Forword

In this handbook you will find information about the East of Iceland to ease your travels and help you make your visit to our part of Iceland a memorable experience. The book is published by the East Iceland marketing office, located in Egilsstaðir in close cooperation with the Icelandic Tourist board. We are responsible for promoting East Iceland as a tourist destination, as well as running the East Iceland Tourist Information Centre in Egilsstaðir. Our goal is to strengthen the image of the east and make our guests aware of the great possibilities and experiences that await you in our part of Iceland. For further information go to our website www.east.is.

We wish you an enjoyable stay in East Iceland.

Markaðsstofa Austurlands 2010
East Iceland Marketing Office.
east@east.is • Tel. (+354) 472 1750 • www.east.is

Enjoy your stay!

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Note: The information in this book is always arranged from North to South, from Vopnafjörður to Djúpivogur.
Getting to East Iceland

By Air

Air Iceland • www.flugfelag.is • (+354) 570-3030
East Iceland is only an hour away from Reykjavík by air. There are scheduled flights from Reykjavík to Egilsstaðir 3-4 times every day and to Vopnafjörður twice a week.

By Ferry

Norröna • Austfar http://www.smyril-line.com/ • Info@smyril-line.is
Fjarðargata 8, 710 Seyðisfjörður • (+354) 472-1111
The Smyril Line ferry Norröna sails weekly from Seyðisfjörður; to the Faroe Islands and twice a week from the Faroes to Denmark.

By Bus

Akureyri - Egilsstaðir
SBA • www.sba.is • (+354) 550-0700
A scheduled bus every day from May to September and 4 times a week during winter.

Egilsstaðir - Höfn
Sterna • www.sterna.is • bogf@bogf.is • (+354) 553-3737.
A daily bus during summer.

Climate and clothing

East Iceland enjoys a pronounced rain shadow effect caused by gigantic Vatnajökul glacier. The summer weather is generally dry and settled, though you can expect colder northerly winds, even in July. We often enjoy to the amazing clarity and powerful cloud patterns for which Iceland is noted. Good outdoor gear is the best and good hiking shoes will make your stay really enjoyable despite wet and windy weather, or even snow on higher ground. There can be a considerable range in temperature with differing conditions, from 2º to 29ºC in summer.
Travelling in East Iceland: Fjord to Fjord

By bus

To the Fjords: Austfjardaleið • www.austfjardaleid.is
austfjardaleid@austfjardaleid.is • (+354) 477-1713
Scheduled buses go every day to the Fjords connecting Egilsstaðir, Norðfjörður, Eskifjörður, Reyðarfjörður, Fáskrúðsfjörður, Stöðvarfjörður and Breiðdalsvík. A great way to explore the dramatic landscapes and lively fishing villages in the Eastern Fjords. For hiking in the desolated fjords between Norðfjörður and Eskifjörður, the bus will help complete your circle.

To Seyðisfjörður every day with FAS • www.sfk.is
(+354) 472-1515 / 893-2669
Öldugata 16, 710 Seyðisfjörður

To Borgarfjörður every day with Jakob og Margret
www.borgarfjordureystri.is • hild@centrum.is
(+354) 472-9805 / 894-8305

By boat

The ferry to Mjóifjörður, one of the most spectacular and picturesque fjords, sails twice a week from Neskaupsstaður; Norðfjörður. On the way you sail along a magnificent coast, deep into the narrow fjord. A great way to explore the East see:

Fjarðaferðir • www.fjarðaferðir.is
info@fjarðaferðir.is • (+354) 864-7410

Rent - a - car

Driving yourself offers freedom to explore. Rental cars from all major rentals are available at Egilsstaðir airport. Rental cars are also available at Vopnafjörður airport.
Tourist Information Centers:

**East Iceland Tourist Info** Miðvangi 1-3, 700 Egilsstaðir
(+354) 471-2320 • www.east.is • info@east.is
All information about East Iceland, as well as other parts of the country. There is a handcraft and design shop on the premises.

**Vopnafjörður Tourist Info** Kaupvangi, 690 Vopnafjörður
(+354) 473-1341 • www.vopnafjardarhreppur.is • refsstadur@simnet.is
The information center is located in the oldest house in Vopnafjörður. A nice coffee shop and museum is in the same building.

**Seyðisfjörður Tourist Info** Ferjuleira harbour, 710 Seyðisfjörður
(+354) 472-1551 / 861-7789 • www.sfk.is • ferdamenning@sfk.is
You find the information centre at the ferry harbour.

**Norðfjörður - Nesbær coffee shop** 740 Norðfjörður
(+354) 477-1115 • www.fjardabyggd.is • fjardabyggd@fjardabyggd.is
Situated in the nice coffee and art shop Nesbær, you can enjoy coffee and cakes while finding information.

**Fáskrúðsfjörður - French fishermen** 750 Fáskrúðsfjörður
(+354) 864-2728 • www.fjardabyggd.is • fjardabyggd@fjardabyggd.is
Situated in the French Fisherman centre, you can enjoy the exhibit while collecting information.

**Breiðdalsvík - Breiddalsetur** 760 Breiðdalsvík
(+354) 470-5565 • www.breiddalur.is • ferdamal@breiddalur.is
The information centre is situated in the oldest house, the old trade centre. There you also find the Geological, linguistic and historical centre of the village. All information on Breiðdalur.

**Djúpivogur - Langabúð** 765 Djúpivogur
(+354) 478-8220 • www.djupivogur.is • djupivogur@djupivogur.is
The oldest house in Djúpivogur accommodates the information centre. Langabúð is also a coffee shop and museum.
Vopnafjörður www.vopnafjardarhreppur.is

Vopnafjörður is a wide fjord in the northeast sheltered by the Smjörfjöll mountains to the south, rising to 1079 meters and extensive moors to the north. The coast is spectacular with cliffs and columnar basalt. Along the route 917 Hellisheiði you pass through the ruins of an old volcano, with colourful rocks and marked hiking trails, and there is Gljúfurá a river in a deep gorge with a spectacular waterfall. The geology is fascinating and here the only fossil of a mammal dating prior to the ice age was found, telling a tale of large forests with deer that may have come across from Scotland on a land-bridge millions of years ago.

Vopnafjörður has three main valleys, with world famous salmon fishing rivers such as Selá and Hofsá. Vopnafjörður is a haven for birdwatchers, especially the waders and ducks on the ocean-facing lagoons to the north of the village. There is Eider-down farming and visitors are welcome at Syðri-Vík to see how the precious down is collected.

The small town of Vopnafjörður is a major fishing harbour. Fish and agricultural processing form the backbone of the town’s economy. The village provides all basic services for the surrounding community, Information for travellers is available in the heart of town at Kaupvangur; built in 1882 now renovated and home to Kaupvangskaffi (tourist info & coffee house), Múlastofa, and the East Iceland Emigration Centre.

Things to do:
- Visit the Emigration Centre
- Enjoy the musical Múlastofa
- Soak in the hot spring pool in Selárdalur
- Walk path to Fuglabjarganes
- The Bustarfell Folk Museum and the Elves
- The coast at Skjálsfjörur
The Borgarfjörður region, on the coast about 70 km east from Egilsstaðir, is known for its great natural beauty. Bakkagerði the village has a around 150 inhabitants.

Borgarfjörður is famous for the good hiking trails called “Viknaslóðir trails” to the deserted fjords and coves, Víkur and to Loðmundarfjörður. The area has become a “Hiker’s Paradise,” with local people marking numerous trails, comfortable hiking huts and a good hiking-map.

The marked trails range from 1hr to a full day. Borgarfjörður is the home of the Queen of Elves. You can walk to the Álfaborg “Elves Castle” where the Queen of the Icelandic elves holds her court. Go to Álfacafé and try the local fish-dishes, visit the fish factory or look at some of the beautiful handicraft by the local people. In Bakkagerði you can stop at Kjarvalsstofa where the years that Johannes Kjarval stayed at Borgarfjörður are shown in pictures and texts.

In Borgarfjörður, there are excellent facilities for bird-watching. A special hide at the harbour from which over twenty species have been sighted at once. At Hafnarhólmi by the harbour for small boats are among Iceland’s best facilities for bird watching, in particular to see puffins close up and kitiwakes.

Things to do:
- Álfacafé for refreshments
- Álfaborg, the elf-queen’s court
- Visit Kjarvalsstofa and Adventureland
- Hafnarhólminn, to view puffins
- Höfnin for bird watching
- Fjardará estuary for colourful rocks
- Hike to Urðarhólavatn
- Hike to Brúnavík
Egilsstaðir www.fljotsdalsherad.is

Egilsstaðir is one of Iceland’s youngest towns and unlike most towns it was established in 1947 by the national government. Since then Egilsstaðir has developed an extensive array of services and become the service and trade centre for most of East Iceland. The town is a centre of transportation, mainly through Egilsstaðir international Airport. Scheduled buses connect to all the villages, from Breiðdalsvík in the south to Borgarfjörður eystr, as well as to Höfn and Akureyri. Fljótsdalshérað municipality offers free bus rides between its main centres of population. The ferry Norræna, docks at the port of nearby Seyðisfjörður with is only road connection to Egilsstaðir. Ferry days tend to be very lively in the towns markets and excellent restaurants. The town’s strategic location makes it perfect to plan daytrips to many of the great locations nearby. There are many good hotels and guesthouses, as well as restaurants to be enjoyed. The municipality provides exemplary facilities for sports, operating for example four sports halls and an artificial turf football field. Fljótsdalshérað has two swimming pools, a small one at Hallormsstaður and a great outdoor pool at Egilsstaðir, with a water slide and a children’s splash pool.

Things to do:
- Visit the Minjasafn, museum
- Stroll in Selskógur village woods
- Soak in the hot tubs
- Visit the culture centre
- Enjoy fabulous local food
- Go horseback riding
Fljótsdalshérað www.fljotsdalsherad.is and www.fljotsdalur.is

"Fljótsdalshérað" or "Hérað", is the broad valley extending and branching southwest from the black beaches of Héraðsflói to the Vatnajökull glacier and Kverkfjöll volcano. Hérað covers an area of 9,400 km², almost 10% of Iceland. The size is reflected in a great variety of landscapes. Snæfell, Iceland’s 2nd highest mountain, reigns over the highlands. From the strange sub-glacial landscapes of Möðrudalur; the ice-age moraines and long, smooth-sided valleys to the coastal wetlands and colourful ancient volcanic ruins, not forgetting Stórurð one of the wonders on Earth and Hallormsstaðaskógur; Iceland’s largest forest.

Among Icelanders, the valleys of Hérað, Jökuldalur, Fljótsdalur and Skriðdalur have long had a reputation for natural beauty and nice weather; reinforced by the districts growing forests. When summertime breezes come from the south across the highlands, they tend to be dry and warm. Some say Hérað is a weather paradise, whatever the season, with the exception of days when the mystical “east fjords fog” sets in.

Jökuldalur is known for sheep farming, where as barley and beef are typical products on the lakeshore. The district is the scene of Hrafnelssaga, with Hrafnkell freysgoði, the Viking era chieftain living at Aðalból and a Skriðuklaustur was the east’s only monastery.

The Icelandic reindeer are common on the moorlands and the nature reserve on Húsey-Úthérað sandy coast is a prime habitat of seals and birds.

**Things to do:**
- Stop at Möðrudalur
- Visit the Troll’s wall or Skessugarður
- Skjöldofstastrðir reindeer museum
- Klaustursel mini Zoo
- Bath at Laugarvalladalur
- See the Reindeer
- A drink at Sámsbar, Aðalból
- Europe’s largest dam at Kárahnjúkar
- Climb Snæfell
- A birdwatching riding tour at Husey
- Hike to Stórurð and Dyrfjöll
Seyðisfjörður www.sfk.is

The long calm, deep fjord of Seyðisfjörður twists and turns 17 kilometers from its mouth to the bottom, where a lovely small town of Seyðisfjörður is situated beneath two towering mountains Strandartindur and Bjólfur (Beowulf). Up from the village the river Fjarðará cascades in numerous gorgeous waterfalls down to a small lagoon around which the town is built. Up alongside the river lies the road to Hérað (Egilsstaðir), 26 km across the pass of Fjarðarheiði, offering a marvellous view of the surrounding area. Seyðisfjörður is considered to be one of Iceland’s most picturesque towns, not only because of its unique environment, but also as nowhere else has a community of old wooden buildings been as well preserved. Hence Seyðisfjörður is often mentioned as “The Norwegian village”.

The 700 inhabitants live quiet lives except for during summer when the town is a tourist attraction. On the way to Seyðisfjörður it is a good idea to take the opportunity to enjoy the view over Fjarðará river as it cascades down towards the fjord in a veritable abundance of waterfalls all the way down to the lagoon at the head of Seyðisfjörður.

**Things to do:**
- Drive to Skálanes
- Visit Dvergasteinn the home of dwarfs
- Mt. Bjólfur, for a spectacular view
- Hike to Vestdalur Nature Reserve
- ‘old’ town and “Blue church”
- Visit the technical museum
- Go sea-fishing with the local fisherman
- Visit Skaftafell the art centre and the work of Dieter Roth
- Drink El Grillo ale
Mjóifjörður - the hidden treasure  www.fjardabyggd.is

Mjóifjörður, the “narrow fjord”, 18 km long, is situated between Norðfjörður and Seyðisfjörður, and is known for pleasant weather and tranquillity. The road leading to the fjord is relatively good, but is usually closed in winter, when the only access to Mjóifjörður is by the scheduled Fjardaferdir boat from Norðfjörður. The exhilarating road on the north side runs along the fjord side to Dalatangi, a lighthouse with a most magnificent view out towards the open ocean.

There are many attractions in Mjóifjörður, which is by many people considered the most impressive fjord in Iceland. The beautiful waterfalls Klifbrekkufossar tumble down by the roadside. The ravine Prestagil, or the priest’s ravine, is so named because of a local folktale that tells of a huge troll woman that tried to seduce a priest into the ravine is on the south side. Another challenging gorge is Hofsárgljúfur on the way to Dalatangi, stop by the bridge and look down.

The small inlet Smjörvogur, close to Hofsárgljúfur, was once used as a prison as there was no way in, or out of it, without assistance. At Asknes are the remains of an old whaling station, the largest in the world at the time it was built by the Norwegians around 1900, with over 200 hundred workers. Today, some 40 people live in Mjóifjörður, mostly in the tiny village, Brekkuþorp.

**Things to do:**
- Visit Dalatangi lighthouse
- Visit Mjóifjörður by boat
- Stay at the guesthouse
- Try local shellfish and whitewine at Sólbrekka restaurant
Reyðarfjörður www.fjardabyggd.is

Reyðarfjörður is the longest and widest of Iceland’s eastern fjords, over 30 km long. Norwegians used to have whaling stations all along the fjord and fishing was frequented all along the coastline. The town Búðareyri rests in the shelter at the bottom of the fjord, where the harbour is naturally optimal. Thus in 1909, when the road through Fagridalur to Egilsstaðir was completed, it became a trade centre for the region. Today the Alcoa aluminium smelter is the main employer.

During World War II, Reyðarfjörður was occupied by the British forces. The remains of the occupation are visible all around the town, from an airport and old barracks to small gun shelters. In 1995 a War Time Museum was founded in an empty Freezing Plant and now extends to some of the old barracks. The goal was to give people the opportunity to experience the occupation and the changes that followed. Interesting for a country that was never at war.

A walk up to the waterfall in Búðará is relaxing, or walk down, towards the town centre, along the ‘Love lane’. Downtown you will find the shopping centre Molinn (‘The Nugget’), and the restaurants at Fjarðahótel, Hjá Marlín or Tærgesen, located in a couple of old houses, where history took place in each corner.

**Things to do:**
- War time museum
- Try fishing at the local pond, Andapollur
- Hike to the mountain Grænafell
- Visit Grástein, a rock the size of a small house
- Walk the trail along river Geithúsaá.
Eskifjörður www.fjardabyggd.is

What ever you do, don’t miss Eskifjörður, a charming seaside village in the middle of the eastern Fjords. Eskifjörður became an official trading post in 1789 and has been a commercial centre ever since. Two mountains Eskja and Hólmatindur dominate the fjord. Hólmatindur is 985 meters above sea level is the pride and joy of the locals. Since village culture and industry have been shaped by the sea for a long time, simply walking around town is enjoyable, noting the historical buildings and piers. A visit to the Maritime Museum will add to the experience. The attractive seafarers lodge Randulfssjóhús remains unchanged since 1890 and shows how fisherfolk used to work; you can even try tasting the shark and dried fish still produced there. You can rent a boat and sail around the fjord or try your hand at fishing for your supper. Geology in the area is unique for instance, a short way east along the coast you reach one of the world’s most famous “Iceland spar” mines, where the worlds largest spar crystals have been found. After the sightseeing tour you can go swimming or perhaps visit the coffee shop Kaffihúsið, before going further.

