

Hvalfjörður

Iceland

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



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Overview

Hvalfjörður, the Whale Fjord, is a long fjord north of Reykjavík. A tunnel under the fjord cut the drive to the north and west, but the old road around the fjord is still open and quiet.

The fjord has some of the best waterfalls close to the capital. It also has remains from World War II, when it was used as a naval base.

When to visit

Summer is the easiest time for the hike to Glymur, when the path is dry. In spring and autumn the river can be high and the ground wet. Winter paths are icy and not suitable without gear.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for hiking	0° / 5° Feels like -7°	-3° / -10°	20 rainy days · Dry air
February	Poor Poor for hiking	1° / 5° Feels like -7°	-4° / -10°	18 rainy days · Dry air
March	Poor Poor for hiking	1° / 5° Feels like -6°	-3° / -10°	19 rainy days · Dry air
April	Poor Poor for hiking	4° / 9° Feels like -2°	-1° / -7°	17 rainy days · Dry air
May	Poor Poor for hiking	8° / 12° Feels like 3°	3° / -2°	16 rainy days · Dry air
June	Fair Fair for hiking	11° / 15° Feels like 7°	6° / 2°	14 rainy days · Dry air
July	Good Good for hiking	14° / 17° Feels like 10°	8° / 6°	16 rainy days · Dry air
August	Fair Fair for hiking	13° / 16° Feels like 9°	8° / 4°	17 rainy days · Dry air
September	Poor Poor for hiking	9° / 13° Feels like 5°	5° / 1°	20 rainy days · Dry air
October	Poor Poor for hiking	5° / 9° Feels like -1°	2° / -4°	17 rainy days · Dry air
November	Poor Poor for hiking	2° / 7° Feels like -5°	-1° / -8°	17 rainy days · Dry air
December	Poor Poor for hiking	1° / 6° Feels like -7°	-3° / -10°	19 rainy days · Dry air

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

Top sights

- A Glymur is one of the tallest waterfalls in Iceland, at about 200 m, in a deep canyon. The hike takes around 3 hours return and includes a river crossing. Check conditions first.
- B Skorhagafoss is a waterfall beside the old road around the fjord.
- C Þórufoss is a waterfall in a small canyon on the road towards Þingvellir.
- The old fjord road has views and a few remains of the wartime base.



