WHAT'S ON
IN REYKJAVÍK June 2006

Culture & art
Event calendar
Map of Reykjavík
Wining & dining
How to spend a day in Reykjavík
Viking Festival in Hafnarfjörður
Practical information
Festival of the Sea June 10-11

REYKJAVÍK’S LEADING GUIDE TO ENTERTAINMENT, EATING OUT, MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES
BLUE LAGOON Spa Shop in Reykjavík

BLUE LAGOON Spa Shop is located in the Center, at Ædalstræti 2.

BLUE LAGOON
ICELAND

Landnámssýningin
The Settlement Exhibition

The focus of the exhibition is an excavated longhouse site which dates from the 10th century AD. Multimedia techniques bring Reykjavík’s past to life, providing visitors with insights into how people lived in the Viking Age.

The Settlement Exhibition 871±2 is located at Ædalstræti 16.

Reykjavik City Museum
www.reykjavik871.is

Ásmundur Sveinsson

Man and Material
Ásmundur Sveinsson Sculpture Museum

Open daily 10 - 16
Free entrance on Mondays

Ásmundur Sveinsson

Step into the Viking Age

Reykjavík 871±2

Listasafn Reykjavíkur / The Reykjavik Art Museum - ÁSMUNDUR SVEINSSON SCULPTURE MUSEUM
Sigtún, 105 Reykjavík, www.listasafnreykjavikur.is - listasafn@reykjavik.is - armi.is +354 577 1290 - fax (+354) 590 1201

City of Reykjavik
Dear Visitor,

Welcome to Iceland and its capital city, Reykjavik. Reykjavik has been called Europe’s coolest capital due to the famed and energetic nightlife. This small cosmopolitan city is just as much part of the Icelandic experience as the midnight sun or the magical landscapes forged by ice and fire.

But there is more to Reykjavik than pubs and clubs, nature is also to be found within the city itself; whether one is in the mood for a spot of midnight golf, horse trekking, whale watching or salmon fishing, there is no need to travel long distances as all these choices and many more are within one’s reach. Another must for all visitors is dining out on specialities including delicious seafood, ocean fresh from the morning’s catch and highland lamb - purely natural food served at the numerous high quality restaurants in the city. Enjoy your stay in Reykjavik.

Ingvar Kristjánsson, editor
Daytrip of the month

Whale watching schedule
- Three departures per day 7 days a week
- From Reykjavik harbour
- 09:00, 13:00, 17:00
- Duration 2.5-3 hours
- Pick-up service in the Reykjavik area

Call 555 3565 or visit www.elding.is and book your cruise now!

A 20-minute journey with Elding can bring you in sight of these magnificent creatures.

Booking tel. 555 3565 e-mail: info@elding.is

Follow the adventure

Whale watching
Take part in an adventure at sea with an unforgettable trip into the world of whales and sea birds. Conveniently located in Reykjavik’s old harbour, a 20-minute journey with Elding can bring you up close to whales in their natural habitat.

Whale watching tours are scheduled from the old harbour in Reykjavik from beginning of April through October. On tours with departure from Reykjavik SE and SW part of Faxafloi is covered. To make the trip even more comfortable, passengers are provided with warm floatable overalls or raincoats.

Whales most frequently seen on tours with Elding are the Mink whales, Orcas, Humpback whales, Dolphins and Porpoises, and sometimes Fin and Sei whales. In these areas we see many different species of seabirds such as the gannet, puffin, guillemot, razorbill, cormorant, gulls, kittiwake, terns and many more.

Our whale-watching boats
Elding Tours have two superb whale-watching boats: the flagship, the Elding, a 130-ton cruiser for 150 passengers with 3 viewing platforms, and the Elding II, a luxurious 30-ton motor yacht, carrying up to 38 passengers.

Fun for the children
Elding wants to make sure that the children are entertained during the trip. Therefore, there is a special children’s area inside the boat where they can play. The young ones can have fun playing with plush whales, puffin toys, colouring books and children’s books on whales and sea birds in many languages.

Sea angling
Sea angling tours are scheduled from Reykjavik harbour from early May to late August, but can be booked at other times for groups. Sea angling is a fantastic experience. The crystal clear air and the excitement of catching a fish in the happy company of first-timers and experienced fishermen make this a must-do trip.

The most commonly caught fish on our tours are cod, haddock, pollock and catfish. If you are lucky, you might even catch a giant halibut! We provide all the equipment needed for fishing and assistance by experienced guides. First-class tours for individuals and groups of all sizes. Enjoy our bar & lounge on board and the opportunity of grilling your catch fresh from the sea.

