigate most of earth's dynamic processes, such as volcanism and geothermal heat, which is the result of the young age of the island. It might be said that Iceland is a window into the past as well as into the future. By reading the history of the different geological strata it is possible to forecast geological events that are likely to happen again.

The exhibition's shows many video films. It guides the viewer from general geology through the geology of Iceland, Reykjanes and Svartsengi, explaining how different branches of learning join in preliminary research and monitoring of high-temperature geothermal areas.





At the Kvikan Centre house, guests are introduced to two contemporary and multimedia exhibitions:



Nature Center

The Nature Center was established in 1995. At the center, visitors can look at various kinds of organisms from Icelandic nature and living animals in seawater tanks.

Small sea creatures from the bottom of the sea or the nearby pond can be observed through binocular microscopes.

The staff of the Nature Center organize field work for the pupils in elementary and high schools. Among the most popular is going to the shore or the pond and gathering samples of living creatures and plants and bringing them into the center where they can study them with the help of teachers, staff and the great variety of books on the subject found there.

The history of the community Sandgerði accessible in written material at the







center and staff members will provide information about the village and neighbourhood upon request.

At the center, there are also facilities and accommodation for scientists doing research in connection with the BIOICE project, located in the same building.

Now, the Nature Center is housing an exhibition about the research and life of the famous French explorer and biologist Jean-Baptiste Charcot. He and his crew perished in his ship the Pourquoi Pas? in a great sea storm on the coast of Iceland in 1936.

The museum is an ideal place for curious tourists and parents with children thirsting for knowledge.



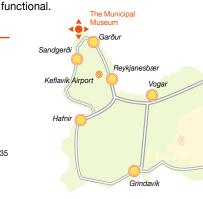
The Municipal Museum in Garður

The museum was first opened in November 1995 in the old fish processing houses at Garðskagi. Many important items from the municipal history of Garður are located in the museum, items which were essential for livelihood both on



land and at sea. A big part of the museum are maritime artifacts which were used for fishing and processing the fish on shore. What makes the museum so unique is the engine collection of Guðni Ingimundarson. Over 60 engines of all sorts are on display and almost every one of them is







The Fresh Winds art project

The project was first held in Dec. 2010 and enrolled a total of 60 foreign and local artists. They live and work in the town for up to 8 weeks at a time and now widespread around the town, one can enjoy the various kinds of outdoor art pieces. This year the project will be held from May 25 – June 24





Stekkjarkot

A classic example of the roughly built turf, stone and timber fishermans' cottage, once common on the Reykjanes peninsula and other coastal areas of Iceland, Stekkjarkot was opened to the public in 1993 by Iceland's former president Vigdís Finnbogadóttir, following a year of restorations. Stekkjarkot provides a telling insight into how cottages of this type looked like. Its history as a domestic dwelling is patchy, it was first built during the years 1855-1857 and occupied for 30 years and then was abandoned. In 1917 it was refurbished but by 1924 it had been abandoned once again and this time for good. The older part of the cottage, with its open hearth, dates back to the 19th century. The newer part dates from the farm's last days of habitation, by which time floorboards covered the living room and kitchen, a coal-fired stove provided both cooking facilities and heat, and conditions for those who lived there do not seem to have been too bad.

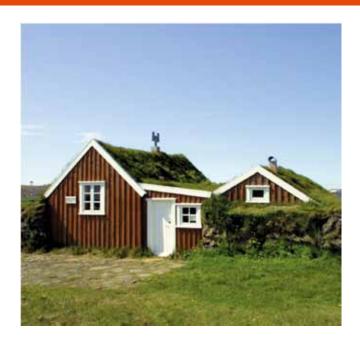






00 354 865 6160 byggdasafn@reykjanesbaer.is www.revkianesbaer.is/byggdasafn











The Church in Innri-Njarðvík

By the initiative of Ásbjörn Ólafsson, a farmer in Innri-Njarðvík, a church was built on the location. The church was consecrated in 1886 and is made from carved rock which was brought from the shore nearby and the heath above the inhabitated area. Magnús Magnússon (1842-1887) organized the carving of the rocks. One of the three clocks in the churchtower is an ancient clock made in 1725. The church in Innri-Njarðvík is preserved.





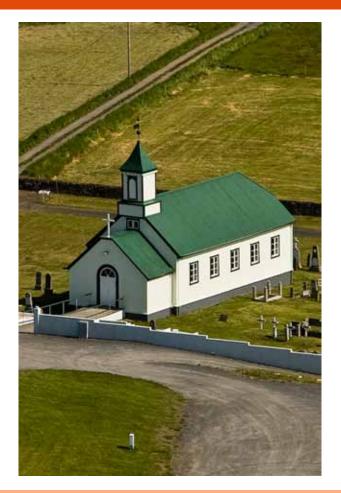




The Church at Útskálar

Einar Jónsson from Brúarhraun (1818-1891) built the foundation of the church which was consecrated in 1863. The interior of the church was painted and decorated by Áki Gränz, a master painter. The church is preserved and has a modern tower design. It is made from wood. One of the most tragic events in Icelandic sea history is connected to the church. On March 8th, 1685, 156 fishermen drowned at sea in a storm by Reykjanes. Many of them were from North Iceland stationed in the region during the main fishing season. On March 11th, 42 were buried in the church's graveyard and the next day another 47 bodies drifted ashore in Garður and were also buried in the same mass grave.



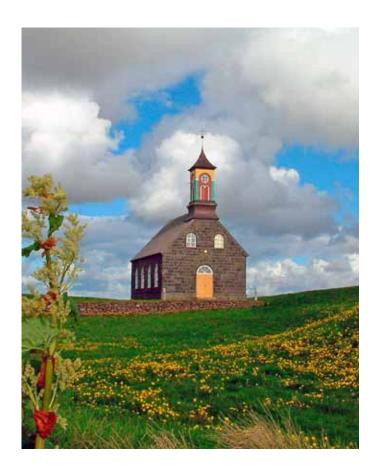




The Church at Hvalsnes

The church at Hvalsnes was consecrated in 1887. Ketill Ketilsson farmer and ship owner at Kotvogur, who then owned the land at Hvalsnes financed the building of the church. The church is preserved and all of the wood was collected from the shores nearby. Extensive repairs were made to the church in 1945 under the supervision of the architect of the state. One of the most remarkable items of the church is the gravestone of Steinunn Hallgrímsdóttir who died when she was 4 years old in 1649. She was the daughter of Hallgrímur Pétursson, Iceland's most important psalmist who at that time served as a priest at the parish in Hvalsnes. The gravestone was lost for a long time but was discovered again in 1964 however it had been used as a part of a walkway leading to the church.

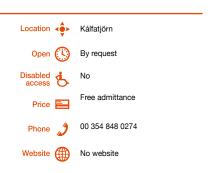






The Church at Kálfatjörn

Kálfatjörn is a former farm, parsonage and church site in the town of Vogar. It was a parsonage until 1907 when the parish was united with the Garðar parish of the Kjalarnes deanery. During Catholic times, the church was dedicated to St. Peter. The present church was built in 1891 and is Iceland's largest rural church. Now preserved, its interior has been restored to its original form. The altarpiece, a replica of the one in the Reykjavík Catherdral, painted by Sigurður Guðmundsson, is equally old as the church.











