



# East Iceland

## Official Tourist Guide

[www.east.is](http://www.east.is)



We welcome you  
to East Iceland!

2016-2017

# EAST ICELAND

This is a handbook for tourists to East Iceland on points of interest, recreation, culture and services. The handbook is intended to help you make the most of your holiday, with pleasant, memorable experiences. For further information, please visit our website, [www.east.is](http://www.east.is).



We wish you a wonderful stay!



## Austurbrú ses. 2016

East Iceland Marketing Office  
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# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Getting to East Iceland



### By air

**Air Iceland** • [www.airiceland.is](http://www.airiceland.is) • (+354) 570-3030

East Iceland is only an hour's flight from Reykjavík. Flights to Egilsstaðir are scheduled 3-4 times daily and to Vopnafjörður 5 times a week.



### By ferry

**Norröna** • [www.smyril-line.is](http://www.smyril-line.is) • [austfar@smyril-line.is](mailto:austfar@smyril-line.is) Fjarðargata 8, 710 Seyðisfjörður • (+354) 472-1111

The Smyril Line ferry Nörröna sails once weekly from Seyðisfjörður to the Faroe Islands and twice weekly from the Faroes to Denmark during summer.



### By bus

#### Akureyri - Egilsstaðir

**SBA** [www.sba.is](http://www.sba.is) (+354) 550-0700

Runs daily from 1 June to 10 Sep. 2016.

**Strætó** [www.straeto.is](http://www.straeto.is) (+354) 540-2700

Summer: Scheduled runs 7 times a week

Winter: Scheduled runs 4 times a week

#### Egilsstaðir - Höfn

**SBA** [www.sba.is](http://www.sba.is) (+354) 550-0700

Runs daily from 1 June to 10 Sep. 2016.

**Sterna** [www.sterna.is](http://www.sterna.is) (+354) 551-1166. Runs daily from 22 June to 4 Sep. 2016. Note: Only for Pass Port holders.

## Climate and clothing

East Iceland's weather is fairly dry, though there may be chilly, wet breezes even in mid-summer. Besides amazingly sunny days, you could experience the mystical East Fjords fog. Lowland summer temperatures may range from 2° to 29°C, with the average monthly lowland temperatures for January usually lying between -2° and +2°C. Good outdoor clothes and hiking shoes will help you enjoy the chillier weather also. Snow is likely to cover most highland places from November through April, with drifts remaining longer.

## Transport within East Iceland

### By bus



**SVAUST** Scheduled buses on the following routes:

**Egilsstaðir – Seyðisfjörður**

(+354) 472-1515/(+354) 893-2669

**Egilsstaðir – Borgarfjörður Eystri** (+354) 894-8305

**Egilsstaðir to Reyðarfjörður, Eskifjörður and Neskaupstaður;**  
**also buses linking Reyðarfjörður to Fáskrúðsfjörður,**  
**Stöðvarfjörður and Breiðdalsvík** (+354) 470-9000

More information about scheduled buses can be found at [www.east.is](http://www.east.is) or visiting any information centre in the East.



### By boat

In the winter, a **ferry sails to Mjóifjörður** twice a week from Neskaupstaður (Mondays and Thursdays).  
(+354) 853 3004/(+354) 616 2630



### Car rental

Rental cars are available at the airports of both Egilsstaðir, Vopnafjörður og Neskaupstaður:



### Taxis

**Egilsstaðir**

**Guttormur Kristmannsson**, (+354) 659-4828, tandri@internet.is

**Jón Eiður Jónsson**, (+354) 892-9247, joneidur@gmail.com

**Jón Björnsson**, (+354) 898-2625

**Eskifjörður**

**Bjarni Hávarðsson**, (+354) 893-3450

**Reyðarfjörður**

**Gunnar Th. Gunnarsson**, (+354) 844-9133

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# GENERAL INFORMATION



## Tanni Travel - Travel Agency

Tanni Travel is a family firm which has been operating for over 20 years. We offer total solutions for groups travelling all over Iceland, specializing in the East. We promise dedication and professional service.



## TANNI TRAVEL

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[www.meetthelocals.is](http://www.meetthelocals.is)

 Location	Strandgötu 14, 735 Eskifjörður
 Open	All year
 Phone	(+354) 476-1399
 Email	tannitravel@tannitravel.is
 Website	<a href="http://www.tannitravel.is">www.tannitravel.is</a>



## Austfjarðaleið

### - Bust 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.



 Location	Óseyri 1, 730 Reyðarfjörður
 Open	All year
 Phone	(+354) 477-1713
 Email	aust@austfjarðaleid.is
 Website	www.austfjarðaleid.is

# GENERAL INFORMATION



## Travel East

Travel East Iceland is a travel agency located in East Iceland. We offer great variety of day tours and longer tours for individuals and groups. We have departures from various places in East Iceland. Check out our website for further information and reservations [www.traveleast.is](http://www.traveleast.is)

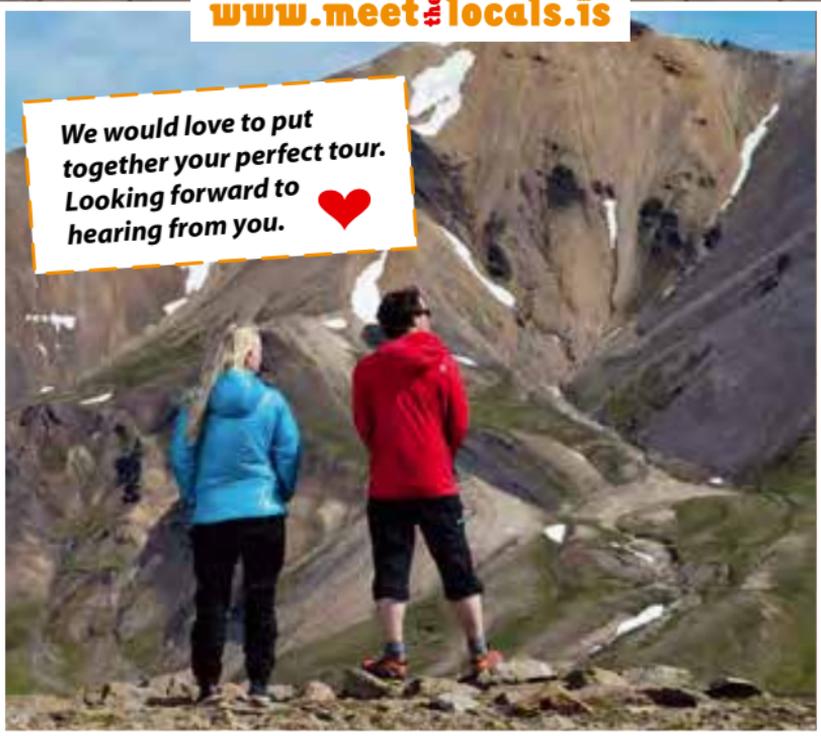


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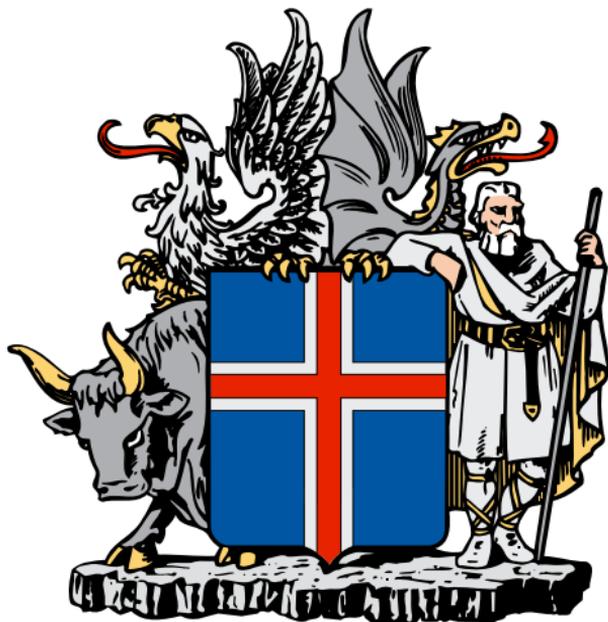
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# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Legends

 Farm Holidays / Ferðapjónusta bænda	 Museum / Safn
 Accommodation / Gisting	 Crafts / Handverk
 Hotel / Hótel	 Hot Tub / Heitur pottur
 Summer Hotel / Sumarhótel	 Swimming pool / Sundlaug
 Sleeping bag accom. / Svefnpokapláss	 Riding / Hestaferðir
 Youth Hostel / Farfuglaheimili	 Fishing / veiðileyfi
 Cottage / Sumarhús	 Hunting / Skotveiði
 Mountain Hut / Fjallaskáli	 Birdwatching / Fuglaskoðun
 Camping / Tjaldstaði	 Golf Course / Golfvöllur
 Room w. Shower / Herbergi m/baði	 Playground / Leikvöllur
 Dejection emptying / Losun skolptanka	 Ocean Angling / Sjóstangveiði
 Breakfast / Morgunverður	 Bicycle Rental / Reiðhjólaleiga
 Kitchen Facilities / Eldunaraðstaða	 Boat & Kayak Rental / Bata- & kajakleiga
 Coffee & Cakes / Kaffi	 Zoo / Húsdýragarður
 Scheduled Buses / Áætlunarbílar	 Hiking Trails / Gönguleiðir
 Airport / Flug	 Sport Field / Íþróttavöllur
 Ferry / Ferja	 Skiing Area / Skíðasvæði
 4WD Trips / Jeppaferðir	 Internet Access / Internet aðgangur
 Excursions / Skoðunarferðir	 Sealwatching / Selalátur
 Boat Trips / Batsferðir	 Tourist Information / Upplýsingamiðstöð
 Car Rental / Bílaleiga	 Accessibility / Aðgengi
 Guide / Leiðsögumaður	 Shower / Sturta
 Restaurant / Veitingar	 Washing Machine / Þvottavél
 Alcohol License / Vínveitingar	 Viewpoint / Útsýnisstaður
 Petrol Station / Bensínstöð	 Place of Interest / Markverður staður
 Grocery Store / Matvöruverslun	 Cleaners / Hreinsun
 Supermarket / Almenn verslun	 Post Office / Pósthús
 Bakery / Bakarí	 Church / Kirkja
 Snacks/Grill / Sóluskáli	 Musical Performance / Tónlistarflutningur
 Health Center / Heilsugæslan	 Conference facilities / Fundaðstaða





## **Dragon of the East**

Iceland has four mythical guardians, one for each quarter of the island. Once the Danish king sent a spy to prepare for attacking Iceland. Swimming here as a whale, the spy found the land to be full of spirits. At Vopnafjörður, here in the East, a huge dragon made him flee to look for weaker defenses. In every quarter of the country, however, he was met by a guardian, including the eagle of the North, bull of the West and giant of the South. Finding no weak spot, he returned to tell the king that invading Iceland was hopeless.



### Trails and trekking

East Iceland is rich in contrasts, from deserts and ice-capped volcanoes to fertile valleys and narrow fjords - all wonderful for the explorer: In woods, flowers decorate the forest floor during summer: The ponds by the sandy coast of Héraðssandur or south of Djúpivogur are great for bird watching and north of the town Vopnafjörður: Around fjords the landscape is beautified by snow-streaked mountains, green valleys and fishing villages. You can find deserted coves, often in dramatic settings and populated with birds, seals and reindeer: The stark snows and dramatic landscapes and northern lights of winter provide contrasting excitement. Good hiking maps are available of the area and there are a number of mountain huts. Go on your own or join an organised tour with experienced guides. [www.east.is](http://www.east.is)

# HIKING TRAILS

*We strongly advice that you take full precaution before entering any of the trails mentioned in the next three pages. We also recommend that you plan your trip with the help of a certified tour operator, see: <http://www.east.is/en/travel/tour-operators>*

## **Avenue East / Lónsöræfi**

**[www.vjp.is](http://www.vjp.is)**

The classical Lónsöræfi trek leads for 3 to 7 days across magnificent landscapes with a variety of flora, glacial ice and rivers. Part of the area lies within **Vatnajökull National Park**, such as Eyjabakkar, a haven for pink-footed geese and reindeer, and the dormant volcano Snæfell, which at 1833 m is Iceland's highest mountain outside of the main glaciers. Just some of the worthwhile detours include Víðidalur valley and the spectacular Tröllakrókar cliffs.

Wilderness huts have long housed Lónsöræfi hikers at **Snæfell**, Geldingafell, Egilssel and Múlaskáli. Nowadays, even more possibilities exist along the expanded **Avenue East**. The dam at Ufsalón allows you to approach Geldingafell from the northeast, and today you might combine **Avenue East with the Waterfall Walk below**. Several parties can provide rides, including

to points above the valleys farther south. Finally, you can buy rides to or from Illikambur; though there you can also hike farther southeast, or south to Hoffell.



## Waterfall Walk

No other Icelandic river has as many waterfalls as the Jökulsá í Fljótsdal, which cascades over 15 falls and descends by around 600 m along a stretch of only 30 km. Both the Jökulsá and a pretty tributary, the Laugará, feed some of Iceland's most impressive and attractive waterfalls, accompanied by interesting rock formations. Some of the Laugará falls are quite near the road, while all of the bigger ones in the Jökulsá call for a hike.

You can start from Laugarfell, the Ufsalón dam or the Uninhabited Highlands Centre, located at the uppermost farm on the Jökulsá. Beautiful wild birch will surround you part of the way, on a hike lasting about six hours. At Laugarfell, you can relax in hot water flowing straight from the ground. You can of course walk both up- and downstream on each bank to enjoy the contrasting views.

## Trails of Víknaslóðir

[www.borgarfjordureystri.is](http://www.borgarfjordureystri.is)

The adventurous Trails of Víknaslóðir, totalling some 150 km, include the world-scale wonder Stóruör/Dyrfjöll, as well as colourful rhyolite slopes and spectacular coasts.

Hvítserkur, Brúnavík and Urðarhólar are just a few spots to consider, as well as others between the huts in Breiðavík, Húsavík and Loðmundarfjörður. Abandoned houses and ancient ruins add culture to the surroundings. Reindeer may always



# HIKING TRAILS

be spotted, while birds and flowers are abundant in summer. This isolated area and the quiet village, with accommodation and other services year round, are partly inhabited by the elves, or hidden people. In Álfaborg, their queen has long made her home, while their bishop reigns in the gigantic Blábjörg basalt columns, rising sharply above the ocean waves.

## The Fjord Trail: amazing views

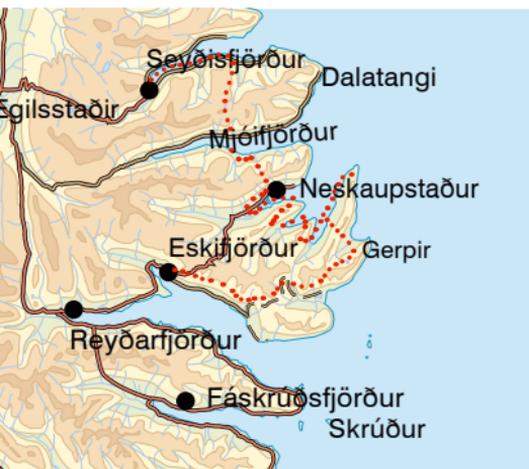
[www.simnet.is/ffau](http://www.simnet.is/ffau)

Coastal mountains rise to over 1200 m, providing dramatic scenery. The faint but usually marked Fjord Trail leads from fjord to fjord, displaying their marvellous geology and wildlife such as reindeer:

From points in Seyðisfjörður; hike over one of the passes to the remote Mjóifjörður and its tiny village. Continue over the mountain range to Neskaupstaður; or ride the ferry to view the sea cliffs,

puffins, seals and whales. From Norðfjörður the trail leads to Hellisfjörður, formerly the site of a large whaling station, and then Viðfjörður, where you can add a day's detour to Barðsnes, seeing a petrified forest buried 12 million years ago and the innards of an ancient volcano. Follow the trail past slopes carved by Ice Age glaciers, arriving in the deserted Vöðlavík and finally at the lovely fishing village of Eskifjörður.

If you would like to take on a challenge leading to formal recognition, climb all of the five scenic peaks earning you the title of *Fjarðabyggð Mountain Hiker*.





**Arctic fox** (*Alopex lagopus*)

The Arctic fox is believed to have drifted to Iceland on sea-ice as long as 10,000 years ago, long before men settled here. Some of the Icelandic individuals change colours from brown in summer to white in winter.

## Watching East Iceland birds

Here are a few suggested spots for the bird enthusiast:



- **Nýpslón:** ducks, waders and common shelducks. Syðri-Vík raises eiders, while the heaths are frequented by ptarmigans and gyrfalcons.

- **Vopnafjörður:** Also in the Vopnafjörður area, make sure you scan Skógalón (near Nýpslón) just north of the town of Vopnafjörður. These places contain mudflats that are scarce in Northeast Iceland and can be full of waders and ducks. A good telescope is a must at these sites. See more about this area: [www.birdingtrail.is](http://www.birdingtrail.is)



- **Húsey** and **Úthérað:** the world's largest breeding colony of the Arctic skua, as well as the red-throated diver, great skua and red-necked phalarope. Inland, the Slavonian grebe frequents ponds, and you may see a great northern diver at the Eiðar lakes.

- The highland environs of **Snæfell**, **Eyjabakkar**, **Fljótsdalsheiði**, **Jökuldalsheiði** and **Jökuldalur:** whooper swans and pink-footed as well as greylag geese. In **Jökuldalur**, watch for gyrfalcons.

- **Borgarfjörður eystri:** easy puffin viewing at Hafnarhólminn ([www.puffins.is](http://www.puffins.is)). Harlequin ducks often stay at the Fjarðaá estuary, and the village birdwatching hide may reward you with Steller's eider.

- **Skálanes in Seyðisfjörður:** puffins, eiders and waders.

- **Djúpivogur:** 58 breeding species and almost a hundred sighted in all ([www.birds.is](http://www.birds.is)). The neighbouring sanctuary has Slavonian grebe, northern shoveler and common shelduck. For puffins and black guillemots, visit Papey island.

- **Hamarsfjörður and Álftafjörður:** shallow waters inviting thousands of swans and waders.

- The **Hvalnes** and **Þvottáskriður coast:** black, surf and velvet scoters, together with harlequin ducks swimming offshore with eiders.





## Reindeer

It was not until the late 18th century that reindeer were introduced to Iceland. Although they were brought from Norway for farming, the Icelanders never domesticated them. Nowadays, they live only in the East, generally at higher elevations in summer and lower in winter. The largest herds are seen in the uninhabited expanses around Snæfell.

Both sexes grow and shed their antlers annually, with male antlers reaching weights of up to 10 kg. Over the winter and until calving, however, only pregnant cows have antlers, in order to ensure them the best feeding grounds.

Since reindeer have no natural enemies in Iceland, the population is controlled through sustainable hunting, for which permits are in strong demand. During the season, which may vary slightly from around the middle of July to about mid-September, tourists should show consideration for hunters close to the animals. Not only is reindeer meat delicious, but the leather appears in attractive designer clothing and other articles.



# NATURE RESERVES

## Vatnajökull National Park

Established in 2008, this national park is one of Europe's largest, covering about 14% of the island and spanning a variety of landscape, flora and fauna, geological formations and cultural heritage.

Among the highlights of the park's eastern territory are Kverkfjöll, a home of fire and ice; the oasis Hvannalindir; the dormant volcano Snæfell, with its own little glaciers; frequent reindeer herds; and Eyjabakkar, a haven for pink-footed geese. See [www.vatnajokulsthjodgarduris](http://www.vatnajokulsthjodgarduris), for instance on guided walks with park rangers.

### Getting there

Snæfellsstofa (see p. 88), the visitor centre for the park's eastern part, is located by Road 933 at Skriðuklaustur. There you can get information about travelling in Vatnajökull National Park.

### Snæfell and environs

Snæfell, a dormant central volcano, is the highest Icelandic mountain not enclosed in one of the major glaciers, though it is clothed in some of its own small glaciers. In clear weather Snæfell stands out from afar, and offers marvellous views from its 1833-m summit. The mountain hut to the west and the geothermally-heated accommodation at Laugarfell enlarge the possibilities for hikers.

Besides frequent reindeer, sharp colours are added by patches of rhyolite and of bright green moss by springs.



*Virkisfell in Kverkfjöll.*

### Eyjabakkar

Downstream from the glacial tongue Eyjabakkajökull, these wetlands can be reached on foot. Renowned above all for flocks of pink-footed geese, other birds and reindeer, Eyjabakkar forms a protected Ramsar site, together with Snæfell. Spectacular ice caves form under Eyjabakkajökull and can often be entered in the winter or early spring.