Things to do:
• Rent a boat at Mjóeyri
• Learn about the last execution in the east
• Helgustaðanáma, the world famous mine
• Vöðlavík the deserted bay with black sandy beach.
• The Church - and cultural centre for art
• Steinasafn Sórens og Sigurborg, a stone collection in a private home.
Norðfjörður www.fjardabyggd.is

The road from Eskifjörður over to Norðfjörður, and the town Neskaupstaður, has great views and goes through an old single lane tunnel, making the drive worthwhile. Until 50 years ago the town was only accessible be sea and this had a positive impact on the lively culture. Norðfjörður is known for a lively music scene, of which the main impresario is the local blues, rock and jazz club Brján. During the summer the music town boast of one concert each day, ask the locals for the concert of the day.

Norðfjörður has the largest population of the Fjarðabyggð communities and there you will find everything to accommodate for your needs. Hiking trails in Norðfjörður nature reserve are renowned for this stunning natural beauty, diverse birdlife and fauna. The cozy café Nesbær which offers delicious refreshments and on its walls there are exhibitions by local artists. A good horse rental offers long and short tours and the most active kayaking club in Iceland. Hotels, three interesting museums in one house, outdoor swimming pool, beautiful nature sights like Páskahellir which is positioned down by the beach activity, things to see and do. The Rauðubjörg cliffs, a stunning red-coloured rhyolite cliff face make the view spectacular. And there is a scheduled boat to Mjóifjörður with great views along the way.

Things to do:
- Safnahúsið: Natural history museum, Tryggvi Ólafsson art collection and maritime museum.
- Sail with Fjarðaferðir
- The scheduled ferry to Mjóifjörður
- Stroll to Páskahellir
- Avalanche protection wall:
- Gallery Thea and the famous clay horses.
- Horseback riding with Skorrahestar
- Dine at Egilsbúð and enjoy a concert
Fáskrúðsfjörður www.fjardabyggd.is

Fáskrúðsfjörður is in the centre of the eastern Fjords, in between Vattarnes and Hafnarnes. At the bottom of the fjord is a grassy valley with lovely arctic woodlands. The route from Reyðarfjörður along the coast is very scenic and should not be missed. It offers great views to the hollow cliff island of Skrúður with its colourful birdlife, the unique wonder the ‘Puffin Cave’ a home to thousands of puffins and a great colony of Gannets that can be seen shooting like arrows into the water.

The town at the bottom of the fjord is named Búðir, but everyone calls it by the name of the fjord; Fáskrúðsfjörður. The town became a trading post in 1880. From the later part of the 19th century up until 1935, it was the main station for French fishermen in the East of Iceland. The town is famous for its French heritage and has a strong connection to its sister town Gravelines in France. It is well worth it to visit the French Museum and learn more about these historical connections. There was a French consul, a French hospital and a French chapel. It is also believed that France played a part in the fact that the district doctor was located in Búðir. The village road signs are also in French. Don’t forget to visit the local Café which is known for great cakes and refreshments in cozy surroundings, with a great view. A nice place to stay is the farm Tunguholt.

A bit outside the town is a graveyard, the burial place of 49 known French sailors. On the way from Fáskrúðsfjörður there is a French ‘Ghost’ hospital that stands deserted in dramatic area where 100 people used to live. It is well worth for the view and history.

Things to do:
- The French museum and Café
- The French Graveyard.
- Kaffi Sumarlína
- Angling in Dalsá river
Stöðvarfjörður www.fjardabyggd.is

Stöðvarfjörður, south of Fáskrúðsfjörður, is a small and friendly town, with only 250 residents. The fjord is famed for its natural beauty and geology. Many rare and peculiar stones and minerals have been found in Stöðvarfjörður and examples of these stones can be seen in Petra Sveinsdóttir stone museum, an impressive collection of stones and rocks with colourful semi-precious stone from eastern Iceland. The Mountain Súlur, a basalt lava peak split into two awesome columns at the top, is considered one of the most majestic mountains in Iceland. By the farm Bæjarstaðir at the edge of the fjord lurks the amazing sea gorge Saxa.

For a small village there is impressive art life. Visit the Graphic Centre and see the artists at work or perhaps sit in on a short workshop. Located in the same place is Gallery Snærós where you can buy artwork made by local artists Ríkharður or Sólrún. And don’t forget Salthúsið, the local market and photo exhibitions from fishing industry and modern artists exhibitions. Situated in the middle of the town.

Stöðvarfjörður church watches majestically over the village and is one of its landmarks. It was deconsecrated in 1991 and now houses the unique Kirkjubær guesthouse. The local restaurant Brekkan offers personal service and good food.

**Things to do:**
- Petra’s Stone Collection.
- Gallery Snærós and the graphic centre
- Kirkjubær - overnight in the old church
- Hike to Einbúi, the mythical rock of Jafnadalur.
- Salthúsið market
- Saxa the salty sea geyser.
The spectacular valley of Breiðdalur is the longest and widest of the valleys in Eastern Iceland. Surrounded by majestic, alpine mountains rising on both sides to over 1100 metres. The valley is dominated by the magnificent peak of Tóartindur over a 1000 m, dividing the valley into the North- and South valleys. The lovely arctic forest “Jórvíkurkógur” allows camping. There are good views of Breiðdalur from Breiðdalsheiði, an ancient eroded volcano on the Ringroad, with the impressive Breiðdalsá river, famous for salmon-fishing, winding its way across the valley basin to the sea. Stop and search for colourful stones.

Breiðdalsvík, the charming village lies on the coast with great seascapes and black sand beaches. The first house was built in 1883 and soon after a shop or co-operative attracting more people. The old Co-op still exists and has been rebuilt to house a geological centre, for the Breiðdalur regions volcanic history and the origin of the colourful minerals. The centre also houses a collection dedicated to Stefán Einarsson, a linguist, and his research on the Icelandic language.

In Breiðdalur you will find accommodation to serve your needs as well as coffee shops and restaurants. The main activities are horseback riding, fishing, bird-watching and hiking.

**Things to do:**
- Learn about the geology of the east
- Enjoy the mineral collection at Steinasafn
- Walk on the black sand beach Meleyri
- Visit Café Margaret
- Try local food at Hotel Bláfell
- Soak in a hot pot or swimming pool
- Go riding at Staðarborg or Höskulsstaðir
- Catch salmon or arctic char at Breiðdalsá
- Hike to Berufjörður and Fáskrúðsfjördur
Djúpivogur www.djupivogur.is

Djúpavogshreppur is the southern most district of the east. Álftafjörður and Hamarsfjörður are lagoons, rich in birdlife where as Berufjörður is a long and narrow fjord. The pyramid-shaped Búlandstindur at 1069 m, dominates the landscape, and according to legend it can make wishes come true during the summer solstice.

Djúpivogur is a charming village with a long history of trading since 1589 located in a place of incomparable natural beauty. Today the main industry is fishing with tourism increasing rapidly in recent years. Langabúð, the oldest house in Djúpivogur was originally built in 1790, has been renovated and now serves as a cultural centre. It houses some of the works of sculptor Ríkarður Jónsson, a heritage museum and a coffee-shop with delicious homemade cakes and a display of local handicraft. Don’t miss the outdoor sculpture, Eggin í Gleðivík, by the world famous Icelandic artist Sigurður Guðmundsson, consisting of 34 eggs. The artwork is on the coast, about 1 km from the centre of the village, in a convenient walking distance.

The nature around Djúpivogur is highly varied. The Búlandsnes bird sanctuary is renowned among bird lovers throughout the world, where you can observe most Icelandic birds nesting in their natural habitat close by. Join the Papey bird- and seal watching boat-tours or hike in the fascinating mountains and fjords in the vicinity.

**Things to do:**
- Try the new swimmingpool
- Go birdwatching
- Visit Papey, with puffins and seal
- View the Eggs
- Climb the mountain Búlandstindur
- The homemade cakes at Langabúð
- Try the glorious fish at Hótel Framtíð
- Visit Gusta design
Trails and trekking

East Iceland is a land of contrast in landscapes, from the unearthly deserts and ice-caped volcanoes to lush green valleys and deep blue fjords that make it the perfect land for hiking. There is the lovely arctic birch forest with colourful flowers decorating the forest floor on our forest trails and the lakes and ponds, as you walk the vast sandy coast of Herað, are great for bird watching. Around the Fjords the landscape is a hauntingly beautiful with snow streaked mountains divided by deep fjords, lush green valleys and fishing villages, or deserted inlets and coves often in dramatic settings and with an abundance of birds, seals, reindeer and flowers.

Good hiking maps are available of the area and accommodation is readily available in the mountain huts. Go on your own or join an organised tour with experienced guides, for an hour, a day or a week.
Snæfell-Lónsöræfi trail: Trekking in the Vatnajökul National Park

Snæfell - Lónsöræfi is a popular 3 - 7 day trek across magnificent landscape, glaciers, volcanos and rivers with interesting flora and great views in the Vatnajökull National park. The trail begins by the beautiful dormant volcano Snæfell that reigns at 1833 m. over the eastern Highlands, the home of the great Reindeer herds. It is an easy climb for a perfect day and from the top you have some of Iceland’s best views.

From the Snæfell hut you pass Þjófahnjúkar and then the trail crosses the “Eyjabakkajökull” glacier, past Eyjabakkar, a haven for pink-footed goose and reindeer, and along to the hut in “Geldingafell”. The next destination is “Kollumúlavatn”, en-route you may come across semi-precious stones and other wonders. A worthwhile detour is the Víðidalur valley.

The trail continues to “Tröllakrókar”, palagonite cliff formations carved by wind and water. A must for those interested in trolls and elementary beings. The trek proceeds down the steep slopes of “Leiðartungur”, entering an arctic birch forest to the hut “Múlaskáli” in the Lónsöræfi wilderness and its enchanting nature, with countless possibilities for short, interesting hikes. Usually a pickup is arranged at the ridge “Illikambur” or you can hike further south to Hoffell.
Víknaslóðir trail:  
Víknaslóðir - The deserted inlets

Hiking in the land of the hidden people: Víknaslóðir, or the “Deserted Inlets”, takes you from one of this worlds great natural monuments, Stórurð, through mountains in amazing and blazing colours, along one of the country’s most magnificent coastlines. Around 150 km of trails with countless possibilities, long or short through unearthly landscapes. Hvítserkur, Brúnavík, Dyrfrjöll, Urðarhólar; Breiðavík, Loðmundararfjörður are just a few of the places you should not miss.

Hiking in Víknaslóðir is a unique experience. The mountains come in all shapes and sizes and the variety of colours is stunning; everything from the black sands of the beaches to the pinkish orange hues of the mountain ridges. The trails wind themselves between isolated coves and fjords over colourful hills and green valleys to down to the coast. Abandoned houses and ruins of ancient farms set their mark on the surroundings. With a little luck reindeer herds can be seen in the area. Birds are abundant and the arctic flora is characterized by large flowers and bright colours.

Among Icelanders the vicinity of Borgarfjörður is known for its great natural beauty and incredible hiking routes but it is still untouched by mass-tourism. This isolated region is also considered to be a central province of the elves. In the Álfaborg (Elves fortress) their queen has long resided, governing and guarding her realm. Whereas the Bishop of the elves reigns is the incredible Blábjörg, a gigantic columnar basalt wall that goes straight in to the blue ocean.
The Fjord Trail: Fascinating fjords and amazing views

The mountains of the east rise dramatically from sea level up to over 1200 m providing some of the most beautiful coastal scenery. The Fjord trail follows faint but often marked paths, from fjord to fjord, over high and sometimes snowy passes, down rich valleys with arctic woodlands and abundant flowers. Along the way you will enjoy wonderful geology, great flocks of eider ducks at every inlet, close encounter with puffins, seals and the occasional reindeer herd. Explore mountains built from thousands of lava-layers, lush green valleys and river crossings making every moment an experience.

From Seyðisfjörður hike to Skálanes and continue over to the tranquil, remote Mjóifjörður. From Mjóifjörður proceed along the trail to reach the fishing town of Neskaupstaður or take the Fjardaferdir ferryboat and enjoy spectacular views while on the lookout for puffins, seal and whales. From Norðfjörður the trail continues to Hellisfjörður, formerly a large whaling station and Viðfjörður and a day tour to Barðsnes for some great geology (an ancient volcano and a petrified forest buried in ash some 12 million years ago). Follow the trail leading to the deserted inlet of Vöðlavík and enjoy the brilliant views and awesome mountains carved by glaciers long gone. Finally the lovely old fishing village of Eskifjarðar.

This trail begins in Seyðisfjörður along the fjords ending at Eskifjörður. It can be done fjord by fjord or you can combine it with the Viknasloðir trail.
The Icelandic fox (Alopex lagopus)

It is believed that the fox came to Iceland on sea ice about 10,000 years ago which means that it was here before the first men came and settled in. The Icelandic fox is considered a part of a species called the pole-fox and changes colours with the seasons, brown in summer and white in winter. The male fox is called cock (Icelandic: refur, steggur), the female is called fox (Icelandic: læða, tófa) and the youngster is called fox cub (Icelandic: yrðlingur).
**East Iceland Bird trail**

If you are interested in birds try these places:

- **Nípsárlón** north of the **Vopnafjörður** for ducks, common shelduck and waders. Visit the eider duck down farming at Syðri-Vík and explore the heathland for ptarmigans and gyrfalcon.

- **Húsey** and **Úthérað** for the world’s largest breeding colony of arctic skua, many red-throated divers and great skua, as well as red-necked phalarope. Inland slavoninan grebes breed on small ponds and at lakes at Eiðar you may see the great northern diver.

- **Highlands** around **Snæfell** you find wooper swans, pink-footed goose and grey lag goose and the occasional gyr falcon.

- **Borgarfjörður eystrí**, to view puffins close up in Hafnarhólminn. There are harlequin ducks at the estuary of Fjarðaá, and from the birdwatching shelter at the harbour you may see the steller’s eider.
• **Skálanes** in **Seyðisfjörður** for puffins, eiders and waders.

• **Djúpivogur** in the bird sanctuary there are slavonian grebe, northern shoveler, common shelduck of the 58 species known to breed in the area, where close to a hundred species have been seen. For puffins and black guillemots visit **Papey**.

• **Hamarsfjörður** and **Álftafjörður**, the shallow fjords are the home of thousands of swans and waders.

• **Hvalnes** and **Þvottárskriður** is where you are most likely to see harlequin ducks, black scoters, surf scoters and velvet scoter swimming among the eider ducks.
Reindeer
Reindeer were introduced to Iceland from Norway in the 18th century. Originally for farming, but reindeer husbandry the Scandinavian style did not tempt the Icelanders, and the animals were never domesticated. Today the wild reindeer live in East Iceland, mostly at higher elevations in summer but seek lower grassland, closer to the coast in winter. While their primary habitat is in the deserted expanses by Snæfell, reindeer are seen every year in the territory from Vopnafjordur in the north to the Glacier Lagoon.

Both sexes have antlers which are shed annually. The male antlers are heavier and reach their maximum when the bulls are at their prime. The antlers can grow 2.5 cm a day, the fastest tissue growth found in mammals, and can weigh as much as 10 kg. Therefore the bulls with the biggest antlers will shed them as soon as possible after the rut season in autumn. Pregnant cows on the other hand will keep their antlers through the winter until they calve in spring. This gives them higher status in winter and priority to the best feeding spots.

The reindeer calves are born in the early spring in the snow-covered highlands while the bulls still remain in the lowland. The calves stay with the mother for the first year.

