


ICELAND FJORDS IN WINTER


North West Iceland aboard the sailboat La Louise




Do you know Cape Horn? The one in the North at the tip of North West Iceland... Inaccessible in winter except by boat, enabling exploration in this vast space at the end of the world. Our floating refuge La Louise lends itself to this adventure to discover the Horstrandir fjords in all their majesty. On land a pair of snowshoes allows us to explore these virgin territory... hopping between fjords where our schooner awaits with the promise of an excellent warm meal and a comfortable evening!

 9 days

 Guided / with a guide

 With or without baggage transport

 Accommodation : Classic (dormitory)

 Level : ***

 From : 2310€

You will like

- A winter trip into the Arctic Circle and perhaps the last northern lights
- A week aboard a 20m schooner sailboat
- Exploring the wilderness on snowshoes in the atmosphere of the far North
- Whale and wildlife watching
- Wildlife watching, polar fox, wild swans, seals...
- The excellent cooking aboard
- Themed film evenings to get to know this exceptional environment better!

The route

Day 1

FLIGHT TO REYKJAVIK

Meeting point at the hotel in Reykjavik. Flybus transfer from the airport to the hotel

Depending on the time of arrival it is possible to take advantage of the multiple activities offered by this pretty small northern capital. Dinner in a restaurant of your choice (*not included). Night B&B in hotel or hostel.

Day 2

REYKJAVIK - ISAFJORDUR

Domestic flight from Reykjavik to the small town of Isafjordur, visit the town and transfer to Isafjordur harbour to embark aboard the beautiful schooner La Louise. Briefing on the boat of life aboard and safety rules. At the end of the afternoon set sail for Kumla Bay for the first night at anchor with a possible stop for fishing to catch a couple of fresh cod!

Day 3

From Day 3 to Day 7 the weather and wind conditions determine the program.

The itinerary is established according to the latest information available, the possibility of unknown factors affecting this itinerary is possible including situations beyond our control which may change the route, timings etc.

In this fjord region there are always coves downwind protected from the swell.

In the more protected Southeastern region we can consider heading for Cape Horn at the end of the Hornstrandir lands.

Depart from Kumla and sail to Midvik. Day hike. Night in Midvik, then crossing to the Horn. Half day hike. Overnight in Cape Horn Bay. Day hike. Overnight in Cape Horn bay and then sail to Rekavik, a wide cove with a sandy cordon which draws a large lake. Day hike. Overnight in Rekavik. Sail back to Isafjordur. Possibility of a half day hike or a stop at a fishing spot. Last night on the boat in the port of Isafjordur.

In the northern region we will favour the deep fjords in the interior of the Hornstrandir.

Depart from Kumla and sail to Dynjandi Bay. Day hike.

Overnight in Dynjandi Bay. Day hike and sail to Veidiley.

Overnight in Veidiley. Hike to Hafnarfjall, the highest point of the tour at 675m. Panorama over Hornstrandir.

Overnight at Veidiley's former whaling station.

Day hike to the Hesteyri fjord where La Louise awaits us. Overnight in Hesteyri. Return sail to Isafjordur with a stop at a fishing spot. Last night on the boat in Isafjordur harbour.

Day 4

Snowshoeing alone in the world!

Day 5

Snowshoeing alone in the world!

Day 6

Snowshoeing alone in the world!

Day 7

Snowshoeing alone in the world!

Day 8

ISAFJORDUR - REYKJAVIK

Domestic flight to Reykjavik from Isafjordur. There is still time to explore Reykjavik, visit the marine museum, go to the hot baths or even rent a car to visit the geothermal site and natural hot springs at the Blue Lagoon. Dinner in a restaurant of your choice (*not included). Night B&B in hotel or hostel.

Day 9

FLIGHT FROM REYKJAVIK

End point in the morning at the hotel in Reykjavik. Flybus transfer to the airport from the hotel.

Breakfast and transfer to the airport for return flight.

The trip

LEVEL **

Type of trek: Suitable for experienced hikers used to walking in snowshoes. The program is subject to change and adaptable depending on weather conditions and the ability of the group. The beauty of this tour is the large virgin spaces available offering multiple hiking possibilities. A good physical condition is required to be able to optimise these exceptional hikes. Crossing from one fjord to another assumes good physical strength to cope with a possible change in weather.

GUIDING

Number in a group between 5 and 8 people supervised by a qualified professional winter mountain leader, specialist in snow and avalanches.

ACCOMMODATION

6 nights in a 2 berth cabin Simple yet comfortable accommodation with one berth per person, shower and toilet at the front of the boat. A large convivial saloon with music, books and board games. Life aboard a boat in the polar zone involves many adaptations. Water and energy must be greatly economised because they are difficult to produce. Water aboard is most often desalinated and the energy comes from motors recharging batteries in limited quantities. This involves for example, taking turns in the shower or to recharge your camera! La Louise is a boat entirely thought out and built by Thierry Dubois a former offshore racer. Six years of construction to create a superb boat equipped for polar cruising and whose spacious saloon you will appreciate. The deck is generous and the cockpit fully covered making it a very pleasant boat at sea.

MEALS

Meals are all served aboard. A hearty breakfast including fresh baked braed is served before the days walk, afternoon tea awaits on return and varied lovingly prepared dinners are served at 9:00pm including local meats, fish and homemade desserts.

*Picnics are not included so please bring some cereal bars, dried fruit etc. of your choice for during the hike.