The Happy Sailor in Grindavík

A family and port festival is held annually in Grindavík on Seamens' Day at the beginning of June or 1.–3. June 2012. It is an entertaining festivity which honors. Held on the Seamen's Day weekend, it is an entertaining festivity which honors earlier times which influenced the local community. Since its establishment, seamanship and seagoing have been the main sources of employment and income for the inhabitants of Grindavík. For more information visit Grindavík's official homepage

www.grindavik.is or www.visitgrindavik.is



Midsummer night hike in Þorbjörn

Annually, the Blue Lagoon and the Grindavík municipality sponsor a Midsummer night hike on the mountain Þorbjörn on June 23. On the top of the mountain there is entertainment which includes singing and a camp fire. The walk ends at the Blue Lagoon which is open past midnight that evening. This is an entertaining event for the whole family. For information about the forthcoming Midsummer night hike visit the official website of Grindavík www.grindavík.is or www.bluelagoon.com or www.visitgrindavík.is

Other weekend hiking tours

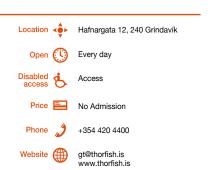
Guided hiking tours will be held during Easter weekend and Bankers' Holiday weekend in August (Verslunarmannahelgi) in Grindavík where participants can enjoy the beautiful and unusual nature and listen to the interesting history of the area. More info at **www.grindavik.is**





Þorbjörn museum

The fishing company Porbjörn in Grindavík is one of the largest in Iceland. In 2010 the company opened a museum's varied exhibitions to show the development of the company and Icelandic fish industry and coast culture, in 9 windows at Hafnargata 12. No admission.







Grindavík sheep round-up

Annually sheep farmers in Grindavík gather their sheep from their summer grazing areas on the Reykjanes peninsula, from mountains and heather lands. The annual round-up is held in Grindavík in the middle of September and attracts many families on their week-end trip into the town.





The Sunset Festival on Garðskagi

The Sunset Festival on Garðskagi is truly a festival for the whole family. The festivities are held annually on Garðskagi in the middle of the summer now June 21 – 24. The facility is ideal for campers with tents, trailer tents and Winnabegos. The sunset on Garðskagi is a unique vision and the timing of the festival is appropriate because of the summer solstice and the sunset glitters on the ocean while citizens of Garður and their guests sing and celebrate around the campfire. For more information about the festival's date each year as well as the schedule visit the following website: www.svgardur. is/ferdathonusta/solseturshatid



Family Days in Vogar

Each summer in August a Family Day is held in Vogar in Vatnsleysuströnd. At this time the family is in the forefront and everyone is welcome. The program is mostly arranged by the locals and made to fit all ages of family members. Among other things for amusement are soap-soccer, fishing in the harbour, home-made car race and many other interesting and amusing things.

Also look for other events and more information about the festival on **www.vogar.is**





Sandgerðisdays in Sandgerði

On the last weekend in August an annual family festival is held in Sandgerði which emphasizes the enjoyment of people coming together and entertaining each other. Many events are held from Friday to Sunday because then all of the local citizens put forth the effort to make the weekend as memorable as possible. For more information visit the official webpage of Sandgerði: **www.sandgerdi.is**

The Night of Lights Reykjanes family and cultural festival



As the bright nights of summer give way to the shorter days of autumn, the first Saturday of September sees the staging of the highly popular Night of Lights, the Reykjanes Festival of culture and family. Now a fixed event in Iceland's cultural calendar, the event, which despite its name is now staged over four days from Thursday to Sunday, offers guests a taste of the very best in local culture, culminating in a spectacular fireworks display which this year will be staged on Saturday, September 1st.

The ever-growing celebration of local culture - last year's festival included more than 100 separate events and attracted some 60,000 visitors. The Night of Lights offers something for everyone, ranging from art, theatre and music performed by groups and individuals, to a spectacular finale under a blaze of fireworks.

Whatever your cultural interests, The Night of Lights has something to offer you. So make a date to come see us and sample this unique event during the first weekend in September.



The Rock Museum of Rúnar Júl

The Rock Museum of Rúnar Jul is a museum dedicated to the memory of Iceland's most beloved musician and Keflavík's own son. It is located where he lived and worked. The museum also houses the record label and recording studio of Geimsteinn. Rúnar was one of Iceland's most prolific



musicians and inspired and helped other musicians during his career.



Skólavegur 12, Reykjanesbær



By agreement



Access

Price 1.000 kr, group discount available.

Phone ,

+354 421 2717. +354 861 2062. +354 863 7515

Website (

geimsteinn@geimsteinn.is, www.runarjul.is



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Gallery Sjólist, Verbraut 3,

240 Grindavík tel. +354 893 3712 sjolist@simnet.is www.sjolist.is

Gallery Helga Kristjánsdóttir,

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Gallery Anna Sigga,

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Gallery Listatorg,

Vitatorg, 245 Sandgerði, tel. +354 840 5700 listatorg@sandgerdi.is, www. listatorg.is / www.245.is

Blue Lagoon shop

at the Blue Lagoon

Glass workshop, Iceglass,

Grófin 2, 230 Reykjanesbær. larusgudmundsson@gmail.com www.iceglass.is tel.+354 857 0850

Hjördís Hafnfjörð

 Haddý, glass workshop,
 Freyjuvellir 5, 230 Reykjanesbær tel. + 354 421 2405/861 2405 hhr@rafpostur.is

Raven design,

Fjósið í Koti, 260 Njarvík, tel.+354 661 6999 / 661 7999 hulda@ravendesign.is, www.ravendesign.is

Íslenskt handverk, Guðný

lðavellir 11b, 230 Reykjanesbær tel.+354 897 1827 www.icelandcraft.com

Reynir Katrínarson,

Hvít Víðbláinn, Gauksstaðavegi 2, 250 Garður. tel. +354 861 2004

CULTURE & ARTS



Svarta Pakkhúsið,

Hafnargata 4, 230 Reykjanesbær, tel. +354 616 6670 svartapakkhusid@ svartapakkhusid.com, www.svartapakkhusid.com

Jöklaljós, candle-workshop,

Grófin 2, 230 Reykjanesbær, tel.+354 423 7694 / 896 6866 kerti@joklaljos.is, www.joklaljos.is

Innrömmun Suðurnesja,

Paintings & Frames, Mardalur 9, 260 Reykjanesbæ, tel.+354 694 3160 innrommunsudurnesja@gmail.com

Handcraft workshop,

í gamla vitavarðarhúsinu, Garðskaga, 250 Garður tel. +354 692 6596

Gallerý átta, Hafnargötu 26, 230 Reykjanesbæ, tel.+892 2686 / +868 9863 +868 8826

Hlaðan – Artist residency, Minni-Vogum, Egilsgötu 8, 190 Vogar, www.hladan.org

Vatnsnes

Art Workshop & Gallery,

Vatnsnesvegi 8, 230 Reykjanesbæ

Studiola design,

tel. +354 898 8242 studiola@simnet.is,

Reynir Katrínarson,

tel. + 354 861 2004

Reykjanes-Lava,

hilhar@talnet.is, tel. +354 862 5264

Stakkavík Xperience Fish,

Bakkalág 15b, 240 Grindavík. tel. +354 - 420 8000

Utility market, culture and art, by the harbour,

Víkurbraut 6, 230 Reykjanesbær.

Skansinn

-Weekend Flee-market,

Rammi, Seylubraut, Innri-Njarðvík, 260 Reykjanesbær +354 847 3225



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The Settlement of Reykjanes

The first Icelandic settlers, who came to Iceland around 874 AD, were chiefly of Nordic extraction, mostly from the west coast of Norway. In Iceland they could farm just as they had in the old country, raising livestock and crops. There were rich fishing grounds just off the coast, and the sea also produced other benefits such as driftwood, walruses, birds and whales. Ingólfur Arnarson, the first settler, claimed all the land west of the Ölfusá river, which is now called the Reykjanes peninsula. He then allocated land to five men and one woman. Steinunn



Steinunn the aged, the first permanent settler on the Reykjanes Peninsula - a painting by the local artist **Áki Gränz**

the Aged was a relative of Ingólfur; he gave her the northern part of the peninsula, for which she repaid him with a knitted coat. She gave her close relative Eyvindur the land that is now called Vogar. Ingólfur gave land to two other relatives, to Herjólfur Bárðarson the land from Hafnir to the tip of Reykjanes, and to Ásbjörn Össurarson the area between his own land and that of Eyvindur. Moldar-Gnúpur settled in Grindavík and Þórir haustmyrkur ("autumn darkness") settled to the east of Grindavík.



