

WHAT TO PACK FOR ICELAND

WALKING BOOTS

It's really important that these are broken in, so if you do buy a new pair, make sure you wear them a bit before you travel, to avoid giving yourself a painful blister on tour! You'll probably visit a waterfall, perhaps need to walk in snow or ice, or encounter some other equally slippery terrain, so make sure you pick some boots with a good tread!



WALKING SOCKS

It's important to keep your feet warm, dry and comfortable. Trust us, you'll want to pack several pairs of suitable socks!



GLOVES, SCARF AND A WOOLLY HAT

We probably don't need to point this out, but it can get pretty cold in Iceland and the wind chill factor can turn a previously mild day into a freezing one. Gloves, a scarf and a woolly hat should be carried with you at all times, to help you stay warm.



WARM LAYERS

Really, when you travel to Iceland, the key is to think 'layers'. So, take a warm jacket or fleece, sweaters and jumpers and even vests and thermals.



T-SHIRTS, TROUSERS AND SHORTS

OK, the shorts are really only worth taking if you're travelling during the summer. But t-shirts are handy for when you reach somewhere a bit warmer and want to peel all those layers off!



UNDERWEAR

You're probably thinking this is one we don't need to remind you about. But, y'know, it is pretty important. And you may even want to consider bringing some thermal underwear, depending on the time of year.



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TRAINERS

It's a good idea to pack a pair of shoes that you can change into once you're back in the city, to give your walking boots time to air and dry out. After a packed day, you'll want to make sure you have comfortable footwear.



SWIMMING COSTUME/ TRUNKS

Almost all our groups choose to stop off at the Blue Lagoon. Even if you choose not to, the many swimming pools and geothermal waters are bound to tempt you in at some point, so make sure you pack some swimwear! Trust us, you'll want to pack several pairs of suitable socks!



WATERPROOF JACKET AND OVER-TROUSERS

Unfortunately, it does tend to rain quite a bit in Iceland (but hey, we're used to it, right?), so you will definitely need to take a waterproof jacket and over-trousers with you. Plus, as it can get really windy, umbrellas can quickly become pretty useless here, so waterproofs are definitely the better option!



SUNGLASSES AND SUNSCREEN

It can also get quite sunny, so you'll need to pack your sunglasses (plus, everyone looks cool in sunglasses), and high factor sun tan lotion. Remember, just because it's not boiling hot, doesn't mean that you can't get burnt, so make sure you protect yourself!



CAMERA, PHONE, CHARGER AND MEMORY CARDS

There's no way you can go somewhere as naturally beautiful as Iceland and not take loads of pictures. So, of course, you're going to want to take your camera (or maybe your mobile, depending on your school's policy on this). But don't forget the charger. And any additional memory you might need (trust us – you'll take loads of pictures!).



TWO PIN EUROPEAN PLUG ADAPTOR(S)

If you're taking any electrical equipment from home (such as phone/camera chargers), you'll need an adaptor. Especially if your phone battery is as rubbish as ours...!



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NOTEBOOK & PENS/ PENCILS



There's so much to see in Iceland, that as well as taking pictures, you may want to note down a few things too. You could also encourage your students to write a trip diary – a great way to get them thinking about what they're seeing and a great tool in recruiting students for your next trip too!

DAY BAG WITH WATER BOTTLE



You'll need to carry a few things with you, including a water bottle, so a separate day bag is a good idea. A small rucksack or similar is ideal – handbags and satchels can be cumbersome when exploring waterfalls and the like.

WASH KIT



Again, we're sure we don't have to remind you to take your wash kit. But some things you might want to add include lip balm, moisturiser and hand/feet moisturiser. The harsh Icelandic weather can play havoc with your skin so, trust us, you'll be glad you packed these! You may also want to pack an eye mask if you're travelling during the Icelandic summer – the days are long, so these are essential for a good night's sleep.

MEDICATIONS AND GHIC/EHIC CARD

If you take any medication, please check and re-check that you've packed this, just in case you need anything late at night or, for some other reason, can't get to a pharmacy. You may also want to consider some midge repellent, mild pain relief, travel sickness medication, pocket tissues, hand sanitiser, plasters and wet wipes. Hopefully you won't need any of this, but it's well worth taking anyway. Plus, make sure you've all got your GHIC/EHIC cards!

PLASTIC BAGS



Some of your clothes and/or shoes may get wet or dirty. A couple of plastic bags will help you to keep these items separate from others (and makes that post-trip laundry load a lot easier when you get home!).

TOWELS



You may need to take your own towel, depending on your accommodation. Please check with your tour manager, who should be able to provide you with further information on this.