*Snæfell Vesturöræfi.*

### **Hvannalindir**

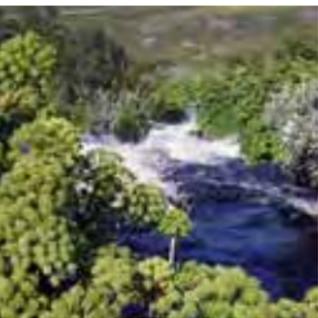
Located at an altitude of 640 m and surrounded by sand and lava, Hvannalindir and its alpine vegetation are watered by the gushing springs of the Lindaá river:

A total of 32 species of flowering plants and 30 species of birds have been observed, with the pink-footed goose, long-tailed duck, ptarmigan, purple sandpiper, red-necked phalarope and snow bunting known to breed here. In addition, some ruins are said to stem from the legendary outlaws Fjalla-Eyvindur and Halla, who lived at Hvannalindir for a few years around 1767.



*Kverkfjöll, Caldera lake.*

# NATURE RESERVES



*Angelica.*



*Hveragil.*



*Jökulsá á Fjöllum, pillow lava.*

## **Kverkfjöll and Hveradalur**

The Kverkfjöll central volcano is well-known as a home of ice and fire. Not only have there been volcanic eruptions, but hot springs constantly melt caves in the glacier. One of Iceland's most powerful high-temperature geothermal areas, Hveradalur valley, is located here about 1700 m above sea level. Please do not go onto the glacier or into the hot spring area without an experienced person and the necessary safety equipment. During the summer glacier walks with a glacier guide are scheduled from Sigurðarskáli (see p. 81). Flowing from beneath the glacier about 4.5 km from the hut, the geothermally warm river Volga sometimes exits from an impressive ice cave. However, due to constant movement of the ice and rocks, you should never go inside the cave or even close.

## **Nature highlights**

The eastern coast ranges from broad bays in the north, through fjords separated by steep mountain ranges, to shallow lagoons and sand farther south. Basalt strata and rhyolite decorate the landscape, with most volcanoes now extinct. Rich flora typifies the valleys, including Iceland's largest forests. The East is inhabited by reindeer; and anglers reel in brown trout, arctic char and salmon.

## **Historical overview**

As indicated by Roman coins found near Djúpvogur, the first visitors to East Iceland may have been Romans looking for the legendary island of Ultima Thule. Later on Celtic settlers, or at least Irish hermits, were documented by the sagas. Such

## NATURE HIGHLIGHTS



*Folaldafoss, Öxi. Þerribjörg.*

hermits were discovered on the island Papey in the 9th century by the first Scandinavians to stay in the East.

In the 13th century, Iceland lost its independence. The last chieftain on the island who surrendered to the Norwegian king lived at Valbjófsstaður, with its beautifully carved door from about that time.

The monastery established at Skriðuklaustur near the end of the 15th century became a refuge to the sick and poor, until being closed by the reformation in 1550. In 1627 Algerian pirates ravaged parts of Iceland, selling their captives as slaves in Africa. A seeress buried above Reyðarfjörður, however, drove off the pirates there with a thick fog and violent storm.

Coastal villages grew up in the late 19th century around herring fishing and whaling. For a while, the world's largest whaling station was in Mjóifjörður, and the first telegraph cable connecting Iceland to Europe reached Seyðisfjörður in 1906. Gradually, many people moved away from farms, partly as a result of the devastating 1875 Askja eruption, which buried whole areas in ash. Thus many East Icelanders emigrated to America, above all from Vopnafjörður.

## NATURE HIGHLIGHTS



Fishing continued to increase and remains a leading source of income in the East, though agriculture also continues strong, especially with sheep, cattle, horses and forestry. In 2007, an aluminium smelter opened in Reyðarfjörður. Finally, there is an expanding tourism industry, partly relying on the Norröna ferry at Seyðisfjörður and the international airport by Egilsstaðir.



## CULTURE & ARTS / FESTIVALS



**KK AND ELLEN KRISTJÁNSDÓTTIR PERFORM  
AT BRÆÐSLAN MUSIC FESTIVAL #easticeland**





These are just the main events of East Iceland's cultural life in the year 2016. For more info on all these events and other events please visit [www.east.is](http://www.east.is) – *The Official Travel Guide to East Iceland*. Also check the websites mentioned in each entry.

*Also take notice that some of the entries refer to exhibitions and concert series that are ongoing during the summer or - in some cases - throughout the year.*

## **What's going on in East Iceland 2016?**

**Throughout the year / Reindeer in East Iceland / East Iceland Heritage Museum, Egilsstaðir**

The focus of the exhibition is on the reindeers' nature, characteristics and survival, as well as reindeer hunting and how reindeer products have been used in fashion design and handcraft. [www.minjasafn.is](http://www.minjasafn.is)

**Throughout year / The old rural household: A self-sufficient entity / East Iceland Heritage Museum, Egilsstaðir**

On display are items from the historical old rural community of East Iceland that lasted until the mid-20th century.

[www.minjasafn.is](http://www.minjasafn.is)

## **May**

**May – September / Exhibitions at Skriðuklaustur Cultural Centre / Fljótssalur**

Skriðuklaustur is East Iceland's centre of culture and history and their exhibitions are always worth a visit.

[www.skriduklaustur.is](http://www.skriduklaustur.is)

## **June**

**4 June – 9 September / The Assembly of the Hyperboreans / Skaftfell Visual Arts Centre, Seyðisfjörður**

Contemporary Art Exhibition in East Iceland's centre for visual arts. [www.skaftfell.is](http://www.skaftfell.is)

**June – July / Music Moments 2016 / Egilsstaðir / Vallanes**

An annual concert series held in the beautiful churches of Egilsstaðir and in Vallanes. The dates are as following: *12 June*

and 23 June in the Church of Egilsstaðir, 26 June in the Church of Vallanes, 30 June in the Church of Egilsstaðir, 3 July in the Church of Vallanes, 7 July in the Church of Egilsstaðir. All concerts start at 20:00.

### 5 June / Sailor's Day

Seafaring culture is celebrated every year in Iceland on Sailor's day, which is the first Sunday of June. You will find events and a happy atmosphere throughout the fjords and usually the festivities start on Thursday/Friday before Sailor's day.



### 17 June – Icelandic Independence Day

An annual holiday which commemorates Iceland's independence. The festivities vary from year to year and from village to village.

### 17 June – 30 September / Summer Exhibition 2016 / Slaughterhouse, Egilsstaðir

An exhibition showing a collection of works that belong to the municipality. [www.visitegilsstadur.is](http://www.visitegilsstadur.is)

### 17 June – 30 September / Exhibition: Jón from Möðrudal / Slaughterhouse, Egilsstaðir

An exhibition on the life and work of the farmer and folk artist Jón Stefánsson from Möðrudal. Art, music, sculpture and storytelling.

### 25 June / The Great Forest Day / Hallormsstaður

A family festival in the woods of Hallormsstaður. There will be a competition in running, logging, a barbecue and kettle coffee will be served the old way. [www.facebook.com/skogardagurinnmikli](https://www.facebook.com/skogardagurinnmikli)

### 18 June – 25 June / Rise and Shine / Fjarðabyggð

A highlight of the summer calendar in East Iceland is the Hiking Week (Gönguvikan) in Fjarðabyggð. Eight consecutive days of mountaineering, hiking and entertainment in the evenings. [www.visitfjardabyggd.is](http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is) and [mjoeyri.is](http://mjoeyri.is)

## CULTURE & ARTS / FESTIVALS

### 29 June – 3 July / Vopnafjörður Days / Vopnafjörður

Vopnafjörður's cultural sector highlights this family festival as its grandest event each year. Diversity is at the forefront, involving an outdoor market, family entertainment, concerts, traditional poetry evening, dances, art workshops, a museum day at Bustarfell Museum, Sirkus Íslands, invitations to soup and more. These offerings bring back former residents to join with the locals of today and happy travellers from all over.

[www.visitvopnafjordur.com](http://www.visitvopnafjordur.com)

### July

#### 1 July – 3 July / Occupation Day and the Pier Festival / Reyðarfjörður

On this day the town commemorates the coming of British soldiers in 1940. Special Fish & Chips offer. Soldiers, ladies and army trucks will remind us of the occupation of the Allied Forces in World War II. The Pier Festival offers music, food, dance and more. [www.visitfjardabyggd.is](http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is)

### 2 July – 21 August / Rolling Snowball 7 / Djúpvogur.

An international visual art exhibition that presents works of 24 contemporary artists from China, Iceland and the Netherlands. The exhibition brings together artists working across the full spectrum of disciplines, including drawing, photography, painting, sculpture and video.

### 6 July – 10 August / The Blue Church Concert Series / Seyðisfjörður

This annual summer concert series is held in the Blue Church in this beautiful town. Always on Wednesday evenings these concerts focus on all genres of music from electronica to classical and folk music.

[www.blaakirkjan.is](http://www.blaakirkjan.is)

### 6 – 9 July / Eistnaflug / Neskaupstaður

A popular music festival that consists of the friendliest metalheads, rockers and over all party animals that you will ever meet held in the little fishing village Neskaupstaður located in Norðfjörður. [www.eistnaflug.is](http://www.eistnaflug.is)

**8 – 10 July / UÍA's summer festival / Egilsstaðir**

An annual sports event in Egilsstaðir. Diverse competition on the sports field „Vilhjálmsvöllur“ for all ages and a lots of fun! [www.uia.is](http://www.uia.is)

**10 – 17 July / LungA / Seyðisfjörður**

A progressive and ambitious festival for young people, with reputed artists from around the world, art workshops and exhibits, performances, design, cinema and an outdoor concert. [www.lunga.is](http://www.lunga.is)

**16 July / Classic Deep Purple Show / Valaskjálfi, Egilsstaðir**

The Worlds Best Deep Purple Show! This tribute band performs all the hits of this legendary hard rock outfit, such as Smoke on the Water; Highway Star; Perfect Strangers and more.

**21 – 24 July / French Days / Fáskrúðsfjörður**

Held annually since 1996 this family camping weekend celebrates Fáskrúðsfjörður's close ties to France. Food, music, dancing, sports events, bonfire and more.



**22 – 24 July / Blacksmith Festival / Seyðisfjörður**

Held in the Technical Museum of East Iceland. Music, dancing and dining are part of the event as well as lively exhibitions and short vocational courses. Live concerts and the Saturday evening dance on the pier. [www.tekmus.is](http://www.tekmus.is)



**23 July / Bræðslan / Borgarfjörður eystri**

Bræðslan is a music festival that focuses on a friendly atmosphere and great music. The festival venue is a 40 years

## CULTURE & ARTS / FESTIVALS

old fish factory that for this one time of year is turned in to a wonder world of music. [www.braedslan.is](http://www.braedslan.is)

### 29 – 31 July / Neistaflug / Neskaupstaður

This popular festival takes place during the three-day weekend including the first Monday in August. Held yearly since 1993, Neistaflug in Neskaupstaður (Norðfjörður) has greatly expanded through the years. [www.neistaflug.is](http://www.neistaflug.is)

### 29 – 31 July / Álfaborgarséns / Borgarfjörður eystri

A family festival named after the hill which is the home to the queen of Icelandic elves. The celebration has a well earned reputation for its concerts and a gathering of traditional poets which makes this festival as Icelandic as any festival could be. [www.borgarfjordureystri.is](http://www.borgarfjordureystri.is)

## Agust

### 12 Agust / Ormsteiti / Egilsstaðir and the broad countryside

A 10-day family festival with a variety of events each day. The celebration starts with a carnical

for all inhabitants. Visitors are warmly welcome there! Not to be missed. [www.ormsteiti.is](http://www.ormsteiti.is)

### 13 Agust / Tour de Ormurinn – bicycle race / Egilsstaðir and the broad countryside

An annual bicycle race that becomes more popular every year. Check out [visitegilsstadir.is](http://visitegilsstadir.is) for more info and registration.

### 14 – 27 Agust / East Iceland Summer Academy / Neskaupstaður

East Iceland Summer Academy (EISA) consists of a series of workshops for children, amateurs, students and young artists in different artistic fields (music, theatre, dance, photography, textile design, voice and yoga, composition and street art) under the inspiring guidance of widely recognized artists from all Nordic countries. Culture and nature goes hand in hand and are part of the weekly workshop schedule. Get inspired, discover an unknown part of Iceland and experience learning in breath taking surroundings in Norðfjörður.

All information about the

workshops and the application process is available on [www.eisa.is](http://www.eisa.is)

## September

### 25 September / Cittaslow Sunday / Djúpvogur

As a member of the movement Cittaslow International, the municipality of Djúpvogur focuses on the pleasant enjoyment of culture, tradition and slow food. On Cittaslow Sunday the town celebrates and promotes local production, culture and history. [www.djupvogur.is](http://www.djupvogur.is)

## October

### 1 October / Autumn Feast / Seyðisfjörður

This family festival relishes the bounty of harvest, spotlighting, agricultural production, secondhand goods, crafts and all kinds of refreshments and local food. [www.visitseydisfjordur.is](http://www.visitseydisfjordur.is)



### 7 October / JEA Jazz Festival / Egilsstaðir

Iceland's oldest jazz festival. Through the years many world famous musicians have performed, such as Larry Carlton, James Carter and Beady Bell. [www.jea.is](http://www.jea.is)

### 22 October / Culture Days of Breiðdalur / Breiðdalsvík

Culture, music, food and more.



## November

### 27 November / Gryla troll festival / Skriðuklaustur, Fljótisdalur

The yearly advent celebration in Skriðuklaustur. Entertainment for the children and Christmas cake buffet in the Klausturkaffi café. A traditional experience of Icelandic Christmas! [www.skriduklaustur.is](http://www.skriduklaustur.is)





## LOCAL FOOD IN EAST ICELAND



East Iceland is a fertile area which enjoys a mild climate in the summer, and offers rich diversity in its landscape as well as in its food. The fjords are numerous where mountains, ocean and small fishing villages define the landscape. Fljótsdalshérað, the area around Egilsstaðir is known for its forestry, the glacial lake of Lagarfljót as well as plains and vegetation. From a food point of view, this is Iceland's wild side and reindeer, geese, berries, wild mushrooms and herbs are local ingredients.

The lamb in East Iceland varies in flavour depending on where the animals are bred, ranging from the seaside up to the mountains and everything in between. These flavours can be enjoyed in most

restaurants whether in Seyðisfjörður or in Möðrudalur, where the smoked Icelandic lamb is still made with the greatest respect for the local tradition. Iceland's oldest cheese Skyr is still produced according to the traditional, 1000 year old recipe at the Egilsstaðir farm. Slow food has recognised traditional Icelandic skyr, traditional smoked lamb and fermented shark such as the one made in Borgarfjörður Eystri, as a typical food of Iceland (Ark of Taste). You can encourage the production of these traditional foods by asking for them in the restaurants and shops as you travel.

“Austurland” (East Iceland) is the oldest part of Iceland, the soil is very fertile as ash from numerous volcanoes has spread over the fields for centuries. It is by definition “a cold area” in Iceland, meaning that it is outside the North-Atlantic ridge and therefore short of geothermal energy. Agriculture in East Iceland is therefore shaped by other resources to grow food here at the 66°N. The organic farm in Vallanes has created natural conditions for their barley and vegetables by creating shelter for them by planting forests and shelterbelts.

East Iceland has a lot to offer for a travelling gourmet. The restaurants here are privileged in many ways. The natural surroundings from the coast up to the mountains and plains create a memorable experience and one can choose from various, fresh and authentic ingredients and locally produced food according to the season. Look out for the logo of the Local food network of East Iceland which you can find in many restaurants and on food products from the area. It should indicate that the raw material is grown in the region, produced in the region of high quality at a small scale. Enjoy the taste of East Iceland.



# VOPNAFJÖRÐUR



## Things to do:

- Visit the Emigration Centre
- Enjoy the musical Múlastofa
- Soak in thermal water at the swimmingpool in Selárdalur
- Hikingpath to Fuglabjarganes
- The Bustarfell Folk Museum and the Elves
- The coast at Skjólfsfjörur
- Take a walk in the village or by the see where you will experience peace, silence and beauty both around you and coming from the inside of yourself



**Vopnafjörður** (pop. 674) [www.visitvopnafjordur.com](http://www.visitvopnafjordur.com)

High mountains surround the spacious farmland and broad moors. When coming via Hellið pass, you can look back over a breathtaking panorama, or walk seawards to see the colourful rhyolite left from a central volcano. The deep gorge of the Gljúfurá has a lovely waterfall, and much of the coast is lined with spectacular cliffs and other formations. Vopnafjörður is famous for such salmon rivers as the Selá and Hofsá, and birdwatchers enjoy the lagoon Nýpslón, while everyone likes the Selá swimming pool. A significant fishing port, the village provides basic services including accommodation, a restaurant and cafés. One of the oldest buildings,



# VOPNAFJÖRÐUR



Kaupvangur, houses the information centre, a café, an exhibition on two composers from here, and the East Iceland Emigration Centre, which depicts Vopnafjörður's role in the late 19th-century Icelandic emigration to the Americas.

## Nature highlights

⌘ Bustarfell - Here you will find the way to the elf woman's rock and the gorge where a deer fossil was discovered. Dating back 4 million years, it may prove that land once connected Iceland with Scotland. The road onto the mountain leads to a magnificent viewpoint over Vopnafjörður.



⌘ Directly from the village, you can exercise and relax outdoors on the peninsula. Marked trails here and elsewhere in Vopnafjörður lead to a variety of natural wonders. One of these, Ljósastapi, is a rock pillar resembling an elephant. Could it be the only Icelandic elephant?



⌘ Fuglabjarganes includes sea cliffs where birds nest. The marked path brings you to dry-stone fences, white beaches and unusual rock formations. You will get to spot several species of birds, and children love to play and explore at the beach.

⌘ Syðri-Vík wild eider farm - Get to know the sustainable, responsible way in which Icelandic eider farmers gently collect the world-famous down, taking part of it from the nests. Use this chance to feel the world's softest, warmest down!

⌘ Skjólfiörur - Make sure you don't miss the impressive rock formations on the eastern Vopnafjörður coast, nor its beautiful beach facing the open Atlantic Ocean.



⌘ Hellsheiði is Iceland's highest (656 m) and steepest mountain pass road, normally open only in summer. Enjoy the colourful shoreline and slopes where the road passes by an ancient central volcano. The view eastwards over the bay is incomparable, and there are several marked trails for memorable hiking.

### Historic sites

⌘ Bustarfell, the farm and folk museum, is a well-preserved turf building. Originally from 1770, the turf house demonstrates the passage of time, including renovations by every generation until 1966, when the last inhabitants quit living in the turf part of the farmstead.



⌘ Múlastofa is dedicated to the life and art of the brothers Jón Múli Árnason and Jónas Árnason, pillars of Icelandic culture during the second half of the 20th century.

⌘ Vesturfaramiðstöð Austurlands (East Iceland's Emigration Centre) focuses on emigration in the years 1870-1914 and in the years after the Askja eruption 1875.





## Local saga

Occurring in the 9th to 11th centuries, the *Saga of Vopnafjörður* tells of fighting between the Hof and Krossavík clans. The main characters were the chieftains Brodd-Helgi and Geitir Lýtingsson and their sons Víga-Bjarni and Þorkell, as well as the women Halla Lýtingsdóttir, Þorgerður Silfra and the priestess Steinvör. Saga events relate to numerous sites throughout Vopnafjörður. A 2006 dig revealed a saga period longhouse at Hof, where Brodd-Helgi lived, and a monument has now been erected there.



## Bustarfell

Bustarfell Museum is a quaint, century's old, Icelandic family turf - house and is one of the most beautiful and best kept one in Iceland. Guided tours are available.



A visit to the Museum is a journey through the history of farming and changes in lifestyle from 18th century to the mid-20th century. Beside Bustarfell Museum is Café Croft placed. There our guests and enjoy coffee along with a tasty traditional cakes. The trail up to Álftkonusteinn has been marked with signs that tell stories from folklore and the discovery of stagbones since long before the ice age.

 Location	Vopnafjörður
 Open	Daily during the summertime. For further information please visit our webpage or contact us through e-mail or phone.
 Phone	(+354) 855-4511 / 844 1153
 Email	bustarfell@simnet.is
 Website	www.bustarfell.is



## Múlastofa - Kaupvangur Cultural Center

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. Múlastofa opened in the summer 2008 dedicated to life and art of the brothers Jón Múli Árnason and Jónas Árnason. Be welcome to come and enjoy this exhibition of those brothers that has given so much to Icelandic culture.

 Location	Kaupvangi , 690 Vopnafjörður
 Open	Summer 10.00 - 17.00 Winter 10:00 - 16:00 Mon - Fri
 Phone	(+354) 473-1331 / 844-1153
 Email	info@vopnafjardarhreppur.is
 Website	www.visitvopnafjordur.com
 Access	Access



### **Vesturfarmiðstöð Austurlands - Kaupvangur Cultural Center**

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.



 Location	Kaupvangi , 690 Vopnafjörður
 Open	Summer hours - Mondays, Thursdays, Saturdays and by request.
 Phone	(+354) 473-1200
 Email	vesturfarinn@simnet.is
 Website	www.vesturfarinn.is
 Access	Access

# VOPNAFJÖRÐUR



## Information Center

Kaupvangur Cultural Center is worth a visit: visitor information, Kaupvangskaffi- Café, Múlastofa (an exhibit about the life and music of well known brothers, Jónas and Jón "Múla"), and East Iceland Emigration Center providing information about 19th century emigrants.

