



Highlands / South Coast

Dates: 31st August – 7th September 2021.

Itinerary

Overview:

This workshop is covering some of the best parts in the Icelandic interior like Landmannalaugar (above) and the southern part of the highlands which holds the green pointy mountain Mælifell. On top of that we have included the South Coast which holds by far many of Iceland's most picturesque locations like Vik and the surrounding area, black sandy beaches, majestic waterfalls and more.

This time of year also marks the beginning of the Aurora season and we will be hunting them whenever the conditions will be favourable.

Since the weather can be changeable in Iceland we always take it into account when we decide which location to shoot at any given time.

In early September we have sunrise around 5:30 am and sunset around 8:30 pm so the days are long and wherever possible we'll have a rest break around midday for feedback and post processing.

Summary

Included in the tour price:

- Accommodation and breakfast (all rooms have a private bathroom)
Single supplement will add \$800 USD
- All photography tuition and mentoring
- Transport during the tour and entry fees to national parks and other locations.
- Welcome dinner
- Breakfast daily

Not included in the tour price:

- Travel and equipment insurance
- Beverages
- Meals (other than breakfast)
- Visas
- International travel to and from Iceland
- Overweight and additional baggage

Price: USD \$4250 (based on double occupancy)

Deposit: USD \$1000

Number of participants: 10 Max



Day 1. (31st August)

Arrival day. When you arrive in Iceland at Keflavik International Airport we recommend you take the Flybus service, which will take you quickly to your hotel in Reykjavik: [Fosshotel Reykjavik](#). The Flybus service from the airport is the most cost effective way to get to the hotel. Taxis are also available. We will meet at the Hotel Bar at 6.00 pm and go for a welcome dinner where we can get to know each other and have a chat about what we'll be doing during the coming 6 days.

Overnight in Reykjavik.

Day 2-3-4. (1st September to 4th September)



We leave Reykjavik early and head towards the highlands. Hotel Hrauneyjar will be our base camp for the time we spend up there.

From there we will be travelling to several locations in the highlands, and as always we base our decision on the weather forecast and conditions each time.

The destination on this leg of the tour is the unspoiled highland nature. This is an exceptional place for photography where we encounter lava fields, jet black volcanic sands stretching for miles, mountains covered with bright green moss and colourful craters filled with water.

The highland is covered in geothermal hotspots and previous volcanic activity is often evident, a tell tale sign of the gigantic forces at work, some a few hundred years ago and others only decades old.

The best known location in the highlands is probably **Landmannalaugar** where we will photograph colourful rhyolite mountains.

This place is like nothing else you've seen before.

In Landmannalaugar we have the option of several short hikes, like into the canyon Grænagil (green canyon) or even hike up to Brennisteinsalda which is a Sulphur mountain/hill. Also there are good photo opportunities right from the parking area.

On the 4th of September we go for a sunrise shoot before we check out of our hotel in the highlands and head down to the south coast.

Overnight in highland area.

Highlights:

- Háifoss (above)
- Landmannalaugar
- Hnausapollur
- Ljótípollur
- Sigöldugljúfur
- Þjófafoss
- Rauðufossar
- Hekla

Along with less visited locations.

Day 5-6. (5th-6th September)



Not only will we cover some of the most popular locations but we also have a few hand picked lesser known locations we want to bring you to.

We will be staying here for 2 nights and one of the days we plan to go up to the southern part of the Icelandic highlands where we plan to photograph for example the famous Mt. Mælifell which is kind of like Kirkjufell of the highlands due to it's cone shaped form.

Where we go exactly will depend on weather conditions.

Highlights:

- Dyrhólaey
- Reynisdrangar
- Vík area
- Majestic waterfalls like Skógafoss and Seljalandsfoss
- Mælifell (Green Point Mountain)

While located in the south of Iceland we'll also make our way to the interior of the southern part of Icelandic highlands which holds green lush canyons and less visited locations.
Overnight in Vík area.

Day 7. (6th September)

We'll shoot sunrise before heading for breakfast and check out. This is our last day on the road and depending on the conditions we might visit the famous Golden Circle or head to Reykjanes peninsula before we go and check into our hotel in the afternoon.
Overnight in Reykjavík.

Day 8. Departure day. (7th September)

All good things have to come to an end and so must this adventure. With memory cards full of great images it's time to leave, but the memories will last a lifetime.
Say goodbye to the land of fire and ice, or if you want to extend your stay and seek more adventures it's up to you.
Again we do recommend using the Fly bus to get to Keflavík international airport.

To reserve a place we request a \$1000 USD non-refundable deposit* or payment in full. Final payment on deposits must be made on or before 1st June 2020.

*** Deposits will be refunded in full if we do not meet our minimum of 8 participants by 1st June 2020. Please DO NOT book flights before we confirm by email.**

Training and Skill Level:

All levels of photographers are welcome. We have had everyone from complete beginners to some very advanced photographers with us on this tour. At each location direction will be given to help you get the best from that location and instructions on how to assemble and think your images through, one step at a time.

