

Kirkjubæjarklaustur

Southern Region · Iceland

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



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Overview

Kirkjubæjarklaustur, often called Klaustur, is a small village on the Ring Road in south Iceland. It is a good place to stop between Vík and Skaftafell, and it has the closest services to Fjaðrárgljúfur canyon.

The area has lava fields from the 1783 Laki eruption and the old site of a medieval nunnery.

When to visit

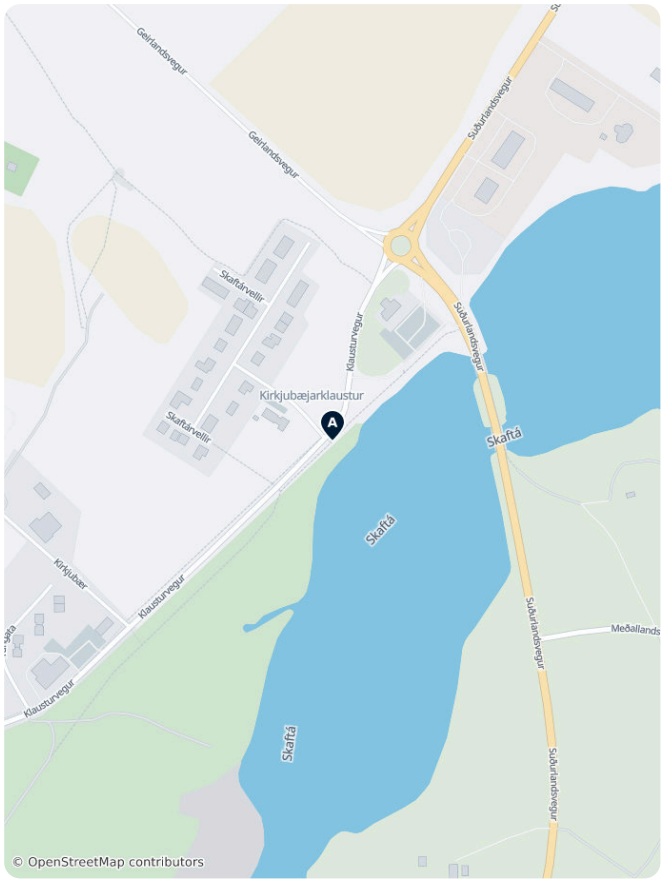
Summer has the best access to the canyon and the surrounding trails. Winter is quiet, and some services close. The canyon path can be limited in spring when the ground is wet.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for hiking	1° / 6° Feels like -7°	-4° / -12°	23 rainy days · Dry air
February	Poor Poor for hiking	1° / 6° Feels like -7°	-4° / -12°	21 rainy days · Dry air
March	Poor Poor for hiking	2° / 6° Feels like -6°	-3° / -12°	22 rainy days · Dry air
April	Poor Poor for hiking	4° / 8° Feels like -3°	-1° / -9°	20 rainy days · Dry air
May	Poor Poor for hiking	7° / 11° Feels like 2°	3° / -3°	19 rainy days · Dry air
June	Poor Poor for hiking	10° / 14° Feels like 6°	6° / 2°	19 rainy days · Dry air
July	Fair Fair for hiking	12° / 15° Feels like 9°	8° / 5°	20 rainy days · Dry air
August	Fair Fair for hiking	12° / 14° Feels like 8°	7° / 4°	20 rainy days · Dry air
September	Poor Poor for hiking	9° / 12° Feels like 4°	5° / 0°	22 rainy days · Dry air
October	Poor Poor for hiking	5° / 9° Feels like -1°	1° / -5°	22 rainy days · Dry air
November	Poor Poor for hiking	2° / 8° Feels like -5°	-2° / -10°	21 rainy days · Dry air
December	Poor Poor for hiking	1° / 7° Feels like -7°	-3° / -12°	22 rainy days · Dry air

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

Top sights

- Kirkjubæjarklaustur is the village, with a small waterfall called Systrafoss on the hill behind it.
- Fjaðrárgljúfur is a long, narrow canyon about 5 km away, with a path along the rim.
- Kirkjugólf is a flat area of basalt columns that looks like a floor.
- Eldhraun is a huge, moss-covered lava field beside the road, from the 1783 eruption.