 Location	Kaupvangi , 690 Vopnafjörður
 Open	Summer opening daily from 10:00 - 22:00. Winter opening Mon - Fri from 10:00 – 16:00.
 Phone	(+354) 473-1331 / 844-1153
 Email	info@vopnafjardarhreppur.is
 Website	www.visitvopnafjordur.com
	Access



# VOPNAFJÖRÐUR

## Swimming Pool in Selárdalur



Selárdal, 690 Vopnafjörður



(+354) 473-1499 /473-1331



info@vopnafjardarhreppur.is



www.visitvopnafjordur.com



Summer (1 May-31 Aug)

10:00-20:00.

Winter (1 Sept- 30 Apr)

Tue-Fri 10:00-14:00

/ Sat-Sun 12:00-16:00.

Vopnafjörður's pool stands on the bank of Selá River; a world famous place for salmon catching. Nothing beats the total relaxation of sitting back in one of the hot tubs, watching a keen angler catch a salmon in the river below. The swimming pool in Selárdalur also has a nice children's pool.



HVAMMSÁ RIVER #easticeland

## Síreksstaðir Farm, Cottages - Guesthouse

	Síreksstaðir, 690 Vopnafjörður
	(+354) 473-1458 / 848-2174
	sirek@simnet.is
	www.sireksstadir.is
	Open all year



A traditional farm with sheep, goats, horses, hens, ducks and rabbits. Two very nice, fully equipped cottages for 4 people, a large veranda with barbeque facilities. Hot tub with one of the cottage. A comfortable guesthouse with 7 double rooms, shared bathroom and a roomy deck. Our guests are welcome to view the farm activities. We have also opened the restaurant „Hjá Okkur“ which offers food with local ingredients. Open 18:00 – 21:00. Breakfast and dinner.

## Hvammsgerði - Bed and Breakfast

	Hvammsgerði 1, 690 Vopnafjörður
	(+354) 588-1298
	stay@hvammsgerdi.is
	www.hvammsgerdi.is
	Open all year



A romantic accommodation in an old farmhouse by the river Selá in Vopnafjörður. We offer newly renovated rooms and a delicious breakfast buffet. The farm is by road 85, close to a geothermal pool, Selárdalslaug. Come to enjoy the countryside and the soothing sound of a joggling creek.

## Other options for accommodation and activities

### Vopnafjörður Campsite

Hamrahlíð 15, 690 Vopnafjörður

(+354) 473-1331 / 844-1153

info@vopnafjardarhreppur.is • visitvopnafjordur.com

Vopnafjörður's campground is small and peaceful, in a lovely setting overlooking the village. All basic services are available for vehicles, trailers and tents.

### Syðri-Vík Farm Syðri-Vík, 690 Vopnafjörður

(+354) 473-1199 / 848-0641 / 869 0148 sydrivik@vortex.is

• www.sveit.is

Guesthouse with 6 x dbl rooms with 2 shared bathrooms, fully equipped kitchen, dining room, lounge. Also two cottages and a small apartment with separate entrance.

### Ásbrandsstaðir Cottage

Ásbrandsstaðir 2, 690 Vopnafirði

(+354) 473-1459 / 863-8734 • jon\_haralds@hotmail.co.uk

Set in the quiet countryside of Eastern Iceland, this basic cottage is 7 minutes' drive from the village of Vopnafjörður.

A great place for bird watching and hiking. We are on Facebook.

### Syðri-Vík Horse rental and trout fishing

Syðri-Vík, 690 Vopnafjörður • (+354) 473-1199 / 848-0641 /

869 0148 sydrivik@vortex.is • www.sveit.is

**Gym** Lónabraut 16 (+354) 473-1492

**Golf** (+354) 473-1331 / 844-1153

info@vopnafjardarhreppur.is • www.vopnafjordur.com

The Vopnafjörður Golf Course presents a diverse nine-hole challenge where it stands in rocky hills immediately south of Vopnafjörður.

**Síreksstaðir – jeep tours and hiking.** Tel: 848 2174. Email: sirek@simnet.is

**Hiking** Please visit the Information Centre in Kaupvangur for a hiking map with marked trails.

**Hiking** Download the application (iPhone/Android): „Wapp – Walking App“ for marked hiking trails in and around Vopnafjörður.



# EGILSSTAÐIR





# EGILSSTAÐIR



**Egilsstaðir** (pop. 3,454) [www.visitegilsstadir.is](http://www.visitegilsstadir.is)

Egilsstaðir, the principal town of Fljótsdalshérað, is one of Iceland's few inland villages. Though founded only in 1947, it has grown into a service centre for East Iceland. Besides everyday shopping, you can look for arts, crafts and Icelandic specialities. Based on road connections and its international airport, Egilsstaðir serves as a transportation centre. Scheduled buses run to every village in the eastern fjords, as well as to Höfn and Mývatn/Akureyri. Ferry days, when the *Norröna* docks at nearby Seyðisfjörður, are lively in Egilsstaðir also.

The town's central location makes it ideal for day trips. There are comfortable hotels and guesthouses, as well as restaurants and cafés for savouring local food.

#### **Things to do:**

- Visit the *Minjasafn*, museum
- Stroll in *Selskógur* village woods
- Soak in the hot tubs
- Visit the *Slaughterhouse Culture Centre*
- Enjoy fabulous local food

The sports facilities include a geothermal outdoor pool with hot tubs, a waterslide and a children's splash pool. Besides walking routes, there are bike rentals and nearby horse rentals.

### Nature highlights

⚔ Selskógur, the village woods by Egilsstaðir, consists of native birch and rowans growing alongside a scenic river gorge. A playground and woodchip trails help visitors enjoy the peaceful surroundings.

⚔ Fardagafoss waterfall is situated near the road some 5 km east of Egilsstaðir. In addition to walking along the pretty stream or stopping for views over the whole valley of Hérað, you can scramble down into the cave behind the fall.



### Egilsstaðastofa Visitor Center

	Kaupvangi 17, 700 Egilsstaðir
	(+354) 470 - 0750
	info@visitegilsstadir.is
	www.visitegilsstadir.is
	Open all year



Egilsstaðastofa is located by Egilsstaðir campsite. It provides information about travelling in Egilsstaðir vicinity and about the available services in the area. Travellers can get answers to various questions they may have about Egilsstaðir and ideas for activities they can participate in during their stay.

# EGILSSTAÐIR



## The East Iceland Heritage Museum / Minjasafn Austurlands

*The Museum has two permanent exhibitions:*

### Reindeer in East Iceland

The East is the only part of Iceland where you will find wild reindeers. They contribute to the unique nature and are strongly connected to the region's history and culture. The focus of the exhibition is on the reindeers' nature, characteristics and survival, as well as reindeer hunting and how reindeer products have been used in fashion design and handcraft.

### The old rural household: A self-sufficient entity.

On display are items from the historical old rural community of East Iceland that lasted until the mid-20th century. Some items relate to their practical roles in everyday life, while others bear witness to the fact that life was not only about basic survival, but also about creating beautiful things for decoration and pleasure.

 Location	Laufskógar 1, 700 Egilsstaðir
 Open	June – August: Monday – Friday, 11:30-19:00 Weekends: 10:30-18:00 Sept. – May: Tuesday – Friday, 11:00-16:00.
 Phone	(+354) 471-1412
 Email	minjasafn@minjasafn.is
 Website	www.minjasafn.is      We are on 
 Access	Access



EAST ICELAND

# INFORMATION CENTRE

In the  of Egilsstaðir, central of East Iceland

We welcome you and offer to:

- Answer your basic questions about our land and nation.
- Inform you about hidden secret and local treasures of East Iceland.
- Tell you the story about who we are in East Iceland.

**Hús Handanna**, a local art and craft store is also located in East Iceland Information center. It specializes in selling and promoting art and design that is creative and beautifully made of good quality.

 Location	Miðvangur 1-3, 700 Egilsstaðir
 Open	Summer opening: Weekdays 8:30 - 18:00, Saturdays 10:00-16:00, Sundays 13:00-18:00.
 Phone	(+354) 471 2320 / 471 2433
 Email	info@east.is / hushandanna@simnet.is
 Website	Facebook: Hús Handanna Art + Design
	Access

# EGILSSTAÐIR



## 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, cinema, plays, art exhibitions etc. The Slaughterhouse also houses artists' studios where guests are always welcome. Internet connection and coffee for sale.

 Location	Kaupvangi 7, 700 Egilsstaðir
 Open	Summer 13:00 til 17:00 all days. Winter 13:00 til 17:00 week days.
 Phone	(+354) 894-7282 / 471-1479
 Email	slaturhusid@egilsstadiris / mmf@egilsstadiris
 Website	www.slaturhusid.is
 Access	Access

# ART GALLERÍ P. BEHRENS

KAUPVANGUR 3 / 700 EGILSSTAÐIR / ICELAND



The Art Gallerí Pétur Behrens is a professional gallery and an atelier of the artist as well.

### What you can expect:

Drawings - Etchings - Watercolours - Paintings - Artprints  
New high quality wallstickers - Artist postcards

### Opening hours:

Usually the gallery is open between 14:00 and 18:00 on weekdays and often also on Saturdays.

**But we are in Iceland**, the days and nights of summer are long and bright and we do not take everything as strict as you are perhaps used to. But if you are in Egilsstaðir out of customary opening hours and would like to have a look at our works **do not hesitate to phone or send an E-mail**. If we are not too busy at that particular time, we will be pleased to open the gallery for you - also on a Sunday.

**Pétur Behrens** (+354) 865-7706

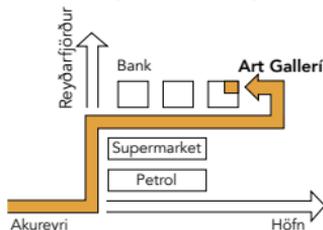
**Marietta Maissen** (+354) 857-7726

Home (+354) 475-6786

E-mail: [marietta@mmedia.is](mailto:marietta@mmedia.is)

[www.artgalleri-pb.com](http://www.artgalleri-pb.com)

[facebook.com/Artgalleri Petur Behrens](https://facebook.com/Artgalleri-Petur-Behrens)



# EGILSSTAÐIR

## Egilsstaðir Swimming Pool



	Tjarnarbraut 26, 700 Egilsstaðir
	(+354) 470-0777
	sundlaug@egilsstadir.is
	<a href="http://www.fljotsdalsherad.is">www.fljotsdalsherad.is</a>
	Open all year

Opening hours - Summer (1 June – 31 August): Mon-Fri 6:30-21:30 / Sat-Sun 10:00-18:00. Winter (1 Sept-31 May): Mon-Fri 6:30-20:30 / Sat-Sun 10:00-17:00. The swimming pool is 25 m long and 12,5 m wide with a waterslide. Two hot pots with different heat, one of them has water massage, a small and shallow pool for children. In Egilsstaðir you can enjoy the good summer weather with us in the pool or on a sunbench. We welcome you.

## The Touring Club of Fljótshérað



	Tjarnarás 8, 700 Egilsstaðir
	(+354) 863-5813
	ferdafelag@egilsstadir.is
	<a href="http://www.fljotsdalsherad.is/ferdafelag">www.fljotsdalsherad.is/ferdafelag</a>
	Open all year

We offer a variety of tours all year round, everything from birdwatching to more difficult hikes. So for people looking for exciting trips and tours this is the club. During the wintertime, the focus is mainly on day tours in the area and over the summer period, weekend tours and longer trips are added to the program. The tours vary in difficulty so everybody interested in hiking and nature will find an adequate tour; beginners just as advanced mountaineers. All tours on our webpage.

## Jeptours

	Stekkjartroð 13b, 700 Egilsstaðir
	(+354) 898 2798
	info@jeptours.is
	www.jeptours.is
	Open all year



Jeptours is a tour operator in Egilsstaðir offering super jeep tours across East Iceland. We provide personal tours, short or long, to any of East Iceland's exciting locations. We assist you on experiencing East Iceland's versatile attractions, whether you wish to explore the beautiful lowlands and fjords or enjoy the rough landscape with breathtaking views in the highlands.

## East Highlanders

	Hallormsstaður, 701 Egilsstaðir
	(+354) 699 3673
	easthighlanders@easthighlanders.is
	www.easthighlanders.com
	Open all year



East Highlanders is owned by a group of experienced drivers and tourism operators, located on the east coast of Iceland with headquarters in Egilsstaðir. Our mission to provide a memorable stay in East-Iceland. We strive to be social and environmentally responsible and satisfy the needs of our clients. Our vision is to become the leading tour operator in our category.

# EGILSSTAÐIR



**Gistihúsið – Lake Hotel Egilsstaðir** is an established and renowned, family run, hotel in a farming district. It meets all modern requirements as to standards of services and amenities, quality, sophistication and comfort. Yet it faithfully maintains its ethnic origins as the hotel was founded in 1903 which provides its unique atmosphere. Guests can choose between residing in rooms decorated in a romantic style with antiques in the older part of the hotel or ones furnished in a contemporary stylish way located in the more recent part. Gistihúsið – Lake Hotel Egilsstaðir is built on the river banks of the great and beautiful Lagarfljót by the town of Egilsstaðir and is as such centrally situated in East-Iceland. It is comfortably located for transport via air or by land, only a stone throw away from main route 1 and Egilsstaðir airport.

 Location	Egilsstaðir, 700 Egilsstaðir
 Open	Open all year
 Phone	(+354) 471-1114
 Email	hotel@lakehotel.is
 Website	www.lakehotel.is
 Access	Access



	Egilsstaðir, 700 Egilsstaðir
	Every day 11:30-22:00
	(+354) 471-1114
	hotel@lakehotel.is
	www.lakehotel.is
	Access



### Eldhúsið - Restaurant

is situated on the first floor of *Gistihúsið – Lake Hotel Egilsstaðir*. Restaurant offers Icelandic as well as international cuisine. The service is personal, cooking ingredients are fresh, local and always of the very best quality for each season. Our Eldhúsið – Restaurants kitchen's mission is ambition and quality. As the hotel itself, its cuisine is rooted in solid tradition but the ingredients are now introduced with subtle changes and serves its meals with a new perspective which results in memorable culinary experiences.

	Egilsstaðir, 700 Egilsstaðir
	Every day 10:00-22:00
	(+354) 471-1114
	www.lakehotel.is



**Baðhúsið – SPA** is situated on the ground floor of *Gistihúsið – Lake Hotel Egilsstaðir*. It features a comfortable, indoor hot tub (40°C) and a mild sauna which combines the comforts of the steam room and the dry sauna. There is also a cool sitting pool of 10°C. Relaxing areas are both indoors and outside. The view from *Baðhúsið – SPA* across the lake *Lagarfljót* is very beautiful. Bathrobes and towels are provided in the dressing rooms and it is possible to rent swimsuits if necessary.

# EGILSSTAÐIR

## Birta & Olga Guesthouses



Tjarnarbraut 3 and 7, Egilsstaðir



(+354) 860-2999



info@gistihusolgu.com



www.gistihusolgu.com



Open all year



Birta & Olga - Guesthouses - Cosy stay in the heart of Egilsstaðir. Free Wifi, tv and frigde in all rooms. Communal kitchen, made up beds and optional breakfast.

## Gistihúsið Ormurinn



Fagradalsbraut 9, 700 Egilsstaðir



(+354) 852-1004



info@ormurinn.is



www.ormurinn.is



Open all year



We are situated in the heart of Egilsstaðir above the post office. All shopping, service and restaurants are within walking distance as well as the swimming pool and local museum. The guesthouse consists of 5 cosy double rooms with made up beds and towels. 2 rooms can be fitted with extra beds. Other facilities are shared; a spacious living room, fully equipped kitchen and bathrooms. Free Wifi.



### Icelandair Hótel Hérað

The hotel is located in the thriving centre of Egilsstaðir. 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. The Hotel Herad Restaurant offers top quality, local vegetables, meats and dairy products, specializing in fresh fish, Icelandic lamb and reindeer steaks. Happy hour every day between 17:00 – 19:00.



 Location	Miðvangi 5-7, 700 Egilsstaðir
 Open	Open all year
 Phone	(+354) 471-1500
 Email	herad@icehotels.is
 Website	www.icelandairhotels.is
 Access	Access



# EGILSSTAÐIR

## Skipalækur



	Skipalækur, 701 Egilsstaðir
	(+354) 471-1324 / 895-1324
	booking@skipalækur.is
	www.skipalækur.is
	Open all year
	

Skipalækur is on the outskirts of Egilsstaðir; with all services at hand. Accommodation at the farmhouse and in a separate houses; 6 rooms with bathrooms, and five chalets on the banks of lake Lögurinn w. kitchen. Exceptional view, great walks and all it takes for a successful and enjoyable stay. Camp site with toilet facilities. Golf course nearby and a swimmingpool 3 km away.

## Café Nielsen



	Tjarnarbraut 1, 700 Egilsstaðir
	(+354) 471-2626
	cafenielsen@simnet.is
	www.cafenielsen.is
	Open May - September

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.

## Activity

**Golf** - Ekkjufellsvöllur – [www.golf.is/gfh](http://www.golf.is/gfh) • (+354) 867-2715  
**Egilsstaðir Swimming Pool**, Tjarnarbraut 26. Tel: (+354 470 0777).  
**Baðhúsið - spa** Egilsstaðir 1-2, 700 Egilsstaðir 471-1114,  
[hotel@gistihusid.is](mailto:hotel@gistihusid.is), [lakehotel.is](http://lakehotel.is)

