

Gullfoss

Southern Region · Iceland

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



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Overview

Gullfoss, the Golden Falls, is a powerful two-step waterfall on the Hvítá river in south Iceland. The river drops in two stages and then falls into a narrow canyon. In spring and summer the spray often makes rainbows.

Gullfoss is one of the three main stops on the Golden Circle, with Thingvellir and the Geysir area. A visit takes about one hour.

When to visit

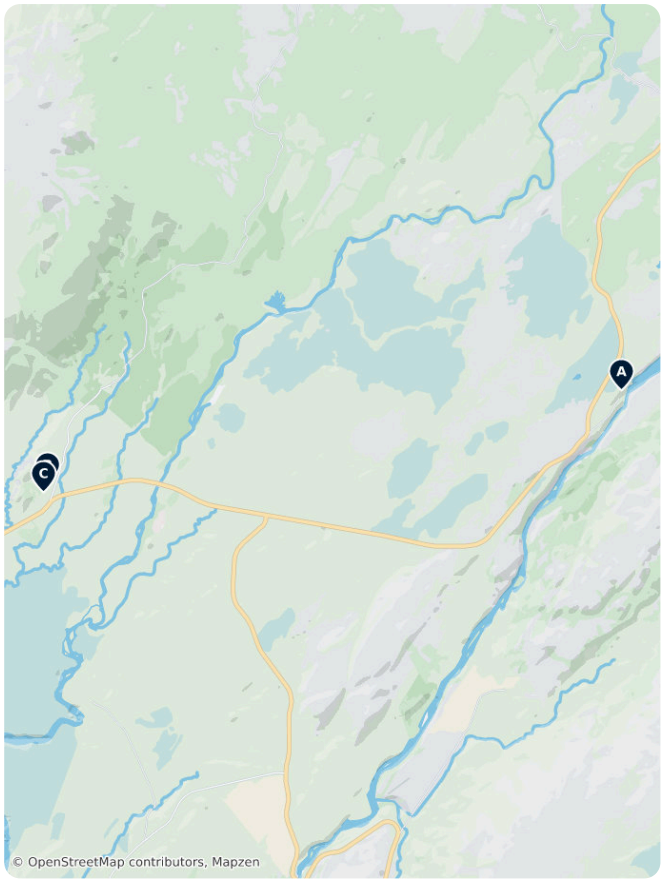
The falls run all year. Summer has the longest days and the most visitors. Winter brings ice around the falls, and the paths can be closed or very slippery, so wear shoes with good grip.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	-1° / 4° Feels like -8°	-6° / -15°	22 rainy days · Dry air
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	-1° / 5° Feels like -8°	-6° / -15°	20 rainy days · Dry air
March	Poor Poor for sightseeing	0° / 5° Feels like -7°	-6° / -15°	22 rainy days · Dry air
April	Poor Poor for sightseeing	3° / 7° Feels like -3°	-3° / -12°	19 rainy days · Dry air
May	Poor Poor for sightseeing	6° / 9° Feels like 1°	1° / -6°	18 rainy days · Dry air
June	Poor Poor for sightseeing	10° / 14° Feels like 6°	4° / 0°	18 rainy days · Dry air
July	Poor Poor for sightseeing	13° / 17° Feels like 9°	7° / 4°	20 rainy days · Dry air
August	Poor Poor for sightseeing	12° / 16° Feels like 8°	6° / 2°	21 rainy days · Dry air
September	Poor Poor for sightseeing	8° / 12° Feels like 3°	4° / -2°	22 rainy days · Dry air
October	Poor Poor for sightseeing	4° / 9° Feels like -2°	-1° / -8°	21 rainy days · Dry air
November	Poor Poor for sightseeing	1° / 6° Feels like -6°	-4° / -13°	20 rainy days · Dry air
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	-1° / 5° Feels like -8°	-6° / -15°	21 rainy days · Dry air

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights

- A Gullfoss Viewing Platform has a path with two viewing levels. The upper level looks down on the falls, and the lower path goes close to the edge of the first step. You will get wet in spray.
- B Geysir is the hot spring area that gave all geysers their name. The great geyser rarely erupts now.
- C Strokkur is the active geyser next door, and it erupts every few minutes. Stand upwind to avoid the spray.



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Getting there

- **By car**: Gullfoss is about 120 km from Reykjavík, a drive of 1.5 to 2 hours. Geysir is a further 10 minutes west.
- **By bus**: Tour buses run from Reykjavík all year. There is no regular public bus.
- **Combining stops**: Most people visit Thingvellir first, then Geysir, then Gullfoss.

Top sights





A Gullfoss Viewing Platform

Scenic viewpoint overlooking a two-tiered waterfall and canyon, accessible and free to the public.

Iceland (64.32619, -20.12441)

guidetoiceland.is/travel-iceland/drive/gullfoss



B Geysir

Historic geothermal geyser known for its eruptions and geothermal activity within a notable hot springs area.

Iceland (64.31384, -20.29951)



C Strokkur

Active geyser erupting every 5 to 15 minutes with water fountains reaching up to 40 meters high. Located within a geothermal area, it is known for frequent and reliable eruptions.

Iceland (64.31270, -20.30077)

Mo–Su	00:00–24:00

DATA SOURCES

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IMAGE CREDITS

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