By booking this photography course workshop you are agreeing to the terms and conditions at the end of this document. Please read them.

Important Information:

Flights to Iceland:

Please do not make travel arrangements to Iceland until we confirm we have the minimum number of participants for the workshop to take place. We will confirm as soon as we have 8 deposits paid. If we do not have 8 participants by the booking deadline 1st June 2020 and the course is cancelled, we will notify by email and refund you in full.

Visas:

As far as we know, visas are not required to visit Iceland but PLEASE CHECK because things can change and we don't want anyone to be disappointed. Visas are not included and it's the responsibility of participants to find out if they need a visa and obtain one if you do.

Passport:

You will need a valid passport for the duration of your intended stay in Iceland.

Insurance:

It is the responsibility of participants to arrange their own Travel and Equipment insurance for the trip. Neither Travel nor Equipment insurance is included in the price. Please see terms and conditions below for details.

Fitness:

The workshop will involve a few short hikes of maybe 20-30 minutes carrying your camera equipment. You may need to climb a hill for the best vantage point.

Surfaces may include sand or rocky ground so a small level of fitness is recommended.

Weather / Temperature:

Weather conditions in Iceland can change from sunshine to rainstorm in a few minutes (perfect for dramatic skies). Average temperature in Sept is around 10° centigrade but it can range from +3° to +15° centigrade and be very windy so chill factors can make it feel a lot colder.

Clothing:

We will be spending **a lot of time outside** in the elements waiting for light to change or photographing the Aurora. You won't enjoy the experience if you're cold and with wind chill there are potential health risks as well. It's very important to bring warm rugged clothing including...

- Thermal underwear, socks and gloves.
- Sturdy waterproof hiking boots. (Light shoes will not be sufficient to keep your feet warm and dry)
- Over shoes or gore-tex waders are good to have when we are shooting at the beaches.
- Waterproof jacket and over trousers
- Scarf and woolly hat.
- A change of clothes is important so you always have at least one set that's warm and dry.

Money and Credit Cards:

Local currency is the Icelandic Krona and it's worth bringing some with you. Krona may need to be ordered in advance from banks and post offices. Credit cards are widely accepted throughout Iceland. Some card providers charge more for international transactions than others so please check with yours if you need to.

Budget around 85\$ USD per day for food, snacks and souvenirs.

Transport between the Airport and Hotel

The [FlyBus Service](#) is located right outside the terminal building. Cost is around 50\$ USD each way. Book online using the FlyBus + (Plus) service which will drop you off at the Fosshótel Reykjavik. You can book a round trip to take you back to the airport after the tour.

Book FlyBus Online:

1. Visit <http://www.re.is/flybus>
2. Choose the **FlyBus+** service which will ask you which hotel you want to go to
3. Pay online

Taxis are also available if you prefer.

 From Reykjavik International Airport (KEF) To Reykjavik BSÍ Bus terminal or vice versa.  From 1.950 ISK	 From Reykjavik International Airport (KEF) To Your hotel, Reykjavik Domestic Airport or vice versa.  From 2.500 ISK
--	---

Hotels:

We will be travelling to some remote areas but facilities are excellent and of a very high standard. All are clean, secure, have excellent food and friendly helpful staff.

Food:

Important parts of Icelandic cuisine are lamb, dairy and fish due to Iceland's proximity to the ocean. Produce is usually local and of very high quality.

If you fancy trying some traditional Icelandic fare Hangikjöt (Smoked Lamb) is delicious – whilst Hákarl (Fermented Shark) is an acquired taste.

Vegetarians can usually be catered for, but please bear in mind the range of vegetarian cuisine may be limited outside of the city.

Photography Equipment:

You will need the following equipment.

- **A Strong Sturdy Tripod is Vital**. Lightweight carbon fibre is OK - but it **MUST BE STURDY** so it won't wobble and you can hang your heavy camera bag on it to add weight. A plastic tripod head is useless. Please ensure you have a strong, solid head which does not vibrate when your camera and lens is mounted on it. Iceland is a windy place and you'll be making long, slow exposures and your images will all be soft and useless if there's even the slightest movement in your tripod or tripod head during the exposure. There is not time for us to visit a store during the workshop and once we leave Reykjavik, there aren't any.
- Digital SLR (recommended) or mirrorless camera system
- Lenses offering a focal length from wide (24mm or wider) to telephoto (70 - 200mm or longer)
- Laptop computer loaded with photo editing software. Shooting RAW is advised for the Aurora so Adobe Lightroom is a good option for processing the files.
- We strongly recommend a back-up device such as an external hard drive.
- Filters: A polarising filter makes a world of difference for landscapes
- ND filters x4, x8 x10 will help you capture blurred water and clouds.
- *Spare batteries (2 or 3), battery charger and travel adapter
- Sufficient memory cards
- Camera bag, preferably a backpack type
- Rain sleeve and several lens cloths

*Spare batteries are very important because you don't want the camera to die just as the Aurora makes an appearance or the perfect light breaks through the clouds.

