ICELAND EXPEDITION

ALUMNI TRIP

AUGUST 22 - 26, 2018
OCTOBER 10 - 14, 2018

Land package:
from $998
based on 2-share per person rooms

The Ohio State University
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Dear Alumni and Friends:

Join The Ohio State University Alumni Association on this exciting expedition to Iceland! Travel with like-minded Buckeyes and discover the excitement of sharing this adventure with new friends.

Explore spouting geysers, active volcanoes, tumbling waterfalls, towering mountains, and sparkling iceberg-filled lagoons. Icelandic nature is unspoiled, exotic, and mystical. Its fjords, glaciers, and highlands present visitors with some of the most beautiful and enchanting landscapes they will ever see, as well as a feeling of utter tranquility.

Reykjavik, Iceland’s friendly capital, offers plentiful cultural and social happenings, in addition to an abundance of first-class restaurants, interesting boutiques, museums, and art galleries.

Book early to reserve your space on this very popular tour. If you have questions, please contact Laura DeRose at 614-292-2372, 800-852-8687, ext. 2, or derose.25@osu.edu.

We look forward to having you join us!

All the best,

Debbie Vargo
Director, Alumni Tours

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5-day base land package from: $998*

Rates are based on two people sharing one room. Upon request, AESU will attempt to arrange a shared room with a same gender traveler. If no roommate can be assigned, a single supplement of $395 (high season surcharge $100) will automatically be added to traveler’s invoice.

Please note the Icelandic government tax system is changing with regards to value added taxes (VAT) and the land package cost may increase by up to 15%. The actual VAT tax imposed at time of billing (90 days prior to tour departure) will be added to your final invoice.

*Special Alumni Land price per person. Airfare priced separately for greater flexibility. Please call AESU Alumni World Travel for great low airfares from most U.S. cities. Airport/departure taxes are additional and subject to change.
WHAT DO I GET?

COVERAGE
When you book your alumni trip with us, the necessities of travel are taken care of. These include:
- Superior Tourist Class Hotels
- All Land Transportation
- Daily Breakfast
- Special Cultural Dinners
- Knowable Tour Director
- Local Historians & Naturalists
(See more in the inclusions on page 4)

EDUCATION & ADVENTURE
Whether you can’t wait to immerse yourself in the stunning sites of the most northern capital in the world and the tranquility of the infamous Blue Lagoon, or you’re more inclined to explore during your freetime and partake in an optional glacier walk, this tour provides a beautiful balance of historical education and complete sensory and cultural immersion into the vivacious life of this country.

THE VERDICT?
Don’t miss out on the opportunity of a lifetime to explore the places you have been dreaming of or reading about in books. Make new best friends from around the world and create memories that will keep this journey alive forever.

It’s not rocket science, group travel is a safer way to explore the world. This trip provides you with an exciting approach to learning and taking in all the history and culture around you. Open your mind, see the world and have the most fun you’ve ever had.

GO EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS!

WWW.ALUMNIWORLDTRAVEL.COM/OSU-ICELAND.HTML
ICELAND EXPEDITION
5 DAYS

ABOUT THE TRIP:
Get to know Iceland's most famous natural treasures, experience black beaches, glacier views, stunning coastlines, magnificent bird cliffs, delightful towns, incredible waterfalls, erupting geysers, tectonic plates and take a plunge into the healing mineral waters of the Blue Lagoon. Walk in the footsteps of your favorite Game of Thrones characters and take time to visit the striking wilderness chosen to represent the regions north of the Seven Kingdoms or journey to the dramatic gorge at Thingvellir - the stomping ground of the White Walkers and the Wildlings. Reykjavik’s has officially taken over as a must-see destination, whether it’s the northern lights, the magnificent mountainous landscapes or the wonderful culture that draws you in, Reykjavik has made it very clear that there is no place on earth quite like it.

HIGHLIGHTS:
Welcome Orientation and cocktail party* City sightseeing tour * Golden circle tour * Old Town Center tour * Gullfoss waterfall * Strokkur fountain geyser * Thingvellir National Park (UNESCO World Heritage Site) * The Blue Lagoon* ... AND MUCH MORE!

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS:
(Not included in package price)
Optional South coast excursion with glacier walk

We drive from Reykjavik through the fertile farmlands of South Iceland, heading towards the majestic mountains towering over the coast, among them the snow shrouded Hekla and the ice capped volcano Eyjafjallajökull, last active in 2010. We continue through the region where one of the best known of the Icelandic classical sagas, Njal’s Saga, is set. The South Shore is one of the most popular regions of Iceland for a number of reasons: The waterfalls Seljalandsfoss and Skogafoss tumbling over high rock escarpments; the stone arch Dýrhólaey with its sheer cliffs, the picturesque setting of Vik village, a row of glaciers towering over the scenery and the Reynisdrangar rock pillars (some say they are petrified trolls) decorating the black beach of Reynihverfi. Late in the day we head back to Reykjavik after a memorable day. Duration: 10 hours.

