

## Reykjanes peninsula with Activity Iceland

An ultimate entertaining and educational travel experience with super jeep

**Date:** 5. October

**Max persons:** 30

**Time:** Departure at 16:00

**Return:** 19.00 at the Blue lagoon

### The tour

For anyone slightly interested in geology the **Reykjanes peninsula** is like a candy store or a wonderland. This small area is packed with samples of how the planet behaves over time, i.e. over a period of tens of thousands of years. Here you will find volcanoes, mountains and mountain rigs, a variety of lava, hot springs, craters, boiling clays, ravines, rhyolites, fissures, geothermal activity, high-temperature geothermal system and now an active erupting volcano. **Fagradalsfjall Volcano!**

This action-packed tour will include visits to the lighthouses at Garðskagi, The Bridge between Continents, Gunnuhver hot springs, Brimketill, Seltún, Kleifarvatn and Vigdísarvellir.

**Prepare for the tour:** Dress according to weather, sturdy shoes and a hat is always a good choice for Icelandic nature. Bring swimsuit for the chance to dip your toes in the milky blue waters at the Blue Lagoon.

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### Garðskagaviti

There are two lighthouses in the tiny village Garður placed on the south-west tip of the Reykjanes Peninsula. The older lighthouse was built in 1897. The newer one was constructed in 1944 and the tallest in Iceland 28M. For many decades, the lighthouses have been a popular spot to visit and to photograph; both among Icelanders and in recent years a popular tourist attraction. It has become one of many spots in the country that is constantly being viewed and photographed. The area around the lighthouses is also a popular spot for birdwatchers.

### A bridge where North America and Europe drift apart

The Reykjanes peninsula is not only a spectacular place to see and a great place to understand the ongoing, and everlasting struggle between surfacing magma and the many forces of nature, but also a home of a small part of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. It is the only place where this longest mountain ridge on the planet that stretches from the Arctic to Antarctica is not under sea level. The ridge is where two tectonic plates meet and seem to be in agreement to drift apart. And here you can walk between the two tectonic plates on a bridge where North America and Europe drift apart.

### Gunnuhver, the hot spring got its name from one troublesome ghost, Gunna

In the Icelandic nature, everything has a name, every mountain, every valley, every canyon, fissure or even crack. And almost behind each name is a story. The most southern tip of the Reykjanes Peninsula is a spectacular place to visit. A highly active geothermal area of mud pools and steam vents boiling practically under your feet – if you dare to walk the wooden planks crisscrossing the area. Indeed, here is where you find the biggest mud pool in Iceland, Gunnuhver – or Gunna hot spring.

### **Brimketill,**

Next up is the small naturally carved pool created by marine erosion, at the lava shore edge close to the town of Grindavík, a family oriented village with a strong fishing industry heritage.

### **Seltún**

From Grindavík and on the road to Krýsuvík, you will pass the beautiful mythical geothermal area at Seltún. The main area is a fascinating hot spring field to the southwest, recognizable by the mud pools and steaming ground. Through the steam, you'll notice the yellow, green and red-orange colors, as well as the white and brown colors of the sulfates. The sulfates dissolve in water and become mottled. Thus, when it rains they disappear altogether, leaving only the bright yellow, green and red colors of the sulfur. It is a mythical sight to see.

### **Kleifarvatn lake is a popular destination and attraction**

The largest lake on the Reykjanes Peninsula and situated on the fissure zone of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge a short distance from the dramatic geothermal area of Seltún. The lake is incredibly deep, 97 meters (318 feet) at its deepest point. But, its unique feature is that it has no visible surface drainage, which means there are no rivers running to or from it. Thus, the water level only changes with the ground water. Following an earthquake in the year 2000, a fissure formed at the bottom of the lake that soon began to drain. It diminished by 20 percent. Gradually though, the fissure refilled, and the lake has returned to its previous levels.

### **Vigdísarvellir**

From Kleifarvatn we drive behind the mountain range that lies along the peninsula through Vigdísarvellir, old farmstead. Along with Djúpavattn Lake this area is part of a the high temperature geothermal area on the Reykjanes Peninsula. The lava formations are quite spectacular with deep valleys and rugged hills, beautiful rare moss species and delicate flora.

At the end of our trip we drop you off at the Blue Lagoon at 19.00 for the Vestnorden Get-together.