

ICELAND

**Country Dialling Code (Tel/Fax): ++354**

Icelandic Tourist Board: Laekjargata 3 101 Reykjavík Tel: 535 5500 Fax: 535 5501 E-mail: info@icetourist.is Website: www.icetourist.is

Capital: Reykjavík **Time:** GMT

Background: Settled by Norwegians and Celtic (Scottish and Irish) immigrants during the late 9th and 10th centuries, Iceland boasts the world's oldest parliament, the Althing, established in 930. Independent for over 300 years, Iceland was subsequently ruled by Norway and Denmark. Limited home rule was granted in 1874 and complete independence attained in 1944. Literacy, longevity, income, and social cohesion are first-rate by world standards.

Location: Northern Europe, island between the Greenland Sea and the North Atlantic Ocean, northwest of the UK

Map References: Arctic Region

Area: total: 103,000 sq km land: 100,250 sq km water: 2,750 sq km

Climate: temperate; moderated by North Atlantic Current; mild, windy winters; damp, cool summers

Terrain: mostly plateau interspersed with mountain peaks, icefields; coast deeply indented by bays and fjords

Natural Resources: fish, hydropower, geothermal power, diatomite

Population: 276,365 (July 2000 est.)

Nationality: noun: Icelander(s) adjective: Icelandic

Ethnic Groups: homogeneous mixture of descendants of Norwegians and Celts

Religions: Evangelical Lutheran 91%, other Protestant and Roman Catholic, none (1997)

Languages: Icelandic

Economy: Iceland's Scandinavian-type economy is basically capitalistic, yet with an extensive welfare system, low unemployment, and remarkably even distribution of income. The economy depends heavily on the fishing industry, which provides 70% of export earnings and employs 12% of the work force. In the absence of other natural resources (except for abundant hydrothermal and geothermal power), Iceland's economy is vulnerable to changing world fish prices. The economy remains sensitive to declining fish stocks as well as to drops in world prices for its main exports: fish and fish products, aluminum, and ferrosilicon. The center-right government plans to continue its policies of reducing the budget and current account deficits, limiting foreign borrowing, containing inflation, revising agricultural and fishing policies, diversifying the economy, and privatizing state-owned industries. The government remains opposed to EU membership, primarily because of Icelanders' concern about losing control over their fishing resources. Iceland's economy has been diversifying into manufacturing and service industries in the last decade, and new developments in software production, biotechnology, and financial services are taking place. The tourism sector is also expanding, with the recent trends in ecotourism and whale-watching. Growth is likely to slow in 2000, to a still respectable 3.5%.

Industries: fish processing; aluminum smelting, ferrosilicon production, geothermal power; tourism

Currency: 1 Icelandic krona (IKr) = 100 aurar

Railways: 0 km

Highways: total: 12,689 km paved: 3,439 km unpaved: 9,250 km (1998 est.)

Ports and Harbors: Akureyri, Hornafjörður, Isafjörður, Keflavík, Raufarhöfn, Reykjavík, Seyðisfjörður, Straumsvík, Vestmannaeyjar

Airports: 86 (1999 est.) Airports - with paved runways: total: 12 over 3,047 m: 1 1,524 to 2,437 m: 4 914 to 1,523 m: 7 (1999 est.) Airports - with unpaved runways: total: 74 1,524 to 2,437 m: 3914 o 1,523 m: 19 under 914 m: 52 (1999 est.)

Visa: not required from nationals of the EU, Canada, America, and Japan

Duty Free: goods permitted: 200 cigarettes or 250g of tobacco products, 1 litre of spirits or 1 litre of wine (under 21%) or 12 bottles of beer.

