



Reykjavík

POP 202,300

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Best Places to Eat

- » Bergsson Mathús (p69)
- » Snaps (p69)
- » Kaffismiðjan (p68)
- » Sægreifinn (p69)

Best Places to Stay

- » Icelandair Hotel Reykjavík Marina (p66)
- » Hótel Borg (p66)
- » KEX Hostel (p64)
- » Reykjavík Downtown Hostel (p64)
- » AirBnB (p64)

Why Go?

The world's most northerly capital combines colourful buildings, quirky people, eye-popping design, wild nightlife and a capricious soul to devastating effect. Most visitors fall helplessly in love, returning home already saving to come back.

In many ways Reykjavík is strikingly cosmopolitan for its size. It is, after all, merely a town by international standards. But on the flip side of the coin, the island's capital is also very much a global city in disguise – peek under the shiny holiday veneer to find a place that is utterly quaint and embraces its know-your-neighbours smallness.

It's that striking contrast that gives the city its charm; the two sides, like tectonic plates clashing against one another, create an earthquake of energy. Add a backdrop of snow-topped mountains, churning seas, air as cold and clean as frozen diamonds, and fiery nights under the midnight sun, and you'll agree that there's no better city in the world.

Road Distances (km)

Borgarnes	74					
Ísafjörður	457	384				
Akureyri	389	315	567			
Egilsstaðir	698	580	832	265		
Höfn	459	519	902	512	247	
Vík	187	246	630	561	511	273
Reykjavík						
Borgarnes						
Ísafjörður						
Akureyri						
Egilsstaðir						
Höfn						



Reykjavík Highlights

- 1 Do as the locals and enjoy an afternoon soak at one of the city's public geothermal pools, such as **Laugardalur** (p53)
- 2 Don your *lopapeysa*, grab your MacBook and join the legions of accidental hipsters sipping quarts of coffee at one of the city's awesomely quirky **cafes** (p68)
- 3 Immerse yourself in Icelandic history at the brilliantly curated **Reykjavík 871 +/ -2** (p48) set atop the excavated ruins of a Viking hall
- 4 Enjoy a performance or simply relax in the comfy lounge chairs at **Harpa** (p48), the capital's sparkling new cultural centre
- 5 Join the **djammið** (p47), a wild pub crawl through Reykjavík's tiny but oh-so-cool bars and clubs
- 6 Survey the city from the heights of **Hallgrímskirkja's** (p46) modernist steeple