

Southern Peninsula

Iceland

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



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Overview

The Southern Peninsula, also called Reykjanes, is the lava-covered land west of Reykjavík. It has geothermal fields, sea cliffs and Iceland's main international airport.

The area is close to the capital and the airport. It suits a short stop at the start or end of a trip, or a full day out.

When to visit

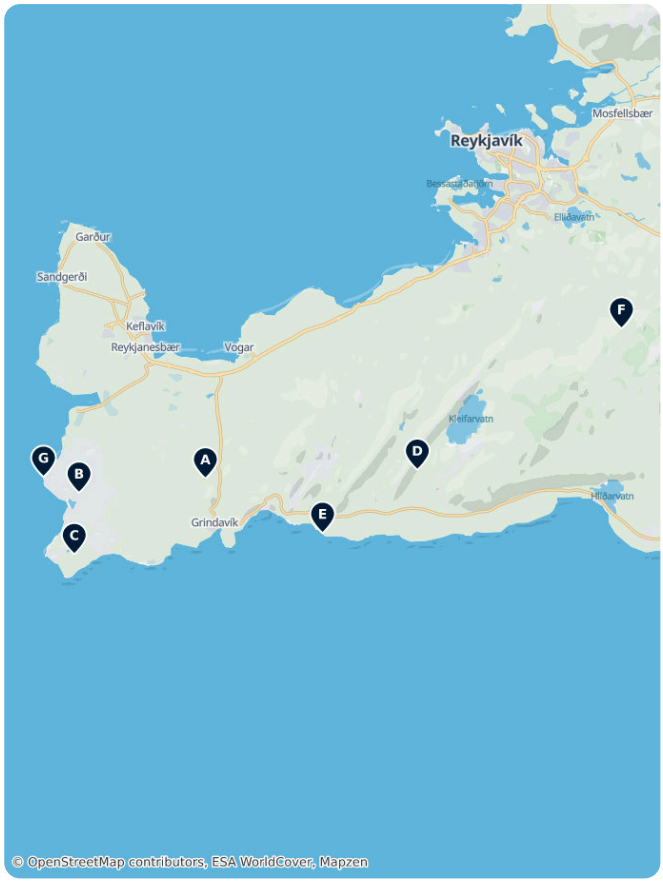
The peninsula can be visited all year. Summer has long days and the best conditions for walking. Winter has short days, strong wind and ice, and the roads are cleared.

The area has seen volcanic eruptions since 2021. Some areas can be closed at short notice. Check current advice before you go.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	3° / 7° Feels like -5°	0° / -6°	21 rainy days · Dry air
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	3° / 7° Feels like -5°	-1° / -6°	19 rainy days · Dry air
March	Poor Poor for sightseeing	3° / 7° Feels like -4°	0° / -6°	20 rainy days · Dry air
April	Poor Poor for sightseeing	5° / 8° Feels like -1°	2° / -3°	17 rainy days · Dry air
May	Poor Poor for hiking	8° / 11° Feels like 3°	4° / 0°	15 rainy days · Dry air
June	Fair Fair for hiking	11° / 14° Feels like 7°	7° / 4°	14 rainy days · Dry air
July	Fair Fair for hiking	12° / 15° Feels like 9°	9° / 7°	16 rainy days · Dry air
August	Fair Fair for hiking	12° / 15° Feels like 9°	9° / 7°	17 rainy days · Dry air
September	Poor Poor for hiking	10° / 13° Feels like 5°	7° / 3°	20 rainy days · Dry air
October	Poor Poor for wildlife watching	6° / 10° Feels like 1°	4° / -1°	18 rainy days · Dry air
November	Poor Poor for sightseeing	4° / 8° Feels like -3°	1° / -4°	19 rainy days · Dry air
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	3° / 7° Feels like -4°	0° / -6°	21 rainy days · Dry air

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

Top sights



- A Blue Lagoon is a large geothermal spa in a lava field. **Book a time slot in advance.**
- B Bridge Between Continents is a small footbridge over a rift between two tectonic plates.
- C Gunnuhver - fumarole is a geothermal area with steam vents and mud pools. Stay on the paths.
- D Krýsuvík is a colourful geothermal area with boardwalks and a lake nearby.
- E Selatangar is a ruined fishing station on a rough lava coast.
- F Þríhnúkagígur is a dormant volcano. Guided trips go down into the crater in summer.
- G Hafnaberg are sea cliffs with seabirds, reached by a short walk.
- Grindavík has been affected by eruptions and ground damage since late 2023. Check access before you plan a visit.