EVENINGS ABOARD

After a beautiful day ashore, back on board in the warmth of our refuge sailboat. Following our afternoon tea of hot soup and a snack everyone goes about their business... taking turns for the shower, sorting photos etc... It is often at this time that our sailboat heads for the next anchorage. Night is falling and it is at this point of the day a good time to observe the northern lights.

This year we are offering each evening a documentary preview with different themes:

- History of the exploration of arctic areas and the conquest of the North Pole.
- Short films and workshops on survival in extreme areas, traditional techniques and evolution.
- Video conference on Iceland, geology, gastronomy, witchcraft and sagas.
- Vendée Globe: documentary video and captain's anecdotes.
- A feature film about Greenland.

Practical information

ACCESS TO DEPARTURE POINT

Meeting point Day 1 at the hotel in Reykjavik. Taxi transfer to the harbour.

ACCOMMODATION BEFORE AND AFTER

For your comfort and serenity during the return journey to Iceland we will send you a detailed file of transfers and accommodation during your transit in Reykjavik.

End point in the morning of Day 9 at the hotel in Reykjavik.

INSURANCE

In accordance with regulations, we are covered by Professional Liability Insurance. In no case can we be responsible for your own Personal Liability. If you chose to take out repatriation insurance with EUROP ASSISTANCE whom we propose, Altitude Mont Blanc will only serve as an intermediary between the client and the insurer. We cannot influence either party. We adhere to strict conditions of sale. You are responsible for compliance with the reporting procedures of any incident.

Before making any decision, contact EUROP ASSISTANCE.

CONTACT US

If you are late please contact the agency as soon as possible: **+33 (0)4 50 79 09 16** or **+33 (0)6 42 49 76 07**

Dates & prices

9 days and 8 nights on board The Louise from 2310€ per person

Prices are *excluding flights

Dates depending on availability, please contact us.

THE PRICE

The price includes:

- Organisation and booking fees, guiding by a qualified and insured mountain leader;
- Snowshoes and safety equipment (transceiver, shovel and probe)
- 6 nights accommodation aboard La Louise boat;
- All meals aboard, breakfast, afternoon tea and dinner;
- 2 nights B&B in Reykjavik;
- Taxi transfer between Isafjordur airport and the harbour.

The price does not include:

- Personal expenses (drinks, etc.);
- Picnics are not included so please bring some cereal bars, dried fruit etc. of your choice for during the hike;
- Dinner Day 1 and 8;
- Touristic visits;
- Airport taxes;
- Cancellation insurance;
- Your return journey from home to departure/end point, international flight to Reykjavik and domestic flights Reykjavik - Isafjordur
- Return bus transfer to the hotel in Reykjavik (approx 36€).

The price is all inclusive from departure to end point.

Equipment and baggage

EQUIPMENT LIST

Material for snowshoeing (snowshoes and poles) is provided. However, if you have your own equipment and would like to use it you are free to do so. Avalanche safety equipment is also provided (transceiver, shovel and probe).

Clothing

- Waterproof ski or winter walking trousers
- Wind stopper or Goretex jacket
- Breathable or merino wool t-shirts
- Breathable or merino wool leggings
- Fleece or jumper
- Insulating down jacket
- 2 pairs of ski gloves and a warm hat
- Walking socks (1 pair per day)
- Sturdy waterproof walking boots
- Boat shoes

Other Equipment

- Rucksack minimum 40 litre capacity
- Sunglasses and ski mask
- Sun cream
- Water bottle and Camelback (1.5 litre minimum)
- Knife and spoon
- Plastic lunch box/plate for your picnic lunches
- Plastic cup for coffee
- Small First Aid kit (antihistamine, ibuprofen, Compeed type blister pads...)
- Survival blanket
- Identity card or passport

BACKPACK

Bring a comfortable backpack of minimum 40 litres for your avalanche safety equipment (transceiver, shovel and probe), personal belongings for the day (warm clothes, water, plate and cutlery for your picnic, sunscreen and your identity papers) and please keep a little room to carry snacks.

HOW TO REGISTER

- By internet: www.altitude-montblanc.com
- By phone: +33 (0)4 50 79 09 16
- By post: Please provide your contact details
 - Surname, First Name, Date of birth
 - Address
 - Email
 - Telephone
 - Mobile phone

If you wish to register by post, please complete the form below and return it to:

Altitude Mont-Blanc
180, route du lac
74110 MONTRIOND
FRANCE

Please specify whether you wish to take out an optional cancellation insurance (4.2% of the tour price).

On receipt of your registration we will email an invoice (per couple) with a request for a deposit of 30% in association with your account details at Altitude Mont-Blanc ('My Account'). Payment can be made by credit card, bank transfer or by cheque. On receipt of your deposit you will receive a registration confirmation.
The balance must be paid one month prior departure without a reminder from us.
For self-guided tours, we will then send your tour pack (includes maps, descriptive book, etc.).

Our terms and conditions of sale can be found on our website.

Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.



Registration by mail form

Last name:

PRENOM:

Date of birth:

Address:

Phone number:

Mobile phone number:

Email address:

SEJOUR DEMANDE:

Number of days:

Insurance:

Price:

x 30% =

Deposit

Locality where signed:

Date

Signature:

Return with your deposit to:

Altitude Mont-Blanc, 62 Passage du Nant Devant, 74110 Montriond, FRANCE