The reindeer has no natural enemies in Iceland so the population size is controlled with sustainable hunting. There is a strong demand for hunting permits, since reindeer meat is one of Icelandic nature’s greatest delicacies. The reindeer leather is used for designer clothing and artifacts. The best places to view reindeer herds during the summer, are the areas around mount Snæfell, in Vesturöræfi and Brúaröræfi. Tours are available from Egilsstaðir.
Vatnajökull National Park

Vatnajökull national park, established 7. June 2008, is the largest national park in Europe, covering a total area of 13,600 km² (13% of Iceland), divided into four areas, of which the eastern part covers 2,384 km². The objective of the Vatnajökull National Park is to conserve the area’s landscape, biology, geological formations and cultural heritage and enable the public to experience and enjoy its nature and history.

There are many places to visit and experience, the contrasts in the unique nature are magnificent. The battle between ice and fire still rages within the National Park’s boundaries. Few other places in the world exhibit the effects of such wide range of natural phenomena. Among highlights of the east are Kverkfjöll, the home of Ice and fire, the oasis Hvannalindir, Snæfell the ancient volcano, where the reindeer roam and Eyjabakkar the home of the Pink-footed goose.

Getting there

The Visitor Centre for the Park is at Skriduklaustur (road 933). Access for vehicles to the eastern most part of Vatnajökull is by road from Fljótsdalur by Hengifoss (F 910) to the Snæfell area and Brúarjökull, where there is easy access to the glacier. However, most of the eastern edge of the glacier and its periphery can only be reached on foot. Roads lead to Kverkfjöll and Hvannalindir from the ringroad through Jökuldalur (F 923) and from Möðrudalur (F 905 and F 902 and F 903). Scheduled buses run to Egilsstadir (www.bsi.is), and the airport is served by frequent flights (www.fugfelag.is). Tours are available to the national park.

Snæfell and around

Snæfell, an ancient central volcano, is the highest freestanding mountain in Iceland, reaching 1833 m above sea-level. It is quite prominent in the landscape, and on a fine day the view from the top is marvellous. Snæfell, formed late in the last Ice Age, is the youngest volcano in East Iceland, and has been dormant for thousands of years.
The top is snow-covered and a number of short, steep outlet glaciers reach down the slopes. It is relatively easy to climb the mountain from the Snæfell hut, which is also the starting point for the Snæfell –Lónsöræfi hiking trail.

To the west, the Vesturöræfi wilderness reaches the River Jökulsá á Brú but Brúaröræfi wilderness across the river. Both these areas, together with Kringilsárrani, are the main grazing grounds for reindeer. The peaks of Nálhúshnjúkar fill the northern horizon with bright green moss in otherwise black sands, while the Þjófahnjúkar to the south offer fine views over the Eyjabakkar plains, the home of pink-footed geese.

**Eyjabakkar**

Eyjabakkar, south of Snæfell, at the edge of the Eyjabakkar glacial tongue is a spectacular place that can only be reached on foot. It is a strange wetland formed by retreating and advancing glacier, creating ponds and terns. Spectacular ice caves often formed under Eyjabakkajökull glacier, that can be visited in late winter - early spring. The area is the home to a great population of pink-footed goose and a Ramsar protectorate. Reindeer are abundant on Eyjabakkar.
Hvannalindir
Hvannalindir, name derived from the plant Angelica Archangelica (hvönn), is an unique oasis at an altitude of 640 m surrounded entirely by deserts. It is a well-sheltered haven at the edge of a lavafield. The River Lindaá flows from the south along the edge of the lava with banks red from arctic river beauty and white angelica. A total of 32 species of flowering plants have been found and 30 species of birds have been observed at Hvannalindir and around. Six species can be considered annual nesting birds in the area: pink-footed goose, long-tailed duck, ptarmigan, purple sandpiper, red-necked phalarope and snow bunting. Hvannalindir is an important cultural site as the ruins of an outlaw’s camp, where found by the edge of the Lindahraun lava field. It is widely held that the legendary outlaw Fjalla-Eyvindur and his consort Halla lived in the Hvannalindir area for a few years around 1767.

Kverkfjöll and Hveradalur
Kverkfjöll volcanic massive is a true home of ice and fire where hot springs have melted a set of caves in the glacier. The Kverkfjöll Mountains are divided into eastern and western halves by Kverk, a wide pass cutting through steep, rocky walls, filled with ice, the Kverkjökull. Massive glacier tongues extend from the Vatnajökull ice cap on both sides, Dyngjujökull and Brúarjökull to the west and east respectively. Under the ice, two calderas form part of the Kverkfjöll Ridge, at an altitude of around 1,800 m. Numerous volcanic eruptions have occurred since the ice caps melted around 10,000 years ago, causing catastrophic floods in the River Jökulsá á Fjöllum.
The river flowing out from beneath the Kverkjökull glacier is warm due to the hot springs, which has caused the formation of an ice cave above the sub-glacial cave system that has been explored.

One of Iceland’s most powerful high-temperature geothermal areas is located in Kverkfjöll at a height of some 1700 m. One of the two caldera lakes was formed in 1959 in a steam explosive eruption due to geothermal activity. There is a trail to the hot springs at Hveradalir: A little further there is a hut at the edge of the caldera. Please do consult the wardens at the Sigurðarskáli hut, before you walk as there can be dangerous crevasses on the way.

Only in winter you can enjoy the unique experience of a bath in the largest ice cave, while the northern lights dance outside, but in the summer the hike to the tremendous volcanic caldera is the real adventure.

**Hveragil**

Geothermal activity is present to the east of the Kverkfjöll in Hveragil, some 10 km from the Sigurðarskáli hut, along a 2 km long section containing a number of hot springs with temperatures of 40–60°C. The gully has stunning calcium deposits and fine examples of pillow lava. It is favoured for bathing in winter.
The coastline shows great diversity, transforming from the broad bays of Vopnafjörður and Héraðsflói in the north, into the rugged and sheer eastern shore with its many jagged fjords isolated from each other by towering mountain ranges. Most of the fjords have fine sheltered natural harbours, while the coast farther south is more exposed and prone to blocking by sand to create lagoons. There are five islands off the coast: Bjarnarey, Seley, Skrúður, Andey and Papey.

The Geology is very interesting. Basalt is the main rock type, but rhyolite is common too. Minerals, semi-precious stones and fossils are also found in many places. The bedrock is old (13 million years) and its volcanoes are extinct, so there is little geothermal activity, apart from in Kverkfjöll, but there are a few warm springs.

Rich flora typifies the valleys, but the steep mountains tend to be rather bare. The plains include the largest forests in Iceland. The heathland towards the interior is the natural habitat of Iceland’s wild reindeer. The many lakes and rivers are the home of brown trout and arctic char fishing is a common family sport. East Iceland boasts of some of the best salmon fishing rivers.
- VOPNAFJÖRÐUR -

⌘ Bustarfell and the ancient deer. Follow the trail from the folk museum to the Elf ladies rock and to the gorge where fossils of a deer that lived here some 4 million years ago were discovered and may prove that there once was a land bridge connecting Iceland to Scotland via the Faeroes.

⌘ Fuglabjarganes is prominent cliff on the northern coast of Vopnafjörður. There is a scenic marked hiking path, from the Strandhafnarvegur road, along the river Fugla. The headland itself is an even plain with stone wall fences, white beaches, rock caverns and pillars and magnificent cliffs. The hike is interesting for bird watching.

⌘ Syðri-Vík wild Eider duck farm, experience the sustainable and responsible way the farmers collect the world famous eider down from the nests of the birds. Feel the softest and warmest down in the world.

⌘ Skjólfjörur, make sure not to miss the impressive rock formations on the south coast.

⌘ Hellisheiði is the highest (656 m) and steepest mountain pass in Iceland, the shortest way to Egilsstadir (road 917), only open in summer. Enjoy the colourful mountains as the road passes through the ruins of an ancient volcano. The view over the region Hérað and the coast is incomparable. Great hiking on marked trails.
**- FLJÓTSDALSHÉRAÐ / HÉRAÐ -**

Þerribjörg are some of the most colourful sea cliffs in Iceland. Experience the brilliant yellow cliffs, the dark stripes meet the turquoise blue ocean. The trail starts on the lowland south of the Hellisheiði pass.

Möðrudalur. Site of the highest farm in Iceland at 469 m. Deep inland and including a large area of land, Möðrudalur has been inhabited almost continuously since the settlement. The church there was built single-handedly, at his own expense, by farmer Jón Stefánsson (1880-1971) in memory of his wife, and was consecrated in the year 1949. He also painted the distinctive altarpiece depicting the Sermon on the Mount.

Jökuldalsheiði. This vast highland plateau lies 500-600 m above sea level with alternating gravel dunes and hills, green marshlands and endless small lakes full of trout. During the middle of the 19th century poor people, who wanted to lead independent lives inhabited the plateau as lowland farms were too expensive. The volcano Askja buried most of these farmlands in ash in the 1875 eruption, driving many of the poor farmers to emigrate to North America. Three of the most prominent authors of the country, Halldor Laxness, Jon Trausti and Gunnar Gunnarsson, based some of their works on the experiences of those people. Experience the 19th century Iceland with visit to Sænautasel.
Skessugarður close to Sænautasel is a huge natural wall made of boulders that on the average weigh a couple of tons. The Troll’s wall was formed by the ice-age glacier and later washed clean of smaller rock during a catastrophic flood. Don't miss this geological phenomena.

Kárahnjúkar dam and Hálsón reservoir were created as part of Iceland’s most massive and controversial construction project to date, and have since become a frequently visited site by tourists observing the gigantic structures. The reservoir covers an area of 57km² and reaches all the way to the edge of Brúarjökul. The dam is Europe’s largest of its kind with a height of 193 m. The long-term use of the water form the reservoir, for turning the powerful turbines down at Fljótsdalur Station, began in late 2006. The power plant supplies energy to an alumina smelter in Reyðarfjörður. Two tuff peaks named Kárahnjúkar, the higher one is 835 meters, stand on the east bank of the Jökulsá river.

Hafrahvammagljúfur. Below the dam at Kárahnjúkar the river Jökulsá river cuts through Kárahnjúkar forming a huge canyon, Hafrahvammagljúfur, as well as Dimmugljúfur which is one of the darkest and most impressive canyons in Iceland over 200 m deep. There is a short hike to the viewpoint of the now almost empty gorge.
Laugarvalladalur  A few kilometers north from Kárahnjúkar is Laugarvalladalur, a grassy valley where steam rises from hot pools that give the valley its name. There travellers enjoy bathing in the warm brook at an old farmhouse site. The small warm brook cascades from a cliff in a small waterfall making a natural shower only perfect for bathing. The remote valley was only inhabited for a few years as the site of a great tragedy at the beginning of the 20th century.

Selskógur, the village woods east of Egilsstaðir contain mainly birch but also numerous rowans. Woodchip trails of varying length invite one to stroll through the peaceful surroundings. There ia a playground in the forest. A nice way to enjoy an arctic woodland.

Fardagafoss waterfall is situated near where the road starts climbing on the way to Seyðisfjörður some 5 km from Egilsstaðir. From the parking area there is a short walk to the waterfall. On your way you can enjoy the beautiful gorge and view over the whole of Hérað. Don’t forget the shallow cave behind the fall, make a wish and search for the hidden pot of gold.

Eiðar used to be one of its locality’s most important farms and church. The agricultural school founded here in 1883. The dormitories formerly occupied by the pupils are used as a summer hotel, and efforts are being made to develop a centre for arts and culture here. Around Eiðar are attractive trails towards
Lagarfljót river and around the small lakes and ponds and a good possibility to see the great northern diver, the loom, with its ghostly singing.

Húsey is the land between the rivers of Jökulsá and Lagarfljót, near Héraðsflói bay and is characterized by rich wildlife, among which is the worlds largest breeding colony of arctic skua and one of the largest breeding colonies of the red-throated divers. The sandy beaches are also the home to one of the largest colonies of seal. The wonderful nature of Husey can be explored in short horseback rides, with the chance to watch seals and reindeer in an unusual environment. Nature documentaries have been filmed at Húsey. Úðrað to the south is also a nature reserve, with interesting wildlife.

Stapavík. The historical trading point by Stapavík inlet, lies in a magnificent setting. The trail starts by the farm Unaós, leads to the river Selfljót, follows it to its estuary at Krosshöfði, and continues to the cliffs of Stapavík. In the early 20th century, Stapavík was important trade point and goods were landed in the inlet until the 1950s, when a road was built over Vatnsskarð to Borgarfjörður eystrí and the harbour there. Seals are often seen here.

Stórurð (Boulder Hollow). The most dramatic mountains of east Iceland are Dyrfjöll (1136m). A gigantic breche or door, hundreds of feet across splits its main ridge and dominates the skyline with vertical black walls. At the heart of Dyrfjöll
lies Stórrúð, a mysterious unearthly place. This labyrinth of enormous rocks through which a little river winds its way and calm turquoise ponds of icy water lie hidden among the huge boulders, lined by flat meadows of very green grass. A hike through Stórrúð is an exceptional experience. This trail offers some wonderful view from the black sands of Héraðsflói with yellow mountains in the background over the greens of Hérað all the way to Vatnajökull glacier and Mt. Snæfell. Allow a full day for this amazing trail that leaves no one untouched.

- FLJÓTSDALUR VALLEY -

Lagarfljót stretches some 140 km from its source in Jökulsá á Fljót to its estuary. The upper part of the river forms a long lake, Lögurinn or Lagarfljót, which is the third largest lake in the country, with an area of 53 km². The lake is deep and its bottom is some 90 metres below sea level. An old folk belief claims that a monster, Lagarfljótisormurinn, lives in the Lagarfljót lake and every year people talk of some unexplainable sights in the lake.

Hallormsstaðaskógur Iceland’s largest forest, protected since 1905, on the eastern bank of Lagarfljót river. The first imported trees were planted 1903, but large-scale forestation did not begin until 1950 when imported species had demonstrated that timber could be grown in Iceland. Some 85 foreign tree species from 600 world wide sources have been planted
in the forest. The oldest larch colony, named Guttormslundur dates from 1938. Many measures taken at Hallormsstaðarskógur make the forest more accessible and enjoyable for travellers and well-marked trails throughout much of the surrounding woodland. The whole woods are a pleasant area, and in late summer one can pick large quantities of mouth-watering berries and mushrooms. There is a popular campsite by the lakeside at Atlavík.

**The Hallormsstaður arboretum is unique in Iceland, comprising a collection of around 70 tree species. There are well-marked trails throughout much of the surrounding woodland, shown on a clear map published by the Forest Service.**

**Atlavík in Hallormsstaður is a small bay beautifully situated on the shores of Lagarfljót and like other areas in the Hallormsstaður woods provides the shelter of trees, as well as a comparatively continental climate. Atlavík is a beloved camping site to the Icelanders. There is a boat rental for those who want to explore the lakeshore. Regular cruises are offered on the boat Lagarfljótsormurinn on the river-lake of Lagarfljót.**

**Strútsfoss this waterfall on south side of Fljótsdalur. Take the road to the farm Sturluflöt, and then follow the marked foot path. The waterfall is very beautiful and majestic as it falls down the more than 200 m deep colourful gorge, in two parts, the higher one being more than a 100 m high.**
Hengifoss is the 2nd highest waterfall in Iceland, 128 metres in a magnificent gorge. The background of basalt lava with red intermediary layers of ancient soil give Hengifoss a unique setting and in the sandstone beneath them containing fossilized tree trunks, evidence of the much warmer climate in Iceland when this rock was formed during the Tertiary period. The waterfall Litlanesfoss, only 10 minutes up from the parking, is also spectacular in a beautiful columnar basalt setting.

Laugarfell. Hot natural pool in the highlands on the way to Mt. Snæfell. Known for centuries for healing power.

- BORGARFJÖRDUR EYSTRI -

Borgarfjörður eystri is a haven for nature lovers. The mountains in the area are exceptionally beautiful in form and colour. It is believed to be one of the two largest rhyolite areas in Iceland. Basalt is also common. Dyrfjöll, the Door mountains reign over the fjord. The drive to Borgarfjörður offers great views.

Hvítserkur is one of the most peculiar and beautiful mountains in Iceland. It is largely comprised of ignimbrite, which is light in colour. The side that faces Húsavík has dark dikes criss-crossing the pale coloured face giving it a unique appearance. The mountain is popular with hikers. The route is not recommended for those with a fear of heights.
Urðarhólar. Afrétt, at the far end of Borgarfjörður, is a lovely slump, with an easy, marked hiking path some three kilometres long leading to it. The route passes a beautiful lake, Urðarhólavatn. Exploring the slump is an enjoyable activity.