Hafnir archeological excavation

There is an interesting archeological excavation taking place in the small village of Hafnir. A site from Viking age is being exavated and the findings have raised many questions. The most important one is; why are there no outbuildings for the farm animals?



Archaeologists working on site in ruins of a farm in Hafnir.





Selatangar

is an old fishing station, used from the Middle Ages until 1884. From here during the main fishing season in winter, seamen rowed out to sea in open boats. Rough and small, made from carved lava rock, one can still see remains of fishermens huts and sheds where stockfish was stored. They have been declared inviolate. The bishop at the Skálholt episcopal see had a fishing station there. During the last century, visitors were harrassed by an especially malevolent ghost called Tanga-Tómas. Driftwood was in abundance at Selatangar in the past, but less nowadays. The surroundings are grandious, low mountains and lava fields. A track for 4wd-vehicles lies down to the ruins and the Ketill, a strange lava formation, on the coast from the road to Grindavík (427).

The Básendar Storm and Flood

Básendar is an ancient fishing outfit and a trading post just south of Stafnes. It was one of the harbours of the Danish Trade

Monopoly posts comprising Hafnir, Stafnes and Midnes. During the night of January 9th 1799 a catastrophic tidal flood devastated Batsendar. It swept most of the houses away and some of the people barely escaped. Only one old woman drowned. This was the most devastating, tidal flood in the history of the country.



The "Turkish" raid

In the year 1627, pirates from Algiers raided Iceland. They first attacked the Westman Islands, then arrived at Grindavík on June 20. The Algerian pirates were known as "Turks" in Iceland, as Algeria was then a part of the huge Ottoman Empire. They seized Icelanders and Danes and sold them

into slavery in North Africa. No one was killed in the raid on Grindavík, but two were injured. Some of the enslaved prisoners were later ransomed and eventually returned to Iceland; one of them, Guðríður Símonardóttir, married the Rev. Hallgrímur Pétursson, author of the Hymns of the Passion and another is Halldór, the grandfather of Jón Porkelsson Thorkillius the principal.





Húshólmi

The Húshólmi area is a so called "clearing" over which the lava Ögmundarhraun didn't flow during an eruption in the year 1151.The lava came flowing from vulcanic craters on the east side of Núpshlíðarháls hill down to the shore. According to archaeologists, in the western part of the "clearing" are ruins of the ancient Krýsuvík farm, dated back since before the year 900. The ruins are a part of a home and most likely a church and a semitary. An interesting site worth visiting but can only be made on foot.



Stafnes

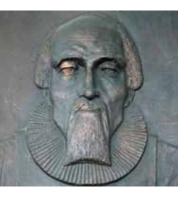
Stafnes was a mansion in the past. There were many fishing outfits on the property and many people lived there during the fishing seasons. Royal Danish fishing outfits started operating there around the middle of the 16th century and were abolished in 1769. The inhabitants of the King's properties in the Southwest were obliged to work on the King's boats

against low pay. During the 17th and 18th centuries, Stafnes was the most populous fishing outfit on the Reykjanes Peninsula. Many vessels have run aground on the Stafnes Skerries. In 1928 the trawler President Jon ran aground there, 15 of the crew drowned, but 10 were rescued. This and other similar accidents led to the establishment of The Life Saving Association of Iceland. Considerable seal hunting was practiced at Stafnes in earlier times.

Stafnesviti lighthouse stands in between the towns Sandgerði and Hafnir at Stafnes and was built in 1925. It stands 8 m. tall built of concrete sement and stands on a concrete stall. It is painted yellow.







Hallgrímur Pétursson

Hallgrímur (1614-74), regarded as Iceland's greatest religious poet, is best known for his Hymns of the Passion. First published in 1666, the Hymns of the Passion have been translated into many other languages, including Latin and Chinese. For centuries Icelanders have read the Hymns of the Passion, along with the Bible, for inspiration and spiritual comfort. During

Lent the hymns are still read today in all major churches in Iceland. As a young man, Hallgrímur went to Denmark to train as a blacksmith but following the advice of the Rev. Br ynjólfur Sveinsson, later bishop of Skálholt, Hallgrímur decided to train for the priesthood instead. In 1637 he returned to Iceland after five years of study, and settled in Njarðvík, a village on Suðurnes. He was appointed to Hvalsnes Church in the village of Sandgerði, where he served for seven years. He was already known for his poetry, but achieved true fame after his death. At Hvalsnes the gravestone of his beloved daughter Steinunn, who died at the age of four, was discovered during building work. The stone, believed to have been cut by Hallgrímur's own hand, is the only object of Hallgrímur's making in existence. On the death of his little girl, Hallgrímur wrote the hymn which is still sung at every funeral in Iceland.

Jón Þorkelsson and Sveinbjörn Egilsson

Jón Þorkelsson *Thorkillius* (1697-1759) and Sveinbjörn Egilsson (1791-1852), both born in Innri-Njarðvík, were close relatives. Jón was principal of the cathedral school at Skálholt. He was a remarkable man with a great interest in education

and schools in Iceland, A wealthy man, he left all his worldly goods to found schools in Kjalarnes district, and hence he has been called the father of primary education in Iceland. A monument was erected beside the church in his memory in 1965. Sveinbjörn too was a scholar, and the first principal of Reykjavík High School in 1846. He was a great poet, translator and a grammarian who wrote a dictionary of Icelandic skaldic language, the Lexicon Poëticum, His most famous works are his translations of Homer He too is commemorated by a monument at the church







The Nato base

After the signing of the Iceland – U.S. Defence Agreement in 1951, a NATO base was established at Keflavík Airport. A



huge construction programme was launched to upgrade the airport facilities and house the 5,000 military personnel on the base. In the 1950s construction work on the base, together with increased demand for various services to the military provided a huge boost to local communities; their population rose from about 5,000 to about 9,000. In addition, the number of servicemen and their families increased until the base became the sixth-largest community in Iceland. By 1960, approximately one of every five workers in Keflavík was employed on the base. This work affected Keflavík and Njarðvík the most, whereas Grindavík, Hafnir, Sandgerði and Garður remained for the most part traditional fishing villages. By the end of the Cold War, the importance of the base declined, and after 1990 operations gradually wound down.



On September 30th, 2006 the base finally closed down. All the buildings and other structures were handed over to the Icelandic state, and today the area houses a university and campus, and other services and industries are developing there.









Stapi Cliff

Vogastapi was named "The Heifer Cove Cliff", later "The Cove Cliff" and sometimes just "The Cliff" by the inhabitants of the area. It is an 80 m. high, dolerite hillock between Coves Vogavik and Njardvik. It is precipitous towards the sea, but has a gradual gradient inland. It is mostly sparsely vegetated and somewhat barren in places. The main road to the western communities and the international airport in Keflavik crosses it. The view from its highest point, Grimsholl, is excellent and a view dial explains the topographical names of the surroundings. Up to this date the Vogastapi Area is haunted by a ghost, which has mislead people off the brink of the cliff. During the motorized age, some of the passers by have noticed a being carrying its head under its arm and sometimes drivers travelling alone spotted it in their rear view mirrors sitting in the back seats. To commemorate the earlier existence of the this figure, rock statues have been erected to remind travellers across the Vogastapi to be aware. Other rock statues nearby were ercted to remind us of the security carins called "The Turk Cairns" which were used to give signs during the "Turskish raid" in the year 1627.