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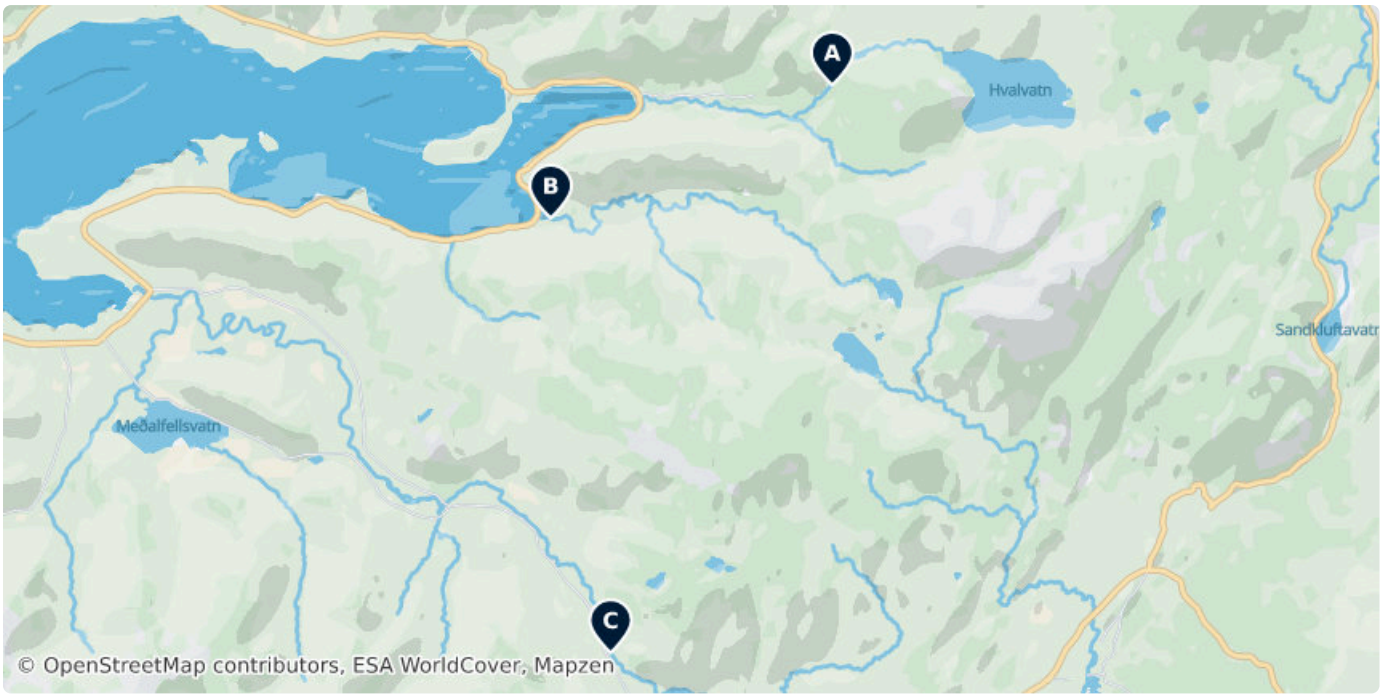
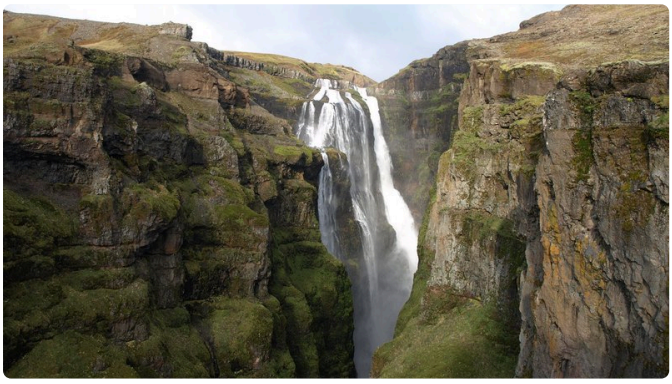
Getting there

- **By car**: The fjord is about 45 km from Reykjavík, a drive of around 45 minutes.
- **Tunnel**: The Hvalfjörður tunnel links the south shore with Akranes. It has a toll.
- **Nearby**: Þingvellir is about 40 minutes away.

Top sights





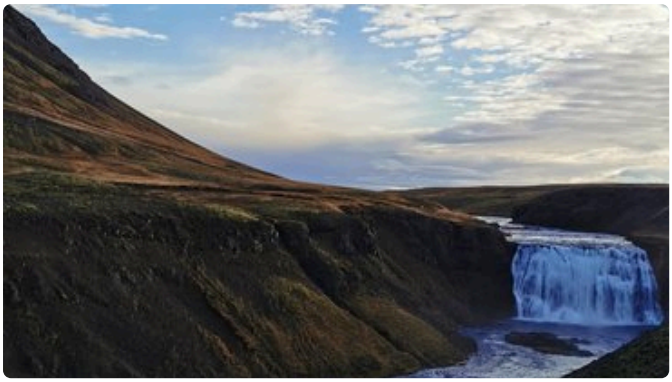
A Glymur

A 198-meter tall waterfall featuring a scenic hiking trail with views of fjords, mountains, and a canyon.

Leggjabrjótur, Reykjavik, Iceland (64.38798, -21.25528)

B Skorhagafoss

(64.35823, -21.40091)



Þórufoss

Iceland (64.26084, -21.36997)

DATA SOURCES

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IMAGE CREDITS

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