

Travel with The Met

September 6–14, 2017

Fire & Ice: Iceland Nature
With Pari Stave

THE
MET



Fire & Ice: Iceland Natura

Dear Members and Friends of The Metropolitan Museum of Art,

Forged from lava and shaped by glaciers, Iceland is, quite literally, a land of fire and ice—one of the youngest and most geologically dynamic places on earth, with a phenomenal landscape of volcanoes, glaciers, geysers, and waterfalls. Iceland is also rich in culture, from its medieval literary history to its vibrant contemporary art scene. In September, when temperatures in Iceland are mild and the aurora borealis is often visible, I invite you to join me on a specially designed tour of Iceland's extraordinary nature and culture.

As an art historian with expertise in Icelandic art, last year I served as a lecturer for The Met's inaugural "Iceland Natura" program. The trip is designed to offer an experience of Iceland's natural environment, its innovative approaches to environmental sustainability, and its literature, music, and visual art. I'm thrilled to return to Iceland this year and look forward to introducing travelers to scholars, artist friends, and museum colleagues along the way.

Our itinerary features visits to museums and artist studios, and walking tours of architecture and public art. We will experience lava fields, glacial moraines, black sand beaches, geothermal pools, majestic waterfalls, and UNESCO World Heritage sites. Come sample Iceland's approach to new Nordic cuisine and stay in the countryside at the beautifully situated Ion Hotel and Ranga Hotel, and also in lively downtown Reykjavik.

I hope you will join me on this extraordinary adventure to discover the pristine natural beauty and unique cultural life of Iceland.

Sincerely,

Pari Stave

Senior Administrator in the Department of Modern and Contemporary Art
The Metropolitan Museum of Art



Traveling with you

Pari Stave

Senior Administrator in the Department of Modern and Contemporary Art at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Pari Stave served as Consulting Curator to the American-Scandinavian Foundation from 2011 to 2013, and was previously Director of the AXA Gallery in New York. A regular traveler to Iceland with a passion for Scandinavian art, Stave recently organized the exhibitions: *Munch/Warhol and the Multiple Image*; *Saga-Sites: Landscapes of the Icelandic Sagas*; *Iceland: Artists Respond to Place*; and *New Wave Finland: Contemporary Photography from the Helsinki School*.



Trip Highlights

- Stay at luxurious and remote properties ideally situated for viewing the Northern Lights (please note that viewing conditions are dependent on weather and not guaranteed)
- Explore UNESCO-designated Thingvellir National Park, where the world's first parliament gathered over a thousand years ago
- Marvel at Gullfoss, a magnificent double waterfall that is one of the largest in Europe
- View a site-specific installation by Richard Serra
- Visit the National Museum of Iceland on a before-hours curatorial tour
- Enjoy a relaxing morning at the world-renowned Blue Lagoon Geothermal Spa Resort



Reykjavik, photo by Spegln Sumarnott (top); Blue Lagoon, photo by Gloria De Luca (above)



Photos clockwise from top right: Einar Jónsson sculpture garden, photo by Vintage Lulu; Hallgrímskirkja, photo by Günther Staffen; regional map; Harpa, photo by Luís Henrique de Moraes Boucault; Thórsmörk, photo by Bruno; Northern Lights, photo by Arnar Bergur Guðjónsson. Front cover: Icelandic waterfall.

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Icelandic horses, photo by Ian Humes

U.S. Departure

Wednesday, September 6

Depart on an overnight flight to Reykjavík.

Keflavik (Reykjavík) / Thingvellir

Thursday, September 7

Upon arrival this morning at Reykjavík's Keflavík Airport, meet our Icelandic guide. After a group breakfast, stop at the Hellisheidi Geothermal Power Plant, north of Reykjavík. Enjoy a brief tour of this clean, green source of energy. Continue to the ION Hotel, overlooking Lake Thingvallavatn. The afternoon is at leisure. This evening Pari Stave will give a first talk at the hotel, followed by a welcome dinner. The ION Hotel features a fresh, farm-to-table approach to modern Nordic cuisine. Tonight we have our first chance to see the Northern Lights. B, L, D

Thingvellir National Park

Friday, September 8

See spectacular Gullfoss, one of the most powerful waterfalls in Europe. Depart for Fridheimar Greenhouse. Famous for their tasty tomatoes, the brightly illuminated greenhouses are heated by geothermal energy. At the Fridheimer horse farm, enjoy a demonstration explaining the history and origins of the Icelandic horse, followed by lunch in the greenhouses. Visit Thingvellir

National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This volcanic valley is where the Althing, an open-air assembly and the world's oldest parliament still in existence, was established in 930 A.D. In the evening, return to the hotel for a talk and dinner. B, L, D