Health: no specific precautions

HOTELS•MOTELS•INNS

REYKJAVIK

101 HOTEL, Hverfisgata 10, 101 Reykjavík ,Iceland ,354 580-0101, 101hotel@101hotel.is , <http://www.101hotel.is>

4TH FLOOR HOTEL, Laugavegur 101, IS - 105 Reykjavík, Iceland, Tel: 354 511 3030 & +354 511 3031, info@4thfloorhotel.is , www.4thfloorhotel.is

ARCTIC COMFORT HOTEL , Háaleiti N, Reykjavík, Islandia, 354 588 5588, lobby@arcticcomforthotel.is , www.arcticcomforthotel.is

ATLANTIS ICELAND, Tel: +354-588-0000, Fax: +354-588-0400 Address: Grensásvegur 14, 108 Reykjavík, Iceland, E-mail: info@atlantis.is , www.atlantisiceland.com



Hilton Reykjavik Nordica hotel
Sudurlandsbraut 2
Reykjavik, 108, Iceland
Telephone: +354 (0) 444 5000
res.reykjaviknordica@hilton.com
<http://www.hilton.co.uk/reykjavik>

BEST WESTERN HOTEL REYKJAVIK, Rauðarárstígur 37 -105 Reykjavík, Iceland, Tel: 354 514 7000, info@hotelreykjavik.is , <http://www.hotelreykjavik.is>

CASTLE HOUSE LUXURY APARTMENTS, Skálholtsstígur 2a and Garðastræti 40, 101 Reykjavík, Phone: 354 511 2166, 4@4.is , <http://www.hotelsiceland.net>

CENTERHOTEL SKJALDBREID, Laugavegi 16 - 101 Reykjavík, skjaldbreid@centerhotels.com , <http://www.centerhotels.com/skjaldbreid-location>

CENTERHOTEL THINGHOLT, Aðalstræti 4 ,101 Reykjavík , Tel.595 8500 , reservations@centerhotels.com , <http://www.centerhotels.com/our-hotels/hotel-thingholt>

CITY CENTER HOTEL , Austurstræti 6, 101 Reykjavík ,Iceland, Tel: 354 571 1400 , info@citycenterhotel.is , <http://www.citycenterhotel.is>

FOSSHOTEL LIND, Raudararstígur 18, 105 Reykjavík, Phone: 354 562 3350, lind@fosshotel.is , <http://www.fosshotel.is/hotels/fosshotel-in-reykjavik/fosshotel-lind>

Gardur Inn Hotel Reykjavik

By Hringbraut

101 Reykjavík

Iceland **Tel:** +354 562 4000

Fax: +354 511 5902

www.inns-of-iceland.com

GRAND HÓTEL REYKJAVÍK, t: 514 8000, info@grand.is , <http://www.grand.is/islenska>

GUESTHOUSE ODINN Reykjavík ,T:+354 561 3400 , info@odinnreykjavik.com , <http://www.odinnreykjavik.com>

HÓTEL BORG , Pósthússtræti 11 ,101 Reykjavík , T:551 1440, hotelborg@hotelborg.is , <http://www.hotelborg.is>

HOTEL CABIN, 354 5116030, booking@hotelcabin.is , <http://www.hotelcabin.is>

HOTEL GARDUR , Hringbraut 29 - 101 Reykjavík ,Iceland ,Tel: 354 571-6200, info@hotelgardur.is , <http://www.hotelgardur.is>

HOTEL HOLT, Bergstaðastræti 37 - 101, Reykjavík, t:552 5700, holt@holt.is , <http://www.holt.is>

HÓTEL KLETTUR, Mjöllnisholti 12 - 14, 354 4401600, info@hotelklettur.is , <http://www.hotelklettur.is>

HOTEL LEIFUR EIRIKSSON, Skólavordustígur 45, 101 Reykjavík, ICELAND, Tel: 00354 562 0800, info@hotelleifur.is , <http://www.hotelleifur.is>

HOTEL ODINSVEI, 101 Reykjavík, Iceland, Tel: 354 511 6200, odinsve@hotelodinsve.is , www.hotelodinsve.is

ICELANDER HOTEL ESJA, Sudurlandsbraut 2, REYKJAVÍK, 108, ICELAND, TEL: +354-1 812200, FAX: +353-1 812130, Tlx: 2130 HTESJA IS

ICELANDAIR HOTEL REYKJAVIK MARINA, Myrargata 2,101 Reykjavik, phone: 354 560 8000, marina@icehotels.is, <http://www.icelandairhotels.com/en/hotels/marina>

ICELANDAIR HOTEL REYKJAVIK NATURA, Nautholsvegur 52, 101 Reykjavik, phone: 354 444 4000, natura@icehotels.is, <http://www.icelandairhotels.com/en/hotels/natura>