Southern Peninsula – Plan Your Trip
Turn the places from this guide into a real itinerary, with smart routing, time estimates, and everything you need for a perfect trip.
3M+ downloads · 4.6 stars · 15 years of trip planning
App Store · Google Play
Scan to download the app

Getting there

- **By air**: Keflavík International Airport (KEF) is on the peninsula. It is the main gateway to Iceland.
- **By car**: Reykjavík is about 45 minutes from the airport by road. The Blue Lagoon is a short drive from the airport.
- **By bus**: Regular buses link the airport and Reykjavík. Sights on the peninsula are easiest by car. See Strætó.
- **Towns**: Reykjanesbær is the largest town. Garður and Vogar are smaller.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Iceland at a glance:

CURRENCY

ISK kr

EMERGENCY

112

ELECTRICITY



Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES

Icelandic

TAP WATER

Safe to drink

Southern Peninsula Unmissables

The Southern Peninsula, or Reykjanes, is a UNESCO Global Geopark defined by its position on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. This list features the mineral-rich waters of the Blue Lagoon, the Bridge Between Continents spanning the Eurasian and North American tectonic plates, and the active geothermal fields of Gunnuhver and Krýsuvík. Explorers can visit the dormant Þríhnúkagígur volcano's interior, the Leiðarendi lava tube, and the recent eruption sites near Fagradalsfjall. Coastal highlights include the bird-nesting cliffs of Krýsuvíkurbjarg and historic lighthouses marking the rugged Atlantic coastline.





A Blue Lagoon

Geothermal spa and resort featuring mineral-rich, milky blue outdoor baths and wellness facilities.

240 Grindavík, Iceland (63.87963, -22.44813)

Jan 01-May 25 Mo–Su	08:00–22:00
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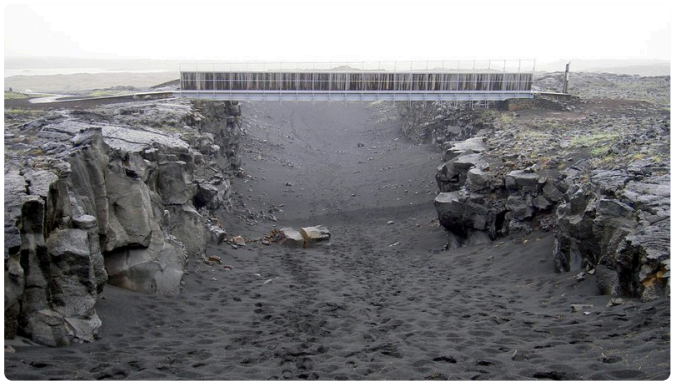

B Bridge Between Continents

A symbolic pedestrian bridge spanning a tectonic rift valley, connecting the European and North American tectonic plates on the Reykjanes Peninsula.

Iceland (63.86830, -22.67554)



C Keflavík International Airport

The main international airport of Reykjavík and Iceland is located 50 km from Reykjavík that has its own airport for domestic flights.

235 Keflavikurflugvollur, Iceland (63.98230, -22.63249)

Mo–Su Open 24/7

kefairport.is, +354 425 6000



D Gunnuhver - fumarole

Geothermal area consisting of mud pools and steam vents.

Iceland (63.81945, -22.68418)



E Krýsuvík

Krýsuvík is an area in Southwest Iceland at about 35 km from Reykjavík.

(Unnamed Road), 240, Iceland (63.88644, -22.06657)

visitreykjavik.is/krysuvik-geothermal-area



F Eruption by Fagradalsfjall

Site of the 2021 fissure eruption in Geldingadalir within the Krýsuvík volcanic system. The landscape features extensive fields of fresh basaltic lava and newly formed volcanic cones accessible via designated hiking trails.

(63.88835, -22.27111)



G Þríhnúkagígur volcano

Þríhnúkagígur is a dormant volcano in the volcanic system of Brennisteinsfjöll near Reykjavík, Iceland.