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Iceland

...has what you are looking for

Glorious
for that unforgettable holiday, a family vacation or a breakaway weekend.

Perfect
for incentive trips. Natural wonders you’ll never forget.

Inspiring
for conferences. State-of-the-art facilities, caring service and a relaxed atmosphere for a successful conference.

Beautifully different
and in the evening your choice of elegant dining and the best of entertainment.

The Viking horse

The origin of the Icelandic horse is the same as of the first settlers from Scandinavia in the ninth century. The horse was the catalyst that allowed the settlement of Iceland to go forward and prosper. Since then no other breed of horse has been imported to Iceland, which makes this special animal a purebred „Viking Horse“.

On large farm areas horses are often allowed to run free. This most naturally accounts for the spirited nature of the animal. All of them seem to adapt to the personality of their owner. It is essential to establish a trust between the Icelandic horse and the rider. Doing so literally guarantees a friend for life. The passion and spirit of the Icelandic horse is never broken only brought under control. As a result, the Icelandic purebred horse remains one of the world’s most unique animals to this day.
Transient Fusion of the Past and the Present

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the diplomatic relations between Japan and Iceland, two groups from Japan will perform at the National Theatre in June.

Transient Fusion of the Past and the Present

Creating a world of passions free from the limit of time and space, the Japanese performing group Genji invites audience to its fusion of traditional Noh theatre, contemporary dance movements, and ancient music combining Gagaku, Japanese ancient court music, and Shomyo, Buddhist prayers.

Noh theatre is a truly timeless art form, which speaks to modern audiences as it did to the noblemen and women of the past. It is a classical Japanese performance form which combines elements of dance, drama, music and poetry into one highly aesthetic stage art.

Gagaku, of which Noh theatre developed in parallel with, is the court music of the Imperial Household of Japan. Consisting of sounds of antiquity and elegance, Gagaku is one of the strongest surviving music traditions in Asia.

Shomyo is the general term for Buddhist vocal music that adds melodic patterns to the chanted words of shingon, that is, sacred Buddhist words in Sanskrit. Shomyo has recently become popular as a form of performing art.

From Okinawa to Iceland – From Island to Island

Art Community Organization (ACO) Okinawa is a performing arts group from the island of Okinawa, the island of dances and songs. On a world map, Okinawa is just a small dot in the Pacific Ocean, but it used to be an independent kingdom - the Kingdom of the Ryukyus.

Genji will perform June 7th and 8th, ACO Okinawa on June 25th. For further information contact the National Theatre, Hverfisgata 19. Tel.: 551 1200. Tickets are sold at the theatre or on-line at www.leikhusid.is

The Centre

The Official Tourist Information Centre in Reykjavik · Internet and Phone Centre

Your Essential Guide to Iceland

The Centre is the key to a successful holiday in Iceland. Great range of information, free booking service, Internet and phone centre, box office, money exchange services, souvenirs and much more.

Reykjavik Tourist Card

Your key to the Capital. The Reykjavik Tourist Card gives admission to all the thermal pools in Reykjavik, public transport, The National Museum, Reykjavik Art Museums, The National Gallery of Iceland, Reykjavik Zoo and Family Park, discount on tours and much more. The card is sold at The Centre, most Reykjavik hotels and other tourist centres.

Free internet access for cardholders.
Viking Festival in Hafnarfjörður 2006

At the central of the Festival is the Viking village. Very few in the village remind people of the modern time/live. The Vikings will cook over fire, show their hand craft and arts, real sword fighting and detailed replicas of the old Viking craftsmanship will be on display. The combats are well organized by professional Vikings from all over the world. There will be marksmanships with bows, wrestling and muscle contest. Magnús Ver Magnússon four times World’s Strongest Man will conduct and hopefully participate in a competition for the title "The Strongest Viking"!

Most of the Vikings are trained artists in their field, whether it’s working with a pen, wood, iron, bones or weapons. And on the top of that are very lively sales people. Theatrical artist groups will be on the premises giving people insight to the Viking sagas. Musicians and singers will be there, singing Viking songs in the native language Icelandic. There will be lectures about the Vikings and their way of life, all lectures will be done by scholars and people well known in these matters and of course the Icelandic horse will be there.

In the village is the famous Viking restaurant, there will be served food and drink the Viking way and of course by Vikings.

The market this year will be in two stages; first it starts on the 16th of June on Friday and ends on Sunday the 18th. The Festival restarts on Friday 23rd and finishes on Sunday the 29th of June.