Brúnavík. This is one of the better dayhikes (12 km) from Borgarfjörður. Begin at the mast and continue along Brúnavíkurskard (350 m). Brúnavík is a small cove with an unusually colourful coast line, a lovely river with green grassy banks. For the way back follow the river and cross on the footbridge located a short distance from the coast. Follow the road tracks across Hofstrandarskard (320 m). This hike takes 5-6 hours along marked paths and road tracks.

Innra Hvannagil canyon is in Njarðvík, accessible in just a few minutes from the road. The route leads some 100 metres up along a river, past a dyke which blocks the view of the canyon. From there, a magical world opens up. Stunning rock formations line the banks of the canyon and rapids lend the river a unique appearance at its bottom.

- SEYÐISFJÖRDUR -

Vestdalur Nature Reserve is a grassy, glacially carved valley, just 1 km north of Seyðisfjörður, famed for its numerous waterfalls, colourful plants and bird life. It’s a truly spectacular hike. Enjoy the views, while wondering about the
young girl who lost her life on this trail more than a thousand years ago with the greatest treasure of glass pearls of the Viking era.

**Dvergasteinn (Dwarf Boulder)** is a farm on the northern side of the Seyðisfjörður Bay. Earlier it was a church site and a parsonage. The church was moved twice, once before the turn of the 19th century and once in 1920 to its present location. Where it originally stood to the south of the bay, a big boulder, shaped like a house, stood beside it. The boulder was believed to be inhabited by dwarfs and it somehow sailed across the bay and now stands on the shoreline just below the second location of the church.

**Austdalur** is the starting point to reach neighbouring Mjóifjörður. Another route to Mjóifjörður is farther inland, from Sörlastaðir and through Hesteyrarpass. Sörlastaðadalur is also the starting point for a walk to Gullþúfa, high up in the mountains on the south side of the town.

**Skálanes** at the south end of the fjord is a haven for nature lovers. Rich in plants and birdlife, it is a favorite to many.

**Brimnes lighthouse** at the fjords north end is worth a visit.

**The Mountain Champ.** The Seyðisfjörður Hiking Club has installed boxes with log books at top seven separate summits along fjord. A map
with the names of the seven mountains and a route description may be purchased from the Information Centre. This is a fun activity for avid hikers.

- **FJARðABYGGÐ** -

**Mjóifjörður** is a narrow fjord with an exceptionally fine climate. Old footpaths to neighbouring fjords lie through high mountain passes. Birch shrub grows in much of the fjord. Around the turn of the century there was a fairly large settlement in Mjóifjörður, but few people live there now. A road leads from the fjord via Mjóafjarðarheiði heath and Slenjudalur valley to the inland district around Egilsstaðir. Boat cruises are offered between Mjóifjörður and Norðfjörður.

**Dalatangi.** The drive out to Dalatangi is on a turf path that edges its way out along the fjord. It passes along landslides and cliff edges, past waterfalls and ravines, and when Dalatangi appears one has the sensation of being on an island in the midst of land. This is as far east as one can go. The old lighthouse is a historic landmark and the seashore and surroundings are magnificent.

**Klifurbrekkufossar waterfalls -** waterfalls in River Fjarðará cascade down from the heath in a stair-step pattern amidst green, grassy slopes sheltered by murky cliff walls.
- REYÐARFJÖRÐUR -

Grænafell. A friendly, sheltered area beneath the shrub-covered slopes of Mt. Grænafell. An easy, marked hiking path leads onto the mountain from Fagradalur valley and there is also a magnificent hiking path along the beautiful Geithúsaá river ravine. Large boulders in the shrubbery could be mistaken for elf domiciles but are in fact deposits left by avalanches and landslides from the mountain. It is currently the most popular walking and hiking area for residents of the town.

- ESKIFJÖRÐUR -

Vöðlavík bay - Vöðlavík is a now deserted bay where there were formerly several farms. Situated south of Iceland’s easternmost pit of land - the Gerpir cliffs - it has a sizeable and nice stretch of sandy beach. Many disastrous seafaring accidents have taken place in the bay. Several enjoyable hiking trails start from here. Vöðlavík is accessible by jeep’s and accommodation is available at the hut.

Hólmatindur peak is Eskifjörður’s pride and joy. Hólmatindur is 985 metres high and towers over the fjord opposite the town. The hike to the top is demanding, but once there, hikers can record their accomplishment in a log book.
Hólmanes between Reyðarfjörður and Eskifjörður was declared a commons and partially a nature reserve in 1973. There is a great deal of bird life in the area and unique rock formations abound. This is a highly enjoyable location for outdoor activities, either along the cliffs or the shoreline.

Helgustaðanáma The Iceland spar mine at Helgustaðir is one of the best-known in the world. Iceland spar was mined there from the 17th century until the early 20th century. The mine is located a short distance out along Reyðarfjörður fjord and has a walking path leading to it. The Helgustaðir mine has been declared a natural monument.

- NORÐFJÖRÐUR -

Avalanche defence structures above the town in Norðfjörður are massive structures designed to protect against snow avalanches. Hiking paths lead up to the structures, from where the view is breathtaking. There are also paths leading from there to the nature reserve east of Neskaupsstaður – a route that definitely should not be missed. The path leading to the Páskahellir cave is dotted with information signs and is a wonderful and informative walk.

Gerpir Iceland’s eastern most point. The wild and uninhabited fjords and inlets between Eskifjörður and Norðfjörður is a true paradise for hikers that hike the fascinating Fjord-trail.
Magnificent view from the 661 m cliff with sheer drop to the ocean. Walking on the edge of cliffs made of 12 million year old stone is a trip you never forget. In the area called “Gerissvæðið” there are many marked trails, walking paths and hiking routes made by Ferðafélag Fjarðamanna. The area is also popular by kayaking enthusiasts and mountainbiker’s. Good maps are available.

Rauðubjörg is a set of lovely rhyolite rocks located in Barðsnes by Norðfjarðarflói. The residents of Norðfjörður have long said that the sun shimmering on Rauðubjörg in the evening signals fine weather for the following day.

Páskahellir - the easter cave - It’s said that from Páskahellir cave (the Easter Cave) you can watch the sun dance on Easter morning. The cave was carved out by sea erosion and there are holes in its walls left by trees that stood here in a forest that was covered in fresh lava about 12 million years ago. Next to the cave is beautifully shaped pillow lava and interesting rock formations called dikes. The cave is in Norðfjörður country Park and is easily accessible by steps leading down to it.

- FÁSKRÚÐSFJÖRÐUR -

Skrúður is a steep, grassy island situated at the mouth of Fáskrúðsfjörður. The island hollow with the high and spacious, Skrúðshellir caves, considered the largest in East Iceland. Fishermen in days long past would dwell in these caves between trips out to sea. Birdlife thrives on the
island, and there was a time when egg collecting and hunting birds were an important part of daily life. Birds include puffins, kittiwakes, various black birds from the Alcidae family, gannets, storm petrels and Leach’s petrels. Skrúðshellir cave is the largest “puffin city” in the world. You can see the great dives of the gannets from the coast with good binoculars. Legends say there were three giant brothers living in the East, one of them in Skrúður, the other in Streitishvarf and the last in Papey.

Mt. Sandfell. A rhyolite mountain (743m) south of Fáskrúðsfjörður. It is one of the most typical examples of a laccolith in Iceland. On the south side of the mountain it is possible to see how laccolith has lifted the basalt cover over itself. The laccolith is considered to be 600m thick, and one of the best examples from the tertiary period found in the northern hemisphere. A very enjoyable and beautiful walking trail leads up Mt. Sandfell, which takes 2-3 hours.

- STÖÐVARFJÖRÐUR -

Petra’s rock collection. In the small fjord of Stöðvarfjörður there is a wonderful collection of rare rocks and minerals all found in the vicinity, mostly through the efforts of Petra Sveinsdóttir. This tiny place also has thriving artistic life, and one of the most excellent centres for graphic arts in the country, run by the artists Ríkharður and Sólrún Valtingojar.
Einbúi in Jafnadalur. Jafnadalur valley leads upwards from Stöðvarfjörður fjord on the north side. A hiking path leads through the valley across Stöðvaraskarð. The natural phenomena Einbúi may be found at the end of Jafnadalur valley: a set of large, fairly unique rocks that stand alone in otherwise flat surroundings. Jafnadalur is also the site of a large stone archway some six metres in diameter in eastern Mt. Álftafell.

Saxa. Near the sea, just outside of Lönd, is the “sea geyser” Saxa. Saxa is a unique natural phenomenon, where the ocean waves crash into a rock crevice and then shoot high into the air in impressive “eruptions”. The name Saxi is derived from the kelp and seaweed that are “saxað” (chopped) inside the crevice and then hurled into the air with the waves.

- BREIÐDALUR -

Berufjarðarskarð. The old post, well marked, route connecting Breiðdalur with Berufjörður passes between old eroded volcanic intrusions. The pass reaches a height of 700 m offering wonderful views over both valley and fjord. Estimate 3-4 hrs for the hike.

Streitishvarf. The rocky coastline south of Breiðdalsvík, beautiful basaltic dikes make the shoreline spectacular. The lighthouse is worth the photo, marking a place where so many fisherman lost their lives in former times.
Meleyri. The black sand beach is great for strolling and bird-watching. So very different from the stony beaches north of Breiðdalsvík, where you can find beautiful polished rocks.

Reindalsheiði. Hiking the well marked old post route connecting Breiðdalur to Fáskrúðsfjörður is a great way to spend a day. Allow 5-6 hours.

Tinna and the forest close to the canyon of the lovely river Tíonna is lined with interesting rock formations. In the forest there are tables and facilities to barbeque. Enjoy life and the beautiful view at this, just off the road, oasis. The hike along the canyon from the bridge takes about 3 hours.

Stafndalur jeep track. This scenic but tough route connecting Breiðdalur with Hérað via Þórustaðadalur. It is open only in the late summer, and only for larger jeeps, as it is very steep as it winds up and down the mountain and crosses small rivers.

- DJÚPIVOGUR -

Papey the small island of Djúpivogur is said to be named after the Papar, the Irish monks that are believed to have been in Iceland prior to the Viking settlement. The island was inhabited for more than a thousand years, until 1966. Papey is of great interest for birdwatchers. An estimate of 30,000 couples of puffins stay there over the summertime. Papey is also the home of the Common guillemot, Eider ducks and
the Black-legged Kittiwake. Some 124 species of plants have been found on the island. There are guided tours with Papeyjarferðir to the island over the summertime. During the boat trip, you are almost sure to see seals close up and have wonderful photo opportunities.

Blábjörg. These low cliffs on the northern coast of Berufjörður, consists of flikruberg (ignimbrite) formed by very hot tephra from an explosive volcanic eruption. A short walk along the coast with great views.

Búlandsnes in Djúpivogur, Birds.is, is an interesting choice for birdwatchers with a number of areas marked as internationally important by Birdlife international. The area is rich in bird life, giving bird watchers the chance to experience unspoiled nature where you can see the bulk of Icelandic birds in their natural environment within easy reach from the village. The marsh, ponds and beaches near Djupivogur are ideal for breeding and many species can be found there. Ducks like shelduck and shoveler breed there and also the beautiful slavonian grebe. Oystercatcher, turnstone, curlew, sanderling, knot, little auk, king eider, grey heron, common goldeneye and brent goose can also be seen there in spring and autumn. There is a birdwatching shelter and good information about the birds.

Hamarsfjörður and Álftafjörður the southernmost fjords in the east, are wide, shallow lagoons, closed of from the ocean by barrier
reefs. Hamarsá river is one of the most powerful rivers coming down from the eastern highlands. The fjords are important stopovers for birds like common eider, common scoter and many species of ducks and grallatores. Up to 3600 black-tailed godwits have been seen there at the same time.

Geithellndalur – Þrándarjökull The valley is long and deep and penetrates the highlands to the east and northeast of the icecap Vatnajökull. The River Geithellndaa, from the small glacier Thrandarjökull, is decorated with waterfalls and canyons, where it squeezes through narrows between hard dykes. A former course of the river, called Hraun, is a gorge containing the small lake Trollatjörn. It was rich in brown trout and lake char in the past. Once a poacher was attacked there by a monster and barely escaped. He cast a spell on the lake and since then no fish has been caught there.
Get to know the wonderful Icelandic horse at our farm. We offer long and short tours. Other farm animals: Sheep, horses, dog and a cat. Trout fishing permits for sale. Do call for reservations. Visit our Eider duck down farming at the shore, where we harvest the world’s warmest down for coats and duvets.

Rent-a-Bike to explore the surroundings of Egilsstaðir: The Fljótsdalshringur daytour up to Hengifoss or down along the river to Lagarfoss. Enjoy a day in a healthy way.
Handcraft studio with products from reindeer leather; Handbags, pillows, hats and many design products.
In the mini zoo guests have the opportunity to get in close contact with Icelands wild fauna, the reindeer, arctic foxes, pink-footed goose, as well as other animals.

Fjalladýrð offers guided jeep tours to remote locations such as Herðubreið, volcano Askja, the ice caves of Kverkfjöll, the oasis of Hvannalindir and Snæfell. Learn how the countless volcanic eruptions throughout the ages created this unique landscapes on our nature tours. Various hiking tours are available. In the summer there are guided evening walks on local geology, flora and history.
TOURS & ACTIVITIES

Lingua / Norðan Jökuls

The owner, Philip Vogler, is a qualified Icelandic guide, specialised in East Iceland. He is certified as a driver guide and can help decide the best route and destinations. Speaking Icelandic, English and German while guiding, he also works at translating or improving texts in English and German.

Lagarfljótsormurinn - Lake cruises

Sightseeing tours from Atlavik on the lake. Enjoy the beautiful surroundings of Lake Lagarfljót from a different perspective. Be sure to bring your camera, in case you catch a glimpse of the mighty worm! Restaurant and bar on board.
For departure times check with the information centre or the website. The boat is available for private events and upon request.
The arboretum is unique in Iceland, comprising a collection of more than 70 tree species. There are well-marked trails throughout much of the surrounding woodland, shown on a clear map published by the Forest Service. The whole woods are a pleasant area, and in late summer one can pick large quantities of mouth watering berries and mushrooms.
Helgi magri Tour operator

Helgi magri (e. Helgi the lean) offers excursion for small groups with a professional guide. Short and long trips, driving, hiking, walking in the mountains as by the seashore, emphasising on nature, history and culture. Speaking Icelandic, German, English, Scandinavian languages.

Húsey nature tours on horses

Húsey is 60 km north of Egilsstaðir, between two glacial rivers, with a wonderful view of the surrounding mountains and endless opportunities for exploring untouched nature, birds, reindeer and seals. Our daily two hour riding tours are a great way to enjoy the best of nature. We also offer two day tours.
Ever wanted to see wild reindeer in majestic landscapes. We offer organised hiking tours, focusing on Reindeer-watching, geology and flora in the wonderful Borgarfjörður region. We do also organise transport of luggage for those hiking hut-to-hut along the Víknaslóðir trail in the Deserted Inlets.

Only 9 km from Seyðisfjörður and 17 km from Egilsstaðir, is the Stafdalur ski area on Fjarðarheiði heath, offering plenty of variety for skiers and a 1.000 m ski lift, as well as a lift for children. Cross-country skiing and snowmobiling are possible from the ski area and from the Fjarðarheiði heath far into the summer.
Seafishing Iceland

Experience an unforgettable adventure of sea angling on a well equipped boat on the beautiful blue waters of Seyðisfjörður. Imagine the mouthwatering palette of your freshly caught cod, haddock or halibut, that we help you prepare for cooking. Along side you will enjoy birdwatching and sometimes seals or whales swim our way. Tours upon request.

Úti um allt - Super Jepp Safari

Út um allt (Out and about) assists you in discovering the most spectacular sites of East Iceland. 4x4 mountain trucks and experienced drivers take you to places which are otherwise out of reach. We can take you anywhere from the lowlands to the mountains, canyons, glaciers, caves and geothermal areas. We make your trip enjoyable, any time of the year.
East Iceland Snowmobile adventures

Austurvegur 17b, 710 Seyðisfjörður
(+354) 892-1277
bud@simnet.is
www.sfk.is

Experience the unique tranquility of the unspoilt nature. Go to places you could otherwise only dream about. We offer short and long tours from Egilsstaðir or Seyðisfjörður. From the High heaths to Dyrfjöll, all the way to Vatnajökull and the famous ice-caves.