Please check with your tour director for detailed schedules. Some options may require a minimum number of participants to operate. Rates for options are per person, approximate and subject to change.

WHAT’S INCLUDED:
- 3 nights at superior tourist class hotels or better, 2-share rooms with private bath/shower
- Daily continental breakfast
- Welcome cocktail and orientation with private tour director
- Guided Old Town Center tour
- Airport transfers with purchase of AESU group airfare
- Full day “Golden Circle Tour” including
  - Gullfoss waterfall
  - Geysir & Strokkur hot springs
  - Thingvellir National Park UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Fish & Chips farewell dinner
- The Blue Lagoon Geothermal Spa

PLUS:
- Private tour director for the entire duration of the land tour
- All scheduled sightseeing
- All ground transportation by private motor coach, as per itinerary
- All service charges and local taxes
- Luggage tag and travel guides
ICELAND EXPEDITION ITINERARY

DAY 1 FLIGHT TO REYKJAVIK
Embark on an overnight journey to Iceland's capital city.
Meals: In-flight

DAY 2 ARRIVE REYKJAVIK
If arriving in the “Land of the Midnight Sun” on a group flight this morning, your expedition starts with a visit to the Blue Lagoon.* Find ultimate relaxation in the healing mineral waters, surrounded by lava fields and snow-capped mountains in this geothermal spa located just outside of Reykjavik. The facilities include modern changing rooms and showers, an indoor geothermal pool, a winter garden and a restaurant. Continue to Reykjavik with a short city sightseeing tour of the northernmost capital in the world. Your tour includes the old town center, the Parliament, Cathedral and much more. Afterwards check into your hotel. This evening, join a welcome orientation and cocktail with the tour director. Later on you are invited to a Reykjavik bar crawl.
Meals: In-flight, Welcome cocktail
*Note: Travelers who book airfare with AESU will be met by their tour director in the arrivals hall. If booking your own flights, contact an AESU sales representative for meeting and transfer bus departure time.

DAY 3 REYKJAVIK * Golden Circle Tour
The Golden Circle Tour is probably Iceland’s most popular day tour as it includes three of the best known attractions. The golden waterfall Gullfoss, is one of the most impressive waterfalls in Europe with thousands of tons of icy water thundering majestically into a deep canyon. The Geyser area has numerous hot springs and geysers, including the famous Strokkur. Thingvellir is the site of the world’s oldest democratic parliament founded in 930 and the beautiful canyon running through the park is the dividing fault line between two of the earth’s tectonic plates. We return to Reykjavik for an evening at your leisure. Don’t miss out on Reykjavik’s legendary nightlife.
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 4 REYKJAVIK * Optional day tour to the south shore with glacier walk
Enjoy a free day to explore Reykjavik or opt to join a tour to the south shore. Pass through the fertile farming lands and villages of south Iceland, rich in Viking history and heritage and a view of the infamous Eyjafjallajökull and Hekla volcanoes. Take a walk behind the splendid wall of water of Seljlandsfoss waterfall, then hike on the ancient ice of Sólheimajökull glacier with a professional certified guide. Afterwards take a leisurely stroll along the black sand beach of Reynisfjara with its famous basalt columns and caverns. See the Reynisdrangar cliffs; basalt rock stacks that rise from the sea. Icelandic legends say that they are naughty trolls turned into rock by the rising sun. This great sightseeing tour ends with a stop at the Skógafoss waterfall. Walk up to the thundering waterfall for a bird’s eye view of the tumbling water and rainbows. At tonight’s farewell fish ’n chips farewell dinner plan your next adventure with new-found friends
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner
Optional Activity: South shore excursion and glacier walk

DAY 5 FLIGHT HOME
Reluctantly we say farewell to Iceland. Jet home with thoughts of your next adventure.
Meals: Breakfast, In-flight
**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**BEFORE YOU GO**

**HOW DO I BOOK?**
Booking your trip is easy! To make your reservation click the “CHECK AVAILABILITY” button on any trip page to book your trip online, or you can call us at 1.800-638-7640 if you have any questions.

**DO I NEED A PASSPORT? A VISA?**
Travel to EUROPE: If you are an American or Canadian citizen, you only need a passport. The easiest way to get a passport is through your local post office, county court house, or passport agency. When applying, be sure to take with you your genuine birth certificate, which includes the registrar’s signature and a raised seal, two recent photographs that are 2” x 2”, full face view, black/white or color; and ID, like your driver’s license. You may need a Visa for our tours if you are not an American or Canadian citizen. If you are a citizen of another country you must contact the appropriate consulate for each nation on the itinerary, and you must obtain these visas on your own.