IGDLO GUESTHOUSE, Gunnarsbraut 46,105 Reykjavik, Tel: +354 564 5555, booking@igdlo.com, <http://www.guesthouse.igdlo.com>

KRIUNES HOTEL, Kriunesi Vatnsenda - 203 Kópavogi ,354 567 22 45, kriunes@kriunes.is, <http://www.kriunes.is>

KVOSIN DOWNTOWN HOTEL, Kirkjutorg 4, 101 Reykjavik, T: +354 571 4460, desk@kvosinhotel.is, <http://kvosinhotel.is/the-hotel>

METROPOLITAN HOTEL, Ránargötu 4a ,101 Reykjavik ,354 511-1155, bookings@metropolitan.is, <http://www.metropolitan.is>

PARK INN BY RADISSON ISLAND, Armuli 9, 108, Reykjavik Iceland , Phone: 354 595 7000, info.reykjavik@rezidorparkinn.com, <http://www.parkinn.com/hotel-reykjavik>

RADISSON BLU SAGA HOTEL, Hagatorg,107 Reykjavik,Iceland,Tel: 354 525 9900, info.saga.reykjavik@radissonblu.com, <http://www.radissonblu.com/sagahotel-reykjavik>

REYKJAVIK4YOU APARTMENTS, Bergstaðastræti 12 ,101 Reykjavik , Iceland,T:354 661 6700, info@reykjavik4you.com, www.reykjavik4you.com

REYKJAVIK LIGHTS, Suðurlandsbraut 12,108 Reykjavik,Tel:354 513 9000, reykjaviklights@reykjaviklights.is, <http://www.keahotels.is/Reykjavik-Lights>

REYKJAVIK RESIDENCE HOTEL, Hverfisgata 45, 101 Reykjavik, T:354 5611200, info@rrhotel.is, <http://www.rrhotel.is>

REYKJAVIK RESIDENCE SUITES, Hverfisgata 21, 101 Reykjavik, T:354 5461200, info@rrsuitses.is, <http://www.rrsuitses.is>

TOURIST OFFICES INFO.

SAMVINN-TRAVEL, P.O. Box 910, Austurstræti 12 IS-121 Reykjavik, Iceland Tel: (1) 691010 Fax: (1) 27796

AIRLINES/HELICOPTERS/AIRPORTS

EGILSSTADIR AIRPORT, Iceland, 700 Egilsstaðir, Tel: +354 (0)471 1557,, Fax: +354 (0)471 2173, Email: bieg@caa.is or biegtwr@caa.is, Website: www.caa.is

HORNAFJORDUR AIRPORT, Iceland, Flugmalastjorn, Egilsstaðaflugvell, 701 Egilsstaðir, Tel: +354 (0)471 1557, Fax: +354 (0)471 2173, Email: fms@caa.is, Website: www.caa.is

ICELANDAIR, Finance Department, Sveinfríður Garnarsdóttir Icelandair, Reykjavik Airport, 101 Reykjavik, Iceland Tel: +354 5050205 Fax: +354 5050366 , E-mail: sveinfr@icelandair.is

REYKJAVIK AIRPORT, Reykjavik Airport, Iceland, Flugstodir Isavia, 101 Reykjavik, Tel: +354 (0)569 4100, Fax: +354 (0)562 3619, Email: isavia@isavia.is, Website: www.isavia.is



RESTAURANTS & BARS

REYKJAVIK

BERGSSON MATHÚS, Templararsund 3 ,101 Reykjavik ,T: 571 1822, Cuisines: Healthy, info@bergsson.is, <http://bergsson.is>

CARUSO, t:00354 562 7335 , caruso@caruso.is, <http://www.caruso.is>

DILL RESTAURANT, Sturlugötu 5 ,101 Reykjavik ,Cuisines: European, Swedish, Danish, Scandinavian, dillrestaurant@dillrestaurant.is, http://www.dillrestaurant.is/EN/index_en.html

FISKMARKADURINN ,THE FISH MARKET, ÆDALSTRÉTI 12, RVK , T:578 8877, info@fiskmarkadurinn.is, <http://fiskmarkadurinn.is>

