

The Ultimate Winter Itinerary for the Ring Road of Iceland

Important Things You Should Not Forget!

Your best friend during your winter road trip adventure will [be the Icelandic Road Administrations website](#) with its real-time updates about the road conditions. Take nothing less than a 4WD car and **never underestimate the warnings!** If the road ahead is marked red, it really means the road is impassable and might also be entirely closed. Don't ever risk your life and try driving through anyway.

If the road is red, your only option is to wait for the conditions to get better. The Road Administration keeps splendid care of the roads and even if the road is marked red the night before you'd have to drive it, don't despair. In the morning, it'll probably be passable again. This is what happened to us, more than once.



Days 1-2 Reykjavik

Spend a few days in Reykjavik, because this little, Northern capital offers excellent restaurants, shops, and bars to hang around in. Some of our favorites were [the Grillmarkadurinn](#) and [the Lebowski Bar](#). People are very friendly, and the town's general atmosphere is cozy. You can also get used to the harsh winds you'll be getting when you hit the road.

Day 3 The Golden Circle

Leave early for the road and go to see all the famous sights in the "Golden Circle" – Geysir, Strókkur, and the Gullfoss waterfall. The latter is magnificent when it's frozen, and it's also one of the Icelandic locations where they've filmed the famous HBO series, "Game of Thrones". Spend the night somewhere before Vik, if you're not able to drive that far. We overnighted in Eyvindarhólar in a little hotel which reminded me of the hotel in the legendary "Twin Peaks".

Days 4-5 The Black Sand Beach, Svínafellsjökull, and Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon

Drive to the Southernmost village of Iceland, Vik, to see the famous black sand beach and take haunting photos of the Reynarsdjargar (the Troll Fingers). Continue to the Skaftafell National Park and go for a glacier walk to Svínafellsjökull, which is an outlet glacier of the mighty Vatnajökull. You can't visit Iceland and not to go for a glacier walk! It's an experience you'll remember for a long time. Afterwards, drive to Hali to spend the night(s).

Next morning drive the short way from Hali to visit the Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon. If possible, you can go for a zodiac boat ride into the lagoon. During the winter that's not always possible, it's utterly dependable of the ice situation. But you can get gorgeous and surreal pictures from the shore, too! Below are some photographs we took.

Day 6 Seydisfjörður

Drive all the way up the Eastern side of Iceland to the town of Seydisfjörður. It's a little fisher town in the lap of a fjord. If you have time, you can visit some interesting sights on the way, but take note of the weather conditions. This is about 8 hrs drive (without many stops on the way)!

Day 7 Myvatn

Drive to Myvatn. On the way stop by for a swim in the best thermal baths of Iceland, the [Myvatn Nature Baths](#). Spend the night somewhere in the region of Myvatn.

Day 8 Dimmuborgir

Leave early and visit the strange volcanic rock formations, **the Dimmuborgir**. It may be a bit harder to wander around in winter when there are loads of snow, but if you're determined enough, it's totally possible to hike even the longest route around it. Just be prepared to wade in a thigh high snow and reserve enough time!

Also, don't go without a GPS device (your phone with a reliable GPS app will do), even though there are good route markers and signs. The markers can be buried in [snow like they were when we hiked all around it – without snowshoes](#). I recommend renting snowshoes, though. They'll make the hike a lot easier.

Other good sights around Myvatn are Hverfjall and a cave called Grjótagjá – both filming locations of the HBO series "Game Of Thrones." Drive to Akureyri in the Northern Iceland. If you have time, you can visit the waterfall of Godafoss on the way.

Day 9 Akureyri

Rest and wander around the biggest town in Northern Iceland, Akureyri. This is the Northern hub of Iceland and it has some great restaurants, as well as nearby are some great sights you can go to see. One good restaurant would be [Rub 23](#).

Day 10 Borgarnes

Borgarnes is going to be a long driving day from Akureyri in the North, all the way down the Western side as far as you can. We stayed the night near Borgarnes and in the evening we saw some fabulous Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) in the night skies.

Day 11 Back to Reykjavik

Drive back to Reykjavik to catch your flight home! Or stay one extra night and celebrate your "impossible" task completed – you drove around Iceland in just 11 days, in winter.

Have you made this road trip in winter? How was your Ring Road tour in Iceland and what kind was your Ring Road itinerary? Let us know!

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Also, if you have more time than just 11 days, stay a few more days in the Akureyri region and go for a whale watching cruise i.e. from Husavik!



We hope that you enjoyed this and found this post useful!

If so, please recommend [Bizarre Globe Hopper](#) to all your friends, too!

THANK YOU SO MUCH & HAPPY TRAVELS! ☺