Tanni Travel Agent

Strandgötu 14, 735 Eskifjörður
(+354) 476-1399
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www.tannitravel.is

We offer total solutions for groups, families and firms, in Iceland and abroad. We do our very best to fulfill the wishes and expectations of our customers - on a personal level. We take care of everything, busses, flights, ferries, guiding and accommodation. Your pleasure is our goal.
Recreational activities include: Boat rental, nature observation, hiking, bird-watching, guided tours to the Helgustaðir Mine, ice climbing, skiing, diving, reindeer hunting, boat trips, team-building, incentive travel, kayaking, hiking and enjoying the outdoor experiences, watching the northern lights, and horseback riding.

One of the best skiing areas in Iceland. Enjoy the view down to the calm fjords from the ridge. Opening in winter Monday to Friday 14:00 to 20:00 Saturday to Sunday 10:00 to 16:00 as long as there is snow. Refreshments in our Chalet, and there is Ski and snowboard rental.
Kajakklúbburinn kaj

Kirkjufjara 740 Norðfjörði
(+354) 863-9939
kayakklubburinn@gmail.com
www.kaj.123.is

The kayak clubs welcomes kayakers to come and try this wonderful sport on the calm fjord of Norðfjörður. Our annual Egill Rauði, seakayaksymposium, held every Whitsun is open to all interested in the kayaksport.

Fjarðaferðir - Boat tours

Óseyri 1, 740 Neskaupstaður
(+354) 864-7410
info@fjardaferdir.is
www.austfjardarleid.is

Fjarðaferðir offers adventures out at sea with bird-watching and spectacular cliff formations from the picturesque town of Neskaupstaður. Sea-angling and barbeques are available. We provide excellent service and send our passengers home with great memories of the stunning East Iceland. Go on the scheduled boat to Mjóifjörður, one of the most picturesque fjords in Iceland, twice a week.
Papeyjarfeðir - Boat tours

Daily trips to Papey by m/b Gísli í Papey. Departure is from the Djúpivogur marina, located across the bay from Hótel Framtíð. The trip lasts approx. 4 hours. The bird-cliffs of Papey are examined and the seals on nearby skerries as well. An one hour seal-watching trip and angling are available upon demand. A guided hike on the island itself is included with a visit to Iceland's oldest and smallest wooden-church.

Austfjarðaleið - Bus tours

The East Iceland Bus company operates the scheduled Fjord buses. Excursions are also available all around the country, by the coastline or into the highlands, summer and winter. We can arrange accommodation and recreational activities.
Djúpivogur is an interesting choice for birdwatchers with a number of areas marked as internationally important by Birdlife international. The area gives bird watchers the chance to see the bulk of Icelandic birds in their natural environment within easy reach from the village. Marshes, ponds and beaches in Búlandsnes are ideal for breeding.

Golf is a growing sport in Iceland. There are a number of interesting golf courses located in the East. Each one is sculptured by the surrounded area - giving you a challenging and joyful experience.

For further information visit www.golf.is or contact the nearest tourist information center.
Boat and Horserental Fljótabátar • Hallormsstaður, 701 Egilsstaðir
(+354) 847-0063/867-1441 • www.hallormsstadur.is

Kayak and mountainbike rental, Hotel Aldan • 710 Seyðisfjörður
(+354) 865-3741 • vestmar@visir.is • www.seydisfjordur.is

Höskuldsstaðir, Horserental • Höskuldsstaðir, 760 Breiðdalsvík
(+354) 861-4392 • mcp@breiddalur.is • www.breiddalur.is

Staðarborg Horserental • Staðarborg, 761 Breiðdalsvík
(+354) 475 6760 • www.stadarborg.is

Adventura – Hunting tours • Hlaupholar, 765 Djupivogur
adventura@adventura.is • www.adventura.is

Trout fishing
Fishing permits can be bought for most smaller rivers and lakes from farmers or information centres.

Salmon fishing
For salmon fishing contact www.strengir.is

Hiking
Hiking maps available from tourist info or check the local hiking clubs for Fljótshérað www.fljotsdalsherad.is/ferdrafelag or the Fjords http://www.isholf.is/ffau/

Swimmingpools in all villages
There are swimmingpools in all the villages open from early morning until evening. The swimming pools all have hot tubs.
Selárdalslaug is a remarkable swimming pool in the middle of nowhere, just north of Vopnafjörður. It's location is due to natural hot springs that supply it with warm water.
**East Iceland is rich in history**

History here is older than the settlement of the Nordic people in Iceland. The first ones could have been the Romans, looking for the legendary island of the Greek Pythias “Ultima Thule”, if not Pythias himself, but roman coins dating back to the 1st century AD were found near Djúpivogur. Then the Irish, but according to the Sagas Irish hermits, called Papar, were already here when the Vikings came late in the 8th century. This is verified by place-names such as the island Papey. A bit further south at Geithellnar the first settlers, Ingólfur Arnarson and his foster brother Hjörleifur spent the winter on their first expedition to Iceland. Many Norwegian chieftains followed their path and claimed land in the east.

During the middle ages Iceland lost its independence. The last Icelander to surrender to the Norwegian King in the 13th century, was the Goði who lived in Fljótsdalur. Dating from that time is the beautifully carved door of Valþjófsstaður, one of the treasures in the National museum.

The monastery at Skriðuklaustur was established at the end of the 14th century. It became a refuge to the sick and poor in difficult times when famine and epidemics ravaged the country. The monastery was closed after the reformation in 1550.

The East is rich of folk tales and the supernatural lives within them. The monstrous worm or wyrn in the lake Lagarfljót and the tales of elves and trolls give this enchanting country a certain spellbinding charm.

In the year 1627 Algerian pirates abducted some 110 people and sold them into slavery in Africa. The trolls and elves were helpless against these villain, but the prophetess buried at Hólmahálí by Eskifjörður, was able to protect her people in the fjord by thick fog and heavy waves. Thus the elves live on, and the Eastern Fjord fog hides all sorts of beings, be they trolls or ghosts.
The 19th century was prosperous due to herring fishing and whaling and for a while the world’s largest whaling station was in Mjóifjörður, run by Norwegians. During this period the villages in the Fjords began to form and Seyðisfjörður got its municipality rights in 1895. The first telegraph cable connecting Iceland to Europe was shored in Seyðisfjörður in 1906, making it a hub for international telecommunications. The growth of the fishing villages coincided with the decline of agriculture, as a result of the devastating 1875 eruption of Askja that buried large areas in thick ash. Consequently many East Icelanders emigrated to America, with Vopnafjörður as their point of departure, where the Emigration centre is stationed. Fishing increased, especially in Neskaupstaður and is still the main source of income in the eastern Fjords, whereas agriculture still runs strong, especially sheep, cattle and horses. A new addition to employment is the large alumina smelter in Reyðarfjörður. Last but not least there is a growing tourism industry, with the Norröna ferry harbour in Seyðisfjörður and the international airport in Egilsstaðir.
Historical places

Bústaðarfell - the farm and folk museum is an extremely well-preserved old turf building. The turfhouse farm is originally from 1770, but has been extended and renovated inside for every generation until 1966 when the last inhabitants left.

Heiðarbýlin - The Heath farms are some 16 farms built on Jökuldalsheiði around the middle of last century, but the area was rendered almost uninhabitable by the Mt. Askja eruption in 1875. Some farms remained inhabited until the middle of this century. Remains of settlements dating from 1841-1946 can be seen along the Ring Road. There is a trail linking the farms.

Sænautasel is a good example of a turf farm which was inhabited from 1843-1943 and is located on the lakeshore.

At Aðalból in Hrafnkelsdalur, the farmstead of Hrafnkell Freysgoði is also his burial mound. Various artefacts have been discovered in the vicinity that appear to support the validity of the Saga of Hrafnkell. Every August scenes from the Saga are enacted on the Hrafnkelsday.

Eiðar used to be one of its locality’s most important farms and church. An agricultural school was founded here in 1883. The dormitories formerly occupied by the pupils are used as a summer hotel, and efforts are being made to develop a centre for arts and culture.
Kjarvalshvammur is an artist cabin, the only real estate that the well known painter Kjarval ever owned. He often stayed here for long periods, producing some of his most famous pictures in the years 1948-1969. The huts remain, the lower one still sheltering his boat. In fact, it was on this boat that he did something no one else has been known to try, rowing and sailing down the river, continuing along the coast to the village of Borgarfjörður eystri.

Kjarvalsstofa was set up in the Fjarðarborg community centre in summer 2002. Jóhannes Sveinsson Kjarval grew up in Geitavík in Borgarfjörður and had deep roots there. The Kjarvalsstofa museum seeks to portray “Jói in Geitavík”, as Kjarval was referred to by the locals, and to show his ties to his roots. Kjarvalsstofa also features photography exhibitions and has a special children’s area for young up-and-coming artists.

Galtastaðir fram is a very well preserved 19th century turf farm that was inhabited until 1967. The building exemplifies the sort of housing common Icelanders lived in during previous centuries, heated to some extent by keeping cows under the communal living room or baðstofa, which was also used for sleeping and handicraft. Both the interior and exterior of this small but remarkable showcase of former living conditions are open to the public.
Geirstaðakirkja is a replica of a church made of turf and stone from the Viking age (930-1262) was built on the land of Litli-Bakki a few years ago based on an archaeological excavation run by the East Iceland Heritage Museum. The church is open for visitors free of charge during summertime.

Valþjófsstaður in Fljótsdalur: Valþjófsstaður has been a place of worship since the 14th century. The original church built in 1306 was dedicated to the Holy Virgin. The present church was consecrated in 1966. The inner main door is an exact replica of the famous Valthjofsstadur Door, which is on display in The National Museum. It dates back to the 13th century, originally a hall door of a manor that later became the door to the stave church which served until reformation in the 16th century. The door consists of three boards. Two beautifully carved, round planes decorate the door which depict the friendship of a knight and a lion. These carvings are considered to be among the purest roman pieces of art of the Nordic countries. In the 19th century the door was sold to Copenhagen, but returned, with other Icelandic pieces of art, in 1930. Among other pieces of interest in the church are the chalice and the baptismal font dating back to the 18th century.

Skriðuklaustur is an ancient manor estate in Fljótsdalur. From 1493-1552 a monastery operated there. Since 2002 an extensive archeological research has taken place on the cloister ruins which are open to visitors. The writer Gunnar
Gunnarsson (1889 – 1975) bought Skriðuklaustur in 1939 and built a large house there designed by the German architect Fritz Höger. The writer moved to Reykjavík in 1948 and donated Skriðuklaustur to the Icelandic nation. In 2000 the Institute of Gunnar Gunnarsson resumed operation in Skriduklaustur as a cultural research centre. In the summertime Skriðuklaustur comes alive with various exhibitions and cultural happenings and guided tours for visitors around the writer’s house and the archeological site.

Þórarinsstaðir in Seyðisfjörður. A few years ago an archeological excavation was done at Þórarinsstaðir where the remains of a stave church from the first years of Christianity in Iceland was discovered, along with numerous graves and interesting artefacts. It is ideal to stop at this important historical site and try to imagine the ways of life of people living there one thousand years ago.

Sómastaðir is a small stonehouse from the late 19th century, built of carved stones from the surroundings and plastered together with glacier clay. It is the only surviving example of this building technique in Iceland. The house is a part of the National Museum’s Historic Building Collection, but is supervised by museums in Fjarðabyggð and the East Iceland Heritage Museum.
Völvuleiði On the top of Hólmaháls hill, a short distance above the road, holds the gravesite of the “völva” (a female seer in Icelandic mythology) who is said to have protected Reyðarfjörður and Eskifjörður from outside attacks for centuries. There is an exceptional view from the site.

Geithellnar is according to the Book of Settlements, the place where the two foster brothers, Ingolfur Arnarson and Hjorleifur Hroðmarsson, who were the first Norwegians to settle in Iceland, probably spent the winter of their reconnaissance trip before deciding on bringing their families along. They must have liked it for they returned with their folk and families, and Ingólfur became Iceland’s first official settler.

Bragðavellir is a farm in Hamarsfjörður. Early in the 20th century, two ancient Roman coins were discovered near the farm, the coins date back to the roman settlement in England in the 1st century. Copper nails have also been found of a foreign origin as the Vikings used wood nails for their longboats.

How did this become? Did the Romans visit Iceland searching for the Ultima Thule of Pytheas the greek? Did the Vikings bring the coins from England? More artefacts were discovered at Bragðavellir later, but offer no further explanation.
The Saga of the Vopnafjörður people

The Saga of the Vopnafjörður People takes place mostly in Vopnafjörður from the late 9th to the early 11th century. The saga tells of a power struggle between the clans at Hof and Krossavík: after conflict and bloodshed, however, tolerance and mercy finally prevail. The main characters of the saga are the powerful chieftains Brodd- Helgi at Hof and Geitir Lýtingsson at Krossavík, and their sons Víga-Bjarni and Þorkell. Women also play an important part in the story: the priestess Steinvör, Halla Lýtingsdóttir and Þorgerður silfra. All over Vopnafjörður the sites of the saga can be seen; in many cases ancient relics are visible, but little archaeological research has yet been carried out. A dig in 2006 revealed the site of a longhouse of the saga period adjacent to the church at Hof.

Vopnafjörður is an area of great natural beauty worth the visit.
The Wyrm of Lagarfljót
The Lagarfljót or Lögurinn is one of Iceland’s deepest lakes and lies in a narrow trough carved by glaciers. It reaches a depth of 112 m, 90 m below sea level and shows no obvious flow. Its deep mysterious glacial waters are the home of Iceland’s ancient and much older equivalent of the Loch Ness monster, the terrifying sea-worm-like Wyrm or ‘Lagarfljótsormur’. Legend says that once upon a time a young girl living beside the lake acquired a gold broach. She placed the broach in a box, underneath a tiny worm, to increase her gold. Soon the worm had outgrown the box. Panicking, the girl grabbed the box and threw far into the lake. Time passed, and the worm became a monstrous wyrm so powerful that even the greatest magicians declared that they were unable to overpower it completely, but managed to fasten its head and tail to the lake bottom. There the wyrm will stay bound till the end of all days, causing no harm. The worm-like creature is presumed to be longer than a football field and has been seen coiled near the shore by countless eyewitnesses the oldest account being ever since the year 1345. Follow the The Wyrm trail along the Lagarfljót that markes the sightings.
The Saga of Hrafnkell freysgoði

The Saga of Hrafnkell, set in the East of Iceland, tells of conflict between chieftains and farmers in the 10th century. The main character is Hrafnkell Freysgoði (who worshipped the Norse god Freyr), a powerful chieftain who lived at Aðalból in Hrafnkelsdalur.

When Hrafnkell kills one of his shepherds for daring to ride his stallion Freyfaxi, a fine steed which he shares with the god Freyr, it sparks a chain of events that lead to Hrafnkell’s defeat and humiliation. But, learning from his experience, he regains his former power and status, takes revenge upon his enemies, and rules more peacefully than before. The Saga of Hrafnkell takes place mainly in Hrafnkelsdalur, Fljótsdalsheiði and Fljótsdalur. Archaeological excavations have been made in the saga’s area. Information signs are being installed at various saga sites, including e.g. the burial mound of Hrafnkell, a short distance from the present farmhouse at Aðalból. A ten-kilometre walking route has also been marked out, from Hálsendi near Brú to Aðalból. Tourist services are provided at Aðalból, where further information is available on the sites of the Saga of Hrafnkell.
The Dragon of the East

The four Guardians of Iceland, one for each quarter of the country are described in an old tale of a magician sent by King Harold of Denmark to spy prior to invasion. The magician swam to Iceland in the form of a whale, and when he reached the country he saw that all hills and mountains were full of spirits and elementary beings, large and small. As he approach Vopnafjörður (Fjord of Weapons) on the East coast he was met by a huge dragon, the protector of the east, accompanied by reptiles, worms and lizards. So he fled, looking for a place with weaker defences.