Camera batteries have a shorter charge life in cold weather so keep spare batteries in a pocket near your skin so they stay warm which will prolong their charge.

This is particularly important if you have a mirrorless camera or use live view a lot which uses more power.

We look forward to meeting you...

Terms and Conditions – please read.

• Mike Browne of Picture This (Imaging) Ltd (MBPT) and Thorarinn Jonsson of Thor Photography (TJP) shall not be held liable for (A) any damage to, or loss of, property or injury to, or death of, persons occasioned directly or indirectly by an act or omission of any other provider, including but not limited to any defect in any aircraft, watercraft, or vehicle operated or provided by such other provider; and (B) any loss or damage due to delay, cancellation, or disruption in any manner caused by the laws, regulations, acts or failures to act, demands, orders, or interpositions of any government or any subdivision or agent thereof, or by acts of God, strikes, fire, flood, war, rebellion, terrorism, insurrection, sickness, quarantine, epidemics, theft, or any other cause(s) beyond their control. The participant waives any claim against AA for any such loss, damage, injury, or death. • By registering for a MBPT / TJP course, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical, or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants. MBPT / TJP and its designated tour operator reserve the right in their sole discretion to accept, decline to accept, or remove any participant on a MBPT / TJP expedition. MBPT / TJP reserve the right, without penalty, to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their judgment, conditions warrant, or if they deem it necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of participants.

• MBPT / TJP shall not be liable for any air carrier's cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable ticket to or from the participant's departure city. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant.

• Basis of rates: All prices and fares are quoted in US \$. The rates are based on current tariffs and are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, if it is necessary to levy a surcharge, we reserve the right to do so, and notification will be given at the time of final invoicing.

• Included in expedition cost: Accommodation and breakfast as indicated in the itinerary. Pre-departure information; entrance fees, excursions, and tuition noted as included in the itinerary.

• Not included: Air transportation and related fees (except as indicated in the itinerary); activities noted as optional in the itinerary; gratuities for hotel staff; guides unless otherwise noted on the itinerary page; passport and visa expenses; baggage / accident / cancellation insurance; personal expenses, such as laundry, telephone calls, and alcoholic beverages; and any other items not specially noted as included.

• Single/ shared accommodations: A limited number of single rooms may be available at an extra cost (single supplement charge) on a first-come, first-served basis. In most cases double or twin rooms are available and single occupancy incurs the single supplement charge.

• Payments, cancellations, and refunds: To reserve space on MBPT / TJP destination training courses a 50% non-refundable deposit and final payment due on or before the booking deadline prior to course commencement date, or advance payment in full must be made prior to the booking deadline. MBPT / TJP reserve the right to cancel any trip because of inadequate enrolment that makes the trip economically infeasible to operate or because of good-faith concerns with respect to the safety, health, or welfare of the participants. If a course is cancelled by MBPT / TJP after the booking deadline confirmation has been sent

and prior to departure, we shall provide you with a full refund of monies paid to MBPT / TJP; except in the event cancellation is due to a significant event or Force Majeure that makes it infeasible to operate the expedition as planned such as natural disaster, war or other state of emergency.

If you cancel your participation prior to the booking deadline you will be refunded in full. If you cancel your participation after the booking deadline you will not be refunded unless a replacement participant is found before the start of the course / workshop.

In the event of trip cancellation, we will not be responsible for any refund for non-refundable airline tickets or for any airline tickets purchased by the passenger directly from an airline or travel agent. Please do not book travel to Iceland until we confirm the course / workshop. It is your responsibility to buy travel insurance at this time.

- Trip cancellation and equipment insurance is strongly recommended as is your own personal travel insurance. MBPT / TJP accept no responsibility for this type of cover.
- Itinerary changes: The itineraries and staff presented in this brochure are subject to modification and change by MBPT / TJP. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate programmes as planned, but alterations may still occur after final itineraries are sent.
- Health requirements: You must be in good physical and mental health. Any physical condition, diet, or treatment requiring special attention must be reported in writing when the reservation is made.
- Photography: MBPT / TJP reserve the right to take photographs or videos during the operation of any expedition or part thereof and to use the resulting photography for promotional purposes. By making a reservation with MBPT / TJP expeditions, participants agree to allow their images to be used in such photography; participants who prefer that their image not be used are asked to identify themselves to MBPT / TJP at the commencement of their trip.
- Other: Additional terms and conditions may apply to some expeditions and will be provided with pre-trip mailings.

By registering for a MBPT / TJP expedition, workshop, course, the participant agrees to the responsibility statement and the terms and conditions herein.