FRÍÐRIK V, Laugavegi 60 - 101 Reykjavik,T:4615775 ,Cuisines: Scandinavian , fridrikv@fridrikv.is, <http://fridrikv.is>

GALLERY FISKUR, t:587 2882, Cuisines: Dessert, Seafood, galleryfiskur@galleryfiskur.is, <http://www.galleryfiskur.is>

GRÆNN KOSTUR, Skólavörðustíg 8b,101 Reykjavik,t:552 2028, Cuisines: Vegan, Vegetarian, International, gk@graennkostur.is, <http://www.graennkostur.is>

GLO, Engjateig 17-19,105 Reykjavik,t: 534 9915,Cuisines: Healthy, glo@glo.is, http://www.glo.is/glo_um_okku

GRILLMARKAÐURINN, Lækjargata 2A ,101 Reykjavik , Iceland, 354 5717777 ,Cuisines: Seafood, Steakhouse, Scandinavian, Grill, info@grillmarkadurinn.is, www.Grillmarkadurinn.is

GALLERY RESTAURANT - HOTEL HOLT, Bergstaðastræti 37 - 101, Reykjavik, Iceland, Tel: 354 552 5700, Cuisines: European, Seafood, Steakhouse, holt@holt.is, <http://www.holt.is/english/meet/gallery-restaurant>

GRILLID, 354 525 9960, grillid@grillid.is, <http://en.grillid.is/events/TheGrill>

KAFFITAR, Stapabraut 7 ,260 Njarðvík ,Iceland , Tel: 420 2700 kaffitar@kaffitar.is, <http://www.kaffitar.is>

KITCHEN-ELDHUSKORT, Laugavegi 60A,101 Reykjavik,T:51 777 95, Cuisines: Indian, Nepalese ,info@kitchen-eldhus.is, <http://www.kitchen-eldhus.is>

KRYDDLEGIN HJORTU, T:588 8818, Cuisines: Seafood, Vegetarian, Healthy, Soups, hera@kryddleginhjortu.is, <http://www.kryddleginhjortu.is>

LAEKJARBREKKA ,t: 551 4430, Cuisines: Seafood, Steakhouse, info@laekjarekka.is, <http://www.laekjarekka.is>

MAR RESTAURANT, Geirsgata 9, Reykjavik ,T:00354 5195050, Cuisines: South American, International, mar@marrestaurant.is, <http://www.marrestaurant.is>

NAUTHOLL, Nauthólsvegur 106,101 Reykjavik,t: 599 6660, Cuisines: Café, Diner, Scandinavian, Bistro, nautholl@nautholl.is, www.nautholl.is

NOODLE STATION, Skólavörðustíg 21a, 101 Reykjavik,t:551 3199, Cuisines: Thai ja@ja.is, <http://ja.is/noodle-station>

SEAFOOD GRILL, Skólavörðustíg 14 ,101 Reykjavik ,Iceland , Cuisines: Barbecue, Seafood, Scandinavian , T:571 1100 , info@siavargrillid.is, <http://www.siavargrillid.com>

SKÓLABRÚ, Pósthússtræti 17 ,101 Reykjavik ,tel. 354 511 1690 , Cuisines: European, Scandinavian, Central European, International , booking@skolabru.is, <http://www.skolabru.is>

TAPAS BARINN, Vesturgötu 3b ,101 Reykjavik, T:551 2344, tapas@tapas.is, <http://tapas.is/is>

THE STEAK HOUSE, steik@steik.is, www.steik.is

UNO CUCINA ITALIANA, Hafnarstræti 1-3 ,101 Reykjavik , Cuisines: Italian, Tapas, Contemporary, Bistro,t:561 1313, uno@uno.is, <http://www.uno.is>



Geirsgötu 3 ,101 Reykjavik ,
Cuisines: Contemporary,
Tel:354 567 2700 , info@koparrestaurant.is,
www.koparrestaurant.is

VOX RESTAURANT, Sudurlandsbraut 2, 108 Reykjavik ,Iceland , Phone: 354 444 5050, vox@vox.is, <http://www.vox.is/en>