On he went to the North, the West and South, always driven away by the guardians, the eagle, the bull and the giant. The magician could find no place to come ashore and thus returned empty-handed to the king. Thus the invasion attempts of the King of Danes came to an end.
### Vesturfaramiðstöð Austurlands

The East Iceland Emigration Center focuses on the emigration years 1870-1914 and the years after the Askja eruption 1875. We are interested in the history of this time and in renewing contact with the emigrants’ descendants. The Centre is of great interest to all those interested in genealogy and tracing their roots.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Kaupvangi, 690 Vopnafjörður</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Summer hours: Mon.- Wed. Sat., 13:00-18:00.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(+354) 473-1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vesturfarinn@simnet.is">vesturfarinn@simnet.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vesturfarinn.is">www.vesturfarinn.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Múlastofa
Did you know that the wonderful, world known jazz melody “Vikivaki” is originated from Vopnafjörður, where the brothers, Jonas and Jon Muli, celebrated composer and lyric, were born. Everyone born in Iceland during the last 60 years know their songs and musicals. The 2nd week of August during the town festival their music is a main theme. Mulastofa opened in the summer 2008 dedicated to life and art of the brothers Jón Múli Árnason and Jónas Árnason.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Kaupvangi, 690 Vopnafjörður</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Summer 09.00 - 18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(+354) 473-1341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:magnus@vopnafjarhreppur.is">magnus@vopnafjarhreppur.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mulastofa.is">www.mulastofa.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Bustarfell**

Bustarfell in Vopnafjörður is one of the most beautiful and best kept turf-houses in Iceland. Guided tours around the museum are available every day and during weekends the museum becomes alive with various events, exhibition of old workmanship and delicious national refreshments. The grandmother visits with her children and betrays stories while the children make an effort on old working habits. In our workshop “Sparðinu” horsehair will be spinned and knotted. The trail up to Álfkonusteinn has been marked with signs that tell stories from folklore and the discovery of stagbones since long before the ice age.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Location</strong></th>
<th>Vopnafjörður</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Open</strong></td>
<td>Daily from 10am-6pm (10/6-10/9) Café daily from 12am-6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Phone</strong></td>
<td>(+354) 471 2211 / 844 1153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Email</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:bustarfell@simnet.is">bustarfell@simnet.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Website</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.bustarfell.is">www.bustarfell.is</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Á hreindýrslaðóum

“On a Reindeer trail” is a small museum on the history of reindeer in Iceland. There is a wonderful collection of photographs and artwork relating to the reindeer. Learn about the life of these graceful animals in the harsh wilderness at the edge of Europe’s largest glacier, Vatnajökull. There is a craft store and just a few kilometres away there is a small zoo where you can see a few reindeer up close and personal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Skjöldólfsstaðir, Jökuldal, 701 Egilsstaðir</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>08:00 - 22:00 (June - August)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(+354) 471-2006 / 692-6029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hreindyr@ahreindyraslodum.is">hreindyr@ahreindyraslodum.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ahreindyraslodum.is">www.ahreindyraslodum.is</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Minjasafn Austurlands**

A traditional museum with modern and lively approach suitable for most. The permanent exhibition is called “The Countryside and the Village” and covers traditional Icelandic farming society as well as the arrival of modern times focusing on the particularities of the region. Regular, temporary exhibitions. Variety of items for guests to touch and try for better understanding. Coffe and refreshments for sale. Museum shop with hand crafts and design of good quality.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Laufskógum 1, 700 Egilsstaðir</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Open           | Winter: Monday - Friday from 13-17.  
Summer: Daily from 11-17  
except on Wednesdays from 11-19. |
| Price          | Adults 500 iskr. Children no charge.  
Wednesdays - no charge. |
| Phone          | (+354) 471-1412 |
| Email          | minjasafn@minjasafn.is |
| Website        | www.minjasafn.is |
| Access         | |


Fljotsdalur Powerplant
Visitors centre - Végarði

For travellers interested in learning about Kárahnjúkar Hydropower Project or about tourist options in the neighbourhood, it is helpful to stop at Végarður in Fljótsdalur valley, where Landsvirkjun has a Visitor Centre. Check for tours to the powerplant.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Végarður, 701 Egilsstaðir</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Open daily from 13:00 - 17:00 (from early June to the end of August)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(+354) 470-2570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vegardur@lv.is">vegardur@lv.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.landsvirkjun.is/">www.landsvirkjun.is/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The main focus of The Technical Museum for East Iceland is on the influx of modern times around 1880 to 1950. Animated exhibitions seek to recreate the atmosphere of the times they portray. The museum is also an open air recreation area. We support a family-friendly policy and work progressively on producing informative settings as well as constructive and worthwhile entertainment for guests of all ages. The museum is also a research centre and teaching facility for all levels of education.

**Location**
Hafnargata 44, 710 Seyðisfjörður

**Open**
Daily 11:00-17:00 (June 1st - Sept. 15th)
Mon.-Fri. 13:00-16:00 (Sept. 16th - May 31st)
Or by agreement.

**Price**
Adults 1,000 iskr. Children 0-18 years free, 25% discount for groups (10+)

**Phone**
(+354) 472-1596

**Email**
tekmus@tekmus.is

**Website**
www.tekmus.is
Íslenska stríðsárasafnið /
The Icelandic Wartime Museum

At the Icelandic Wartime Museum you can travel back to the days of the 2nd World War and the military occupation of Reyðarfjörður. The museum gives a vivid insight into life during the war, in a country that has never had an army or been at war, with this one exception. The focus is on the impact of the occupation on the Icelandic people. On the first of July there is a festival in memory of this unique event in our history.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Spítalakamp v/Hæðargerði, Reyðarfjörður</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Open 13:00 - 17:00 pm, 7 days a week, from June 1st – August 31st or by arrangement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(+354) 470-9063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td>petur:<a href="mailto:sorensson@fjardabyggd.is">sorensson@fjardabyggd.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fjardabyggd.is">www.fjardabyggd.is</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Randulf’s sea-house

Randulf’s fisherman-lodge is a beautifully preserved shore-building. Built by Norwegian Peter Randulff in 1890 it provided a station for landing and processing herring caught within the fjord through to 1930. The house preserves many artefacts and a lingering atmosphere from the days when herring fishery was a way of life in the Fjords. The ticket includes a taste of shark-meat (hákarl) and dried fish (harðfiskur), both produced in Eskifjörður and widely acknowledged as being among the very best in Iceland. Traditional Icelandic fish and meat soup or roast lamb can be provided for groups for lunch or dinners. Rent a boat at dock for recreational fishing within the fjord where cod and haddock are still plentiful.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Strandgata, 735 Eskifjörður</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>By arrangement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(+354) 477-1247 / 696-0809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mjoeyri@vortex.is">mjoeyri@vortex.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mjoeyri.is">www.mjoeyri.is</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sjóminjasafn Austurlands / The East Iceland Maritime Museum
In the villages of East Iceland fishing was and is a way of life. The maritime museum mostly exhibits objects and utensils relating to fishing and seafaring in general. It also displays various reminders of local trade, industry and medicine from times past. The collection is in a well preserved trading house “Gamla búð”, built in 1816.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Strandgata 39b, 735 Eskifjörður</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Open 13:00 - 17:00 pm, 7 days a week, from June 1st – August 31st or by arrangement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(+354) 476 1605 - 470 9063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:petur.sorensson@fjardabyggd.is">petur.sorensson@fjardabyggd.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fjardabyggd.is">www.fjardabyggd.is</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Museum house - Safnahúsið

This old building at the Neskaupsstaður harbour houses three wonderful and different museums. Enjoy a cultural day at the docks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Egilsbraut 2, 740 Neskaupstað</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Open 13:00 - 17:00 pm, every day, from June 1st – August 31st or by arrangement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(+354) 470 9063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:petur.sorensson@fjardabyggd.is">petur.sorensson@fjardabyggd.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fjardabyggd.is">www.fjardabyggd.is</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The East Iceland Museum of Natural History

A interesting museum which displays the best off Icelandic nature; Icelandic mammals, shellfish, birds, insect- and stone collection as well as specimens from the East Icelandic flora.
The Jósaðat Hinriksson
Maritime Museum
The museum displays interesting objects relating to fishing, iron work, boat building and the old ways of the Icelandic people. It displays a replica of Josafat’s fathers old iron workshop where Josafat studied and started his carrier.

Tryggvasafn
- Tryggvi Ólafsson Art Collection
Tryggvi Ólafsson was born in Norðfjörður in 1940. He studied art at the National College of Arts and Crafts, Reykjavík, Iceland and during 1961-67 at the National Art Academy, Copenhagen, Denmark. Tryggvi is one of Iceland’s most celebrated contemporary artists. A visit to the museum is a must for all art lovers.
The French heritage of Fáskrúðsfjörður is very interesting, but the village played an important role for French fishermen fishing of the east coast in the 19th century, until the onset of the first world war. There was a French hospital, graveyard and many services. In July every year the town festival has a French focus. The museum about this era of French fishermen in Iceland, makes an interesting stop for all those interested in culture, with the cosy café with French nuances on the menu.

**Fransmenn á Íslandi/Les Français en Islande**

The French heritage of Fáskrúðsfjörður is very interesting, but the village played an important role for French fishermen fishing of the east coast in the 19th century, until the onset of the first world war. There was a French hospital, graveyard and many services. In July every year the town festival has a French focus. The museum about this era of French fishermen in Iceland, makes an interesting stop for all those interested in culture, with the cosy café with French nuances on the menu.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Templarinn, 750 Fáskrúðsfjörður</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Open daily from 10:00 - 18:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(June to August)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(+354) 475-1525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fransmenn@fransmenn.is">fransmenn@fransmenn.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fjardabyggd.is">www.fjardabyggd.is</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Petra’s rock collection
This wonderful collection of rare rocks and minerals was mainly found in the vicinity, through the efforts of Petra Sveinsdóttir. It is said to be the world’s largest private collection of rocks. The garden and the house at Sunnuhlíð are open for public. Come and enjoy this colourful display of amazing rocks, birds and a variety of plants. This is truly an experience not to be missed.

Location | Fjarðarbraut 21, 755 Stöðvarfjörður
Open | 09:00 - 18:00 June-August or on request
Phone | (+354) 475-8834 / 866-3668
Email | jonapetra@visir.is
Website | www.steinapetra.is
Breiðdalssetur

Breiðdalssetur is a research and knowledge center divided into three main divisions, Geology Museum based on the works of Dr G.P.L. Walker who worked extensively in the Breiðdalur area and the ancient Breiðdalur volcano. A section on Linguistics based on the works of Dr Stefán Einarsson from Höskuldsstaðir in Breiðdalur; who’s research on the Icelandic language are of great value, and thirdly the historical community of Breiðdalur through the history of the Gamla Kaupfélagið (old trade center).

Location
Sæberg 1, 760 Breiðdalsvík

Open
Open 13:00 - 17:00 pm, 7 days a week, from June 1st – August 31st or by arrangement.

Phone
(+354) 861 4392 / 470 5565

Email
mcp@breiddalur.is

Website
www.breiddalssetur.is

Access
Steinasafn í Breiðdal
Well organized rock collection with great variety of stones and minerals almost all collected by one man. To gain an understanding of the geology of East Iceland and how the colourful semi-precious stone became so abundant this museum is a must. These beautiful examples of minerals are mainly collected in the vicinity of Breiðdalur; in the roots of the ancient Breiðdalur central volcano.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Sólvöllum 18, 760 Breiðdalsvík</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>By arrangement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(+354) 893-1824 / 475-6647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:breiddal@simnet.is">breiddal@simnet.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.breiddalur.is">www.breiddalur.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Langabúð
Langabúð is one of the country’s oldest stores in Djúpivogur one of the oldest trade centres. Situated just above the harbour, Langabúð houses a collection of sculptures by Ríkarður Jónsson, a room dedicated to the memory of politician Eysteinn Jónsson and the local Folk Museum. There is also a display on the Papar, the Irish monks, some believe were already in Iceland upon the arrival of the Viking. Also in Langabúð are a nice café, with tempting pastries and homemade cakes. There is a tourist information centre and access to the internet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Búð 1, 765 Djúpivogur</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Open 10:00-18:00 May 15th - Sept. 15th.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(+354) 478-8220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:langabud@simnet.is">langabud@simnet.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.djupivogur.is">www.djupivogur.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The French hospital
The French hospital was built in the years 1903 - 1904 to serve French fishermen of the east coast. The hospital was moved to its current location at Hafnarnes in 1940. The hospital was a home to many until the 8th decade, even if it is known to be haunted. Renovation plans for the hospital are ongoing.

Visit the old powerplant
Fjaðarselsvirkjun
Fjarðarsel, 710 Seyðisfjörður
(+354) 4721122/ 4721551
http://www.fjardarsel.is

Steinasafn Sörens og Sigurborgar / Minerals
735 Eskifjörður (+354) 476-1177

Nönnusafn Berufjörður (+354) 478 8977 beruf@torg.is
**Handwork House Nema - Hvað**

Operated by volunteer crafters since 1997, our handwork is crafted exclusively by our friends and neighbours. “Made in Vopnafjörður” - with skill and pride!! Open: Tues.-Fri., 13:30-17:30, and other times by request. “Coffeehouse Friday” - always special cakes and treats, homemade by our own - Nema hvað? - Talented hands!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Hafnarbyggð 7, 690 Vopnafjörður</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>09:00 18:00 in summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(+354) 473-1565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:twocats@simnet.is">twocats@simnet.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vopnafjardarhreppur.is">www.vopnafjardarhreppur.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sláturhúsið  Culture Centre

The Slaughterhouse Culture Centre is the heart of culture and arts in Egilsstaðir, East Iceland. The Slaughterhouse offers a variety of cultural events all year long such as concerts, plays, art exhibitions etc. The Slaughterhouse also houses artists’ studios where guests are always welcome. Internet connection and coffee for sale.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Kaupvangi 7, 700 Egilsstaðir</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Weekdays 2-10pm, weekends 2-10pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(+354) 894-7282 / 899-5715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:slaturhusid@egilsstadir.is">slaturhusid@egilsstadir.is</a> / <a href="mailto:mmf@egilsstadir.is">mmf@egilsstadir.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="http://mmf.egilsstadir.is">http://mmf.egilsstadir.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Skriðuklaustur Culture Centre
Skriðuklaustur is a historical site with the ruins of a 16th century monastery. Guided tours around the ruins in summer. The home of the writer Gunnar Gunnarsson, built in 1939, hosts exhibitions and events of various kind. Personal guidance every day through the museum of Gunnarsson who donated his home to the nation in 1948. Café with lunch and cake buffet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Skriðuklaustur, 701 Egilsstaðir</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(+34) 471-2990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:klaustur@skriduklaustur.is">klaustur@skriduklaustur.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.skriduklaustur.is">www.skriduklaustur.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Bláa kirkjan**

Blue Church, the summer concert series is held in Seydisfjordur Church every year in July and August. At Wednesday nights at 20:30 and tickets are sold at the door. The program is a variation of Jazz, Classic and Folk music. Musicians come from all around, mostly from Iceland. Further information on www.blaakirkjan.is.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Hafnargata 44, 710 Seyðisfjörður</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(+354) 470 2308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:blaakirkjan@blaakirkjan.is">blaakirkjan@blaakirkjan.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.blaakirkjan.is">www.blaakirkjan.is</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Skaftfell - Center for visual art
Skaftfell is dedicated to nurturing and exhibiting visual art, the main emphasis being on contemporary art. Skaftfell is a meeting point for artists and locals and serves as a center for visual art in all east-Iceland. A Café and pizzeria is on the ground floor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Austurvegur 42, 710 Seyðisfjörður</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(+354) 472-1632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:skaftfell@skaftfell.is">skaftfell@skaftfell.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.skaftfell.is">www.skaftfell.is</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fjarðabyggð Church and Culture Centre
The church- and culture centre for music in East Iceland. Facilities and music instruments are of best quality and the acoustics suitable for all kinds of music. The building is designed for exhibitions and culture events. Check for concerts on the centre’s website.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dalbraut 2, 735 Eskifjörður</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(+354) 476-1742</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tonleikahus@tonleikahus.is">tonleikahus@tonleikahus.is</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Access</td>
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Gallerý Thea
Thea’s clay horses are not to miss. The artist mixes the wool from the Icelandic sheep with clay. This emerging of the two materials makes unique possibilities for special art objects. Forms are found in the animate and inanimate natural worlds.
Gallerí Snærós

Gallery Snærós is run by the artists Ríkharður Valtingojer and Sólrún Friðriksdóttir and open daily during the summer. In the Gallery their Arts and Crafts are exhibited and for sale, e.g. Graphics, paintings, textiles, jewellery, ceramic and glass. In connection with the Gallery is Grafíksetrið, a well equipped Graphic Studio.