Iceland (63.99844, -21.69893)

insidethevolcano.com



H Leiðarendi Cave

One of the famous lava tube caves near Reykjavik.

Iceland (63.99772, -21.79413)

guidetoiceland.is/travel-iceland/drive/leidarendi



I Reykjanestá

The southwestern tip of the Reykjanes Peninsula, featuring dramatic sea stacks like the 60-meter-high Karlinn and volcanic cliffs that face heavy Atlantic surf.

1 Reykjanesvitabraut, 233, Iceland (63.81279, -22.71545)

J Reykjanesviti

Iceland's oldest lighthouse location, featuring a 26-meter-tall tower built in 1908. It stands on Bæjarfell hill and serves as a primary navigational landmark for the peninsula's tip.

Reykjanes-aðalviti, 233 (63.81561, -22.70436)



K Hópsnes Lighthouse

An orange concrete lighthouse built in 1928. The surrounding circular trail features several shipwrecks with informational plaques detailing the maritime history of the Grindavík coast.

(Unnamed Road), 240, Iceland (63.82640, -22.40651)



L Hafnaberg Sea Cliff

A popular area among birdwatchers. Also, it's possible to spot seals from up here!

(Unnamed Road), 233, Iceland (63.88087, -22.73959)



M Krýsuvíkurbjarg

A massive volcanic sea cliff that serves as a significant nesting site for thousands of seabirds, including guillemots, razorbills, and fulmars, during the summer breeding season.

Iceland (63.83536, -22.10485)

Iceland's Peaks and Volcanoes

The Reykjanes Peninsula is a geologically active region where the Mid-Atlantic Ridge rises above sea level. This collection features the sites of recent basaltic eruptions at Fagradalsfjall and Litli-Hrútur alongside ancient shield volcanoes and hyaloclastite peaks. Highlights include the iconic cone of Keilir, formed during a subglacial eruption, and the Stampar crater row. These landmarks showcase Iceland's volcanic evolution, from dormant craters like Eldborg to the expansive lava fields of the Krýsuvík system.





A Eruption by Fagradalsfjall

Site of the 2021 eruption in the Krýsuvík-Trölladyngja volcanic system, marking the first volcanic activity on the peninsula in 800 years.

(63.88835, -22.27111)



B Þríhnúkagígur volcano

Þríhnúkagígur is a dormant volcano in the volcanic system of Brennisteinsfjöll near Reykjavík, Iceland.

Iceland (63.99844, -21.69893)

insidethevolcano.com



C Fagradalsfjall

A large tuya volcano formed during the last glacial period, characterized by its flat top and steep sides.

Iceland (63.89371, -22.27266)

visitreykjanes.is/en/volcano-eruption/eruption-informatio...

D Geldingadalsgos Volcano

The valley where the 2021 eruption first broke through the surface, now filled with a deep layer of cooled basaltic lava.

(63.88968, -22.27368)

E Eldborg

A symmetrical scoria crater formed by a single eruption, typical of the monogenetic volcanic activity in the region.

42, Hafnarfjordur, Iceland (63.85795, -21.99915)

F Stampar Crater

Part of a prominent crater row on the Reykjanes tip, formed during the Reykjanes Fires eruption period in the 13th century.

(63.84548, -22.68170)

G Eldborg

A well-preserved volcanic crater located within the Krýsuvík volcanic system.

(63.95057, -22.08801)

H Þorbjarnarfell

A volcanic mountain near Grindavík offering views over the Svartsengi geothermal area and the Blue Lagoon.

(63.86424, -22.43900)

I Brennisteinsfjöll

A volcanic range known for its geothermal activity and sulfur deposits, part of the larger Bláfjöll area.

Iceland (63.92870, -21.78474)

J Þorbjörn

A hyaloclastite mountain formed during the Ice Age, situated immediately north of the town of Grindavík.

(Unnamed Road), 240, Iceland (63.86428, -22.44095)

K Rauðhóll

A volcanic hill distinguished by its red oxidation, formed by scoria and volcanic debris.

Iceland (63.84948, -22.55365)

L Sandfell

A rhyolite peak located in the western part of the Reykjanes Peninsula.