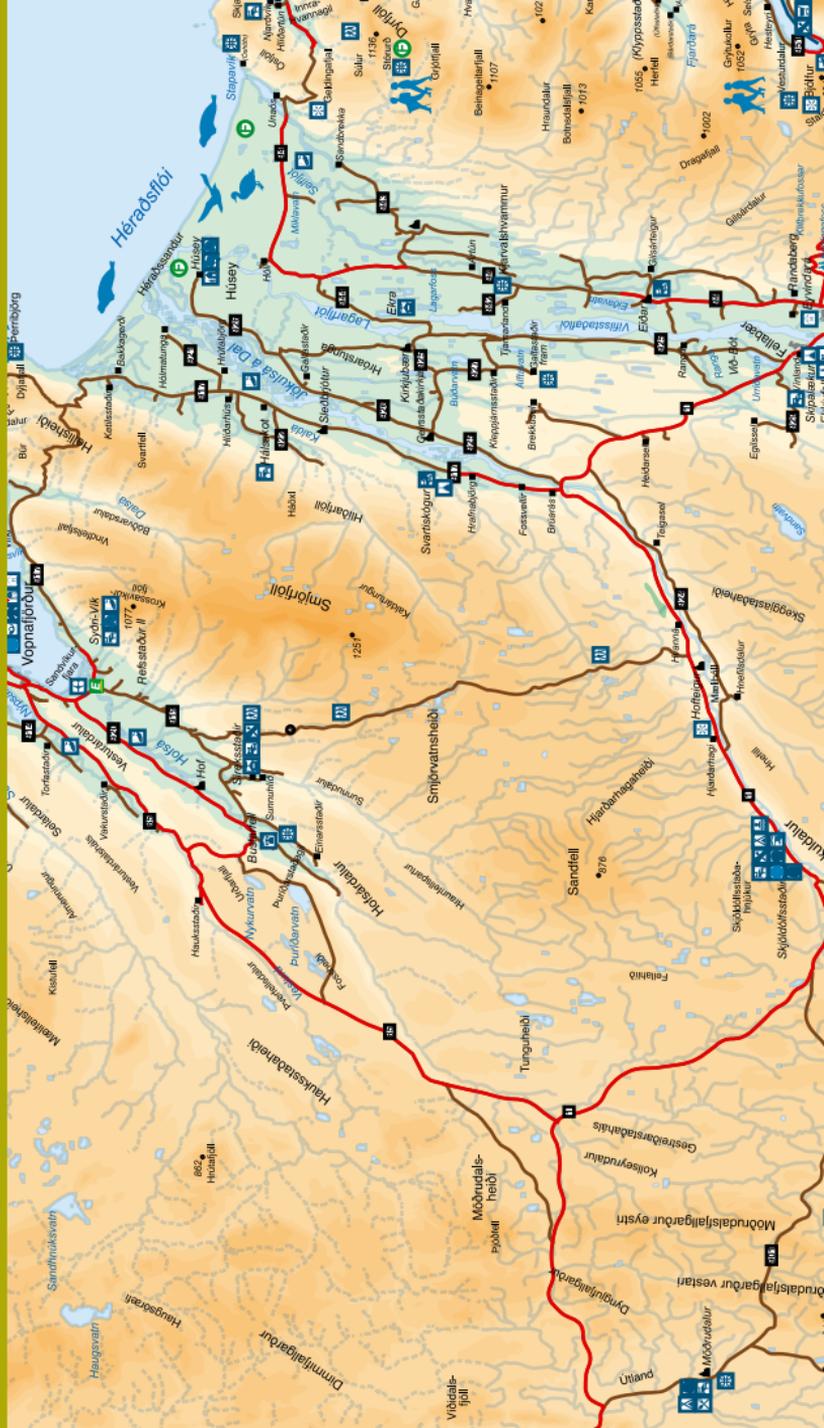
## Further options and campsites

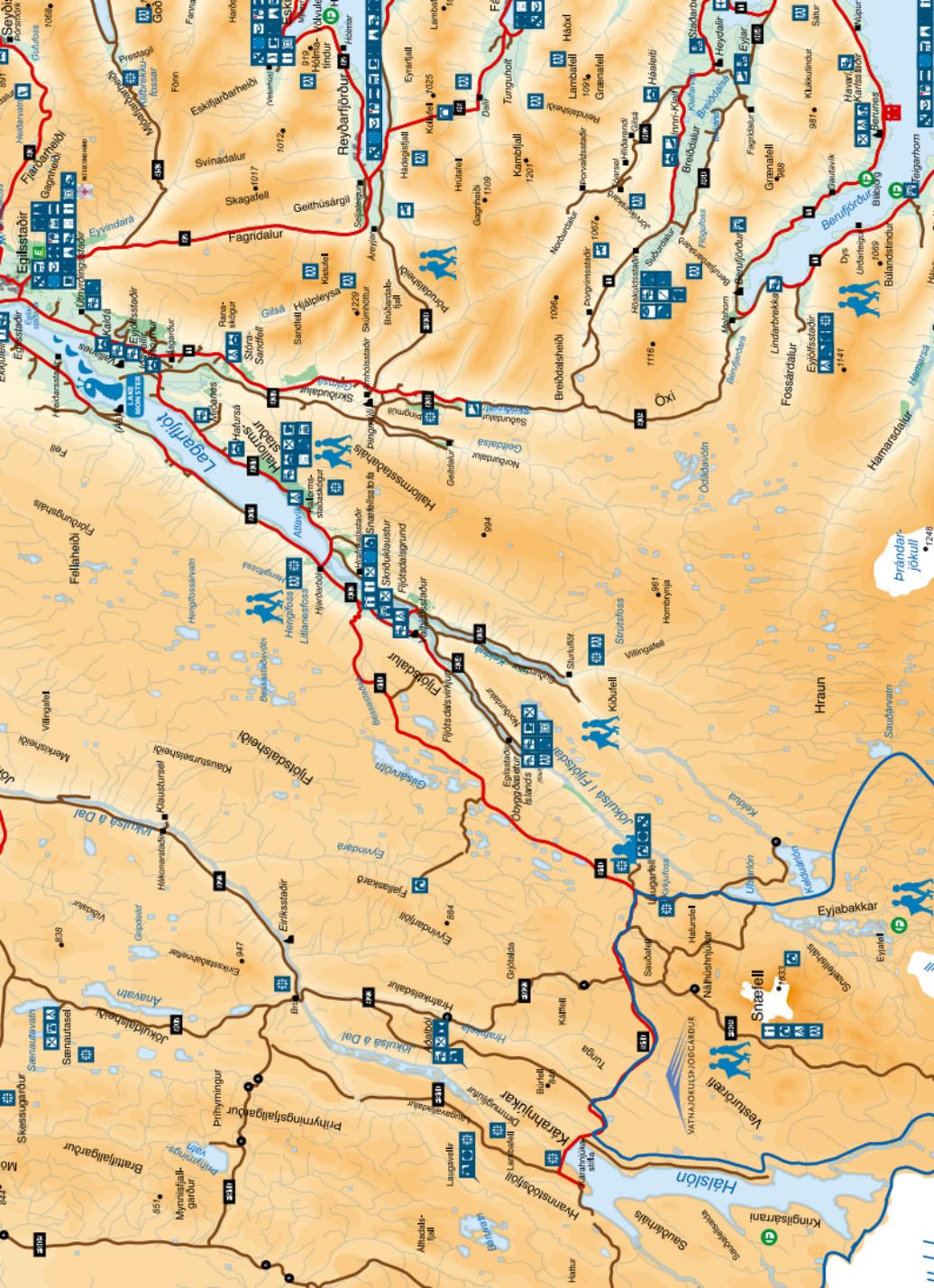
**Egilsstaðir Campsite** Kaupvangur 17, 700 Egilsstaðir  
(+354) 470-0750 • [camping@egilsstadir.is](mailto:camping@egilsstadir.is)  
**Skipalækur Campsite** Fellabær, 701 Egilsstaðir  
(+354) 471-1324 • [www.skipalaekur.is](http://www.skipalaekur.is)  
**Hotel Eyvindará**, Eyvindará II, 700 Egilsstaðir,  
(+354 471 1200), [www.eyvindara.is](http://www.eyvindara.is)  
**Guesthouse 707**, Hamragerði 3, 700 Egilsstaðir,  
(+354) 847-1733, [annfi@simnet.is](mailto:annfi@simnet.is), [www.gisting707.is](http://www.gisting707.is)  
**Guesthouse Vinland**, (+354) 615-1900 / (+354) 471-2259,  
[info@vinlandhotel.is](mailto:info@vinlandhotel.is), [www.vinlandgisting.net](http://www.vinlandgisting.net)

*More information on further options for dining, accommodation, tours and activities, please visit [www.east.is](http://www.east.is) and [www.visitegilsstadir.is](http://www.visitegilsstadir.is)*

# FLJÓTSDALSHERAÐ

www.east.is





# FLJÓTSDALSHÉRAÐ

**Hérað** [www.visitegilsstadir.is](http://www.visitegilsstadir.is) / [www.hengifoss.is](http://www.hengifoss.is)

Fljótshérað, or Hérað for short, is a broad valley stretching from the sea to Vatnajökull glacier and covering over 8% of Iceland. Snæfell volcano (1,883 m) reigns over Vatnajökull National Park and highland reindeer



herds, while lowland areas are well-suited to farming and even forestry. The remains of sub-glacial eruptions dominate Möðrudalur. Summertime southerly breezes tend to be dry and warm, leading to Hérað's reputation as a weather paradise. Below Iceland's largest forest at Hallormsstaður, Lagarfljót lake is home to the famous wrym monster Lagarfljótsormur. Hengifoss, one of Iceland's highest waterfalls, crashes down near Skriðuklaustur, with its 16th-century monastery ruins, a cultural

centre and the eastern visitor centre for Vatnajökull National Park. Most of the *Saga of Hrafnkell* occurs in Hérað. The Húsey nature reserve is a prime habitat of seals and birds, framed by the spectacular Stóruð/ Dyrfjöll and Þerribjörg to each side of the bay.

## **Things to do:**

- Stop at Möðrudalur
- Visit the Troll's wall, Skessugarður
- Skjöldólfsstaðir reindeer museum
- Visit the Wilderness Centre
- Bath at Laugarvalladalur
- A drink at Sámshar, Aðalból
- Europe's largest dam; Kárahnjúkar
- Climb Mt Snæfell
- A seal-watching tour at Húsey
- Hike to Stóruð and Dyrfjöll
- See the Reindeer
- Fish in rivers and lakes
- Go horseback riding

## Nature highlights

⌘ With their shining yellow rhyolite and dark striping right by the ocean, the Þerribjörg sea cliffs are some of Iceland's most colourful. While hiking all the way to them is demanding, the easy lowland walk at Landsendi will reward nearly anyone.

⌘ Möðrudalur - inhabited almost continuously since the settlement and nowadays Iceland's highest farm, at 469 m. The farmer Jón Stefánsson (1880-1971) built the church single-handed in memory of his wife, in addition to painting the altarpiece depicting the Sermon on the Mount.

⌘ Jökuldalsheiði - moors 500-600 m high, where the grazing and trout lakes once attracted farming families. When ash from Askja buried these moors in 1875, many people emigrated to North America. Try out the former living conditions at Sænautasel and explore the *Highland Farms Trail*.

⌘ Skessugarður, close to Sænautasel, is a long natural barrier of boulders averaging a couple of tonnes in size. Piled up by the last glaciation, they are a geological phenomenon to impress anyone.

⌘ Kárahnjúkar Dam, Europe's tallest concrete-faced rockfill dam, is accompanied by two saddle dams and blocks water all the way to Vatnajökull glacier. Tunnels from this reservoir and other sources feed water to Fljótsdalur Power Station, deep underground south of Valbjófsstaður church.



# FLJÓTSDALSHÉRAÐ



⌘ Below the main dam, the river Jökulsá has cut by Kárahnjúkar peaks to form the tremendous canyon of Dimmugljúfur/Hafrahvammagljúfur; up to around 200 m deep. After a short walk from the parking area, the view from the edge is stupendous.

⌘ A few kilometres north of Kárahnjúkar in Laugarvalladalur valley, travellers enjoy sitting in a warm brook where the water also falls over a low cliff to provide a natural shower. The nearby ruins recall the family whose stay here ended tragically just after 1900.



⌘ Húsey takes pride in wildlife, for example the world's largest breeding colony of Arctic skua and one of the largest of red-throated divers. The sandy shores are home to seals which you can view on horseback rides, perhaps along with reindeer in scenes shown by nature films.

⌘ Stapavík - magnificent ocean inlet, with seals and birds adding to the grandeur. The trail somewhat above the farm Unaós leads first to the river Selfjót and its estuary. While Stapavík once served for unloading ships, as the ruins indicate, it was never a secure harbour.



⌘ Stórunö - huge blocks of hyaloclastite tuff, strewn below the dramatic door opening between Dyrfjöll peaks. A small glacier feeds the ponds and stream. The choice of access trails, with varying scenery, all call for allotting a full day to this amazing destination.

⌘ Lagarfljót - Its upper part, reaching some 90 metres below sea level, forms Iceland's third largest lake and is sometimes separately called Lögurinn. For centuries people have seen a wyrm, the monstrous Lagarfljótsormur, which lives in the lake and occasionally raises its back above the water:



⌘ Hallormsstaðaskógur - Iceland's largest forest, protected since 1905. The imported tree species stem from some 600 origins. Guttormslundur, a Siberian larch grove, dates from 1938. There are marked trails, a forest campsite, hotel, restaurant and a horse and ATV rental. Travellers in late summer also enjoy picking berries and mushrooms.



⌘ Mörkin, the Hallormsstaður arboretum, includes around 90 tree species and is unique not only for Iceland but even the whole Nordic region. Strolling here is extraordinarily pleasant, with marked trails continuing into the surrounding woodlands, all cared for by the Forest Service.

⌘ Atlavík inlet, beautifully situated on the shores of Lagarfljót, benefits from the shelter of Hallormsstaður forest. A comparatively continental climate helps make Atlavík a beloved campsite for Icelanders, where they can paddle boats and play along the shore.



⌘ Strútsfoss - spectacularly wild waterfall in the southern arm of Fljótsdalur valley. Follow the marked footpath from near the farm Sturluflöt. The colourful gorge is over 200 m deep, with the upper part of Strútsfoss dropping straight for over 100 m.

# FLJÓTSDALSHÉRAÐ



⌘ Hengifoss is Iceland's second highest waterfall, today measuring over 128 m. The magnificent backdrop of basalt and reddish sediment layers was formed in the warmer climate of the Tertiary Period. The glorious waterfall Litlanesfoss, less than 30 minutes up from the road, is set amidst long, graceful basalt columns.



⌘ Laugarfell - geothermal springs and pool in the highlands by Snæfell. Known in past centuries for healing powers, and now accompanied by a warm hostel to welcome the modern visitor:

## Historic sites

⌘ Highland farms - In 1875, volcanic ash made the Jökuldalsheiði farms temporarily uninhabitable. While many people returned, by 1946 everyone left again. You can hike to each ruined farmstead, and drive to the restored turf buildings of Sænautasel, which provides tours and other services in the summer.



⌘ Aðalból was settled by the saga hero Hrafnkell, with numerous area sites recalling his exciting story. Information boards have been erected and listening material is available. The marked *Saga Attack Route* leads to Aðalból.

⌘ Eiðar used to be a major farm. An agricultural school was founded here in 1883. Pleasant trails lead to the Lagarfljót river and by small lakes where you might see a great northern diver:

⌘ Spending summers in the cozy Kjarvalshvammur, the artist Kjarval painted works here from 1948 to 1969. At the age of 73, he rowed and sailed the boat (still kept in the lower hut) between the mouth of the river and the village in Borgarfjörður Eystri.



⌘ Galtastaðir fram is a typical 19th-century turf house, inhabited till 1967. Such homes were often heated by cows kept under the living room or *baðstofa*, which was also used for sleeping and handcrafts. Galtastaðir fram is part of the National Museum's Historic Buildings Collection.

⌘ The reconstructed Geirstaðakirkja church by Litli-Bakki typifies one religious architecture style after 1000 and is largely based on an archaeological excavation carried out elsewhere on the same farm. During summertime, the church is open to visitors free of charge.



⌘ Valbjófsstaður - The inner door is a replica of the famous Valbjófsstaður door, dating to the 13th century and displayed in the National Museum. The carvings are some of the oldest woodwork preserved anywhere in the Nordic countries. The church's chalice and baptismal font date to the 18th century.

⌘ Skriðuklaustur - The ruins of the pre-Reformation monastery are open to visitors, as well as the unusual mansion built in 1939 by the writer Gunnar Gunnarsson. The Gunnar Gunnarsson Institute operates Skriðuklaustur as a cultural centre, next door to the Vatnajökull National Park visitor centre.

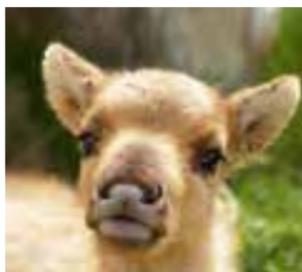


# FLJÓTSDALSHÉRAÐ



## Skjöldólfstaðir

In the reindeer themed area of the East, Skjöldólfstaðir schoolhouse offers accommodation in single, double and triple rooms with shared facilities and sleeping bag accommodation. Ten new double rooms with showers. Playground indoor and outdoor for the children and a outdoor hot pot. Camping site. A restaurant is on the premises and the small museum „On a Reindeer Trail.“



 Location	Skjöldólfstaðir, Jökuldal, 701 Egilsstaðir
 Open	08:00 - 22:00 all year
 Phone	(+354) 471-2006 / 895-1085
 Email	allij@centrum.is
 Website	www.ahreindyraslodum.is



**Kverkfjöll - Sigurðarskáli** [www.fljotsdalsherad.is/ferdafelag](http://www.fljotsdalsherad.is/ferdafelag)



GPS 64.44.850 N / 16.37.890 V



Winter (+354) 863-5813  
Summer (+354) 863-9236



Size / sleeps 75 persons



**Geldingafell** [www.fljotsdalsherad.is/ferdafelag](http://www.fljotsdalsherad.is/ferdafelag)



GPS 64.41.711 N / 15.21.681 V



Winter (+354) 863-5813  
Summer (+354) 863-5813



Size / sleeps 16 persons



**Kollumúlavatn - Egíssl** [www.fljotsdalsherad.is/ferdafelag](http://www.fljotsdalsherad.is/ferdafelag)



GPS 64°36.680 N / 15°08.750 V



Winter (+354) 863-5813  
Summer (+354) 863-5813



Size / sleeps 22 persons



**Snæfell** [www.vjp.is](http://www.vjp.is)  
**- Snæfellseskáli** [snafellsstofa@vjp.is](mailto:snafellsstofa@vjp.is)



GPS 64.48.250 N / 15.38.600 V



Winter (+354) 470 0840  
Summer (+354) 842 4367



Size / sleeps 45 persons



# FLJÓTSDALSHÉRAÐ

## Guesthouse Sámur bóndi Aðalból



Aðalból, 701 Egilsstaðir



(+354) 471-2788 / 864-2788



sambo@simnet.is



www.samurbondi.com



Open 1.6-15.9



Set in the historic Hrafnkeldalur Valley, this guest house offers an in-house restaurant and bar, as well as basic guest rooms with shared bathrooms. Several hiking routes are found in the area, and staff can help arrange activities like hunting. Breakfast and packed lunches are available on site. A small shop is found at the property. A small hot spring is found a 5-minute walk from Guesthouse Sámur Bóndi.

## Hálsakot Lodge



Veiðihúsið Hálsakot, 701 Egilsstaðir



(+354) 567 5204



ellidason@strengir.is



www.strengir.com



Open all year



The Hálsakot hunting lodge at Jökla offers 8 twin-bedroom cabins, all with private bathroom. The main building includes a fully equipped kitchen, a cozy common area with a fireplace and a satellite TV. Hálsakot caters to guests all year as there are also off season activities such as shooting, ice fishing, Northern Lights, snowmobiling etc. For fishing permits contact our office.

## Strengir Angling Service

	Smárarími 30, 132 Reykjavík
	(+354) 567 5204
	ellidason@strengir.is
	www.strengir.com
	Open all year



Strengir Angling Service is a family company that has been in operation for 20 years. Strengir offers excellent fishing in Jökla, Fögruhlíðará and Breiðdalsá in the East as well as other rivers in Iceland. Strengir own some of the most elegant and comfortable lodges in the country. Some of them cater to guests all year as there are also off season activities such as shooting, ice fishing, Northern Lights, snowmobiling etc.

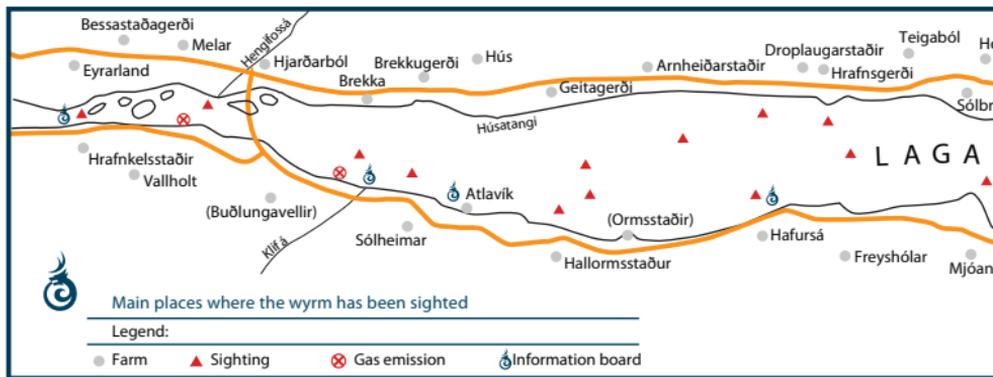
## Stóra Sandfell Travel Service

	Stóra-Sandfell 3, 701 Egilsstaðir, Skriðdalur
	(+354) 471-2420, / 661-3552 / 661-4457
	jfk@emax.is
	<a href="https://www.sites.google.com/site/storasandfell/Home">https://www.sites.google.com/site/storasandfell/Home</a>



Our travel service is a family business that has been owned by the same family for over 25 years. We offer our guests a nice camping place in an old birch wood and an accommodation in cottages or in separated rooms. Our riding-tours are through very beautiful landscape and we have horses for both experienced riders and beginners. Nice hiking trails.

# FLJÓTSDALSHÉRAÐ



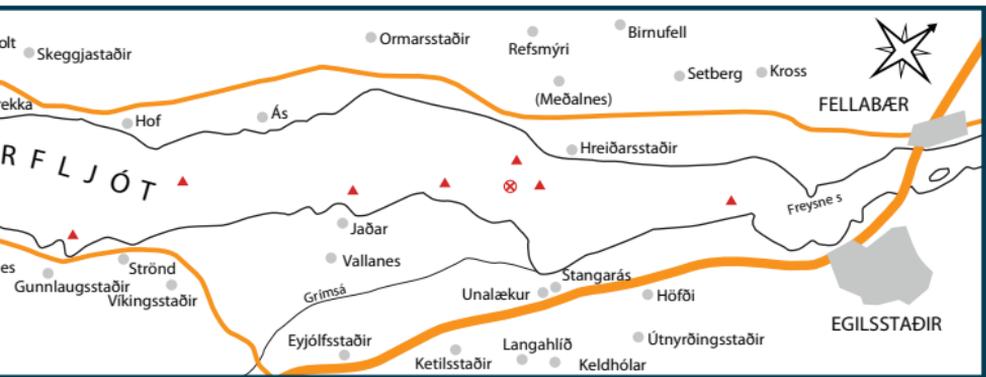
## Lagarfljót wrym

Lying in a trough carved by glaciers, the lake section of Lagarfljót, Lögurinn, reaches 90 m below sea level and is at 112 m one of Iceland's deepest lakes. Like Loch Ness, it hides a serpentine monster. Long ago a young girl living beside the lake put a worm in a box with her gold brooch to let the worm increase her gold. When the worm quickly outgrew the box, she became frightened and threw everything into the lake. Soon this worm became a huge wrym, so powerful that even the greatest Nordic magicians only managed to fasten its head and tail to the lake bottom. Though it since then has caused no harm, many through the ages have continued to glimpse its back rising above the water.



When you see this sign by the road around the lake Lagarfljót it marks places with information board and a good view over the lake.