Kirkjubæjarklaustur – Plan Your Trip

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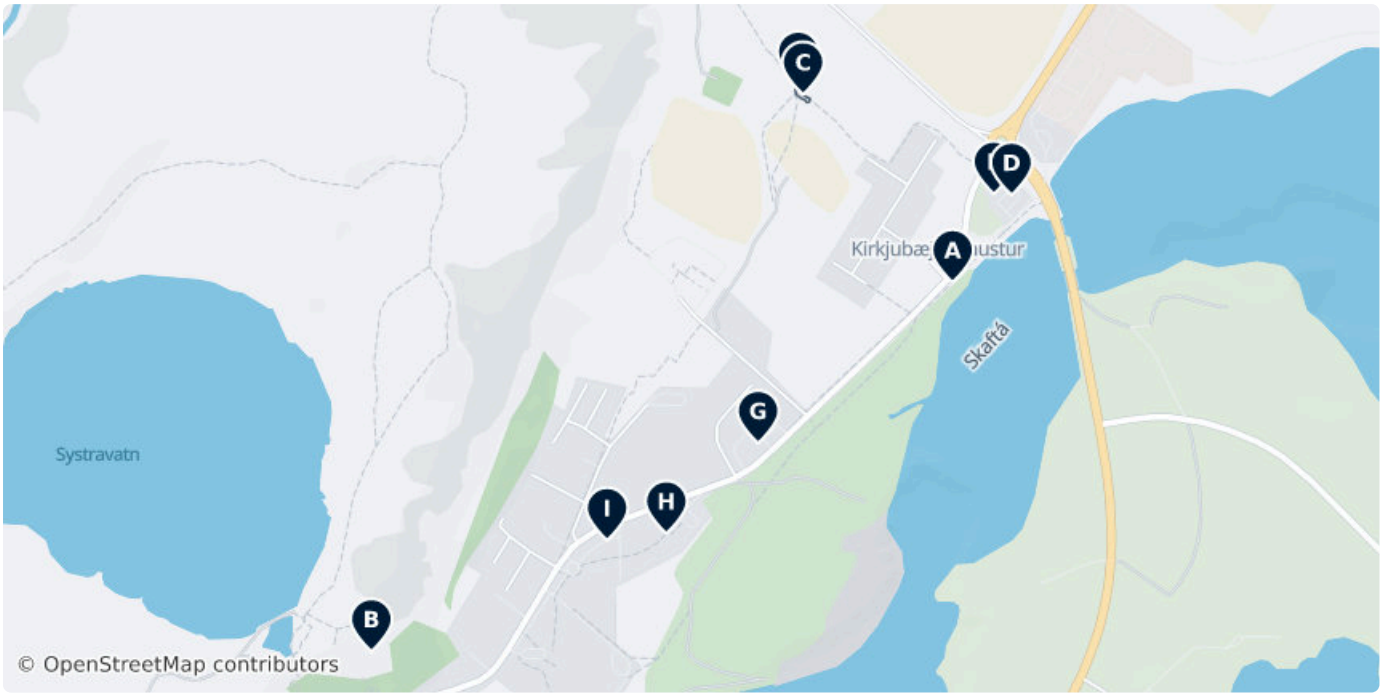
Getting there

- **By car**: The village is on the Ring Road, about 270 km from Reykjavík. The drive takes around 3.5 hours.
- **By bus**: Long-distance buses stop here, with fewer in winter.
- **Nearby**: Mýrdalshreppur is about 1 hour west. Vatnajökull National Park starts about 1 hour east.

Kirkjubæjarklaustur Unmissables

Kirkjubæjarklaustur serves as a strategic hub on Iceland's South Coast, defined by its unique basalt geology and monastic history. This selection features the natural monument of Kirkjugólf, where eroded basalt columns resemble a paved floor, and the cascading Systrafoss waterfall. The village offers essential amenities for Ring Road travelers, including the Kirkjubaejarstofa research center, local dining at Systrakaffi, and infrastructure such as the Tesla Supercharger and N1 station.





A Kirkjubæjarklaustur

This tiny village with only 120 inhabitants is the place where many travellers stop to refresh themselves or sleep during their long trips.

Klaustursvegur, Kirkjubæjarklaustur 880, Iceland
(63.79261, -18.04139)

visitklaustur.is, +354 896 8695



B Systrafoss

Waterfall cascading from the Systravatn lake over the mountain cliffs above the village.

Iceland (63.78749, -18.05965)

C Kirkjugólf

A natural monument of columnar basalt eroded by glaciers and sea waves to resemble a paved floor.

Geirlandsvegur, 880 Kirkjubæjarklaustur, Iceland (63.79522, -18.04609)

D N1

Gas station on the Ring Road providing fuel, basic groceries, and travel supplies.

29 Klausturvegur, Kirkjubæjarklaustur 880, Iceland (63.79382, -18.03953)

E Skaftárskáli Grill

Fast food stop offering burgers, sandwiches, and ice cream for travelers.

29 Klausturvegur, Kirkjubæjarklaustur 880, Iceland (63.79384, -18.04009)

Mo–Su 08:00–22:00



F The Church Floor

Signage providing geological context and historical information regarding the nearby basalt formations.

Iceland (63.79536, -18.04623)

G Systrakaffi

Local restaurant and cafe serving pizza, burgers, and Icelandic lamb dishes.

13 Klaustursvegur, Kirkjubæjarklaustur 880, Iceland (63.79038, -18.04750)

Mo–Su 11:30–22:00

H Kirkjubaejarstofa

Research and information center focused on the nature, history, and culture of the Skaftárhreppur region.

Klaustursvegur, Kirkjubæjarklaustur 880, Iceland (63.78913, -18.05038)

+354 487 4645

I Kirkjubæjarklaustur Supercharger

High-speed electric vehicle charging station with CCS 2 sockets, accessible 24/7.

Klausturvegur, 880 Kirkjubæjarklaustur, IS (63.78903, -18.05224)

Mo–Su Open 24/7

tesla.com/findus/location/supercharger/Kirkjubaejarklau...

DATA SOURCES

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