Liósmvndari: Biörgvin Hreinn Guðmundson

Staðarborg sheep shelter

Stadarborg is a sheep shelter, approx. 30 min walk south east from church Kalfatjorn in Vogar. It is round in shape and constructed skilfully from lava rocks. It is about two metres high, 8 m in diameter, and 35 m in circumferance. No sources reveal its age, but it is considered to be a few centuries old. According to the legend, a man named Gudmundur built it for the reverend at Kalfatjorn.

He collected stones from the surrounding area and planned to close the sheep shelter with a cone shaped roof of stones, but the reverend envisioned it higher and more prominent than his church's steeple and stopped the construction work. The stone mason left it exactly as we see it today. It was declared inviolate in 1951

NATURE RESERVE





Reykjanes nature reserve

The nature reserve is about 300 square kilometres and is by far the largest region of its kind in Iceland. It is bordered in the east by the districts of Gullbringa and Árnessýsla and in the north it connects with the Bláfjöll nature reserve. The western borders of the nature reserve are west of Undirhlíðar and Núpshlíðarháls and a straight line to the sea at Selatangar. The southernmost borders follow the coastline. The only big lake is Kleifarvatn The land is very hilly, two very distinctive ridges cut through the landscape in NASV direction and they are about 300-400 metres above sea level, Núpshlíðarháls and Sveifluháls. Brennisteinsfjöll are located in the easternmost part of the nature reserve and there are a few mountains that are 500-600 metres above sea



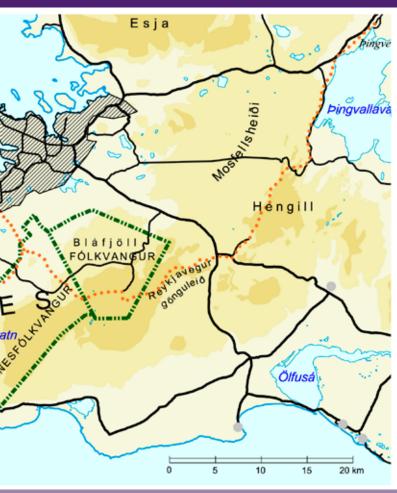
Kleifarvatn

level. The oldest eruption since historical times is the Bláfjöll mountain ridge eruption which began in the year 930 and lasted for about 100 years. The second eruption period is named after Krýsuvík. The main eruption of that period was in 1151 when a 25 kilometer-long fissure opened and lava flowed into the sea both on the northern part (the Kapelluhraun lava) and southern part (the Ögmundarhraun lava) of the Reykjanes peninsula. The third eruption period which is called Reykjanes eruption and lasted from 1210-1240. This eruption was on the point of the peninsula and partly in the sea where Eldey rose from the occean. The volcanic activity aligns itself on the so-called eruption fissures where there are volcanoes and open fissures. There are often rift valleys along the eruption fissures and the chains of craters.

NATURE RESERVE







Krýsuvík

The Krýsuvík geothermal area is a popular recreational destination, with many interesting hiking paths. The Grænavatn and Gestastaðavatn lakes and the two small pools on each side of the road further south, Augun (Eyes), are all explosion craters created by volcanic eruptions at various times. Grænavatn lake is the largest, some 46 metres deep, with green water due to thermal algae. Lake Kleifarvatn is the largest lake on the Reykjanes peninsula, 9.1 km², and one of the country's deepest lakes, at 97 metres. It varies in size over the year. According to legend a monster in the shape of a serpent as big as a medium-sized whale lurks in the lake. Krýsuvík was once a separate

parish, with one of the largest estate farms in the country and many tenants' crofts. It should be kept in mind that the area's magnificent nature is very delicate and must be treated with great care and respect.







The Katlahraun lava.

The lava which created the Ketill (pot, kettle) flowed from craters called Moshólar (the main road now runs through it) approx. 2000 years ago. The surf cooled the lava and a round pond was formed with the boiling lava inside. The poisonous gases from within found its way out to the surface and a lava-chimney was formed. The surface of the lava pond hardened but the hot lava beneath eventually broke through, forming tunnels and rough edges until the pond was empty. The hardened surface finally fell and broke down shaping the area with lots of broken flat lava rocks and the massive lava-chimney still standing. A track for 4wd-vehicles lies down to the Ketill and Selatangar-ruins on the coast from the road to Grindavík (427).



Eldey island

Eldey is a sheer 77-metre high rock protruding out of the sea about 15 km to the south of the southwesternmost tip of the Reykjanes peninsula. The structure of



Eldey is basaltic hyaloclastites and it is 0,03 m2 in area. It is the innermost of a chain of skerries standing on a shallow, submarine ridge, which stretches 45 sea miles offshore to the southwest. The name of this chain is Fuglasker or Eldeyjar. One of those skerries was Geirfuglasker, where the last breeding colonies of the Great Auk was located. Geirfuglasker disappeared mostly from the surface during submarine eruptions in 1830. One of the biggest gannet colonies of the world still survives on Eldey. According to a count which was made in 1949, the number of gannets breeding there during the summer was 70,000.

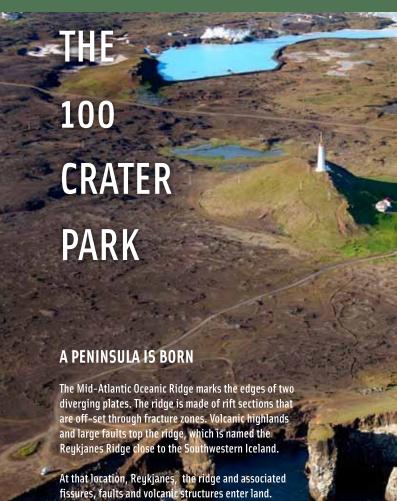
Gunnuhver hot spring

The biggest hot mud spring in Iceland with a crater 20 metres in circumference. The name derives from a female spectre who alive was a dirt poor crofter in dept with her landlord. He took her only cooking pot. Mad with rage Gunna cursed the

landlord, dropped dead and became a spectre. She was finally able to kill her tormentor and then turned to haunt humans and animals alike, until the pastor and wizard at Vogsósar using sorcery forced her into this big mud spring. Those with second sight can see and hear her at the edge of the crater running and howling like the ghost she is. Steaming of the ground at Reykjanes increased markedly as a consequence of a pressure drawdown in the geothremal reservoir upon the start of production from the reservoir in 2006. Two ramps are located at the Gunnuhver group of hot springs with a good view over the the area.

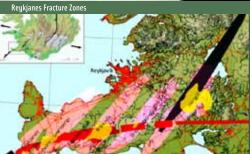
Gunnuhver is the heart in a future geopark where the North Atlantic ridge is rising from the ocean, you find 100 different craters and lava, bird cliffs, high geothermal area, sand beach, The Bridge Between Continents, powerplant, lighthouses and exhibitions amongst other things.





















Keilir

Keilir is a hyaloclastite mountain. It was created during subglacial eruptions during the ice age. Its shape makes it distinctive and according to geologists, it is probably a crater plug. In spite of its steep slopes, it is not too difficult to climb, and the view from its top on a fine day is to be remembered. Keilir is the most distinctive landmark of Reykjanes and a symbol of the Reykjanes peninsula. On top of the mountain is a concrete table with a view direction map on a metal plate.



Bridge Between Continents

The lava-scarred Reykjanes peninsula lies on one of the world's major plate boundaries, the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. According to the continental drift theory, the Eurasian and North American tectonic plates are continuously drifting apart with great forces under the gaping rifts. As the plates diverge, linear fractures, known as fissures form due to stresses created by the tension that builds up as the plates move away from each other.