Written records date back to 1345, when the wrym was said either to resemble islands or to lift up coils that spanned hundreds of fathoms. In 1589, it was reported to raise its back so high that a ship under sail could have passed underneath. When its gigantic body slammed back into the water, the resulting earthquake damaged some



farmsteads. In the 18th century, it not only arched up but blew out smoke, and in the 19th century its humps shot up regularly. During the 20th century, various forms of the wyrm were noted. A depth sounder once found it snuggling under an overhang, and it was once noticed sprawling on a beach. Finally, in February 2012 the farmer at Hrafnkelsstaðir caught it on camera in one of the rivers feeding the lake. His video appeared on YouTube and in newscasts worldwide.



# FLJÓTSDALSHÉRAÐ

## Vallanes



Vallanes 701 Egilsstaðir



(+354) 471-1747/899-5569



eymi@simnet.is / info@vallanes.is



www.vallanes.is



1 May – 31 Oct.  
Mon-Sat: 9:00-18:00.



The Móðir Jörð farm, Vallanes, is an organic farm 10 minutes south of Egilsstaðir. Bed & Breakfast and sleeping bag accommodation with kitchen access is open all year serving local breakfast. We offer fresh vegetables, cereals and food products in our organic food shop open May – September from 1-6 pm. Field to table visits can be arranged for groups upon request. Various facilities to enjoy nature, walk in our forest or picnic for a natural experience of our local Icelandic food products.

## Klausturkaffi – restaurant



Skríðuklaustur, 701 Egilsstaðir



(+354) 471-2992



klausturkaffi@skriduklaustur.is



www.skriduklaustur.is



Access



Open daily May & Sep 12:00-17:00. Jun-Aug 10:00-18:00. Occasionally in winter.

Klausturkaffi is a small and cosy café full of character and famous in the region for its lunch and cake buffet. It is placed in Skríðuklaustur cultural centre, former home of the writer Gunnar Gunnarsson. In good weather you can sit outdoor on the terrace. Homebaked cakes and bread. East Icelandic delicacies - local food products. Dinners, banquets and refreshments for groups can be ordered year round.

## Eyjólfstaðir á Völlum

	Eyjólfstaðir, 701 Egilsstaðir
	(+354) 471-2171
	info@eyjolfstadir.is
	www.eyjolfstadir.is
	Open 1.5.-30.9.
	



Accommodation in single, double, triple and family rooms. Living room and a spacious dining room. Dinner available for groups if booked in advance. Scenic and peaceful surroundings. Good location for sightseeing. Shopping/Swimming pool: Egilsstaðir 9 km.

## Trjásafn - Arboretum

	Hallormsstað, 701 Egilsstaðir
	(+354) 470 2070
	hallormsstadur@skogur.is
	www.hallormsstadur.is
	Open all year



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.



## **Snæfellsstofa, Vatnajökull National Park visitor centre**

Snæfellsstofa is the Visitor and Information centre for the eastern territory of Vatnajökull National Park. It is located at Skriðuklaustur in Fljótisdalur; in the first environmentally certified building in Iceland. Snæfellsstofa houses a lovely exhibition which focuses on nature's cycles and formation, the interaction of vegetation and animal life within the Park, revealed in the water cycle, seasonal changes and the cycle of life and death. The exhibition allows visitors interactively to feel, smell and try out assorted objects. The visitor centre also houses a souvenir shop with focus on products from surrounding areas of the National Park and a small cafeteria.

 Location	Skriðuklaustri, 701 Egilsstaðir
 Open	April: Tuesdays & Wednesday 9-15 May: Daily 10-17 June/July/August: Daily 9-17 September: Daily 10-17 October: Tuesdays & Wednesday 9-15
 Phone	(+354) 470 0840
 Email	snæfellsstofa@vjp.is
 Website	www.vjp.is
 Access	Access



### **Skriðuklaustur Cultural Centre**

Skriðuklaustur is a historical site with the ruins of a 16th century monastery. 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.



 Location	Skriðuklaustur; 701 Egilsstaðir
 Open	Daily May/Sept. 12:00-17:00. June - August 10:00-18:00. Open occasionally in winter.
 Phone	(+354) 471-2990
 Email	klaustur@skriduklaustur.is
 Website	www.skriduklaustur.is
 Access	Access

# FLJÓTSDALSHÉRAÐ



## Wilderness center

### Gateway to the most extensive highlands in Northern-Europe

The Wilderness Center is an authentic and peaceful hideaway, located right by the edge of Northern Europe's biggest wilderness. Our guests experience the spirit of the past through a variety of services, such as: unique accommodation, local food, exhibitions, horse riding and hiking, day tours, escorted tours and tailor made tours.



Location

Wilderness Center/Óbyggðasetur Íslands,  
701 Egilsstaðir



Open

15th of May to 1st of October  
/All year around for groups



Phone

(+354) 440 8822 / 896 2339



Email

info@wilderness.is



Website

www.wilderness.is



## Guesthouse Fljótalsdalur

	Fljótalsdalur, 701 Egilsstaðir
	(+354) 865-1683 / 863-5215
	fljotsdalsgrund@fljotsdalur.is
	www.fljotsdalsgrund.is We are on Facebook
	Open all year



Fljótalsdalur in Fljótalsdal (route 933), where peace and quiet and bird-singing dominate the area. We offer accommodation in apartments all equipped with own kitchen and made up beds. We offer breakfast and dinner (during the summer season please order ahead). We also offer sleeping bag accommodation, camping and full accommodation for caravans. We are 30 min from Egilsstaðir; 4 km from Hengifoss and 1 km from Skriðuklaustur.

## Laugarfell Accommodation & Hot Springs

	Laugarfell, 701 Egilsstaðir
	(+354) 773 3323
	er info@laugarfell.is
	www.laugarfell.is www.facebook.com/Laugarfell
	Open 1.6.-20.9.



Laugarfell offers accommodation for 28 people. Two natural hot springs are located by Laugarfell, marked hiking trails are around the area and number of beautiful waterfalls. We are located in the highlands and in the summer there is good access to Laugarfell for all kinds of vehicles. From Laugarfell it is possible to have guided tours.

GPS : N 64°886156 - W 15°352364

## Campsites, recreation and further options

**Hallormsstaður Atlavík and Höfðavík Campsites** Hallormsstaður, 701 Egilsstaðir; (+354) 849 1461, hallormsstadur@skogur.is, www.hallormsstadur.is

**Fljóttdalsgrund Campsite** Fljóttdalsgrund, 701 Egilsstaðir; (+354) 865 1683/ (+354) 863 5215, fljottdalsgrund@fljottdalur.is, www.fljottdalsgrund.is

**Boat and Horse Rental Fljótabátar** Hallormsstaður, 701 Egilsstaðir; (+354) 847 0063/(+354) 867 1441.

**Fjalladýrð at Möðrudalur (The Mountain Marvels)**, 701 Egilsstaðir; (+354) 471 1858, fjalladyrd@fjalladyrd.is, www.fjalladyrd.is

**Hafursá Summer Cottages** Hafursá, 701 Egilsstaðir; (+354) 893 1428/(+354) 899 9028, kells@simnet.is

**Stormur gisting – cottages** Hvammur 2, 701 Egilsstaðir; (+354) 475 9005/(+354) 895 8713, stormurgisting@gmail.com, www.stormurcottages.com

**Travel Service at Sandfellsskógur – rooms/cottages/campsite – Horse rental/hiking** Stóra-Sandfelli 3, Skriðdal, 701 Egilsstaðir; (+354) 471-2420 / (+354) 661 3552, jfk@emax.is, www.sites.google.com/site/storasandfell/

See [www.east.is](http://www.east.is) and [www.visitegilsstadir.is](http://www.visitegilsstadir.is) for futher options in accommodation, dining and recreation in Hérað.



# BORGARFJÖRÐUR EYSTRÍ

## Things to do:

- Álfacafé for refreshments
- Álfaborg, the elf-queen's court
- Hafnarhólminn, to view puffins
- Höfnin for bird watching
- Fjarðará estuary for colourful rocks
- Hike to Urðarhólavtan
- Hike to Brúnavík





## Borgarfjörður eystri

(pop. 135)

[www.borgarfjordureystri.is](http://www.borgarfjordureystri.is)

This fjord and its surroundings are renowned for their beauty. Tourists will find adequate services in the village and the hiking trails of Víknaslóðir have long become a hiker's paradise. Mapped and often staked, the longer routes link a row of hiking huts, with Dyrfjöll, Stóruð and Brúnavík being some of the scenic highlights. According to folklore, Álfborg, the Elves' Castle,

is home to the queen of the elves and her court. Especially in the summertime, you can enjoy local fish and other food in the village, see the church and a turf home, or look at some of the handicrafts made by talented locals. Borgarfjörður offers excellent facilities for bird watching, where over twenty species have been sighted at once, and stairs leading up the puffin hill at Hafnarhólmi, where boats are docked ([www.puffins.is](http://www.puffins.is)).



# BORGARFJÖRÐUR EYSTRI



## Nature highlights

⌘ Borgarfjörður Eystri is a haven for nature lovers. The mountains are exceptionally colourful, since along with Iceland's common basalt, this area has the second most rhyolite in the country. The twin peaks around the door of Dyrfjöll are always majestic, even while you are still en route to Borgarfjörður.

⌘ Hvítserkur is a unique mountain. Light-coloured ignimbrite is criss-crossed by dark dykes, especially as seen from the southeast. The mountain is popular even among those who never climb to the top, but simply drive or walk by and stop for views of Hvítserkur.

⌘ Urðarhólar - The trails in this vicinity allow for easy walking, just above where the road leaves the last farms behind at the south end of Borgarfjörður. Birch bushes grow among the marvellous rhyolite boulders and mounds, and there is a jewel of an isolated lake, Urðarhólavatn.

⌘ Brúnavík - This hike can be undertaken from the village, as well as the road east of the fjord. Brúnavík has an inviting seashore, attractive rocks and a lovely river. You can walk on both sides of the river; crossing it at the sea and via the footbridge farther inland.



⌘ Innra Hvannagil canyon is just a few minutes upstream from where you park your car or bike. A magical scene opens as you pass the high basalt dyke which hides this stunningly colourful world of rhyolite, crossed by the veins of more dykes and clear running water.

# BORGARFJÖRÐUR EYSTRI

## Blábjörg Guesthouse



Blábjörg, 720 Borgarfjörður eystri



(+354) 861-1791 / 861-1792



helgisig@simnet.is /  
audurvala@simnet.is



[www.blabjorg.is](http://www.blabjorg.is)



Guesthouse open all year.  
Spa&Wellness: Summer - every  
day 14-22. Off season - on request.

Located at a former fish factory in Borgarfjörður eystri, Blábjörg offers 11 rooms w. made-up beds, with shared access to three bathrooms. Joint fully-equipped kitchen facilities. Excellent location with a perfect view of the fjord. 2 studio-apartments. Good hiking trails and bird watching close by. Spa, sea-swimming facilities as well as steaming hot saunas and hot tubs.

## Borg Guesthouse



Borg, 720 Borgarfjörður eystri



(+354) 472-9870 / 894-4470



[gistingborg@simnet.is](mailto:gistingborg@simnet.is)



[www.borgarfjordureystri.is](http://www.borgarfjordureystri.is)



Open all year



The friendly guesthouse is situated in the heart of the small village. We offer 25 made up beds and sleeping bag accommodation as well as one apartment. Breakfast is available. We also organise hiking tours, focusing on reindeer-watching, geology and flora in the wonderful Borgarfjörður region.



## Ferðaðjónustan Borg, Njarðvík

A farm stay at Borg-Njarðvík gives the visitor a chance to experience 'life on a farm'. Private facilities for 6-people await those who desire and there is accommodation for 10 people w/bed linen. At the foot of Dyrfjöll and Stóruð the small Njarðvík bay is very scenic with some of Borgarfjörður's main attractions nearby. A bus of ours, for 16 persons, drives Mon-Fri by schedule from the camp ground in Borgarfjörður to Egilsstaðir at 8:00 AM and from the Information centre in Egilsstaðir to Borgarfjörður at 12:00 PM.



 Location	Borg, Njarðvík, 720 Borgarfjörður
 Open	Open all year
 Phone	(+354) 472-9805 / 893-9505 / 894 8305
 Email	hlid@centrum.is
 Website	www.borgarfjordureystri.is



# BORGARFJÖRÐUR EYSTRÍ

## Álfacafé



löngarðar,  
720 Borgarfjörður eystri



(+354) 472-9900 / 862-9802



alfacafe@simnet.is



www.borgarfjordureystri.is



Open 1.5 – 30.9.

Álfacafé is a unique café in the village Bakkagerdi, Borgarfjörður eystri. Try our famous fish soup, the salted cod-balls, made from prime baccalao or our home made cakes and bread. Enjoy the Álfasteinn (Elf-stone) artifacts made from local rocks on display and for sale. Next door is the local fish factory and you may just be allowed to peak inside and see how Iceland's main industry is in action. Check us out on TripAdvisor!

### Further options for accommodation and activity

#### Álfheimar Guesthouse Accommodation, hiking.

Álfheimar, 720 Borgarfjörður eystri, (+354) 861 3677,  
info@elftours.is, www.alfheimar.com

**Borgarfjörður eystri Campsite** Álfaborg, 720 Borgarfjörður,  
(+354) 472 9999, borg@eldhorn.is, www.borgarfjordureystri.is

See also [www.east.is](http://www.east.is) and [www.borgarfjordureystri.is](http://www.borgarfjordureystri.is)

**Breiðavík - Víknaslóðir** [www.fljotsdalsherad.is/ferdafelag](http://www.fljotsdalsherad.is/ferdafelag)



GPS 65.27.830 N / 13.40.286 V



Winter (+354) 863-5813  
Summer (+354) 863-5813



Size / sleeps 33 persons



**Húsavík - Víknaslóðir** [www.fljotsdalsherad.is/ferdafelag](http://www.fljotsdalsherad.is/ferdafelag)



GPS 65°23,68 N / 13°44,42 V



Winter (+354) 863-5813  
Summer (+354) 863-5813



Size / sleeps 33 persons



**Loðmundarfjörður - Víknaslóðir** [www.fljotsdalsherad.is/ferdafelag](http://www.fljotsdalsherad.is/ferdafelag)



GPS 65,21,909.W13,53,787



Winter (+354) 863-5813  
Summer (+354) 863 5813



Size / sleeps 38 persons



# SEYÐISFJÖRÐUR

## Things to do:

- Visit the Blue Church
- Visit Tvisöngur Sound Sculpture
- Visit Skálanes
- Visit the Technical Museum
- Visit Skaftfell Center for Visual Arts
- Drink El Grillo ale at Kaffi Lára
- Eat reindeer pizza at Skaftfell Bistro
- Walk around the „old town“
- Take a selfie with the hashtag #seydisfjordur





### Seyðisfjörður (Pop. 653) [www.visitseydisfjordur.com](http://www.visitseydisfjordur.com)

This peaceful fjord winds 17 kilometres from its mouth to where the charming town rests beneath towering mountains. From the lagoon at the centre of town, a highway follows the river Fjarðará up out of the valley, passing gorgeous waterfalls. In the summer, 4WDs and bikes can detour from it to the panoramic view from Mt. Bjólfur, where trails lead to still more viewpoints and exciting landscapes. In fact, there are good trails all around the fjord and valleys.

Seyðisfjörður is considered one of Iceland's most picturesque towns, not only because of its natural scenery but also its historic wooden buildings, which



# SEYÐISFJÖRÐUR



justify its nickname "the Norwegian village". Though quiet for much of the year, the town attracts numerous tourists, partly through cruise ships and the ferry from the Faroes and continental Europe. Besides excellent services, the town has a thriving arts scene and informative technical museum.

## Nature highlights

⌘ Mt. Bjölfur - A breathtaking viewpoint 600 m over town can be reached by a rough summer road, so you can inspect the snow avalanche barriers or thrill in paragliding. Each of the trails leading onwards, including onto the Bjölfur summit, is certainly worth a hike.

⌘ Vestdalur - a glacially carved valley reputed for roaring waterfalls and plant and bird life. There is a wide selection of hikes, including one to where a woman died a thousand years ago carrying one of the greatest treasures of decorative beads known in Nordic countries.

⌘ Dvergasteinn farm was once the location of the Seyðisfjörður church and parsonage. The church has been at four locations in all, and when it was first moved from the south shore to here, the boulder named Dvergasteinn, a home of dwarves, floated across the fjord to stay near the church.

⌘ Austdalur is the starting point for hikes directly to the village in Mjóifjörður. One of the other routes to Mjóifjörður starts at Sörlastaðir

and traverses Hesteyrarskarð pass. From the valley above Sörlastaðir, you can also hike westwards up onto Gullþúfa, south of town.

⌘ Skálanes, at the mouth of the fjord, is a haven for nature lovers and a station for various scientific research. The scenery and nearby birdcliffs also make it a popular destination.

⌘ The Brimnes lighthouse, north of the fjord's mouth, is worth a visit.

⌘ *Seyðisfjörður Mountain Hiker peaks* - The local hiking club has placed visitors' books atop seven summits surrounding the fjord, with a map and route descriptions available at the information centre. Completing this fun activity will earn you a place in the Seyðisfjörður Mountain Hikers' Roll!

⌘ Tvisongur is a site-specific sound sculpture by German artist Lukas Kühne and is located on a mountainside above the town of Seydisfjordur. Tvisongur was opened to the public in 2012.

## Historic sites

⌘ Þórarinsstaðir - An archaeological excavation unearthed a stave church here, along with graves and artefacts, which dated from the first years of Christianity in Iceland. While on site, you might try imagining what it was like to live at this spot a thousand years ago.



## Seyðisfjörður Tourist Information Centre



	Ferjuleira 1, 710 Seyðisfjörður
	(+354) 472-1551
	ferdamenning@sfk.is
	www.visitseydisfjordur.com

The information Centre is at the Ferry terminal, where the car- and passenger ferry Norrona docks every week, year round. It's open from May 1st to September 30th on Mon-Fri from 08:00 – 16:00 . It's also open when Norrona docks on Tuesdays from 8:00 – 12:00 and Wednesdays from 13:00 – 16:00 in April and October. The Centre is open during the stay of a cruise ship. At the information centre one can find booklets from all around the country, hiking maps and road maps, stamps, postcards etc.

## Post - hostel



	Hafnargata 4, 710 Seyðisfjörður
	(+354) 898-6242 / 854-1216
	info@posthostel.com
	http://posthostel.com/
	Open all year
	

Post-Hostel guesthouse near the harbour with ocean and mountain view. Rooms are 11: 2 double and 4 rooms for four person with bathroom; 3 double rooms and 2 rooms for four person with shared bathroom. New comfortable beds. Beds are made and good towels. Guests have access to fully equipped kitchen, washer and clothes dryer. Free wireless internet. Also classy 140m<sup>2</sup> apartment in center of town with ocean and mountain view, 3 bedrooms, fully equipped kitchen, large bathroom, living room, laundry room and terrace.



### Skaftfell - Visual Art's Center

Skaftfell operates in the field of contemporary art, on a local and international level. It's activities are based upon exhibitions and events, alongside a residency and education program. A Bistro is on the ground floor with coffee, beverages and food, plus free Internet and an art library. House of local naïve artist, Geiri (1931-1999), can be viewed by arrangement.



 Location	Austurvegur 42 , 710 Seyðisfjörður
 Open	Gallery and store open daily from 12:00-18:00 during summer or by arrangement.
 Phone	(+354) 472 1632 / 472 1633 (Bistro)
 Email	skaftfell@skaftfell.is
 Website	www.skaftfell.is

# SEYÐISFJÖRÐUR



## **Campsites and further options for accommodation, dining and activity**

**Camping Ground Seyðisfjörður** Ránargata 5, 710 Seyðisfjörður, +354 472 1521, [camping@sfk.is](mailto:camping@sfk.is), [ferdamenning@sfk.is](mailto:ferdamenning@sfk.is)

**Golf Course Hagavöllur** Vesturvegur/Kuahagi, 710 Seyðisfjörður, [www.visitseydisfjordur.com](http://www.visitseydisfjordur.com) (search for „golf“)

### **Sports Centre (gym)**

Hafnargata 44, 710 Seyðisfjörður, (+354) 472-1501.

**Ski Area Stafdalur Valley** 710 Seydisfjordur, (+354)-898-2798/(+354) 472-1551, [stafdalur@stafdalur.is](mailto:stafdalur@stafdalur.is), [www.stafdalur.is](http://www.stafdalur.is)

**Swimming Pool** Suðurgata 5, 710 Seyðisfjörður, (+354) 472 1414, [sundholl@skolar.sfk.is](mailto:sundholl@skolar.sfk.is)

### **Hótel Aldan (dining, accommodation, activity)**

Norðurgata 2, 710 Seyðisfjörður, (+354) 472 1277, [hotelaldan@simnet.is](mailto:hotelaldan@simnet.is), [www.hotelaldan.is](http://www.hotelaldan.is)

**Skaftfell Bistro** Austurvegur 42, 710 Seyðisfjörður, (+354) 472 1633, [hotelaldan@simnet.is](mailto:hotelaldan@simnet.is), [www.skaftfell.is/bistro](http://www.skaftfell.is/bistro)

**Skálanes (dining, accommodation, activity, tours)** 710 Seyðisfjörður, (+354) 861 7008, [skalanes@skalanes.com](mailto:skalanes@skalanes.com), [www.skalanes.com](http://www.skalanes.com)

**Lonely Planet's top pick for best unique sleeps in Iceland!**

### **Technical Museum/Tæknimínjasafn**

Hafnargötu 44, 710 Seyðisfjörður, (+354) 472 1596.