Location | Fjarðarbraut 42, 755 Stöðvarfjörður
Phone | (+354) 475-8931
Email | solrun.frid@simnet.is
April
Easter: Easter Festival in the Fjords
Hammond Organ festival - Djúpivogur - 3rd weekend

May
Whitsun: Sea kayak festival Egill Rauði - Neskaupsstaður

June
Great Forest day - Hallormsstaður - last saturday
Egilsstaðir Jazz festival - Egilsstaðir - 3rd or 4th weekend

July
Occupation Day - Reyðarfjörður - 1st of July
Lunga Young peoples Art festival - Seyðisfjörður, 2nd week
Eistnaflug Rock Festival - Neskaupsstaður - 2nd weekend
Bræðslan Music Festival - Borgarfjörður eystri - 3rd weekend
Franskir dagar - French festivities in Fáskrúðsfjörður - 3rd weekend
Smiðjuhátíð - BlackSmiths festival - Seyðisfjörður - 3rd weekend

August
AccordiOn Festival - Fljótsdalshérað - 1st weekend
Álfaborgarsjens - Borgarfjörður eystri town festival - 1st weekend
Saga of Hrafnkell Festival Day – 1st weekend
Neistaflug - Neskaupsstaður Town festival - 1st weekend
Einu sinni á ágústkvöldi (Once upon an August night) - Vopnafjörður - 2nd weekend
Ormsteiti (Wyrm Festival) - Regional festival- 3rd week

October
Haustroði Autumn Festival - Seyðisfjörður - 1st Saturday

November
Days of Darkness - Whole of East Iceland - 2nd and 3rd weekend

December
Gryla Troll Festival - Skriðuklaustur - 1st weekend
You will surely find nature’s own little art museum - right out there!

CULTURE & ARTS:

Listiðjan Eik woodcarvings and art - Miðhúsum, 701 Egilsstaðir
860-2928 / 471-1320 • eiksf@mmedia.is

Kata’s Glass Gallery
Samkaup, Strandgata (+354) 894 9306 • 735 Eskifjörður

Salthúsið local market
755 Stöðvarfjörður

Gusta Design reindeer and fish leather workshop
www.gustadesign.is (+354) 863 1475 765 • Djúpivogur
The variety in accommodation will accommodate for all your needs. Good hotels, guesthouses, youth hostels, hunting lodges, cottages and campsites or even a remote mountain hut – Whatever your needs or preferences, take your pick!

Nothing compares to a good night’s sleep!

Hotel Tangi has served guests in Vopnafjörður for a long time and the guests are always welcome. The hotel has gone through a great renewal and the access is good. On the ground floor are 4 vultus room and 13 smaller on 1st floor. The hotel has a good dining room and a bar.
Syðri-Vík Farm

Syðri-Vík, 690 Vopnafjörður
(+354) 473-1199 / 848-0641
holmi56@vortex.is
www.sveit.is

Friendly farm accommodation at a great location. A guesthouse with 6 rooms, kitchen and dining room and a small apartment with all facilities. Two cottages 1 x 4 pers. and 1 x 8 pers. Washing machine available for guests. Horserental and trout fishing – bookings in advance. Visit our Eider duck down farming. Open: 01.03.-31.10. Farm animals: Sheep, horses, dog and a cat.

Guesthouse Mávahlíð

Mávahlíð, 690 Vopnafjörður
(+354) 695-2952
gudnikr@internet.is
www.123.is/mavahlid

A friendly guesthouse, with a great view across the Fjord. Rooms with made up beds, sleeping bag accommodation is sometimes available. Breakfast. Sea angling can be provided.
Two summerhouses, each with room for 4-6 people. Guesthouse with 7 rooms. Comfortable accommodations with a roomy deck and a hot tub. Síreksstaðir is a traditional farm with sheep, cattle, horses and ducks in addition to guest accommodations. Since this is a working farm, our guests will have “front row seats” during haying and other farm activities.

Welcome to “Under the Mountain”, a guesthouse in a private home at Refsstað 2 in Hofnárdal, on rd. #919, 10 km from the town. Guests have access to the kitchen, refrigerator, TV, 2 patios. Special rates for families. Western Icelanders especially welcome. Open all year.
The highest settled farm in Iceland, 469 meters (1,539 feet) above sea-level; it has been inhabited since the early settlement. Guided tours and hikes into the highlands north of Vatnajökull and on the glacier. Accommodation at the farm and the Mountain café (Fjallakaffi) where you can enjoy local food and good drinks.

Möðrudalur

Möðrudal, 701 Egilsstaðir
(+354) 894-0758
fjalladyrd@fjalladyrd.is
www.fjalladyrd.is

Skjöldólfsstaðir

Skjöldólfsstaðir; Jökuldal
701 Egilsstaðir
(+354) 471-2006 / 692-6030
hreindyr@ahreindyraslodum.is
www.ahreindyraslodum.is

In the reindeer themed area of the East, Skjöldólfsstaðir schoolhouse offers accommodation in single, double and triple rooms with shared facilities and sleeping bag accommodation. Playground indoor and outdoor for the children. Swimming pool and hot pot. Camping site. A restaurant is on the premises.
Aðalból has been a farm for over a thousand years, ever since it was the home of Hrafnkell Freysgoði of Hrafnkelssaga. You can have accommodation with or without breakfast, in a made-up bed or using your own sleeping bag or camp. There is a petrolstation and Iceland’s most remote bar.

### Guesthouse Sámur bóndi

| 🌐 | Aðalból, 701 Egilsstaðir |
| 📞 | (+354) 471-2788 |
| 🌨️ | sambo@simnet.is |
| 🌐 | www.simnet.is/samur |

Lodge Hálsakot. New first class accommodation near Egilsstaðir mainly for anglers who are fishing in nearby rivers. Open also for travellers all year around. Eight en-suite bedrooms and nice living and sitting room with fireplace. Possible self-catering as well as breakfast or even full board. Fishing for trout and salmon 1. June till 30. September.

| 🌐 | Jökulsárhlíð, 701 Egilsstaðir |
| 📞 | (+354) 567-5204 |
| 🌨️ | ellidason@strengir.is |
| 🌐 | www.strengir.is |
**Húsey - Youth Hostel**

Húsey is 60 km north of Egilsstaðir, between two glacial rivers, with a wonderful view of the surrounding mountains and endless opportunities for exploring untouched nature, birds, reindeer and seals. The Youth Hostel is in the renovated “Old Farm” and offers rooms, as well as sleeping bag accommodation. There is a well equipped kitchen.

**Vínland Guesthouse**

Vinland is a family run guesthouse at the northern edge of Egilsstadir. The accommodation comprises of 6 tastefully decorated bedrooms, all of which have en-suite bath/shower rooms, colour televisions and tea and coffee making facilities. Vinland is an ideal place to stay, gateway to the rugged splendour of the East Fjords.
Guesthouse Eyvindará

Eyvindará II, 700 Egilsstaðir
(+354) 471-1200
eyvindara2@simnet.is
www.eyvindara.is

Guesthouse Eyvindará is located in a beautiful wooded area 2.7 km from the center of Egilsstaðir at road 94. Beautiful view over the Hérað Region and nice hiking in the neighbourhood. Guesthouse Eyvindará has just added 10 new fully furnished rooms. The place has now 4 DBL rooms with shared bathroom in the main house, 16 rooms with baths (including 4 cottages).

Gistihúsið Egilsstadir

Egilsstaðir, 700 Egilsstaðir
(+354) 471-1114
egilsstadir@egilsstadir.com
www.egilsstadir.com

A cosy hotel which offers a peaceful environment for meetings or overnight stays during the week and a revitalising, romantic atmosphere over the weekend. Centrally located within East Iceland and just an hour’s flight from Reykjavík, our guesthouse serves as an ideal base for taking a wide variety of sight-seeing excursions around the East.
The hotel is located in the thriving centre of Egilsstadir. Built with three storeys, well-equipped, stylish rooms offer a relaxing stay and a great night’s sleep and there’s always the chance for dining as well as socialising in our superb restaurant and bar. On the balcony here you can find yourself sipping your drink in the midnight sun.

Eastern promise. Egilsstaðir, the “capital of the east” boasts an international airport and a host of local attractions. Among them are Hallormsstaður, Iceland’s biggest forest, the extinct Mt. Snæfell volcano, Atlavík’s sandy cove and the beautiful Lagarfljót river, which, according to myth, is home to one mighty—but shy—monster, a older cousin of the one in Scotland’s Loch Ness. Come and stay.
Olga's Guesthouse is a cozy little retreat with 5 double bedrooms and 1 triple bedroom. Each room is fitted with a refrigerator, TV, DVD and a free internet connection as well as an electric kettle along with coffee and tea. The bedrooms are without a shower but showers and toilets are close to the bedrooms.

Gisting 707 apartments

Single beds-bedroom apartments in a new building in Egilsstaðir for rent over a period, week weekend or a single night. They are in a walking distance from the main shopping area in Egilsstaðir. Each apartment has a double room and a double sofabed in the living room. Extra mattresses are available. The apartments have a washing machine and a drier.
We have two cozy and homely guesthouses in Egilsstaðir. Guesthouse Bláargerði was built in 2007. It’s a new house with 3 big and light rooms and one bathroom to share. The guesthouse is located in the center of Egilsstaðir. The guesthouse has a kitchen, where our guests can cook in the evenings. We serve breakfast in the mornings.

**Bláargerði**

- **Address:** Bláargerði 43, 700 Egilsstaðir
- **Phone:** (+354) 473-1880 / 862-6293
- **Email:** heimagisting@internet.is
- **Website:** www.heimagisting.is

Accommodation in made up beds in a house on two floors, with breakfast. The first floor has 2 family rooms with shared facilities and a private entrance. The second floor has 3 double rooms with shared facilities, living room and kitchen, and a private entrance. Guided horse riding tours and great possibilities of shorter walks on gravel paths.

**Útnyrðingsstaðir / Gaedingatours**

- **Address:** Útnyrðingsstaðir, 701 Egilsstaðir
- **Phone:** (+354) 471-1727 / 869-8210
- **Email:** Gaedingatours@simnet.is
- **Website:** www.gaedingatours.is
**Eyjólfsstaðir á Völlum**

- **Address**: Eyjólfsstaðir, 701 Egilsstaðir
- **Phone**: (+354) 471-2171/845-3818
- **Email**: eyjolsst@simnet.is
- **Website**: www.eyjolsstadir.is


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**Úlfsstaðaskógur 20 - Hlíðarendi**

- **Address**: Úlfsstaðaskógur 20, 701 Egilsst.
- **Phone**: (+354) 475-6798
- **Email**: sissi@vortex.is
- **Website**: www.vortex/sissi.is

Sommerhouse-Facilities 3 bedrooms, 1 with double bed, 1 room with 2X bunk beds and 1 with one single bed. Living room with kitchen, microwave, oven, TV, radio, CD. Wc/shower. 40qm terrace, coal grill, garden-table and chairs. Parking place. A very well located house to enjoy all the wonders of East Iceland.
**Vallanes**

Vallanes is an organic farm since 1989. Variety of vegetables, grain and food production such as vegetable burgers, baking products, chutneys. Massage oils based on local ingredients. The Organic shop with our products is open at request. We offer sleeping bag accommodation.

**Ferðaþjónustan Stóra-Sandfelli**

The campsite, which is spacious and peaceful, lies in a old birch wood 17 km south of Egilsstaðir. It has an excellent WC, showers, electricity, table, benches and outdoor barbeques. The cottages are for 4 people, with WC, cooking facilities, tableware and gas grill. Made up beds or sleeping bags accommodation. Nice hiking trails.
**Grái Hundurinn Guesthouse**

Grái hundurinn Guesthouse located at Hjalli Hallormsstadur. The guesthouse has 6 rooms. Four double rooms from which one has private bathroom. Two single and three double share 2 bathrooms. During summertime we also rent huts. The Guesthouse is open all year around.

**Hótel Hallormsstaður**

Hotel Hallormsstadur has 35 rooms with private facilites. At the hotel are two restaurants that have a panoramic view over lake Lagarfljot. There is a swimming pool, bike rental and horse rental during summer time.
Fljótsdalsgrund offers accommodation in apartments all equipped with own kitchens and made up beds. We also offer sleeping bag accommodation, camping and full accommodation for caravans. Also, good accommodation for smaller meetings and get-togethers.

Fljótsdalsgrund, 701 Egilsstaðir
(+354) 865-1683 / 863-5215
fljotsdalsgrund@fljotsdalur.is
www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Gistiheimilid-Fljotsdalsgrund/

Located in the Land of the hidden people, a region of dramatic mountain landscapes, with stunning views from summit to shore. Explore Stórurð or take in the bracing beauty of Borgarfjörður eystrí – the fishing village facing the open sea, where you find Álfaborg, Iceland’s “elf” capital. In nearby Vopnafjörður there is an interesting folk museum. There are good hiking trails around the hotel.

Hótel Edda Eiðar
Eiðar, 701 Egilsstaðir
(+354) 444 4870 / 444 4000
edd@hoteledda.is
www.hoteledda.is
Borg Guesthouse

Borg, 720 Borgarfjörður eystrí
(+354) 472-9870 / 894-4470
gistingborg@simnet.is
www.borgarfjordureystri.is

The friendly guesthouse is situated in the heart of the small village. We offer made up beds and sleeping bag accommodation. Breakfast is available. We organise hikes in the Borgarfjörður region and in the autumn hunting.

Guesthouse Álfheimar

Álfheimar, 720 Borgarfjörður
(+354) 861-3677 / 868-1689
info@elftours.is
www.borgarfjordureystri.is

18 double rooms with private bathroom. Restaurant with special dishes of local food. Convenient location for hiking tours. 1-6 days organised hiking tours offered in the magnificent nature by local guides. Bird watching in Hafnarhólmi harbour, known for the great puffin view. Kjarval’s exhibition gives information about the painter Kjarval. Fairytale land room with elfstories and folktales from the area.
Skálanes

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Skálanes, 710 Seyðisfjörður</td>
<td>(+354) 861-7008</td>
<td><a href="mailto:skalanes@skalanes.com">skalanes@skalanes.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.skalanes.is">www.skalanes.is</a></td>
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Skálanes is a private sector nature and heritage centre within a 1250 hectare nature reserve which has a vision to create a place where the Icelandic environment and cultural history can be researched and interpreted at the same time as being a model for sustainable tourism. The findings from the surveys and research work being carried out at Skálanes are on display.

Farfuglaheimilið Hafaldan

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hafaldan 710 Seyðisfjörður</td>
<td>(+354) 472-1410</td>
<td><a href="mailto:thorag@simnet.is">thorag@simnet.is</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.simnet.is/hafaldan">www.simnet.is/hafaldan</a></td>
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</table>

Hafaldan has been a comfortable haven for countless travelers since 1975. The well equipped hostel is sheltered in two charming atmospheric wooden houses, an old former dormitory for herring girls and a Norwegian heritage house, a former hospital from 1898. There are dormitory beds, as well as double and family rooms. During summer booking is needed.
Our charming rooms are situated in two historical buildings, formerly a bank and a post office, from the turn of the 19th century, each with its own unique soul and characteristics. The historical atmosphere has been preserved while adding modern convenience. The flexible architectural layout enables us to combine rooms to accommodate for families.

Unwind with a relaxing drink in the hotel bar and enjoy delicious Icelandic cuisine in our restaurant. Guests can choose from Fjarðahótel’s twenty rooms, all of which are equipped with Wi-Fi internet. A conference room with all modern facilities can accommodate up to twenty people.
Hjá Marlín

Vallargeri 9, 730 Reyðarfjörður
(+354) 474-1220 / 892-0336
bakkagerdi@simnet.is
www.bakkagerdi.net

The guesthouse is located in 2 houses on the same street, one of them has a café where meals are served for dinner. The other house has a guest kitchen. Both houses have spacious and comfortable common areas, perfect for reading and relaxing.