Thingvellir / South Coast

Saturday, September 9

Following a morning lecture, discover historic Skálholt Church, which was for centuries one of the most important seats of culture in Iceland. After lunch, visit the Secret Lagoon, one of the country's oldest natural hot springs, to enjoy this beautiful natural setting or take a dip in the geothermal pool. Lunch is in a local restaurant. Continue to the Hotel Ranga near Hella on the south coast—an area famous for viewing the Northern Lights. Dinner is at the hotel. B, L, D

Thórsmörk

Sunday, September 10

Today visit Thórsmörk, the "Valley of the Gods" by jeep. Following a barbecue lunch, return to the Hotel Ranga for an afternoon at leisure before dinner at the hotel. The evening is open for sky watching. B, L, D

South Shore

Monday, September 11

Explore the black sand beaches at the base of the Eyjafjallajökull volcano, which last erupted in 2010, and discover Sólheimajökull Glacier, where you can walk behind one of its waterfalls. Following lunch, continue to Reykjavík and check in at the deluxe Canopy Hotel. B, L, D

Reykjavík

Tuesday, September 12

This morning visit Reykjavík's fine art galleries and meet local artists in their studios. On an architectural walking tour of Reykjavík, see Hallgrímskirkja (Hallgrims Church), the Einar Jónsson sculpture garden, and Harpa, Reykjavík's concert hall and culture center, where we have a behind-the-scenes tour. Take a short boat trip to Videy Island to view an art installation by Richard Serra called *Afanger* (Standing Stones), named for a celebrated Icelandic poem. Enjoy lunch on the island. Return to Reykjavík for an evening at leisure. B, L

Reykjavík

Wednesday, September 13

Before it is open to the public, visit the National Museum of Iceland for a curatorial tour. Continue to the National Gallery and its collection of 19th- and 20th-century art. Lunch is at leisure. This evening celebrate with a farewell dinner at one of Reykjavík's finest restaurants. With local artists, dine on a menu of Icelandic specialties. B, D

Reykjavík / U.S. Return

Thursday, September 14

Following a morning at leisure, visit the Blue Lagoon Geothermal Spa Resort for a chance to relax and refresh before continuing to the airport for flights home. B, L

This proposed itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.

More Travels with The Met

Discovering the Caucasus: Armenia, Georgia & Azerbaijan May 22–June 2, 2017

Waterways of the Tsars: Moscow to St. Petersburg Aboard *Volga Dream* June 8–17, 2017

The Majestic Rhine: Amsterdam to Basel Aboard *AmaKristina* June 9–17, 2017

Sailing the Baltic's Amber Coast Aboard *Sea Cloud II* July 19–30, 2017

For details please go to metmuseum.org/travel

Accommodations



ION Hotel, Nesjavellir

With floor-to-ceiling windows and a geothermal spa, there's no bad place to view the night sky at the ION Luxury Hotel. Guests may enjoy the Silfra Restaurant, noted for its modern Nordic cuisine, and Northern Lights Bar. Beautifully set overlooking Iceland's largest lake, the hotel recently was granted the Boutique Hotel Award in sustainability.



Hotel Ranga, Hella

Built in a luxurious rustic log-cabin style along the banks of the Eystri Rangá River, this understated resort is set in the countryside with views of Hekla volcano. Amenities include popular outdoor hot tubs heated with geothermal water, a restaurant known for its farm-fresh approach, a game room, and massage facilities.



Canopy Hotel, Reykjavík

A newly built hotel occupying five townhouses, the modern-style Canopy Hotel is in the heart of Reykjavík near the Laugavegur, the main shopping street. The hotel offers a restaurant and bar with expert chefs and locally inspired and sourced menus, and a 24-hour fitness center.

Program Rate

\$9,995 per person double occupancy

\$995 single supplement

Rate Includes

- Seven nights hotel accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner); bottled water, local beer and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine at dinners
- Airport/hotel/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation and entrance fees for all included visits
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers
- Taxes, service charges, and portage

Not included in rate

International airfare; passport and visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than as noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.



Skálholt, photo by Kathleen Bennett Brennan

Iceland Natura: September 6–14, 2017 Reservation Form

To secure your reservation, please call Academic Arrangements Abroad at 844-TRVLMET (844-878-5638); or complete this form and return it with your deposit of \$1,000 (of which \$350 is non-refundable for administrative fees), to be paid by debit card, credit card, wire transfer, or check payable to *Academic Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Academic Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd Floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City State Zip

Telephone (home) (business)

Fax Email

Accommodations

Hotel room preference One bed Two beds Single (at a supplement of \$995)

I wish to share a room with _____

Form of Payment

Enclosed is my check (payable to *Academic Arrangements Abroad*) Debit card Credit card

Name on debit/credit card

Debit/credit card number

3- or 4- digit security code

Expiration date

Each participant must sign below. I/We have read, understand and agree to the Terms & Conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms and detailed in forthcoming program documents. I/We agree to full payment 120 days prior to departure.

Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date