Travel BEYOND Europe: Check on Visa requirements (incl. American or Canadian citizens) with the respective consulate or embassy. Some countries may charge for a tourist visa on entry or a departure tax on leaving the country.

**HOW MUCH MONEY WILL I NEED?**
We recommend $50-$80 per day, depending on your spending habits. That money covers items of a personal nature, laundry, beverages with meals (except for coffee/tea at breakfast, water at dinner, and occasionally a glass of wine), meals not included on tour, and expenses for free-time activities (metro tickets, taxis, entrance fees). This amount does not include money for souvenir/gift shopping. We strongly recommend bringing a credit card (Visa, American Express, and Mastercard are the most widely accepted) as well as an ATM card. Check with your bank prior to departure to ensure your ATM card is usable overseas.

**SHOULD I PURCHASE TRAVEL INSURANCE?**
We highly recommend travel insurance. You will receive insurance information directly from Ohio State. For more information visit http://my.travelinsure.com/ohiostate/

**HOW MUCH LUGGAGE SHOULD I TAKE?**
Due to limited space on the tour motor coach, you may only bring ONE suitcase and ONE carry-on. Limit your suitcase size to no larger than 29" x 20" x 10" and your carry-on to no larger than 18" x 16" x 21". Check your airline’s website for any additional luggage restrictions. Keep in mind that throughout the duration of the tour, you are responsible for your own luggage, so do not pack more than you can carry. Laundry facilities are available in major cities.

**WHAT SHOULD I PACK?**
The easiest way to make your tour stressful is to over pack! See more details in the Planning & Packing section on your trip’s Toolbox pages. Download our suggested packing list.

**WHAT ABOUT PACKING DOCUMENTS?**
Never pack your passport! Always keep it with you. The same goes for cash and credit cards. Pack 2 extra passport photos if possible. In the event that you misplace your passport, photo copies of your passport’s personal data pages, your flight itinerary and e-ticket information, a listing of your credit card, and copies of any personal IDs. This info will be extremely valuable should you lose any actual documents. Always keep actual documents on your person, and never in your checked suitcase.

**WHAT ARE HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS LIKE?**
European trips: We stay in superior tourist class hotels, 3-star or 4-star, all with private baths/shower. Our hotels have been especially selected for their European atmosphere, friendly hospitality, cleanliness and location. TOUR ROOMING POLICY: AESU & AESU Alumni World Travel Graduation tours. All rates based on per/person 2-share basis. Two persons booking together as roommates receive a 2-share room. Solo travelers will be accommodated in a 2-share room, depending on availability. This share basis means, if you travel on your own, you do NOT have to pay a single supplement.* AESU Alumni World Travel Young Alumni tours: If you are traveling alone and do not want a single room, we will attempt to arrange for a 2-share room. If this is not possible, we will arrange for a single room and charge the applicable single supplement. Some tour companies offer budget programs that stay in remote cabin campsites utilizing sleeping bags or occasional hotels with 4 or more sharing a room with no bath. We do NOT believe that this is the best way to spend a night in Europe.

You’ll be furnished a complete hotel address list with your final documents. Properties are subject to change and any substitutions would be the equivalent of those listed.* Single supplement only applies if single accommodations are requested.

**I DON’T HAVE A ROOMMATE, WHAT DO I DO?**
European trips: Going solo is not a problem with AESU. Many of our participants don’t have a travel companion when booking a trip. If you’re traveling alone, we will arrange for you to share a room (same gender) at NO EXTRA COST. Our hotels are superior tourist class, all with private baths/shower. Usual accommodations are two sharing a room, however, if you prefer to stay in a single room, our reservations agent can make arrangements for a single at the applicable single supplement rate. (See above regarding exceptions.)

**I KNOW SOME MEALS ARE INCLUDED, BUT WHAT ABOUT SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS?**
Tours include breakfast daily, lunches & dinner as per itinerary. If you are a vegetarian, or have special dietary needs, please inform your tour director as soon as you arrive. All included meals are pre-paid, so a substitute meal is always up to the goodwill of the establishment. We cannot guarantee that all special requests will be granted but, in the past, most restaurants have been cooperative. Please keep in mind that substitute meals may not be as varied as they are at home.

**DO I NEED ANY VACCINATIONS?**
Check with your doctor or the CDC (wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/) to find out if vaccinations are required if you suffer from any form of illness, be sure to have an adequate supply of medicines before departing on your trip. You must advise us of any important medical condition you may have, before departure.

**DOES AESU SUPPORT ECO TRAVEL?**
Every traveler shares a common responsibility to preserve our planet’s environment and respect its people. AESU enthusiastically endorses ASTA’s 10 Commandments, which effectively reaffirm that responsibility. Let’s live by these Commandments, to ensure our world’s beauty is preserved for our generation and for generations to come. Thank you for the opportunity to travel together and to discover our remarkable world in a responsible manner.