Please see [www.visitseydisfjordur.com](http://www.visitseydisfjordur.com) for further options in recreation, dining, shopping, accommodation, museums, culture and arts.



## Mjóifjörður/Fjarðabyggð – a hidden treasure

(Pop. 24) [www.visitfjardabyggd.is](http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is)

Not only do you escape from crowds in Mjóifjörður; but it is known for pleasant weather and abundant, delicious berries. Although the road leading to the fjord is usually closed in winter; you can always

go by ferry and watch the seabirds. If you arrive by road, take note of the rich vegetation and the impressive waterfalls between the mountain pass and fjord. A folktale describes the huge troll who lured pastors into her dark ravine, Prestagil. After obtaining meals and accommodation at the village, you might continue to the mouth of the fjord and the antique lighthouses at Dalatangi. The inlet of Smjörvogur; a bit past the gorge of Hofsárgljúfur; once served

as a prison since no one could get out without assistance. Hiking south of the fjord, you could visit Asknes to see the remains of what was once the world's largest whaling station.



### **Things to do:**

- Visit Dalatangi lighthouse
- Stay at the guesthouse
- Try local shellfish and whitewine at Sólbrekka restaurant

# MJÓIFJÖRÐUR



## Nature highlights

⌘ Mjóifjörður, meaning the narrow fjord, has a sheltered climate and considerable vegetation. Traditional trails, some now staked, cross the high mountain passes to neighbouring fjords. While few people live here now, there was a much larger, busier community a century ago, and traditional fishing and farming continue today.



⌘ Dalatangi - Having travelled the long gravel road along the coast, past rockslides and cliff edges, waterfalls and gorges, the isolated Dalatangi may in the end seem as cut off as an island. The older lighthouse is a historic landmark and the scenery is magnificent.

⌘ Klifbrekkufossar - Cascading in steps beside the switchbacking road, these pretty waterfalls in the river Fjarðará are surrounded by lush vegetation and stark rock cliffs.

## Accommodation

### Sólbrekka Campsite

715 Mjóifjörður  
(+354) 476-0007

### Sólbrekka Holiday Homes/Guesthouse

715 Mjóifjörður  
(+354) 476 0020 / (+354) 894 9014



## Sólbrekka Tourist Info

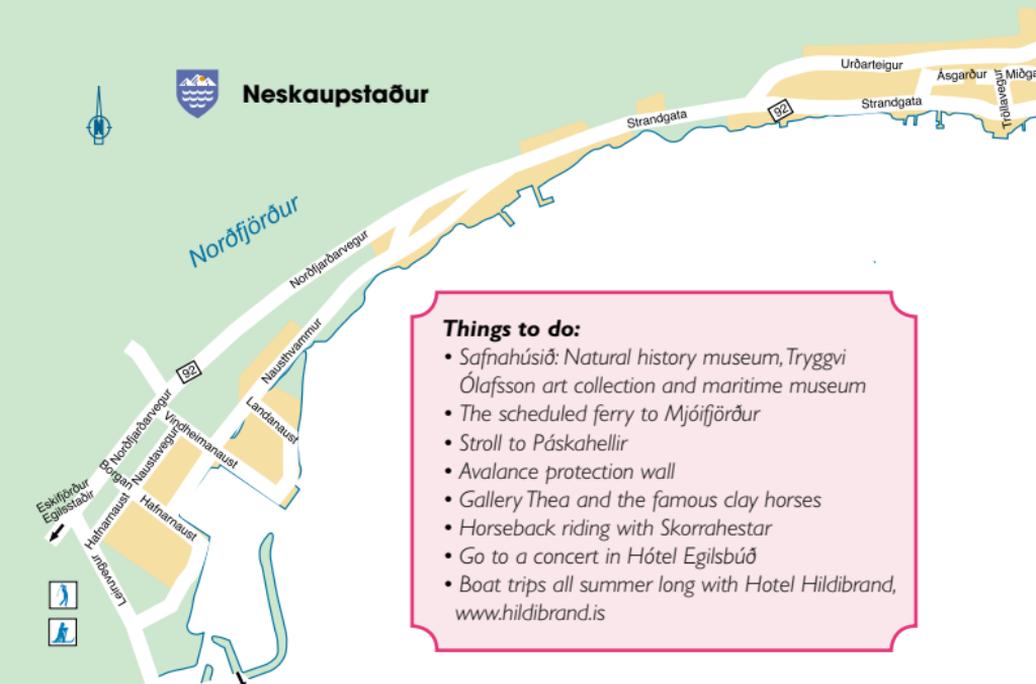
	Sólbrekka, 715 Mjóifjörður
	(+354) 476-0007
	mjoi@simnet.is
	visitfjardabyggd.is



Situated in the small but quaint service centre of the locality.

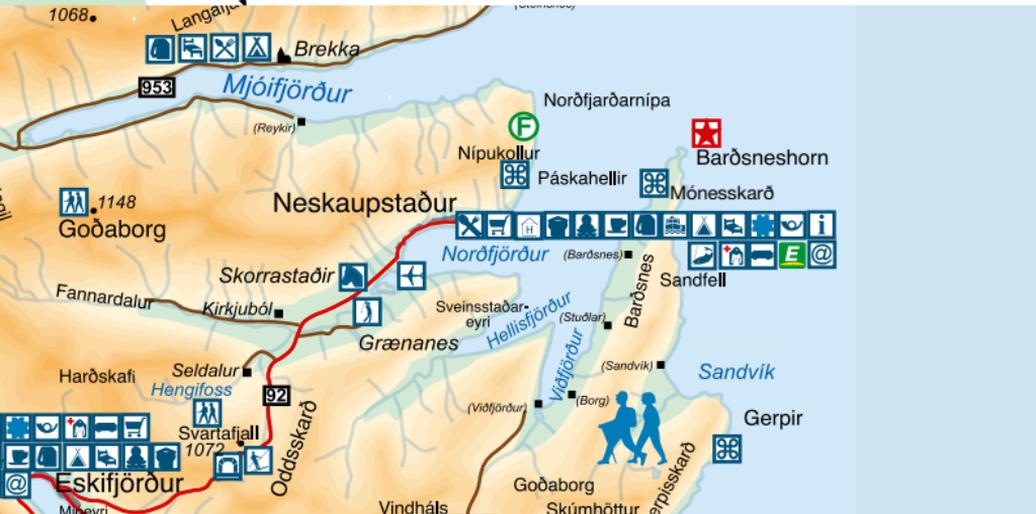


# NORÐFJÖRÐUR/NESKAUPSTAÐUR



## Things to do:

- *Safnahúsið*: Natural history museum, Tryggvi Ólafsson art collection and maritime museum
- The scheduled ferry to Mjóifjörður
- Stroll to Páskahellir
- Avalanche protection wall
- Gallery Thea and the famous clay horses
- Horseback riding with Skorrahestar
- Go to a concert in Hótel Egilsbúð
- Boat trips all summer long with Hotel Hildibrand, [www.hildibrand.is](http://www.hildibrand.is)





## Norðfjörður (Pop. 1.498) [www.visitfjardabyggd.is](http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is)

Neskaupstaður, the town of Norðfjörður, offers an astonishing range of culture and shopping. The skiing resort of Oddskarð is quickly reached through today's tunnel, and the town will become better connected to other villages by a more spacious tunnel to be finished in 2017. Thriving as a fishing town, Neskaupstaður also caters to tourists with its accommodation and eating and drinking establishments. The town is furthermore popular as a music venue, with its local blues, rock and jazz club Brján and Iceland's only hard-rock festival, Eistnaflug. Even right next to town, hiking trails bring you to stunning scenery, diverse birdlife and fauna, as well as the sturdy anti-avalanche structures. You can take the scheduled boat around the towering sea cliff to Mjóifjörður, ride horses and kayaks, visit three interesting museums that are conveniently clustered in one building, and further exercise or relax at the outdoor swimming pool.



# NORÐFJÖRÐUR/NESKAUPSTAÐUR



## Nature highlights

⌘ The avalanche defences just above town are massive, with handy paths to walk on top for breathtaking views or to stroll in the shelter of the nearby woods. Other paths skirt the coast eastwards through the scenic country park.

⌘ The area of Gerpir, Iceland's easternmost point, includes several uninhabited fjords and inlets between Norðfjörður and Reyðarfjörður. A number of tempting hiking routes have been staked by the local touring club, and the area is also popular among kayaking enthusiasts and mountain bikers.



⌘ Rauðbjörg, on the coast of Barðsnes peninsula, is a cliff of glistening yellowish rhyolite. The residents of Neskaupstaður have long admired it, saying that the sun shining on it in the evening indicates fair weather the next day.



⌘ Páskahellir - From this shallow cave, it is said you can watch the sun dance on the sea on Easter morning. Holes in the cave walls show where trees were covered by lava some 12 million years ago. Pillow lava and dykes are further interesting formations.



## Skorrahestar – Guesthouse

	Skorrastaður 4, 740 Neskaupstaður
	(+354) 477 1736 / 891 8036
	info@skorrahestar.is
	www.skorrahestar.is



The lush fjords around the Skorrahestar farm can be seen via hiking excursions or on horseback. Ride or walk under the shadow of the vast mountain ranges and up to the picturesque waterfalls while the tour guides regale you with the folklore and history of their nature-rich country. There is nothing like a two hour hike or horseback ride to build up an appetite for some homemade Icelandic cuisine and a piping hot coffee at our beautiful guesthouse. Come and become a member of the Skorrahestar family! You can also find us at [TripAdvisor.com](https://www.tripadvisor.com) and [Booking.com](https://www.booking.com).



## The Museum house - Safnahúsið

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

 Location	Egilsbraut 2, 740 Neskaupstað
 Open	Daily June - August, 13:00 - 17:00 pm, or by arrangement.
 Phone	(+354) 477 1446 / 470 9000
 Email	sofn@fjardabyggd.is
 Website	www.visitfjardabyggd.is

### The East Iceland Museum of Natural History

An interesting museum which displays the best of Icelandic nature; Icelandic mammals, shellfish, birds, insect- and stone collection as well as specimens from the East Icelandic flora. The museum also has a hands-on collection for children, with an arctic fox and many more items.



### **The Jósatat 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.



### **Málverkasafn Tryggva - Tryggvi Ólafsson Art Collection**

Tryggvi Ólafsson was born in Norðfjörður in 1940. He studied art at the National College of Arts and Crafts, Reykjavik, 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.



# NORÐFJÖRÐUR/NESKAUPSTAÐUR

## Neskaupstaður Swimming Pool – Tourist Info



	Miðstræti 15, 740 Neskaupstaður
	(+354) 477 1243
	itr.nesk@fjardabyggd.is
	www.visitfjardabyggd.is
	Open all year

Open:

Winter (1 Sept-31 May):

Mon-Thurs 06:00-20:00, Fri 06:00-18:00,

Sat 11:00-18:00, Sun 13:00-18:00.

Summer (1 June-31 Agust):

Mon-Fri 06:00-20:00, Sat 10:00-18:00, Sun 10:00-18:00.

## Nesbær



	Egilsbraut 5, 740 Neskaupstaður
	(+354) 477-1115 / 894-0415
	nesbaer@simnet.is
	Find us on facebook
	Access
	Open all year

Have a relaxed sitdown with a slice of a delicious, home-made cake and a cup of freshly ground coffee or a lovely, light meal from our menu. We are proud to continue a over a hundred year long trading history in this house in the centre of Neskaupstaður. We offer refreshments, internet access, meeting facilities, catering, handcraft and exhibitions by local artists. We are also the towns information center, florist and local yarn store. Free wifi



### Hildibrand Hotel and Tours

Hildibrand Hotel is a new (2014) boutique apartment hotel in the heart of Neskaupstaður a charming fishing village located in Norðfjörður one of East Iceland's magical Eastfjords. Since the building was originally built as a Co-op shop in the 1940's and was run mainly by farmers, we find it fitting to honour its history and tradition with Kaupfélagsbarinn a nostalgic place where locals and guests come together for drinks and locally sourced delicacies.

- Catering service, event planning, activities coordination
- SnowCat and Super Jeep tours
- Meeting facilities and banquet rooms
- Boat tours

 Location	Hafnarbraut 2 , 740 Neskaupstað
 Open	Open all year
 Phone	(+354) 477 1950
 Email	<a href="mailto:hildibrand@hildibrand.com">hildibrand@hildibrand.com</a>
 Website	<a href="http://www.hildibrand.com">www.hildibrand.com</a>



## **Campsites and further options**

### **Norðfjörður Swimming Pool and Gym**

Miðstræti 15, 740 Neskaupstaður; (+354) 477 1243

### **Norðfjörður Campsite** Víðimýri, 740 Neskaupstaður;

fjardabyggd@fjardabyggd.is, [www.visitfjardabyggd.is](http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is)

### **Grænanes Golf Course**

Grænanes, 740 Neskaupstaður; (+354) 477 1165

### **Oddskarð's Ski Resort – The Alps of the East Fjords**

Located between Eskifjörður and Norðfjörður (road nr. 92),

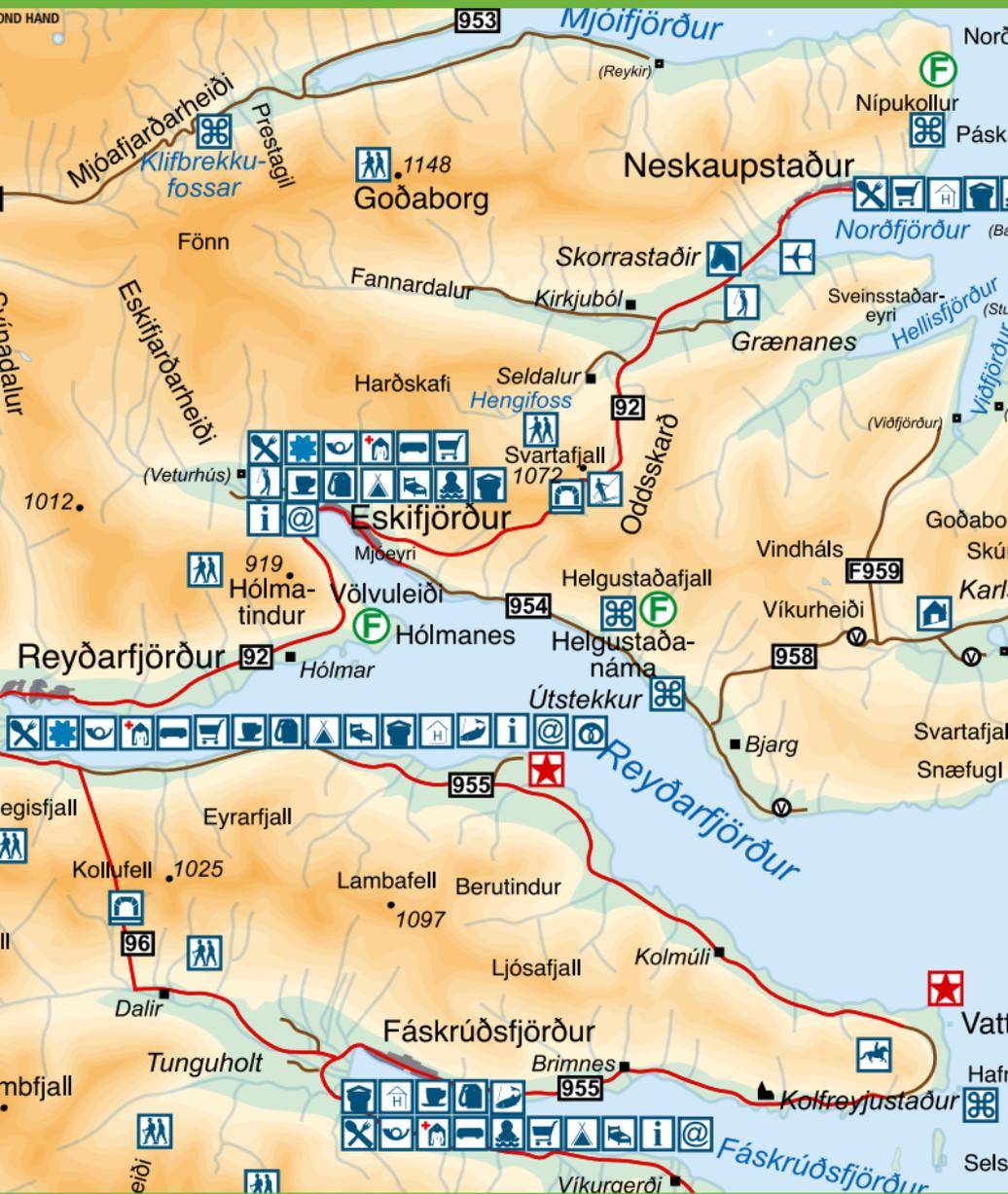
(+354) 853 1465, [oddsskard@fjardabyggd.is](mailto:oddsskard@fjardabyggd.is),

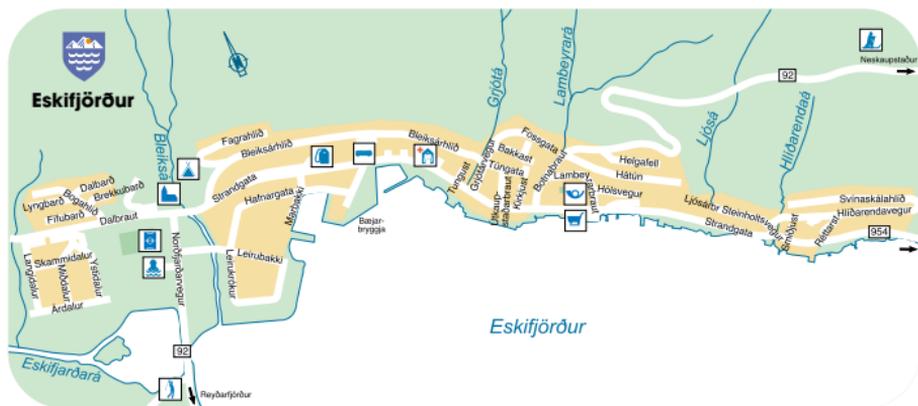
[www.visitfjardabyggd.is/oddsskard](http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is/oddsskard)

*For further information about activities, dining and accommodation in Norðfjörður and Neskaupstaður see [www.visitfjardabyggd.is](http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is)*



# ESKIFJÖRÐUR





**Eskifjörður** (pop. 1,067) : [www.visitfjardabyggd.is](http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is)

The charming seaside village of Eskifjörður became an official trading post in 1786. Two towering mountains, Eskja and Hólmatindur, are favourites of the locals. Ask them also to point out Harðskafi, which has figured in the prize-winning mysteries by Arnaldur Indriðason. The historic buildings and seafront make for pleasant walks around town, with extra insights from the Maritime Museum. The old seafarers' shed, Randulfssjóhús, has remained largely unaltered since 1890. Here and elsewhere you can try delicious dishes and drinks and find excellent accommodation. You might rent a boat to ride on the fjord and even try some angling. Part of the area's unique geology





is revealed by the famous Iceland spar mine near Helgustaðir, and many other types of minerals are kindly shown by Sigurborg in her private collection. Numerous exciting trails lead through the huge uninhabited peninsula east of the village.

## Nature highlights

⌘ Whereas the farmers have all abandoned Vöðlavík, it offers fabulous hiking opportunities, such as Gerpír sea cliff. The area touring club offers a hut, and Icelanders vacation in some of the other old farmsteads. Disastrous seafaring accidents have taken place off the wide sandy beach.



⌘ The Hólmatindur mountain slope, rising steeply from the shore opposite town, continually attracts the eyes of both residents and visitors. If you make the 985-m ascent to the top, you can record your accomplishment in a visitors' book, besides relishing the view.



⌘ Hólmanes serves as a country park, with children also enjoying these wild but accessible outdoors. There is abundant bird life in summer, and interesting rock formations year round.

⌘ Helgustaðir mine - long the world's main source of Iceland spar, used in pioneering scientific experiments. Iceland spar was mined here from the 17th to early 20th centuries. A path leads up to this natural monument, which is only a few hundred metres from the road.

### Historic sites

⚔ On the ridge Hólmaháls, somewhat above the road, a seeress buried under stones has for centuries kept her promise of protecting the two surrounding fjords from attacks. There is an impressive panorama from the site, as well as from the scenic parking area right by the highway.