(63.87240, -22.56208)

M Sandfellshæð

A massive shield volcano, one of the largest on the peninsula, formed by long-term fluid lava flows.

Iceland (63.86076, -22.57547)

N Þórðarfell

A volcanic peak located near the Reykjanes power plants and the Reykjanesviti lighthouse.

(63.89114, -22.52226)

O Þórðarfell

Volcanic peak on the western tip of the peninsula.

Iceland (63.89403, -22.52281)

P Lágafell

A small volcanic hill located near the coastal town of Grindavík.

(63.88087, -22.54045)

Q Lágafell

Volcanic hill in the vicinity of Grindavík.

Iceland (63.88059, -22.53869)

R Sandfell

A mountain peak within the Reykjanes volcanic zone.

Iceland (63.87172, -22.56313)

S Súlur

A peak in the rugged interior of the Reykjanes mountain range.

(63.90202, -22.53942)

T Súlur

Peak in the Reykjanes volcanic range.

Iceland (63.90151, -22.54060)

U Fagradals-Hagafell

A ridge extending from the Fagradalsfjall massif, involved in the 2021-2023 volcanic activity.

Iceland (63.92703, -22.24962)

V Sýrfell

Small volcanic peak located near the western coastline.

Iceland (63.83735, -22.65833)

W Hverafjall

A peak associated with the Krýsuvík geothermal area, showing signs of historic hydrothermal activity.

Iceland (63.89299, -22.06712)

X Sýrfell

Small volcanic peak on the peninsula.

(63.83837, -22.66130)

Y Keilir

An iconic cone-shaped mountain formed as a hyaloclastite ridge during a subglacial eruption.

(63.94123, -22.17224)

Z Fagradals-Vatnsfell

A peak within the Fagradalsfjall volcanic area, part of the tuya complex.

Iceland (63.92210, -22.26833)

AA Hagafell

A mountain north of Grindavík that has been central to recent tectonic movements and fissure eruptions.

(63.86681, -22.40673)

AB Litlihrútur

Site of the July 2023 eruption, characterized by a significant fissure opening and rapid lava accumulation.

(63.91591, -22.21226)

AC Kistufell

A table mountain or tuya located in the central Reykjanes volcanic zone.

Iceland (63.90992, -22.22341)

AD Kistufell

A tuya volcano peak in the Reykjanes region.

(63.91051, -22.22145)

AE Litlikeilir

A smaller companion peak to the conical Keilir mountain.

Iceland (63.92764, -22.21593)

AF Stóra-Skógfell

A hill located along the Sundhnúkur crater row, north of Grindavík.

Iceland (63.89696, -22.37446)

AG Keilir

Distinctive conical mountain formed by subglacial volcanic activity.

Iceland (63.94122, -22.17221)

AH Keilisbörn

Smaller volcanic peaks located in the immediate vicinity of Keilir.

(63.94781, -22.17501)

AI Grímshóll

A small hill or volcanic feature on the peninsula.

(63.97157, -22.42579)

AJ Há-Hrafnahlíð

An elevated ridge in the volcanic landscape east of Grindavík.

(63.86779, -22.33669)

AK Festarfjall

A coastal mountain with steep cliffs, located east of Grindavík.

(63.85773, -22.33591)

AL Festarfjall

Coastal peak near Grindavík.

(63.85841, -22.33498)

AM Fiskidalsfjall

A mountain ridge situated between the 2021 eruption site and the southern coast.

(63.85932, -22.36519)

AN Fiskidalsfjall

Mountain ridge on the southern Reykjanes Peninsula.

Iceland (63.85900, -22.36634)

AO Stóra-Skógfell

Volcanic hill north of Grindavík.

Iceland (63.89689, -22.37449)

AP Húsafell

A peak located near the southern coastline of the peninsula.

Iceland (63.85385, -22.37486)

AQ Innstahæð

A volcanic height in the central Reykjanes area.

(63.86968, -22.37944)

AR Sýlingarfell

A mountain north of Grindavík, part of the Sundhnúkur crater system area.

Iceland (63.88271, -22.40503)

AS Sýlingafell

Mountain peak in the Sundhnúkur volcanic zone.

(63.88329, -22.40450)

AT Höfði

A small hill or promontory.

