

18th June 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

ICELAND TRIP: MONDAY 1st – FRIDAY 5th JULY 2019

The Geography department is arranging a tour of Iceland in July 2019 for students in current Year 10 and those in Year 9 who have opted to do Geography next year. Iceland truly is "the land of fire and ice" with its volcanoes, hot springs, and geysers set alongside its ice caps, glaciers, and sea ice. As the tour is not an integral assessed part of the GCSE course, participation is entirely optional.

The dates booked are early Monday 1st July to late Friday 5th July 2019 inclusive. The visit will be organised by Discover the World Tours, a highly regarded company in the schools travel business. They are bonded by ABTA (Association of British Travel Agents), AITO (Association of Independent Tour Operators), and the Civil Aviation Authority under the ATOL scheme. They have also introduced a "Volcano Disruption Charter" guarantee in case of future volcanic ash disruptions.

The visit is designed to give students an opportunity to improve their geographical knowledge and skills and there is a full programme of unique educational visits and experiences with the opportunity for relaxation in the evenings. An overview of the itinerary can be found on the next page.

We have tried to create a "once in a lifetime" opportunity to visit the country on such a comprehensive package that is actually superior to our previous and highly successful Icelandic excursions. Many of you will be aware that the cost of living in Iceland is extremely high as much food is imported so we have created a package whereby very little extra money is needed.

The total cost will be £1,170, and this includes all transport within the UK and Iceland, flights, tour guide, fantastic hotels with hot tubs, three meals a day, boat trips and all activities mentioned above. We have been advised by the tour company that, as flights are not released until 350 days prior to departure, this price may vary slightly – but the amount is the cost estimated by the tour company based upon the current prices.

We have a maximum of 45 student places available for this trip, and if you would like the opportunity for your child to be part of the trip, please complete the attached reply slip and return it to the Print Room by Friday 29th June 2018. If the trip becomes over subscribed, in order to keep the system as fair as possible, we will draw out names from a hat and offer the fortunate students places by letter, we will also compile a reserve list.

Please note that deposits are **not required** at this stage, but once a place is confirmed, a £100 deposit will be payable by Friday 13th July 2018. Also, the second deposit of £175.00 will be payable by Friday 21st September 2018 and the final balance payable by Wednesday 3rd April 2019.

Finally, there will be an information evening held for parents and students in April 2019, and there will also be the opportunity to purchase an 'Iceland Hoodie' for the tour!

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at school by phone (01677 422419) or via email at childea@bedalehighschool.org.uk.

Yours faithfully



Mr A Childe
Head of Humanities and MFL

Bedale High School - Iceland Itinerary 1st July – 5th July 2019

Day 1

- Early depart by coach to Manchester Airport for Icelandair flight to Keflavík.
- Arrive in Keflavík on Monday afternoon.
- Visit the Reykjanes Peninsula - a UNESCO Global Geopark with its diversity of volcanic and geothermal activity.
- Visit Gunnhver - a highly active geothermal area of mud pools and steam vents on the southwest part of the Reykjanes Peninsula.
- Visit The Bridge between the Continents – walk from Europe to North America!
- Evening meal at Salthusid.
- Overnight accommodation at Keflavik Bed and Breakfast.

Day 2

- Pack bags for checkout. Breakfast at the hotel and collect packed lunches
- Visit Seljalandsfoss – one of the most spectacular waterfalls in the world
- Visit the village of Skogar before heading to the snout of Sólheimajökull, the 'black glacier' and climb the glacier and glacier wall, wearing ice axes and crampons of course.
- Spend some time of Reynishverfi beach – with its unique volcanic black sand
- Visit the interactive LAVA Centre
- Check in at rural Hotel Hellisholar, near Vik (two nights)
- Evening swim in local naturally heated outdoor pool, hot tubs and slides

Day 3

- Early breakfast at the hotel and collect packed lunches.
- Travel to Landeyjarhofn harbour to transfer for a full day on the volcanic Westmann islands.
- Guided tour of Heimaey including a walk in, around and up the still warm Eldfell volcano that last erupted in 1973.
- Eldheimar museum – learn about the 1973 eruption in more detail
- Some down-time at the local swimming pool on Heimaey (more hot tubs!) before heading back to the ferry for the boat trip back to the mainland.

Day 4

- Pack bags for checkout. Breakfast at hotel and collect packed lunches
- Visit the Secret Lagoon - experience a relaxing swim in one of Iceland's natural hot springs
- The 'Golden Circle' tour, including Thingvellir National Park, Geyser and Gullfoss.
- Check in at Hotel Cabin in Reykjavik for the evening meal

Day 5

- Checkout of Hotel Cabin after breakfast and collect packed lunches
- Morning – city sightseeing in Reykjavik
- Lava Tube caving in Reykjanes
- Check in at Keflavik Airport late afternoon for the Icelandair flight to London Heathrow
- Night coach travel back to Bedale

Click here for more information: <https://www.discover-the-world.co.uk/study-trips/iceland/iceland-highlights-2>

Bedale High School – Tour of Iceland 1st – 5th July 2019

Student Name: Form:

✓ I would like my child to have a place on the visit to Iceland in July 2019.

Signed: Parent/Carer

Please return this slip to the Print Room by FRIDAY 29th JUNE 2018