Over a decade ago AESU founded “TRAVEL FOR GOOD” — many years before large travel companies became active in environmental travel.

Link to US State Department Travel Website http://travel.state.gov/content/travel/english.html

**FOR MORE FAQ’S VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

WWW.ALUINIWORLDTRAVEL.COM/OSU-ICELAND.HTML
EXCLUSIONS: These prices do not include passport and, if applicable, visa fees (Depending on your nationality, you may require visas in addition to a passport to enter certain countries. You must contact appropriate consulates for details on how to obtain on your own); airport and government taxes; tipping of tour guide and driver (suggested $5 per day for tour director, $3 per day for driver); beverages with meals unless indicated otherwise; laundry; personal insurance; room service; telephone charges; all items of a personal nature; airport transfers when a participant deviates from scheduled flights or travel dates; private transportation; and all items not specifically stated in the itinerary.

CANCELLATION POLICY: All cancellations must be received in writing. Date of receipt will determine penalties assessed. All cancellations, for any reason whatsoever, will be subject to a $500 per person cancellation fee. Cancellation between 99-60 days of departure will result in a forfeiture of 50% of tour cost. Cancellation within 59 days of departure or a “no-show” at the time of departure will result in forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. 100% AIRFARES are highly restrictive, NON-REFUNDABLE, NON-ENDORSABLE and NON-TRANSFERABLE once ticketed. Once a reservation is booked and paid for AESU reserves the right to issue tickets. Once ticketed, airfare portion is non-refundable. Cancellation of airfare reservations is subject to restrictions, regulations and additional penalties of the airlines used. Reservation changes are also subject to penalties. Medical health and accident insurance is compulsory. PLEASE SEE WEBSITE FOR POSSIBLE ADDITIONS TO CANCELLATION POLICIES LISTED ABOVE DEPENDING ON TRIP DESTINATION.

AIRPORT TRANSFERS & BAGGAGE: All participants using AESU flights on regular group departure days and flights receive airport transfers (between airport & tour hotel) overseas. Land-Only participants (providing own flight overseas) do NOT receive airport transfers and must meet group at the first hotel after 3:00 p.m. on program start date. FLIGHT DELAYS – ALL AIRPORTS: In the event that airline schedule changes or delays force you to miss your airport transfer, just make your way to the first hotel listed on your hotel list. Many shuttle services are available as well as taxi or train options. As airline delays are beyond the control of AESU, additional expenses, if incurred, will be borne by the tour participant. (Save receipts for possible reimbursement by airline.) AESU is not responsible if an airline cancels, reschedules, or delays a flight for any reason. If you miss your departure flight, it is your responsibility to work with the airline on which you are ticketed to reach your destination. AESU is not responsible for any additional expenses you may incur prior to joining your trip. AESU is not responsible for and will not provide any refund for portions of trips missed due to canceled, rescheduled, or delayed flights. Participants should limit themselves to one checked bag per person and one carry-on per person. Check your airline’s website for any additional luggage restrictions. Liability is clearly stated on the passenger contract. RESPONSIBILITY: The responsibility of AESU as a tour operator, their agents, and any sponsoring association is limited. They act only in the capacity of agents for the passenger in all matters pertaining to accommodations, sightseeing and transportation whether by railroad, motorboat, motorcar, steamship or plane, and as such they shall not be liable for any personal injury, death, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned, whether by reason of any defect in any vehicle, or through the acts or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the passengers, or in carrying out the arrangement of the tour. They can accept no responsibility for strike, war, quarantine, weather and any other natural or unnatural causes. Additional expenses, if incurred under any of these circumstances, will be borne by the tour participant. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for himself/herself or other passengers & accepts the terms of this contract. The right is reserved to decline, to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour or to cancel or alter the tour as required. If improvements in the itinerary can be made, or unforeseen conditions beyond AESU’s control make changes necessary, they reserve the right to alter itineraries without penalty. Trip cancellation insurance should be purchased by the individual traveler in the event cancellation of the tour is compelled by circumstances beyond our control. In the event of cancellation due to insufficient number of participants, AESU’s liability shall be limited to a FULL REFUND of all payments received from applicants, except non-refundable airfare and insurance. Baggage and personal injury are at owner’s risk entirely. The issuance or acceptance of vouchers or tickets shall be considered consent of the above conditions. AESU reserves the right to increase the program price in the event of cost increases due to changes in airfares, currency fluctuations or fuel surcharges. The airlines concerned and their affiliates and agents are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board the aircrafts. The passenger ticket in use by said airlines, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of these tickets and/or the passenger. All services are subject to the laws of the country in which these services are rendered. No refund or allowance will be made for absence during the tour, or for activities missed; even if for causes beyond the control of the participant. For complete terms & conditions, please refer to our web site at www.aesu.com.