(63.86809, -22.22548)

AU Sandfell

A peak in the Reykjanes volcanic system.

Iceland (63.88258, -22.20736)

AV Sandfell

Volcanic peak.

(63.88177, -22.20832)

AW Geldingadalir

The valley that served as the primary basin for lava during the initial stages of the 2021 Fagradalsfjall eruption.

(63.88997, -22.27234)

Icelandic Natural Wonders

The Southern Peninsula, or Reykjanes, showcases Iceland's intense volcanic activity through diverse geological formations. This collection features the mineral-rich Blue Lagoon, the bubbling mud pools of Gunnuhver and Krýsuvík, and the expansive Kleifarvatn lake. Visitors can explore the subterranean world of lava tube caves like Leiðarendi or observe nesting seabirds along the dramatic Krýsuvíkurbjarg and Hafnaberg sea cliffs. These sites highlight the region's unique positioning on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge.





A Blue Lagoon

Geothermal spa and resort featuring mineral-rich, milky blue outdoor baths and wellness facilities.

240 Grindavík, Iceland (63.87963, -22.44813)

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B Gunnuhver - fumarole

Geothermal area consisting of mud pools and steam vents.

Iceland (63.81945, -22.68418)



C Krýsuvík

Krýsuvík is an area in Southwest Iceland at about 35 km from Reykjavík.

(Unnamed Road), 240, Iceland (63.88644, -22.06657)

visitreykjavik.is/krysuvik-geothermal-area



D Krýsuvíkurbjarg

Dramatic sea cliffs reaching heights of up to 40 meters, serving as a significant nesting site for thousands of seabirds, including kittiwakes and fulmars.

Iceland (63.83536, -22.10485)



E Leiðarendi Cave

One of the famous lava tube caves near Reykjavik.

Iceland (63.99772, -21.79413)

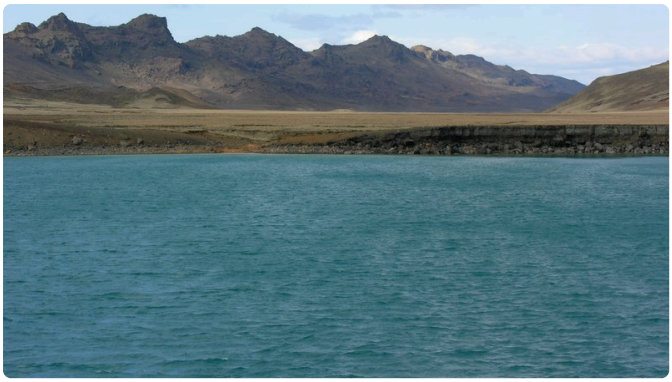
guidetoiceland.is/travel-iceland/drive/leidarendi



F Hafnaberg Sea Cliff

A popular area among birdwatchers. Also, it's possible to spot seals from up here!

(Unnamed Road), 233, Iceland (63.88087, -22.73959)



G Grænavatn lake

A deep volcanic explosion crater filled with emerald-green water, a color resulting from a combination of minerals and algae.

(Unnamed Road), 240, Iceland (63.88296, -22.05699)



H Syðristapi

Coastal cliff formation providing views of the Atlantic Ocean and the surrounding lava fields.

Iceland (63.92474, -21.99580)

I Lambafellsgjá

A narrow tectonic fissure located in the Lambafell mountain, allowing visitors to walk between high rock walls.

(63.95671, -22.08004)

J Lambafellsgjá

A narrow tectonic fissure located in the Lambafell mountain, allowing visitors to walk between high rock walls.

(63.95711, -22.07986)

K Leiðarendi

A 900-meter-long lava tube cave featuring diverse rock formations, stalactites, and ice sculptures during winter months.

Iceland (63.98462, -21.84298)

L Dollan

A lava cave formed by volcanic activity on the Reykjanes Peninsula.

(63.90312, -22.42191)

M Rauðhólshellir

A lava tube cave located within the Rauðhólar volcanic area.

(64.00869, -22.04155)



N Kleifarvatn

Kleifarvatn is the largest lake on the Reykjanes Peninsula in Iceland, situated in the southern part of the peninsula.

(63.92570, -21.97689)

DATA SOURCES

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