Íbúðahótel - Apartments

Strandgata 26, 735 Eskifjörður
(+354) 892-8657
addie@simnet.is
www.hotelibudir.net

Now for rent all year around, luxury hotel apartments in Eskifjordur. The apartments have everything you need to enjoy a good vacation, all comfort and a great view over the town and the fjord. Here can you, your family and friends enjoy life in a beautiful place. Hotel Apartments provide you with with comfort.
Mjóeyri Travel is located on a beautiful and peaceful peninsula, Eskifjordur. We offer accommodation in rooms and cottages and put our efforts into creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere. We also offer recreational activities such as boat rental, hiking, hunting and skiing or just relaxing in the cozy environment at Mjóeyri.

Hótel Edda Neskaupstaður

Feast on the east. Fifty years ago the town of Neskaupstaður in Norðfjörður – one of the finest eastern fjords, was accessible only by sea. Visitors now flock to its outstanding Nature Reserve, Gerpir, Iceland’s easternmost point, great hiking routes and there is horseback riding and ocean-kayaking, as well as interesting culture and museums.
Non-expensive accommodation in the heart of Neskaupstad + one of the best CD stores in Iceland. There are 3 single and 3 double rooms. Sleeping bag accommodation or made up beds at great prices.

Hótel Capitano

Capitano is a cosy 3 star hotel in a renovated 100 years old corrugated iron clad house, located on the ocean front. Rooms are 10. The restaurant has ocean view, and the lounge offers a variety of refreshments. A Fitness Centre is close by with a swimming pool, hot tubs, water slides and fitness facility. The area has excellent walking trails.
Cozy accommodation for 12 people, both made-up beds and sleeping bag places, with access to a kitchen. The guesthouse is located in a beautiful and peaceful environment 5 km from the village Fáskrúðsfjörður. In the neighbourhood are a lot of activities, such as walking paths, trout-fishing, swimming pool, golfing etc.

Kirkjubær, the old church in Stöðvarfjörður is the most unique guesthouse in Iceland. There is room for 10 people and you can have either sleeping bag accommodation or bed linen. Next door are Petra’s rocks and minerals, Gallery Snærós and the Salt market.
Hotel Staðarborg is a beautiful, new hotel in the heart of East Iceland, located on Highway #1 in the valley Breiðdalur. The distance from Reykjavík is 625 km and 100 km from Seyðisfjörður. Hotel Staðarborg is formerly the schoolhouse in Breiðdalur which has now been thoroughly renovated and can accommodate 54 people in 30 spacious rooms.

Staðarborg, 761 Breiðdalsvík
(+354) 475-6760
stadarborg@simnet.is
www.stadarborg.is

Hotel Bláfell is situated in the picturesque village of Breiðdalsvík where you can enjoy spectacular sea views surrounded by the magnificent peaks and cliffs of one of Iceland’s most beautiful mountain ranges. Good rooms at a great location. Visit our restaurant for a taste of East Iceland delicacies.

Sóvellir 14, 761 Breiðdalsvík
(+354) 475-6770
info@hotelblafell.is
www.hotelblafell.is

Hótel Bláfell

Hótel Staðarborg
The most exclusive accommodation in East Iceland is in Breiðdalur valley. Eyjar lodge provides first class accommodation and service all year, as well as fishing in Breiðdalsá during summer months. Nice living and sitting room with fireplace, as well as a sauna and a hot pot. Internet access. For Salmon fishing permits contact our office.

Cottages for hire in the beautiful landscape of Breiðdalur, a quiet valley at the Eastfjords. At Skarð we run a guesthouse, campingsite and on Háaleiti we offer cottages. Háaleiti and Skarð iare located on road nr. 962, 10 km. from the Ringroad 1. We also sell wool handcraft. Numerous walking paths are in the environs of Breiðdalur.
Berunes - Youth hostel

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(+345) 478-8988 / 869-7227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:berunes@berunes.is">berunes@berunes.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.berunes.is">www.berunes.is</a></td>
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Berunes is a farm, ideally located at an seafront. The Hostel is centrally located between Skaftafell National Park and the Mývatn area and close to road nr 1. We offer our guests accommodation in an old house, and other newer and 3 self catering cottages. All together 45 beds. Breakfast, dinner and drinks available. Berunes also has a good camp-site.

Hótel Framtíð

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vogalandi 4, 765 Djúpivogur</th>
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<tr>
<td>(+345) 478-8887</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:framtid@simnet.is">framtid@simnet.is</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.hotelframtid.com">www.hotelframtid.com</a></td>
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Hotel Framtid Djúpavogi offers a comfortable stay in beautiful natural surroundings. Our new wing has panoramic sea and mountain views. 46 Rooms. 18 well-designed 17m² rooms with shower and w.c, telephone and TV. 28 rooms with basin in several buildings. 4 new cottages 25m² each, 3 apartments only 150 meters from the main building. Good restaurant with great fish dishes.
Hótel Svartiskógur • Hallgeirsstöðum, 701 Egilsstaðir
(+354) 471-1030 • svartiskogur@mi.is • www.svartiskogur.is

Við-Bót cottages • Flúðum, 701 Egilsstaðir
(+354) 471-1917 / 869-7269 • annabraga@simnet.is

Skipalækur • Skipalæk, 700 Egilsstaðir
(+354) 471-1324 • skipalækur@simnet.is • www.skipalaekur.is

Hótel Egilsstaðir • Skógarlöndum 3, 700 Egilsstaðir
(+354) 471-2830 • info@hringhotels.is • www.hringhotel.is

Ferðaþjónustan Ekru • Ekra, 701 Egilsstaðir
(+354) 868-0957 4713054 • ekra@mi.is • sumarhusekru.blogspot.com

Farfuglaheimilið Ásbyrgi • Fjarðarborg, 720 Borgarfjörður eystri
(+354) 472-9920/ 472-9962 • bergrunj@mi.is • www.borgarfjordureystri.is

Réttarholt • Réttarholt, 720 Borgarfjörður eystri
(+354) 472-9913 / 894-1012 • helgima@mi.is • www.borgarfjordureystri.is

Pöntun 710 Seyðisfjörður • (+354) 472-1140 / 868-5354 ljosbra51@simnet.is

Skálinn 710 Seyðisfjörður • (+354) 472 1436 / 659 1435

Norðursíld • 710 Seyðisfjörður
(+354) 897-0909 • nordursild@simnet.is • www.seydisfjordur.is

Guesthouse Sólbrekka • Sólbrekka, 715 Mjóifjörður
(+354) 476-0007/476-0020 • mjoi@simnet.is • www.sveit.is

Kaffihúsið • Strandgata 10, 735 Eskifjörður
(+354) 477-1064 • kaffihusid@kaffihusid.is • www.kaffihusid.is

Ferðaþjónustan Kleif • Innri Kleif, 760 Breiðdalsvík
(+354) 475-6789

Eyjólfssstaðir • Fossárdal, 765 Djúpivogur • (+354) 471-2171
### Kverkfjöll - Sigurðarskáli

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<tr>
<td>Winter (+354) 863-5813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer (+354) 863-9236</td>
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### Snæfell - Snæfellsskáli

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<tr>
<td>Winter (+354) 864-5813</td>
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<td>Summer (+354) 860-1393</td>
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<td>Size / sleeps 45 persons</td>
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### Geldingafell

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>GPS 64.41.711 N / 15.21.681 V</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winter (+354) 865-5813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer (+354) 860-1393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Size / sleeps 16 persons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Kollumúlavatn - Egilsse

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GPS 64°36.680 N / 15°08.750 V</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winter (+354) 866-5813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer (+354) 860-1393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Size / sleeps 22 persons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breiðavík - Víknaslóðir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Húsavík - Víknaslóðir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loðmundarfjörður - Víknaslóðir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karlsstaðir - Fjord Trail</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

http://www.fi.is/en/huts/
Vopnafjörður Campsite  Hamrahlíð 15, 690 Vopnafjörður  
(+354) 473-1300 / 473-1331  
skrifstofa@vopnafjardarhreppur.is • www.vopnafjardarhreppur.is

Fjalladýrð Campsite  Möðrudalur, 701 Egilsstaðir  
(+354) 471-1858 / 894-0758  
jalladyrd@fjalladyrd.is • www.fjalladyrd.is

Sænautasel Campsite  Merki, 701 Egilsstaðir  
(+354) 471-1086 / 854-2666 • jokulsa@centrum.is

Skjöldólfsstaðir Campsite  Jökuldalur, 701 Egilsstaðir  
(+354) 471-2006 • hreindyraslodir@hotmail.com  
www.ahreindyraslodum.is

Svartiskógur Campsite  Hallgeirsstaðir, 701 Egilsstaðir  
(+354) 471-1030

Egilsstaðir Campsite  Kaupvangur 17, 700 Egilsstaðir  
(+354) 470-0750 • tjaldstaedid@egilsstadir.is • www.posturegilstadir.is

Skipalækur Campsite  Fellabær, 701 Egilsstaðir  
(+354) 471-1324 • www.skipalaekur.is

Stóra Sandfell Campsite  Skriðdalur, 701 Egilsstaðir  
(+354) 471-2420 • jfk@emax.is  
http://sites.google.com/site/storasandfell/

Hallormsstaður Atlavík Campsite  Hallormsstaður, 701 Egilsstaðir  
(+354) 849 1461 / 471-1774 • hallormsstadur@skogur.is

Fljótsdalsgrund Campsite  Fljótsdalsgrund, 701 Egilsstaðir  
(+354) 865-1683 / 863-5215 • fljotsdalsgrund@fljotsdalur.is
Borgarfjörður eystri Campsite Álfaborg, 720 Borgarfjörður
(+354) 472-9999 • borg@eldhorn.is • www.borgarfjordureystri.is

Seyðisfjörður Campsite Ránargata 5, 710 Seyðisfjörður
(+354) 861-7789 • ferdamenning@sfk.is • www.sfk.is

Sólbrekka Campsite 715 Mjóifjörður • (+354) 476-0007

Reyðarfjörður Campsite Búðareyri 7, 730 Reyðarfjörður
(+354) 470-9000 • fjardabyggd@fjardabyggd.is • www.fjardabyggd.is

Eskifjörður Campsite Strandgata 49, 735 Eskifjörður
(+354) 470-9000 • fjardabyggd@fjardabyggd.is • www.fjardabyggd.is

Fáskrúðsfjörður Campsite Hafnargata 12, 750 Fáskrúðsfjörður
(+354) 475-1220 • budahreppur@faskrudsfjordur.is

Neskaupsstaður Campsite Egilsbraut 1, 740 Norðfjörður
(+354) 470-9000 • fjardabyggd@fjardabyggd.is

Stöðvarfjörður Campsite Fjarðarbraut, 755 Stöðvarfjörður
(+354) 475-0515 • fjardabyggd@fjardabyggd.is • www.fjardabyggd.is

Breiðdalsvík Campsite Ástún, 760 Breiðdalsvík
(+354) 470-5560 • hreppur@breiddalur.is • www.breiddalur.is

Staðarborg Campsite Staðarborg, 760 Breiðdalsvík
(+354) 475-6760 • stadarborg@simnet.is • www.stadarborg.is

Berunes Campsite Berunes, 765 Djúpivogur
(+354) 478-8988 / 869 7227

Djúpivogur Campsite Vogaland 4, 765 Djúpivogur
(+354) 478-8887 • framtid@simnet.is • www.simnet.is/framtid
East Iceland is a region known for its wonderful local food. Reindeer, lamb and fresh fish with organic greens, wild berries, mushrooms and dairy products are the base of the prize-winning East Iceland cuisine, also known for delicious homemade cakes and pastries. The restaurants and Cafés may vary in looks and feel, but you can be sure that the food will tempt your palette.

www.krasir.is
Look for this sign
Sænautasel is a beautifully preserved turf farm that was restored by the local community in 1992. The farm was in ruins along with 16 other farmsteads, which were all devastated when Mt Askja erupted back in 1875 and buried the farms in ash. A warm and cosy traditional café at a unique location and a campsite.

Skjálfti / Skvísukaffi  Bakery and bar

Feel like dancing or having a drink with the locals? Skjálfti is the local bar open Friday and Saturday 23-03. During daytime the bakery and café are open Monday to Friday, 07-18 in winter. In the 07-18 in winter. In the summertime from 19 to late in the evening. Inviting menus all year.
Enjoy the romantic atmosphere in a restaurant that has become a favorite among the Icelanders. Serving excellent food based on local ingredients, real temptations to savour. We are open every day.

Gistihúsið Egilsstöðum

- Egilsstaðir, 700 Egilsstaðir
- (+354) 471-1114
- egilsstadir@egilsstadir.com
- www.egilsstadir.com

This friendly restaurant and café is situated in Egilsstaðir’s oldest house. A menu with a variety of fish, vegetable and meat e.g. the renowned Reindeer-steak. Along with coffee, chocolate and cakes. Lunch buffet all weekdays from 11:30-13:30. Café Nielsen’s veranda is a favorite place to spend the late afternoon after a good day of action or work.

Café Nielsen

- Tjarnarbraut 1, 700 Egilsstaðir
- (+354) 471-2626
- cafenielsen@simnet.is
- www.east.is
Alfacafé is a friendly café in the village Bakkagerdi in Borgarfjordur eystrí. Try our famous fish soup or the irresistible waffles with whipped cream and fresh berries. There are artefacts made from local rocks on display. Next door is the local fish factory and you may just be allowed to peak inside.

Klausturkaffi

Skriðuklaustur, 701 Egilsstaðir
(+354) 471-2992
klausturkaffi@skriduklaustur.is
www.skriduklaustur.is

Lunch and cake buffet every day in summer. East Iceland’s delicacies - Local food products. Homebakes cakes and bread. Dinners, banquets and refreshments for groups can be ordered year round. Open every day for lunch and in the afternoon from May to mid-September.
Try the solarpowered self service kiosk on the way to Borgarfjörður.

**Hótel Aldan**

Norðurgata 2, 710 Seyðisfjörður  
(+354) 472-1277  
aldanhf@simnet.is  
www.seydisfjordur.is

Welcome to our friendly little restaurant in one of Iceland’s oldest stores. The menu is based on local products of the season. Icelandic lamb, reindeer, beef and vegetables from eco-farm “Vallanes” and local fishermen provide fresh fish, catch of the day. In summer we are open all days for lunch and dinner. In the winter we are open for pre-booked groups and special events.
### Egilsbúð

**Address:** Egilsbraut 1, 740 Neskaupstaður  
**Phone:** (+354) 477-1321  
**Email:** egilsbud@egilsbud.is  
**Website:** [www.egilsbud.is](http://www.egilsbud.is)

This restaurant in the heart of East Iceland’s music town, offers lunch and dinner. Everything from hamburgers to a la carte meals. Come and enjoy our great musical by local musicians and the daily concerts around the down. Egilsbúð is also partly the venue of Eistnaflug, the annual Rock festival.

### Nesbær

**Address:** Egilsbraut 7, 740 Neskaupstaður  
**Phone:** (+354) 477-1115  
**Email:** nesbaer@simnet.is  
**Website:** [123.is/nesbaer](http://123.is/nesbaer)  
**Access:**

The coffee shop has been a popular place for a break for more than a decade. Located in an old house in the centre of Neskaupstaður with over a 100 years trading history. Come here if you are looking for delicious cakes and good coffee. There is internet access and meeting facilities. We also sell handcraft and display art by local artists.
The lovely local café welcomes you. Lunch and dinner are served. Local fish is celebrated in our kitchen and our home-made cakes and pastries have earned a reputation. An evening with a view over the fjord after a good meal at Sumarlína is not to be resisted.
Nature, Culture and Wilderness

In East Iceland, you will find most of what makes Iceland a unique place. Experience the vast wilderness, the contrasting beauty of nature and the sense of solitude in the vicinity of Vatnajökull, Europe’s largest glacier. Fascinating nature from the glaciers to the sea; broad, barren sands and valleys with woodlands and colourful vegetation, deserted fjords and prospering towns, geothermal pools and clear mountain streams, beautiful waterfalls, and steep fjords extending like mirrors between unpolluted shores. A landscape of extraordinary colours highly prized by photographers.

The variety in nature is reflected by society and a flourishing culture, providing excellent services. Regardless of whether you want to catch salmon, swim, go bird watching, spot reindeer, hike the trails, enjoy the wonderful food or simply cherish existence and sub-arctic freshness, East Iceland’s unearthly environment leaves no one untouched.

www.east.is
www.visiticeland.com

Note:
This booklet only contains a few of the wonderful things you can experience in this beautiful part of Iceland.