The bridge between two continents at Sandvík is a small footbridge over a major fissure which provides clear evidence of the presence of a diverging plate margin. The bridge was built as a symbol for the connection between Europe and North America. One can cross the continental divide on Leif the Lucky's Bridge and take home a personalised certificate at Reykjanes Information Center as confirmation and a reminder of this spectacular experience.



Birdlife

On the Krýsuvíkurberg and Hafnaberg cliffs, thousands of seabirds nest each summer. The most common are guillemot, razorbill, Brünnich's guillemot, kittiwake, puffin, black guillemot, fulmar and cormorant. Krýsuvíkurberg is 50 metres high, and about 57.000 pairs of seabirds nest on these cliffs. The highest point of Hafnaberg is 43 metres, and

its estimated population of seabirds is 6.000 pairs. Fourteen kilometres off the southwest of the peninsula is Eldey island, home to one of the largest gannet colonies in the world. The gannet is the largest seabird in the North Atlantic Ocean, and about 16.000 pairs nest each year on the island, which is only

0.03 km2 in area, and up to 77 metres high. Often seen between the mainland and the island are dolphins or whales. The great skua and arctic skua are common in summer, scavengers snatching their food from other seabirds. By nature the skua is not able to





dive for food like other seabirds. Other common birds on the coast are gulls, such as the great and lesser black-backed, glaucous and herring gulls. The arctic tern is among the most common birds in the peninsula, mostly found in colonies on the tip of Reykjanes, east of Grindavík and between Garður and Sandgerði. Whimbrels which breed in the Suðurnes area spend the winter in

Africa, and arctic terns migrate to the Antarctic. The golden plover, oystercatcher and snipe are migratory birds which are common in the area, while the purple sandpiper is one of the few Icelandic waders which does not migrate. Among passerines, the redwing and snow bunting are common, and the starling remains in Iceland all year round. The largest passerine is the raven. The eider is by far the most common species of duck in Iceland.

In the Suðurnes area the eider is economically important, as farmers harvest the valuable down from eider nests. The greylag goose nests in the lowlands, and the whooper swan is the only species of swan which breeds in Iceland





The Blue Lagoon – Geothermal spa

The Blue Lagoon is Iceland's most unique and popular attraction, located in Grindavík municipality and only 40 minutes from Reykjavík and 20 minutes from Keflavík International Airport. Guests enjoy relaxing in geothermal seawater, known for its positive effects on the skin. A visit to the Blue Lagoon promotes harmony between body, mind and spirit, and enables you to soak away the stresses of modern life. The Blue Lagoon is one of the 25 wonders of the world according to National Geographic, stating that the Blue Lagoon is a geothermal gift of nature

In addition to bathing in the Lagoon guests have access to a sauna with a view of the Lagoon and a steam bath with white walls that resemble silica mud. Guests can also stand beneath a waterfall for an energizing massage. The Blue Lagoon offers





both in-water and indoor spa treatments and massages based on the geothermal seawater's active ingredients: minerals, silica and algae.

The Exclusive Bath & Lounge is an option for guests looking for more privacy. This novelty features private changing rooms, a modernly designed lounge with a fireplace and a reserved indoor Lagoon. Light refreshments are served and certain dishes from Lava Restaurant can be ordered.

Lava Restaurant offers a unique dining experience. It is built into the cliff so it features a natural lava wall, adding to its uniqueness. Blue Café is at the main floor and offers quick and healthy choices. Wireless Internet connection is on the site. Lagoon Bar is located at the indoor and the outdoor bathing area and offers light refreshments, which can be conveniently credited to the entrance bracelet and paid upon departure. The Blue Lagoon shop offers the complete Blue Lagoon skin care line and selected gift items and souvenirs.



Swimming Pools in Reykjanes

1 WaterWorld

Water World in the town of Reykjanes is one of the splendid pools in Iceland. There you can find a 25m outdoor pool, hot tubs, steam baths, a 50m indoor pool as well as a fantastic activity pool for the younger family members.

Sunnubraut 31, 230 Keflavík, Tel: 00 354 421 1500 Open: 6:45 - 20:00 weekdays, 8:00 - 18:00 on weekends. No admission fee for children.

2 Garður

Garðbraut, 250 Garður, Tel: 00 354 422 7300

Open: Mon.-Fri. 07.00-21.00 / Sat.-Sun. 10.00-16.00

3 Sandgerði

Sportscenter, 245 Sandgerði, Tel: 00 354 420 7510 Open: Mon.-Fri. 07.00-21.00 Sat.-Sun. 10.00-15.00 / 17.00 during summer season.

4 Vogar

Hafnargata 17, 190 Vogar Tel: 00 354 440 6220 Open: Mon.-Fri. 09:00-20:00 During summer season Sat.-Sun. 10:00-16:00 During





WaterWorld

summer season

No admission for children 18 yrs and younger, elderly citizens and the disabled.

5 Grindavík

The Grindavík swimming pool is 25 m and outdoors. Always warm with geothermal hot water it has a waterslide, a playground for children and hot pots.

Austurvegur, 240 Grindavík, Open: Mon.-Fri. 07.00-20.00 Sat.-Sun. 10.00-15.00 / 17.00 during the summer season.



Golf Courses in Reykjanes

1 Links Leira Golf Club. 18 holes – Golfklúbbur Suðurnesja

Reykjanes has many great golf courses but the optimum golf course is Hólmsvöllur at Leira. The golf club of Suðurnes operates Hólmsvöllur at Leira which was established on march 4th 1964. It is a spectacular 18-hole golf course in a beautiful area next to the seaside. At the golf course the golfer has access to all the service he needs for example practice greens, driving range and a golf store which is open from 9-22 every day. Every day you can rent golf carts, golf bags and golf cars.

www.golf.is/gs gs@gs.is

Tel: 421-4100

2 Kirkjubólsvöllur. 18 holes Golfklúbbur Sandgerðis www.golf.is gsggolf@simnet.is Tel. 00 354 423 7802 / 00 354 863 7756 3 Kálfatjarnarvöllur. 9 holes

3 Kálfatjarnarvöllur. 9 holes

Golfklúbbur Vatnsleysu-strandarhrepps *www.gvsgolf.is*

golfskali@simnet.is Tel. 00 354 424 6529





4 Húsatóftavöllur, 18 holes - Golfklúbbur Grindavíkur

Husatoftavollur is a 18 hole golf course situated 4 km from the Blue Lagoon on the Reykjanes peninsula. The first five holes stretch along the coastline and the other eight are above the highway where they slither into the lava which surrounds the fairways and greens. The last five holes along the coast are played again to finish the 18 holes. The golf course is rather easy to walk even though it is beautifully built into the hilly landscape with a breathtaking view.

www.gggolf.is gggolf@gggolf.is.

Tee times: Tel 00 354 426 8720 / 00354 847 1847

TOURS & ACTIVITIES









All terrain vehicles - ATV4x4



ATV-adventures is located just a 5 min. drive from the Blue Lagoon and is specialized in receiving small and large groups of people. Just get in contact and we will organize the event whether it is a surprise event, your company's annual event, a family event or just something you would like to try. Almost anything goes. Here are some of our scheduled trips:

We ride on ATV between lava and black sand up between two mountains and ride up onto one where we expect a good view over the Blue Lagoon and the island Eldey.