#### **Things to do:**

- Rent a boat at Mjóeyri
- Helgustaðanáma, the world famous mine
- Vöðlavík the deserted bay with black sandy beach
- The Church - and cultural centre for art
- Visit Randulff's Sea House



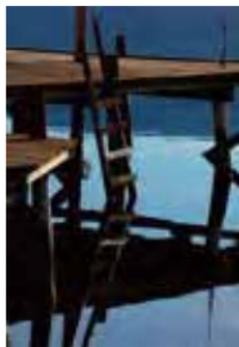
# ESKIFJÖRÐUR



## 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.



 Location	Strandgata 39b, 735 Eskifjörður
 Open	Open 13:00 - 17:00 pm, 7 days a week, from June 1st – August 31st or by arrangement.
 Phone	(+354) 476 1605 - 470 9000
 Email	sofn@fjardabyggd.is
 Website	www.visitfjardabyggd.is



### Randulff's Sea-House

Randulff'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. Here you can try shark-meat (hákarl) and dried fish (harðfiskur), both produced in Eskifjörður and widely acknowledged as being among the very best in Iceland. Randulffs' sea house is open as a restaurant during the summer. Rent a boat at dock for recreational fishing within the fjord where cod and haddock are still plentiful.

 Location	Strandgata 96, 735 Eskifjörður
 Open	Open from 12:00-21:00, 7 days a week from June 1st – August 31st or by arrangement.
 Phone	(+354) 477-1247 / 696-0809
 Email	mjoeyri@mjoeyri.is
 Website	www.mjoeyri.is

# ESKIFJÖRÐUR



## Mjóeyri Travel

Mjóeyri Travel is located on a beautiful and peaceful peninsula, Eskifjörður. We offer accommodation in rooms and cottages and put our efforts into creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere. We also offer recreational activities or just relaxing in the cozy



environment at Mjóeyri. Recreational activities include: Boat rental, nature observation, hiking, bird-watching, guided tours to the Helgustaðir Mine, skiing, reindeer hunting, boat trips, team-building, incentive travel, hiking and enjoying the outdoor experiences, watching the northern lights.

 Location	Strandgata 120, 735 Eskifjörður
 Open	All year
 Phone	(+354) 477-1247 / 696-0809 / 698-6980
 Email	mjoeyri@mjoeyri.is
 Website	www.mjoeyri.is



## Eskifjörður Swimming Pool - Tourist Info

	Dalbraut 3a, 735 Eskifjörður
	(+354) 476 1218
	itr.esk@fjardabyggd.is
	www.visitfjardabyggd.is
	Open all year



Winter (1 Sept-31 May):  
 Mon-Thurs 06:00-20:00, Fri 06:00-18:00,  
 Sat 13:00-18:00, Sun 13:00-18:00.  
 Summer (1 June-31 Agust):  
 Mon-Fri 06:00-21:00, Sat 10:00-18:00, Sun 10:00-18:00.

## The Sea House Restaurant

	Strandgata 96, 735 Eskifjörður
	(+354) 477-1247 / 696-0809
	mjoeyri@mjoeyri.is
	www.mjoeyri.is
	Open in summer, in winter upon request



Randulffs sea house, built 1890, preserves many historic artefacts in an atmosphere virtually unchanged from the time when herring fishing was the main occupation for many inhabitants of Iceland's East Fjords. The Sea-house is open as a restaurant during the summer; it provides an opportunity to enjoy local delicacies like shark-meat, dried fish, pickled herring and reindeer along with fresh fish. Traditional meals can also be provided for groups.

# ESKIFJÖRÐUR

## Hótel Eskifjörður



	Strandgata 47, 735 Eskifjörður
	(+354) 476-0099 / 696-0809
	info@hoteleskifjordur.is
	www.hoteleskifjordur.is
	Open all year

Hotel Eskifjörður is newly opened and is situated in the centre of town with views across the fjord to the majestic "Holmatindur" mountain peaks. The site that houses the hotel dates back to 1918 with the building itself dating back to 1968. Consisting of 16 double rooms, the hotel has been designed with your comfort and enjoyment a high priority and all local amenities are within short walking distance.

## Kaffihúsið Eskifirði - Guesthouse - Restaurant



	Strandgötu 10, 735 Eskifjörður
	(+354) 476-1150 / 894-6606
	kaffihusid@kaffihusid.is
	www.kaffihusid.is
	Open all year (see webpage for details)



Kaffihúsið Guesthouse and restaurant is in the small fishing village Eskifjörður. The restaurant offers a fine a la carte menu, but also serves burgers and lighter meals. A specialties menu is available for guests and group menus on request. We have accommodation for up to 19 persons in 11 rooms, all with washbasins. We also show all main sports events on a widescreen.

**Karlsstaðir - Fjord Trail** [www.ferdafelag.is](http://www.ferdafelag.is)

GPS 65°01.803 / 13°40.354



(+354) 863-3623



ffau@simnet.is

Size / sleeps 33 persons

**Campsite and further options for activities and accommodation**

**Hótelibúðir – Hotel Apartments** Strandgötu 26, 735 Eskifirði,  
(+354) 892-8657 / (+354) 845 8801, [addie@simnet.is](mailto:addie@simnet.is), [www.hotelibudir.net](http://www.hotelibudir.net)

**Eskifjörður Campsite** Strandgata 49, 735 Eskifjörður,  
(+354) 470 9000, [fjardabyggd@fjardabyggd.is](mailto:fjardabyggd@fjardabyggd.is), [www.visitfjardabyggd.is](http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is)

**Eskifjörður Swimming Pool and Gym**

Dalbraut 3a, 735 Eskifjörður, (+354) 476 1218.

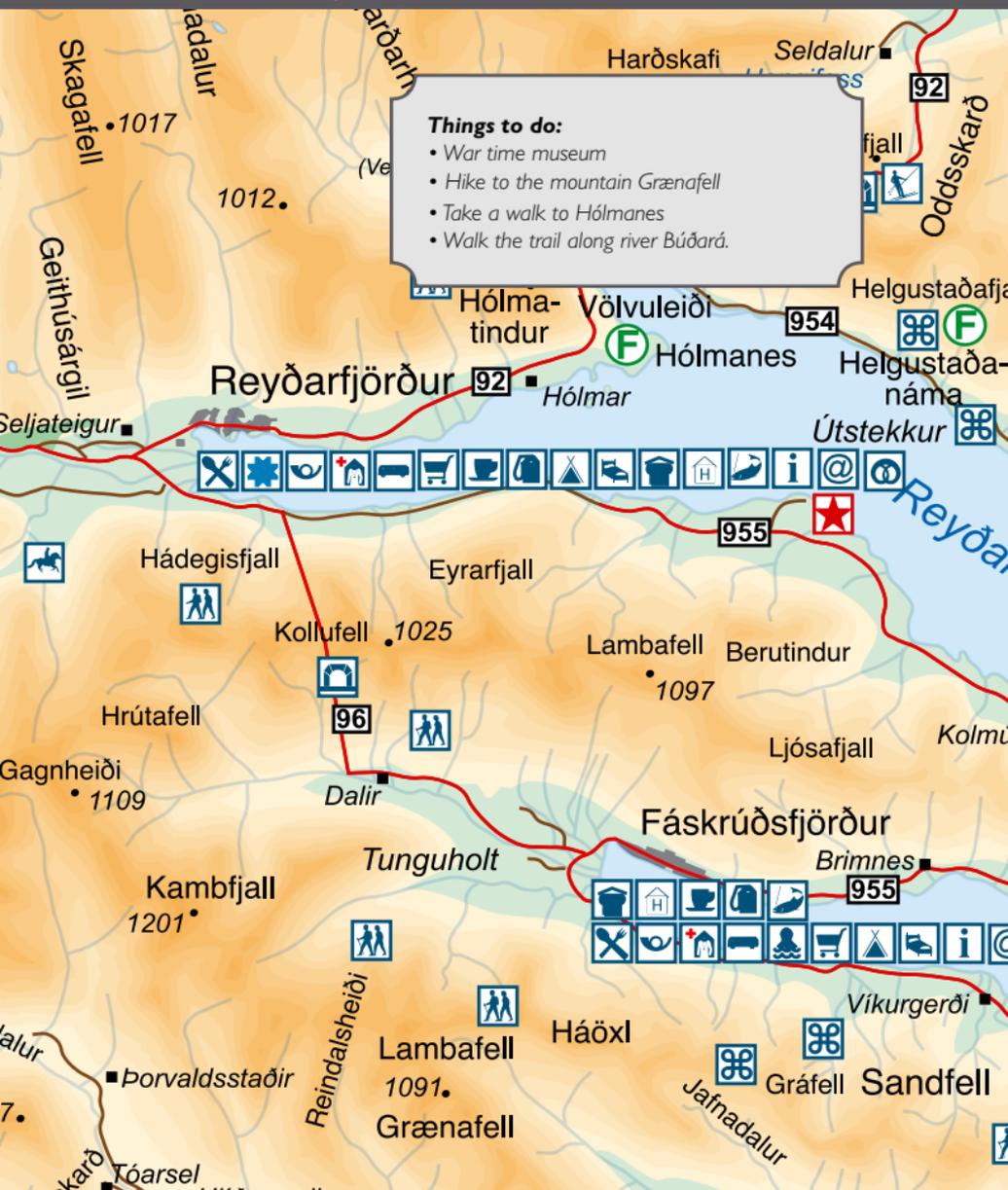
**Byggðarholt Golf Course** 735 West of the village, 735 Eskifjörður,  
(+354) 892 4622, [joiam@simnet.is](mailto:joiam@simnet.is)

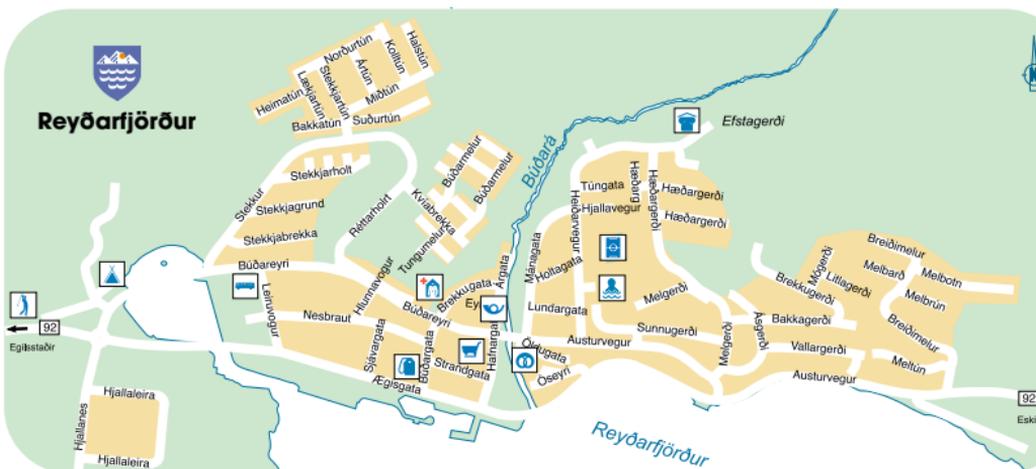
**Oddskað's Ski Resort – The Alps of the East Fjords**

Located between Eskifjörður and Norðfjörður (road nr. 92),  
(+354) 853 1465, [oddsskard@fjardabyggd.is](mailto:oddsskard@fjardabyggd.is),  
[www.visitfjardabyggd.is/oddsskard](http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is/oddsskard)

*For further information about activities, dining and accommodation in Eskifjörður see [www.visitfjardabyggd.is](http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is)*

# REYÐARFJÖRÐUR





### Reyðarfjörður (pop. 1,194) [www.visitfjardabyggd.is](http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is)

Reyðarfjörður is both the widest and, at over 30 km, longest of Iceland's Eastern fjords. Around 1900, the Norwegians ran whaling stations here and in general commercialised the fishing industry. The village Búðareyri, at the sheltered west end of the fjord, has ideal harbour conditions, so that during the early 20th century it arose as a regional trade centre. While today the Alcoa aluminium smelter just to the east has become the main employer, the town has a shopping centre, bakery and assorted good places to sleep, eat and drink. During World War II, Reyðarfjörður was first occupied by British, then by



# REYÐARFJÖRÐUR



other Allied forces. Many occupation remnants are still visible around town, and the Wartime Museum lets you experience the occupation and its social effects. You can stroll along the pretty Búðará river straight to the museum and later continue into the uninhabited valley above.

## Nature highlights

⌘ Grænafell - Several marked routes lead to the panoramic view on top of this mountain; you can ascend for instance beside the Geithúsaá ravine or from Fagrigalur valley. At the summit, you can sign your name in the visitors' book, and perhaps meet local hikers there or on your way.



## Historic sites

⌘ Sómastaðir - a small home built of hewn stones in the late 19th century, when it needed to house a large family. The technique and architecture were unusual for Iceland from the start, so that the house belongs to the National Museum's *Historic Buildings Collection*.



## Hjá Marlín - Guesthouse Hostel

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



The guesthouse is located in 3 houses. The reception-house has a café where meals are served for dinner. All the houses have a guest kitchen, spacious and comfortable common areas, and a special view.

## Hótel Austur

	Búðareyri 6, 730 Reyðarfjörður
	(+354) 456-2555
	hotelaustur@simnet.is
	Open all year



Unwind with a relaxing drink in the hotel bar and enjoy delicious Icelandic cuisine in our restaurant. Guests can choose from Hotel Austur's 32 rooms, all of which are equipped with Wi-Fi internet. A conference room with all modern facilities can accommodate up to twenty people.



## 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.

 Location	Spítalækamp / Heiðarvegur 37, Reyðarfjörður
 Open	Open 13:00 - 17:00 pm, 7 days a week, from June 1st – August 31st or by arrangement.
 Phone	(+354) 470-9000
 Email	sofn@fjardabyggd.is
 Website	www.visitfjardabyggd.is

## The Icelandic Wartime Museum Tourist Info

	Heiðarvegi 37, 730 Reyðarfjörður
	(+354) 470-9000
	fjardabyggd@fjardabyggd.is
	visitfjardabyggd.is



Situated in the only museum in Iceland that displays the WW2 story of the country.

## Tærgesen

	Búðargata 4, 730 Reyðarfjörður
	(+354) 470-5555
	taergesen@gmail.com
	www.taergesen.is
	Open all year



The Tærgesen house is built in 1870, that makes it one of the oldest, if not the oldest guesthouse in Iceland. Experience a journey to the past in this wonderful old house. We offer accommodation in 4 single and 35 double rooms (23 w/bathroom) in two houses. The restaurant offers a good selection of food from breakfast to hamburgers and a la carte menu, but pizzas are our speciality.

## **Campsites and further options**

### **Reyðarfjörður Campsite**

Búðareyri 7, 730 Reyðarfjörður; (+354) 470 9000,  
fjardabyggd@fjardabyggd.is, [www.visitfjardabyggd.is](http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is)

### **Gym**

Heiðarvegi 10, 730 Reyðarfjörður,  
(+354) 474 1331

### **Kollur Golf Course**

It lies along low slopes just inland from Reyðarfjörður village.  
(+354) 843 8883, [sigurjon@vhe.is](mailto:sigurjon@vhe.is)

### **Sesam Bakery**

Hafnargata 1, 730 Reyðarfjörður,  
(+354) 475 8000, [www.sesam.is](http://www.sesam.is)

*For further information about activities, dining and accommodation in Reyðarfjörður see [www.visitfjardabyggd.is](http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is)*



# FÁSKRÚÐSFJÖRÐUR





### Fáskrúðsfjörður (pop. 711) [www.visitfjardabyggd.is](http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is)

Fáskrúðsfjörður - While the quickest way from Reyðarfjörður is through the road tunnel, the sparsely travelled route around Vattarnes is restful and scenic, including views towards the colourful island of Skrúður. Around this peninsula, as well as throughout the fjord, there are numerous interesting hiking opportunities.

The town was recognised as a trading post in 1880 and is a major fishing port. Moreover, from the latter 19th century until 1935, Fáskrúðsfjörður served as the main station for French fishermen off East Iceland. This heritage is still being cultivated, for instance by road signs in French, a July fair named the “French Days”, and connections with the sister town of Gravelines, France. In the town’s well-manicured *French Quarter*, you can learn more in the museum and admire the restored buildings. You can also walk to the graveyard of 49 French sailors and stay longer in Fáskrúðsfjörður for excellent accommodation and meals.



# FÁSKRÚÐSFJÖRÐUR



## Nature highlights

⌘ The pretty island of Skrúður has a large cave where a giant was said to live and which many puffins use as an exceptionally big nesting hole. A number of other bird species thrive on the island, and diving gannets can be viewed from the main shore with binoculars.

⌘ Sandfell- This mountain (743 m) is one of the world's most renowned examples of a laccolith. Even geological laymen can see where light-coloured rhyolite raised and tilted the previous basalt strata. The trail to the top provides a beautiful panorama.



## Auroras Iceland - Fáskrúðsfjörður



	Wathne's House, Hafnargata 7, 750 Fáskrúðsfjörður
	(+354) 783 9500
	auroras@auroras.is
	www.auroras.is
	Open 15.5 - 30.9

The exhibition of Northern Lights photos opened in May 2016. On display are the magnificent photos shot by local photographers Jónína Óskarsdóttir and Jóhanna Hauksdóttir and it is called "A Dance With the Mountains." All the photos are shot in Fáskrúðsfjörður where a majestic circle of mountains surrounds the fjord and makes the Northern Lights experience unique. It's located in the Wathne's House, a beautiful historical building in Fáskrúðsfjörður.



## THE FRENCH MUSEUM OCEAN OF MEMORIES IN FÁSKRÚÐSFJÖRÐUR

The avant-garde exhibition in The French Museum in Fáskrúðsfjörður is the newest of Fjarðabyggð's museums and collections. This museum is located in two stately buildings, the Doctor's House and the French Hospital as they are called, built by the French fishermen around 1900. However, the main attraction of the exhibition is situated in a tunnel that connects the two buildings. The entrance to the museum is from the hotel reception area in the Doctor's House. In the museum, the interesting history and legacy of the French sailors in Iceland is shown by means of the latest multimedia technology.

The renovation of the French heritage buildings, one of the largest historical restoration outside the capitol area, was finished in the summer of 2014. The five French buildings play a substantial role in local culture and society in Fáskrúðsfjörður. The French Hospital, for example, now serves as a hotel ([www.fosshotel.is](http://www.fosshotel.is)) with the restaurant l'Abri on the ground floor. The Chapel is the only building that still maintains its original role and is open for guests of the museum. In 2016 these buildings won the EU Prize for Cultural Heritage.

	Location	Hafnargata 12, 750 Fáskrúðsfjörður
	Open	Open from 10:00 - 17:00 June - September
	Phone	(+354) 470 9063 / 470 4070
	Email	<a href="mailto:sofn@fjardabyggd.is">sofn@fjardabyggd.is</a> / <a href="mailto:austfirdir@fosshotel.is">austfirdir@fosshotel.is</a>
	Website	<a href="http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is">www.visitfjardabyggd.is</a> <a href="http://www.fosshotel.is">www.fosshotel.is</a>

# FÁSKRÚÐSFJÖRÐUR

## Fáskrúðsfjörður Swimming Pool



Skólavegur 37,  
750 Fáskrúðsfjörður



(+354) 475 9070



sund.fask@fjardabyggd.is



www.visitfjardabyggd.is



Open all year

Winter (1 June-31 May)

Mon-Thu: 16:00-19:00 Fri: 15:00-18:00 Sat: 10:00-13:00

Summer (1 June 31 August)

Mon-Fri: 16:00-19:00 Sat: 10:00-13:00

## Tangi Tourist Info



Búðavegur 17,  
750 Fáskrúðsfjörður



(+354) 470 9000



fjardabyggd@fjardabyggd.is



www.visitfjardabyggd.is



Hosted by the local handicraft society in Tangi, Tale and Handicraft House.

## Kaffi Sumarlína

	Búðavegi 59, 750 Fáskrúðsfjörður
	(+354) 475-1575 / 845-8008 / 863 1341
	sumarlina@simnet.is
	www.sumarlina.is facebook.com/sumarlina
	Open all year



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.

## Campsites

### Fáskrúðsfjörður Campsite

Hafnargata 12, 750 Fáskrúðsfjörður,  
(+354) 470 9000, [fjardabyggd@fjardabyggd.is](mailto:fjardabyggd@fjardabyggd.is), [www.visitfjardabyggd.is](http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is)

See [www.visitfjardabyggd.is](http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is) for further options for accommodation, dining and activities.

# STÖÐVARFJÖRÐUR



## Things to do:

- Petra's Stone Collection
- Gallery Snærós and the graphic centre
- Hike to Einbúi, the mythical rock of Jafnadalur
- Salthúsið market
- Saxa the salty sea geyser



### Stöðvarfjörður (pop. 199) [www.visitfjardabyggd.is](http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is)

Stöðvarfjörður is famous for its scenery, not least its spectacular mountain peaks. Walking from her home in the village, Petra Sveinsdóttir gradually collected and opened an internationally-known display of rocks and minerals in her house and garden. Súgur, rising straight across the waters from the village, is a majestic mountain which even brief visitors become fond of. Though fog sometimes hides it and other peaks, the fog fades once more, playfully revealing them in parts or in whole, and is being cultivated as cultural capital - a special, unpredictable image of the East Fjords. A wide selection of well-marked trails brings the hiker to beautiful rhyolite slopes and unusual geological formations. Arts and handcrafts clearly flourish here, with talented, innovative



# STÖÐVARFJÖRÐUR



people displaying attractive graphics, ceramics, woollens, etc. Stays of several days are also made pleasant by the swimming pool, places to eat and a variety of accommodation.

## Nature highlights

⌘ Petra Sveinsdóttir's rock collection is one that many visitors return to see again, even if it was mostly brought together by only one woman on her long, loving searches for local minerals.

⌘ The Einbúi rocks and valley of Jafnadalur are worthwhile hiking goals. Not only are the huge Einbúi rocks unusual, but there is a large rock arch on the other side of the valley. This exploration may be prolonged by walking over the bright rhyolite pass of Stöðvarskarð.

⌘ Saxa, right at the seashore, is a unique crevice which squeezes ocean waves together in stormy weather, so that they splash up high, chopping apart seaweed and casting it over the vicinity. Take care to keep a firm footing.



## Culture & arts

### Salthússmarkaðurinn

Each summer a versatile group of craftswomen and men open their doors and welcome tourist in their summer market, Salthússmarkaðurinn. A great selection and creative thinking makes this market an essential stop for the design and handicraft enthusiast on their way to or from Fjarðabyggð. Find them, and other arts & crafts markets in Fjarðabyggð, on [www.visitfardabyggd.is](http://www.visitfardabyggd.is).





# STÖÐVARFJÖRÐUR



## **Petra's rock collection** **- Steinasafn Petru**

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 May-September or on request
 Phone	(+354) 475-8834 / 866-3668
 Email	info@steinapetra.is
 Website	www.steinapetra.is



### Gallerí Snærós

Gallerí Snærós is run by the artists Ríkhartður Valtingoer, Sólrún Friðriksdóttir and Rósa Valtingoer. It is open daily during the summer.

In the gallery their arts and crafts are exhibited and for sale e.g. drawings, graphics, paintings, cards, textiles such as scarves from silk and wool, jewellery, ceramics of icelandic birds, and glass. In connection with the Gallery is Grafíksetrið, a well equipped Graphic Studio.



 Location	Fjarðarbraut 42, 755 Stöðvarfjörður
 Open	Daily 1.6-15.8 or by arrangement
 Phone	(+354) 475-8931
 Email	solrun.frid@simnet.is / rosa@gallerisnaeros.is
 Website	www.gallerisnaeros.is

# STÖÐVARFJÖRÐUR

## Brekkan Tourist Info



Fjarðabraut 44,  
755 Stöðvarfjörður



(+354) 475 8939



fjardabyggd@fjardabyggd.is



visitfjardabyggd.is



Situated in this nice local service centre that features a coffee shop, bistro and groceries.

## Stöðvarfjörður Swimming Pool



Skólabraut 20,  
755 Stöðvarfjörður



(+354) 475-8930



itn.stod@fjardabyggd.is



www.visitfjardabyggd.is



Open all year

Summer (1 June-31 Agust)  
Mon-Fri: 13:00-19:00 Sat-Sun: 13:00-17:00.

### Campsite and further options

#### Stöðvarfjörður Campsite

Fjarðabraut, 755 Stöðvarfjörður; (+354) 470 9000,  
fjardabyggd@fjardabyggd.is, www.visitfjardabyggd.is

#### Saxa Guesthouse

Borgargerði 2, 755 Stöðvarfjörður; (+354) 511 3055,  
saxa@saxa.is, www.saxa.is

See [www.visitfjardabyggd.is](http://www.visitfjardabyggd.is) for further information  
on accommodation and activities in Stöðvarfjörður.



# BREIÐDALUR / BREIÐDALSVÍK



## Things to do:

- Learn about the geology of the east
- Walk on the black sand beach Meleyri
- Try local food at Hotel Bláfell
- Experience great view at Café Margret
- Visit Kaupfélagið Art and craft from the local people
- Soak in a hot pot or swimming pool
- Go riding at Höskuldsstaðir
- Catch salmon or trout in Breiðdalsá or the lakes
- Hike to Berufjörður and Fáskrúðsfjörður
- Go on a boat trip from Breiðdalsvík harbour
- Go Fish Angling from Breiðdalsvík harbour
- Go on jeep tour with Tinna Adventures



**Breiðdalur - Breiðdalsvík** (pop. 183) [www.breiddalur.is](http://www.breiddalur.is)

The broad valley of Breiðdalur gladdens the traveller with its rim of majestic mountains and scenes of typical sheep and dairy farming. The heights of Breiðdalsheiði pass, on Road 1, provide a terrific view along the length of the valley, including remnants of the heavily eroded central volcano once active here. Some travellers come to fish for salmon in the Breiðdalsá, while many more come to walk by the coast or in the mountains, or to take it easy in the calm village, with its black sandy beaches and views of the sea.

In the renovated old cooperative store, there is a geology centre



# BREIÐDALUR / BREIÐDALSVÍK



telling about the scientist George Walker and the area's volcanic origins, as well as an exhibit on the Breiðdalur native Stefán Einarsson and his linguistic research into Icelandic. You will find good places for eating and accommodation, as well as arts and crafts for sale.

## **Nature highlights**

⌘ Berufjarðarskarð - historical, well-marked trail where the mail used to be carried between Berufjörður and Breiðdalur. The route includes remnants of old dry-stone road structures as well as volcanic intrusions and imposing scenery.

⌘ Streitishvarf - Not only is the lighthouse on this peninsula worth a photo, but basaltic dykes make a further walk rewarding. Near the remains of half-ruined, dry-stone sheep fences, the marked hiking trail leads to a shoreline hollow where bright rhyolite and dark basalt mingle.

⌘ Meleyri, a black sandy beach, is great for strolling, bird-watching and building sandcastles. It is also distinct from stony beaches to the east and north, which often have beautifully polished rocks.

⌘ Stafsheiði - scenic 4WD track, so rough and steep as to favour walking rather than driving. Well into the 20th century, this was the easiest, quickest way for most people in Breiðdalur to walk and ride towards the villages of Reyðarfjörður and Eskifjörður.

⌘ Jórvík is perfect for picnicking, hiking and exploring. Besides a picturesque stream and trees planted in the first half of the 20th century, the native birch woods are accompanied by the native Eurasian aspen, which in Iceland is extremely rare.

⌘ Beljandi - one of Breiðdalur's most beautiful waterfalls. Located in the flat lowlands, it is easy to access, and you could even walk all the way from Road 964. Since the Breiðdalsá is one of Iceland's better salmon fishing rivers, you might even see some fish at the fall.

⌘ Flögufoss, in the river Flaga, falls through a cliff hole in a spectacular 60-m cascade.

⌘ Tinna - From the planted woods by Road 962, you could either walk down the Tinna river past Road 1 to the old bridge, or hike up Tinnudalur valley to the peaks Njáll and Bera, named after two giants who were turned to stone by the midnight sun.





### Breiðdalssetur

Science and research centre in Breiðdalsvík's oldest house: Geological and mineral exhibitions showing the work of the British geologist Dr. G.P.L. Walker; linguistic scientist and writer Dr. Stefán Einarsson from Breiðdalur; and the history of the house, the village and surrounding settlements. A multi-purpose room is available for various events for up to 70 persons.

 Location	Sæberg I , 760 Breiðdalsvík
 Open	Summer: (20 May - 15 Sept) 11:00-18:00 Winter: Opening by arrangement. Admission fee: 500 IKR.
 Phone	(+354) 470 5565 / (+354) 865 9857
 Email	info@breiddalssetur.is
 Website	www.breiddalssetur.is
 Access	Access



THE OLD GENERAL STORE  
Kaupfjelaði



### The old general store Kaupfjelaði

The village's old general store has been changed into charming little supermarket and café Kaupfjelaði. Complete with all groceries, souvenir shop, Tourist Information centre and Wireless Internet. The place is designed and decorated with recycled and vintage findings from the local area and representing the history of the house and connecting it to the history of the village, which gives Kaupfjelaði an old fashioned and cosy look. The café menu has light dishes ranging from sandwiches to salads as well as bread and pastry. Everything is homemade, something that has been a trademark of the restaurant at Hotel Blafell.

 Location	Sólvellir 25, 760 Breiðdalsvík
 Open	Daily from 10:30 am.
 Phone	(+354) 475 6670
 Email	kaupfjela@simnet.is
 Website	www.breiddalsvik.is



### Travel East Iceland Jeep Tours



Sólvellir 14 - 760 Breiðdalsvík



(+354) 471-3060



traveleast@traveleast.is



www.traveleast.is



Open all year



Travel East offers summer tours by jeep around Breiðdalur and the mountains of east Iceland as well as winter tours riding across snow and glaciers in the eastern mountains. The tours range from 2 to 12 hours enjoying the spectacular scenery of east Iceland. Tinna also offers special request tours, for example searching for the northern lights or reindeers.

### Travel East puffins, seals and sea angling



Sólvellir 14 - 760 Breiðdalsvík



(+354) 471-3060



traveleast@traveleast.is



www.traveleast.is



Open from April - October



Travel East offers boat rides for sea angling from the coastal town of Breiðdalsvík. The passengers get the chance to try their luck sea angling as well as enjoying the small islands in the area where chances are at seeing seals and puffins as well as many other species of marine birds.

### Strengir Angling Service

	Smárarími 30, 132 Reykjavík
	(+354) 567 5204
	ellidason@strengiris
	www.strengir.com
	Open all year



Strengir Angling Service is a family company that has been in operation for 20 years. Strengir offers some of Iceland's finest accomodation and excellent fishing in Jökla, Fögurhlíðará and Breiðdalsá in the East as well as other rivers in Iceland. Strengir own some of the most elegant and comfortable lodges in the country. Some of them cater to guests all year as there are also off season activities such as shooting, ice fishing, Northern Lights, snowmobiling etc.

### Odin Tours Iceland

	Höskuldsstaðir 760 Breiðdalsvík
	(+354) 478-8088 / 849-2009
	info@odintoursiceland.com
	www.odintoursiceland.com We're on Facebook too!
	



UNIQUE HORSE RIDING EXPERIENCE! Odin Tours Iceland puts safety first by providing you with riding wear and riding instructions in our teaching paddock, until you feel safe and secure on your horse. And that's the point in time when your scheduled tour starts. A unique experience for any rider. Tours offered anytime for up to 14 people. We also offer accommodation. *In 2015 Odin received A Certificate of Excellence from TripAdvisor.*

# BREIÐDALUR / BREIÐDALSVÍK

## ACCOMMODATION

### Luxury Eyjar Lodge



Veiðihúsið Eyjar,  
760 Breiðdalsvík



(+354) 475-6776 / 567-5204



ellidason@strengiris



www.strengir.com



Open all year    

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

### Hótel Staðarborg



Staðarborg, 761 Breiðdalsvík



(+354) 475-6760



stadarborg@simnet.is



www.stadarborg.is



Open all year



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.



### Hótel Bláfell

Tucked between breathtaking coastal mountains and black sand beaches, Hotel Bláfell is a tranquil oasis of rustic charm amid the rugged beauty of Breiðdalsvík in East Iceland. Constructed from natural wood giving it a log cabin feel, the hotel features 46 well-appointed guest rooms, as well as a cozy fireplace lounge, wellness sauna, and superb dining room serving authentic local cuisine. For a taste of adventure that feeds the soul, guests can spend their time nature hiking, sea angling, wild reindeer trekking, Northern Lights hunting, or strolling along our beach.

	Location	Sólvellir 14,760 Breiðdalsvík
	Open	Open all year
	Phone	(+354) 470-0000
	Email	info@hotelblafell.is
	Website	www.breiddalsvik.is



### The Mountain Lodge – Aurora Lodge



Þverhamri, 760 Breiðdalsvík



(+354) 470- 0000



aurora@breiddalsvik.is



www.breiddalsvik.is



Open all year



Newly opened Aurora Lodge offers visitors to East Iceland stylish accommodations in a stunning mountain setting and sweeping views of the Atlantic Ocean. Built in chalet-style and featuring five guestrooms, our boutique lodge is a quiet retreat perfectly located to explore the surrounding wilderness and wildlife. Aurora Lodge radiates warmth and rustic elegance throughout the sitting lounge and cafe where you can take a gastronomic

### Silfurberg Country Resort



Þorgrímsstaðir, 760 Breiðdalsvík



(+354) 475-1515



silfurberg@silfurberg.com



www.silfurberg.com



Open 01.06.-15.09.



Silfurberg is a new boutique country resort, beautifully located at Þorgrímsstaðir in Breiðdalur valley, 45 minutes south of Egilsstaðir by car via Highway 1, and less than 30 minutes from Breiðdalsvík. Silfurberg offers four double rooms and a studio apartment located in a newly renovated barn. Breakfast is included. Other meals can be arranged given notice. We have free WiFi, exercise facilities, hot tub and sauna.



### Campsites and further options

**Breiðdalsvík Campsite** Ástún, 760 Breiðdalsvík,  
(+354) 475 5560, hreppur@breiddalur.is, www.breiddalur.is

**Breiðdalsvík Swimming Pool** Selnes 25, 760 Breiðdalsvík,  
(+354) 470 5575, sundlaug@breiddalur.is

**Háaleiti and Skarð Farm and cottages** 760 Breiðdalsvík  
(+354) 475 6798 / 854-6798 haaleiti@hotmail.com • www.vortex.is/sissi

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





**Djúpivogur** (pop. 456) [www.djupivogur.is](http://www.djupivogur.is)

This pleasant, quiet municipality extends across three fjords. While Berufjörður is a lengthy, narrow fjord, Hamarsfjörður and Álftafjörður have long become broad lagoons, teeming with birds. The pyramid-shaped Búlandstindur, 1069 m, dominates Berufjörður. Near-horizontal Tertiary basalt strata and an assortment of dykes, as well as some rhyolite at former central volcanoes, add to the community's scenery.

Trade goes back to Viking times in Berufjörður, with Djúpivogur



# DJÚPAVOGSHREPPUR / DJÚPIVOGUR



later receiving royal trading rights in 1589. In addition to other places to eat and excellent accommodation, including at farms, Langabúð, which was constructed in 1790 and is the oldest building in Djúpivogur, serves as a cultural and exhibition centre. The Búlandsnes bird sanctuary allows you to observe most Icelandic species nesting in their natural habitats, and the boat tours to Papey and its bird multitudes provide yet another bird-watching environment. Hiking in the fascinating mountains and valleys, you might also spot reindeer.



Djúpavogshreppur is a member of the International Cittaslow network. In times of “furiously fast” and “competitive production”, Cittaslow continues to focus on the authenticity of products and good food based on the slow food philosophy, on rich and fascinating local craft traditions, and on the protection of the environment together with the joy of slow and quiet living on a daily bases.

## Nature highlights

⌘ Blábjörg - These low, lightly bluish cliffs on the north coast of Berufjörður consist of ignimbrite, which here is an acidic tuff formed by a dense cloud of hot tephra flowing from an explosive volcanic eruption.

⌘ Papey - The island Papey was occupied by Celts prior to the Norse settlement, and remained inhabited until 1966. Great numbers of puffins breed here, along with guillemots, eiders,



kittiwakes and other birds. During summer, you can take a boat and guided tour to Papey, and probably observe seals en route.

⌘ Búlandsnes - Considered of international importance by Birdlife International, this peninsula is a birdwatcher's paradise. Within an easy walk from the village, you can find numerous birds in a variety of habitats: marshes, ponds, grass, rocks and beaches, and even take advantage of a birdwatching hide.

⌘ Hamarsfjörður and Álftafjörður - The shallow lagoons of today have long been closed off from the ocean by sand reefs and thus become important stopovers for migrant birds. Walking up the rivers and valleys is also to be recommended.

⌘ Geithellnadalur - A deep valley leading far into the deserted highlands east of Vatnajökull. Running from the glacier Þrándarjökull, the river Geithellnaá is wonderful to explore, not forgetting the nearby pond Tröllatjörn and the rock formations there.

### Historic sites

⌘ The *Book of Settlements* tells how Ingólfur Arnarson, the father in the first Norwegian family to settle permanently in Iceland, first spent one winter in Álftafjörður, in order to learn about the country before bringing his family along and eventually settling at Reykjavík.



# DJÚPAVOGSHREPPUR / DJÚPIVOGUR



⌘ A number of intriguing artefacts have been discovered on the farm *Bragðavellir* in Hamarsfjörður: Above all, two ancient Roman coins found here date back to around 300 CE (AD) and lend weight to suggestions that Roman ships reached Iceland.

⌘ Teigarhorn has been a protected area since 1975 and is world-famous for zeolites, such as those on display at the farmstead. Furthermore, Teigarhorn is where in 1939 Iceland's highest-ever temperature was recorded: 30.5°C.



⌘ *Eggir í Gleðivík* is an outdoor sculpture by the Icelandic artist Sigurður Guðmundsson. The 34 stone eggs each represent a local bird species, with the biggest size dedicated to the red-throated diver; the municipality's official bird. The Gleðivík eggs are only a short stroll away from anywhere in the village of Djúpivogur:

⌘ The first baptism in Iceland was made in the river *Þvottá* by the priest Þangbrandur. Þangbrandur was given the task to convert all Icelanders to Christianity by Ólafur, the king of Norway and Iceland and by the year 1000 he had completed the task.







## Langabúð

Langabúð is Djúpivogur's cultural center, housing museums, exhibitions and a cafe. It is the corner stone in the town's culture. The museums exhibit the life and work of Ríkarður Jónsson, a sculptor and artist, and a memorial of the politician Eysteinn Jónsson and his wife, Sólveig Eyjólfsdóttir. The building's loft houses a heritage museum. The cafe offers a wide variety of homemade goods and a variety of vegan and gluten free choices. You can also try out a selection of Icelandic beers and spirits.

 Location	Búð 1, 765 Djúpivogur
 Open	Open 2 May-1 Oct. Fri-Sat: 10:00 – 01:00 Sun-Thurs: 10:00 – 18:00
 Phone	(+354) 478-8220
 Email	langabud@djupivogur.is
 Website	www.langabud.is / Find us on Facebook!
 Access	Access





## Hótel Framtíð

Hótel Framtíð Djúpvaggi offers a comfortable stay in beautiful natural surroundings. Our new wing has panoramic sea and mountain views. 46 Rooms. 20 well-designed 17m<sup>2</sup> rooms with shower and w.c, telephone and TV. 28 rooms with basin in several buildings. 4 cottages 25m<sup>2</sup> each, 5 apartments only 150 meters from the main building. Campground. The new restaurant has seating for 250 persons and is ideal for groups and special events. The old restaurant is full of charm and character and can accommodate 40. A favourite of tour guides in Iceland, the popular daily special at Hótel Framtíð is always the catch of the day. Other excellent menu items include starters. Contact us and we will help you plan your holiday in the east of Iceland.

 Location	Vogalandi 4, 765 Djúpvogur
 Open	Open all year
 Phone	(+354) 478-8887
 Email	framtid@simnet.is
 Website	www.hotelframtid.com





## The Tourist Information Centre of Djúpavogshreppur

	Bakki 3, 765 Djúpivogur
	(+354) 470-8740
	info@djupivogur.is
	www.djupivogur.is
	Open May 15th – Sept. 15th



Information about service and activities in Djúpavogshreppur can be acquired at the information centre in Djúpivogur. The centre also serves as the Cittaslow office of Djúpavogshreppur. Opening hours from May 15th – September 15th: Monday to Friday 9:00-17:00. Saturday and Sunday 10:00-16:00.

## Djúpivogur Sports Centre

	Varða 4, Djúpivogur
	(+354) 470-8730
	info@djupivogur.is
	www.djupivogur.is
	Open all year



Gym, sauna and a newly built indoor swimming pool with hot tubs, and a small pool for children.

Opening hours:

Summer (1 June-31 August):

Mon-Fri 7:00-20:30; Sat-Sun 10:00-18:00.

Winter (1 Sept-31 May):

Mon-Fri 7:00-12:00; 13:00-20:30; Sat 11:00-15:00.

## Berunes - Youth hostel



	Berunes, 765 Djúpivogur region
	(+354) 478-8988 / 869-7227
	berunes@hostel.is
	www.berunes.is
	Open 1.4.-1.11.



Berunes is a farm, ideally located at a 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, two other newer houses and three self catering cottages. All together 55 beds. A restaurant is open in Berunes in June, July and August but during other months we offer breakfast on request.

### Further options for accommodation

#### Havari - Guesthouse

Karlsstaðir, Berufjörður; (+354) 663 5520, [www.havari.is](http://www.havari.is)

See [www.djupivogur.is](http://www.djupivogur.is) for further options for dining, accommodation, campsites, recreation, shops, boat tours, arts and crafts and more.

DJÚPAVOGSHREPPUR IS A PROUD MEMBER OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL CITTASLOW NETWORK #easticeland



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**Enjoy your stay!**