We ride to the Krýsuvík nature reserve over one mountain and to the lava beach to see ruins of fishermens' huts, Selatangar. We ride through the Reykjanes peninsula where we see the tip of Reykjanes, the Reykjanes lighthouse





and parts of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge that lies between the continents of North America and Europe. We drive through the beache where Clint Eastwood and crew made his film "Flags of Our Fathers". Stop for a light refreshment. There is no age limit for passengers, but a driver's licenceneeds to be presented for the ATV driver. Necessary gear is offered for visitors on these trips such as, gloves, helmet with headlight and warm waterproof overall clothing for use in caves and craters.

Pick up from hotels in Keflavík, Reykjavík and Blue Lagoon by request.

TOURS & ACTIVITIES





Arctic Horses

Arctic Horses offers horseback rides to the best destinations of the otherworldly Reykjanes Peninsula in south western Iceland, and is the only stable riding near the geothermal Blue Lagoon Spa. We are a 5 minute drive from the Blue Lagoon. Icelandic horses are the easiest horses to ride in the world, and our experienced guides will happily teach you.



Price See website for tariff and details

Phone 3 00 354 848 0143

Website www.arctichorses.com, arctichorses@gmail.com



Salty tours

The Reykjanes peninsula offers spectacular scenery. A brief drive from Reykjavik brings you to dramatic Lake Kleifarvatn where nearby are bubbling hot springs. Going to the south shore fishing village of Grindavík, near to the Blue Lagoon we visit the Saltfish Museum.

After lunch we go further west to the tip of Revkianes, with its bird cliffs, and take a walk across Iceland's Bridge between two continents traversing the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. The only Viking ship in Iceland, Íslendingur in Njarðvík, Reykjanesbær, will welcome you for a visit before the last stop on the tour, the unique Blue Lagoon. On our way we will take a brief look into a lava cave.

At the Blue Lagoon you can decide how long you want to stay in the bath and other facilities or go directly to Reykjavik on the schedule bus. Optional drop off at the international airport. Keflavík.



Grindavík



All vear.



00 354 8205750

Website

saltvtours.is.is

Nanny's Nature Walks Grófin 2-4, 230 Reykjanesbær. Tel. 00 354 893 8900

Reykjanes travel guides Tel. 00 354 896 5598

Volcano tours Víkurbraut 2. Flagghús, 240 Grindavík, Tel. 00 354 426 8822

AT Iceland tours, 245 Sandgerði, 00354 899 6312

Revktour. Faxabraut 38a. 230Reykjanesbær, 00354 864 3739

Kópur, sea-angling, 190 Vogar, 00354 846 2510

Jeppabræður, Adventure 4x4. Vogagerði 30, 190 Vogum, 00354 662 422

Seaweed and Kelp bath, at Garðskagi in Garður, tel. 00354 898 6440

Shore and cliff-fishing, Oliver Keller, 00354 893 7194

TRANSPORTATION





SBK Coaches

SBK was founded in 1930 to transport people between Keflavík and Reykjavík, SBK is Iceland's oldest, most experienced coach operator.

With a fleet of 16 fine buses. The company operates in several public transport sectors, for example line buses between Reykjanesbær and Reykjavik, school buses ans city buses.

Location <



Grófin, 230 Reykjanesbær

Open (



Disabled access (

Access

Phone 2

00 354 4206000

Website (#



sbk.is sbk@sbk.is



Coaches

Hópferðir Sævars, bus4u,

Grófin 17, 230 Reykjanesbæ, 245 Sandgerði Tel. 00 354 840 1540

Kynnisferðir - Reykjavík Excursions

Vatnsmýrarvegur 10, 101 Reykjavík Tel: 00 354 562 1011 main@re.is / www.re.is

Bláa Línan - Blue Line

Leifur Eiriksson Air Terminal Tel: 00 354 425 0381 00 354 420 6000

Car Rentals

Avis car rental, 591-4000. Budget car rental, 562-6060. Europcar/National car rental, 425-0300.

425-0300.

Hertz car rental, 522-4436.

SG car rental, 421-3737.

Geysir car rental 893-4455

Dollar – Thrifty car rental, 515-7110.

Sixt rent a car, 540-2221 **Hasso** car rental, 421-6277.

SS car rental, 421-2220. Arctic car rental, 421-4366 11.is. car rental. 777-6611 Bílabjónustan, 421-1118 Blue car rental, 773-7070 Gildo car rental. 847-1784 ICR Iceland car rental, 773-7415 X-tra car rental, 842-6615 Fit car rental, 421-8889 Touring Cars. 562-0909 Camper Iceland, 567-0807. Iceland Car Rental. 415 2500 JS Camper rentals, 849 2220 My Car, car rental, 552 1700 Bílaleiga Keflavíkur, KEFCAR. 777 6111

Reykjavík rent a car, 569 3300

Taxis

A-Stöðin

Tel: 00 354 420 1212

Hreyfill-Bæjarleiðir

Tel: 00 354 421 4141

Icelandtaxi, private-driver, 892 0105





Hotel Keflavik

Hotel Keflavik is a first class hotel in the heart of Keflavík, only five minutes from the Keflavík International Airport. 20 minutes from the Blue Lagoon and 40 minutes from Reykjavík. This pioneer hotel was the first to open in the town on May 17th 1986 and celebrates its 25 anniversary this year.

We meet your requirements offering 70 spacious rooms. All rooms are equipped with B&O television, CD player, mini-bar, telephone, safe, trouser press and wireless internet.

Location <ô▶

Vatnsnesvegur 12, 230 Reykjanesbæ

Open (1)



Phone +354 4207000

Website (III)



Email: stay@kef.is

Our confortable hotel is offering as well computer room with free internet access, fitness center, restaurant a la carte, conference rooms, breakfast and airport transfer.

Café lőnó is a glass-enclosed hotel restaurant where you find coffee house, bar and delicious, meals a la carte.



Icelandair Hotel in Keflavík

Icelandair Hotel in Keflavík is a member of Icelandair hotels, which are premium hotels in Iceland. Location is key to this modern fourstar hotel, 5 minutes away from Keflavik International Airport (KEF). Icelandair Hotel has sauna, massage and whirlpool. It is a great meeting point, with 6 conference rooms for up to 12 to 200 people. Icelandair Hotel has 60 rooms - 39 Standard, 18 Deluxe and 3 Junior Suites - There is an all-day first class restaurant, Vocal, Icelandair Hotel in Keflavík offers free Wi Fi in all rooms and common areas. It offers relaxing lounge / bar, which has a fireplace. Breakfast is served from 05:00 a.m. every day.

Location <



Icelandair Hotel in Keflavík Hafnargata 57, 230 Reykjanesbæ



All Year

Disabled



Access

Phone



+354 4215222

Website

icehotels is keflavik@icehotels.is





The Northern Light Inn

The Northern Light Inn is a home away from home, located in the heart of the geothermal Reykjanes Peninsula. 32 cozy rooms, family hospitality and delicious foods await you, only 15 minutes from the Keflavík International Airport, 2 minutes from the Blue Lagoon. Complimentary International Aiport and Blue Lagoon transfers are available anytime. WI-FI internet access is free throughout the hotel. Day tours and activities can be joined from the hotel.

Location **∢**ô



Grindavíkurbraut 1. 240 Grindavík.





All year.

Disabled access



Access

Phone .



+354 426 8650

Website (#

www nli is welcome@nli is



Blue Lagoon Clinic & Hotel

Blue Lagoon Iceland offers accommodation at the Blue Lagoon Clinic Hotel. A part of the building is a treatment center for psoriasis. The hotel is located in a quiet natural setting in a five minute walk from the Blue Lagoon Geothermal Spa. Its modernly designed and comfortable 15 rooms offer view of the surrounding natural lava field. Floor to ceiling windows bring the serenety of the natural surrounding into each room.



Grindavíkurvegur 5 240 Grindavík





All Year





+354 420 8900

Website (

bluelagoon.com bluelagoon@bluelagoon.com





The Icelandic Health Hotel / SPA Hotel Iceland

The Icelandic Health Hotel is the ideal place for visitors to improve both their physical and mental well-being. A stay that provides the necessary break from our daily routines and the guests return rejuvenated and energized. The Detox treatment at the hotel was developed by two doktors. It is based on a special diet, healthy exercise, lymphatic and anti-inflammatory massage, steam baths, Blue Lagoon trips, rest and relaxation.

Location <

Lindarbraut 634, 235 Reykjanesbæ

Open (



Disabled access

Access

Phone .



Website (

heilsuhotel.is heilsa@heilsuhotel.is

B&B Guesthouse Keflavik Center

When you're looking for a comfy bed and a good nights sleep within easy reach of Iceland's international airport. B&B Guesthouse Keflavik Center is the place to go. It is only a 4 minutes drive from the airport to the questhouse and we offer free pick up or drop off.

"USA | Couple 18-24 | 14th June 2010

This is the cutest, friendliest place ever. The beds are super comfy. the bathroom is huge and gorgeous. I really can't say enough good thinas!"

Location Hringbraut 92, 230 Reykjanesbær

All Year

Phone

+354 421 8989

Website (

bbgesthouse.is bbguesthouse@simnet.is



Bed and Breakfast Keflavik Airport

Bed and Breakfast Keflavik Airport is located next to the Keflavik International Airport, housed in a renovated army barracks on a former American military NATO base, ÁSBRÚ.

We offer spacious rooms and a free 24-hour shuttle service from the airport. A large breakfast buffet is available from 04:30. Reception is open 24 hours. All our rooms have a private bathroom.

GYM center, Guests can prepare meals in communal kitchen. The TV lounge has an internet computer and a pool table.

Reviews: ... the best about the hotel was the space in the rooms, the lovely staff and the best breakfast.

Location <



Valhallarbraut, 761 235 Reykjanesbær



All Year





+354 426 5000 / 899 2570





bbkeflavik.com aistihus@internet.is





Ocean Front Iceland, Luxury Apartment

Luxury apartment in this beautiful Oceanfront Villa, Minna-Knarrarnes in Vatnsleysuströnd, by road 420. Ideal for 2, sleeps 4. Separate entrance, kitchen, living room, bathroom and



one bedroom. All inclusive. Wireless Internet. Hot tub / Jacuzzi and cable TV. The house, and its beautiful surroundings have been used in film-making. Located on a large private property with outstanding ocean and mountain view, and with a private beach. The Blue Lagoon is 15 minutes away. Reykjavik is 30 minutes away, downtown. The Airport is 15 minutes away. A



perfect place to see the Aurora Borealis - Northern Lights, September through April, in a secluded countryside area, without external lighting. A truly magnificent place.



Minna-Knarrarnes, Vatnsleysuströnd, 190 Vogum



All year.



See website for tariff and details





+354 898 6760



www.oceanfronticeland.is, oceanfronticeland@gmail.com





Hótel Keilir

Keilir Hotel is a family business on Keflavik's main street, within walking distance of all the best restaurants and pubs in the area. It's the perfect place in which to stay when exploring Keflavik or the Reykjanes Peninsula, which includes the world-famous Blue Lagoon, or when arriving in or leaving Iceland. A minibus takes passengers to the Keflavik International airport, which is just 5 minutes away.







Hótel Berg

You will find this new, family-run hotel in one of the most beautiful locations on the Reykjanes peninsula – beside the harbour for small boats in Keflavík. Just five minutes' walk from the best restaurants in town and seven minutes' drive from Keflavík International Airport and 30 minutes from Reykjavík.

All year.

Open (i) All yea

Price See website for tariff and details

Phone +354 422 7922, Fax: +354 422 7933

Website www.hotelberg.is, berg@hotelberg.is

Guesthouse Garður

Why you should visit

- Garður should appeal to those who enjoy nature.
- Garðskagi is a unique nature reserve where you can enjoy a beautiful sunset in summer and the mysterious northern lights in winter.
- Garðskagi is also known for birdwatching where thousands of migrating birds arrive from Greenland and North America to breed.

Our accommodations

- Our facilities are great for families and couples.
- 7 apartments for 4-8 persons.
- Our guests have access to fully equipped kitchen where they can cook their own meal
- Tv in all apartments
- Free parking at the premises of the guesthouse.
- Free wireless internet connection.
- We offer free airport transport.

Location <



Skagabraut 6a 250 Garði







+354 660 7894 +354 660 7891



www.guesthousegardur.is guesthousegardur@simnet.is







Airport Hotel Smári

Airport Hótel Smári is a newly built hotel located only 100 meters from Keflavik Airport Terminal, scheduled to open early summer 2012. The hotel will be fully equipped with 70 rooms on 6 floors. It has spacious (20-25 m2) single, double and triple rooms with private bathrooms, satellite TV and access to wireless internet. A regular bus transportation will be available to Hotel Smári in the Reykjavik area.

Location 🐗

Keflavik Airport

Open (1



Price =

Phone ,





www.hotelsmari.is



Northern Light Inn

Nordic soul food and hospitality of a different kind has made the Northern Light Inn an internationally renown culinary destination. The menu is thoughtfully prepared from the best ingredients available in Iceland: the freshest North Atlantic fish, melt-in -vour-mouth freerange moss grazing lamb, and delicious vegetarians selections. The panoramic dining room is just 15 minutes from Keflavik International Airport, 45 minutes from Revkiavik, and moments to the Blue Lagoon.



Bláalónsvegur, 240 Grindavík





Disabled





+354 4268650

Website (#



nli.is welcome@nli.is



Vitinn

You've just landed at Iceland's international airport and your stomach is rumbling! A short, 10-minute ride will bring you the guickest introduction to the Icelandic speciality cuisine - and the most delicious relief to that rumbling stomach that you could imagine that's nonetheless easy on the wallet! Whether you are alone or with a large group. Vitinn (Lighthouse) restaurant can satisfy your appetite with a culinary and visual. Set next to the lighthouse, right by the harbour where the fishing fleet lands its catch. Viting prepares fish that could not be fresher!



Location (Vitatorg 7, 245 Sandgerði

Open (



All year



+354 423 7755

Website



info@vitinn is





Café lỗnó

Café Iðnó is a glass-enclosed restaurant connected to Hotel Keflavik. There you find a coffee house, bar and a very nice restaurant in attractive surroundings. Café lonó offers a superb a la carte menu with good selection of fish, meat and pasta. Personal service and fresh ingredients is the main concern



230 Reykjanesbæ

Open All Year





Phone +354 4207000



Website stay@kef.is



Lava Restaurant

Blue Lagoon's Lava restaurant offers a breathtaking view of the Lagoon. Fresh Icelandic seafood delivered fresh daily from from the dock of Grindavik. Blue Lagoon's home town, is prominent on the menu. Head chef. Viktor Örn Andrésson, a member of the Icelandic Culinary team, places emphasis on using fresh Icelandic ingredients in preparing a menu with an international flair. Sushi, vegetarian dishes, the Icelandic lamb and seafood are among the tempting items on the menu. Light refreshments prepared in the Blue Lagoon kitchen are served in Blue Cafe and at the Lagoon bar where people can enjoy refreshments in between bathing in the Blue Lagoon.



240 Grindavík







Phone +354 420 8900



Website bluelagoon.com bluelagoon@bluelagoon.is



VOCAL restaurant

A first-class restaurant and stylish hotel bar, boasting excellent service. Flughotel's first-class restaurant serves impressive dishes for groups and individuals in sophisticated surroundings. It's menu offers diners a wide choice to suit a variety of tastes, moods and diets, making it the perfect place for either lunch or dinner.

Vocal restaurant is also open for breakfast from 05:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. In addition to the eateries at the the restaurant, there is a comfortable bar for you to relax and enjoy a drink at your leisure.

Flughotel, Hafnargata 57, 230 Revkianesbæ

All Year

Disabled

Access

Phone

+00 354 4215222

Website

icehotels.is

fluahotel@icehotels.is



Ráin

In its 23rd year and recently renovated, this elegant restaurant has the cosy style of the 1930's 'Golden Years' and all the modern trappings needed for conferences, celebrations, events or shows. Its windows offer a restful, panoramic view of the ocean to the horizon, making it a popular venue for locals and visitors alike.

You could get so lost in your enjoyment of the meal that, if you're on your way home, you could miss your flight!

Location 4

Hafnargötu 19, 230 Keflavík



All Year





+354 421 4601



www.rain.is rain@rain.is





Hotels:

Hótel Vogar, Stapavegur 7, 190 Vogar, tel. +354 424 6735 / +354 866 4664

Guesthouses:

Gistiheimilið Keflavík,

Vatnsnesvegi 9, 230 Reykjanesbær. Tel. +354 420 7000.

Guesthouse Ásabraut.

Ásabraut 8, 230 Reykjanesbær, tel. +354 896 7888

Svítan, apartment rent,

Túngata 10, 230 Reykjanesbær +354 663 1269

GG gistiheimili, Sólvallagata 11, 230 Reykjanesbæ, tel. +354 568 1813

Mótel Alex, Aðalgata 60, 230 Reykjanesbæ, tel. +354 421 2800

Gistiheimilið Þverholt 5,

Pverholt 5, 230 Reykjanesbæ, tel. +354 863 9280 **Gistiheimilið 1x6,** Vesturbraut 3, 230 Reykjanesbæ, tel. +354 421 2282 / +354 777 6166 **Fiskanes,** Hafnargata 17-19, 240 Grindavík, tel. +354 897 6388

Gistiheimilið Borg,

Borgarhraun 2, 240 Grindavík, tel. +354 895 8686

Arctic B&B, Sjónarhóli, 240 Grindavík, tel. + 354 436 1414 / +354 696 1919

Gistiheimilið Driffell,

Heiðarvegi 4, 230 Reykjanesbæ, tel. +354 699 5529

Huts:

Póroddsstaðir, Nátthagi, 245 Sandgerði, tel. +354 423 7748 / + 354 893 7523

Motel Alex, Aðalgata 60, 230 Reykjanesbæ, tel. +354 421 2800

Youth hostel:

Fit Hostel, Fitjabraut 6a, 260 Reykjanesbær, tel. +354 421 8889

Camping:

Camping Sandgerði

Byggðavegur, 245 Sandgerði, tel. +354 423 7551 / +354 897 8007

www.sandgerdi.is. Open from 1. April to 30. Sept.

Camping Alex, Keflavík, Aðalgata 60, 230 Reykjanesbær, tel. +354 421 2800 /+354 421 4285 alex@alex.is, www.alex.is

Open from 1. June – 15. Sept. Camping Garður.

Skagabraut, 250 Garður, tel. +354 422 7108

gardur@sv.gardur.is Open 1. June - 15. Sept.

Camping Grindavík,

Austurvegur 26, 240 Grindavík, tel. +354 660 7323 grindavik@grindavik.is www. grindavik.is Open 20. May – 15. Sept.

Grindavík Camping Site

Grindavík opened a brand new state of the art campground facility in the summer of 2009 at Austurvegur 26. The campground is a pleasure-fest for the family. The campground was designed with the camping enthusiast in mind; it includes the latest in accommodations for tents, RV's and campers. It has two playgrounds for children with swings, castles and a spider-net, family-sized barbeques, and access to electricity, plus a perfect place to empty port-a-potties. Paved entrance to the camping grounds and convenient parking area.

Austurvegur 26, 240 Grindavík Tel: +354 420 1100 grindavik@grindavik.is www.grindavik.is/tjaldsvaedi Open from 15. May to 20. September





Restaurants

Kaffi Duus, Duusgata 10, 230 Reykjanesbær, tel. +354 421 7080

Thai Keflavík, thai restaurant, Hafnargata 39, 230 Reykjanesbær, tel. +354 421 8666 / +354 840 7670

Dinnerinn, restaurant, Krossmói 4, 260 Reykjanesb., tel. +354 421 4450

Panda, chinese restaurant, Hafnargata 30, 230 Reykjanes., tel. +354 421 8060

Sjómannastofan Vör, Hafnargata 9, 240 Grindavík, tel. +354 426 8570

Karma, health food, Grófin 8, 230 Reykjanesbær, tel. + 354 421 8448

Mamma mia, Hafnargata 7a, 240 Grindavík, tel. + 354 426 9966 / + 354 896 2710

Salthúsið, Stamphólsvegur 2, 240 Grindavík, tel. +354 426 9700 / +354 699 2665 **Mamma mia,** Tjarnargata 6, 245 Sandgerði, tel +354 423 7377 / +354 824 7270 **Vitinn,** Vitatorg 7, 245 Sandgerði, tel. + 354 423 7755

Tveir vitar, Garðskaga, 250 Garður, tel. + 354 422 7214

Langbest, by Keilisbraut, building 771, Ásbrú, 235 Reykjanesbær, tel. + 354 421 4777

Olsen Olsen, Hafnargata 17, 230 Reykjanesbær, tel. + 354 421 4457

Kanturinn, Hafnargata 6, 240 Grindavík, tel. +354 426 9999 / +354 824 9080

Fast food:

Aðalstöðin, Hafnargata 86, 230 Reykjanesbær, tel. +354 421 4800

Biðskýlið Njarðvík, Hólagata 20, 260 Reykjanesbær, tel. +354 421 2563

Skyndibarinn, Víkurbraut 21, 230 Reykjanesbær, tel. +354 421 5051

Dominos pizza, Hafnargata 86, 230 Reykjanesbær, tel. +354 581 2345

Langbest, Hafnargata 62, 230 Reykjanesbær, tel. + 354 421 4777

Ungó, Hafnargata 6, 230 Reykjanesbær, tel. + 354 421 1544

Bitinn, Iðavellir 14b, 230 Reykjanesbær, tel. + 354 421 4000

Bitinn, Hafnargata 12, 230 Reykjanesbær, tel. + 354 421 8000

Pulsuvagninn, Tjarnargata 19, 230 Reykjanesbær, tel. + 354 421 1680

Subway, Hafnargata 32 and Fitjum, 230 and 260 Reykjanesbær, tel. + 354 421 7756 / 517 7747

N1 Söluskáli, Heiðartún 1, 250 Garður, tel. + 354 422 7265

AðalBraut, Víkurbraut 31, 240 Grindavík, tel. +354 426 7222/ + 354 892 7755

Báran, Pizza Islandia, Hafnargötu 6, 240 Grindavík, tel. + 354 426 9900

Shell skálinn, Strandgötu 15, Sandgerði, tel. + 354 423 7560 Jón Sterki, take away, Hafnargötu 17a, 190 Vogum, tel. + 354 7717900

Cafés:

Aðalbraut, Víkurbraut 31, 240 Gindavík, tel. + 354 426 7222 / + 354 892 7755

Kaffi Duus, Duusgata 10, 230 Reykjanesbær, tel. + 354 421 7080

Kaffitár, Stapabraut 7, 260 Reykjanesbær, tel. + 354 420 2700

Blue Café, at the Blue Lagoon, 240 Grindavík, tel. + 354 420 8800

Bryggjan, at the harbour in Grindavík, 240 Grindavík, tel. + 354 426 7100 / + 354 892 4587











