

Riding – Tours to / from Loðmundarfjörður 2024

Tour 1: July 07 - 14 (forward run Geirastaðir-Loðmundarfjörður)

Tour 2: July 16 - 23 (way back Loðmundarfjörður- Geirastaðir)

Our 8-day riding tour with free-range herd takes us directly from our farm Geirastadir into the fascinating mountains of Iceland's eastern fjords. The route is very varied and attractive: on old postal route, over wide sandy areas and steep mountain passes to the small village Bakkagerdi in Borgarfjörður eystri, whose region is known for its magical nature. Here we can expect rhyolite-colored mountain ranges, puffins and a hot pot next to the sea. In the next days we will continue through the imposing mountains to the secluded fjords Breidavik, Húsavik and Lodmundarfjörður with overnight stays in cozy hiking huts close by the horses. There are additional evening rides possible to the sea through the black lava sand.

Inclusive:

- 7 riding days (about 20- 35 km per day) mainly with free-roaming herd, 2 riding horses per person, 1 departure day

- 3 nights in singel, twin or triple bedrooms on our farm Geirastaðir

- 3 nights in shared rooms or mattress rooms in the cosy mountain huts from Víknaslóðir

- 1 “luxus” night in the hotel Blábjörg with the possibility to enjoy hot pot and spa directly by the sea

- Transfer from / to domestic airport Egilsstaðir. Luggage transport to the respective accommodations (informations about the domestic flight Reykjavik-Egilsstaðir you will find on www.icelandair.com)

- Full board from afternoon arrival day (Tour 1: July 07) to lunch departure day (July 14).

Tour 2: from lunch arrival day (July 16) to breakfast departure day (July 23) :

consisting of an extensive breakfast, lunch package on the way as lunch, coffee with pastries and a warm dinner, partly traditional Icelandic. Preferences of participants (e.g. vegetarian) are considered.

Not included: alcoholic drinks, entrance to the geothermal bath Vök and the Hotpot / Spa at the hotel Blábjörg

Price 2024: each Tour 2 700 €

Number of participants: 6-11 persons

Difficulty level: experienced riders

Informations about the region:

<https://www.borgarfjordureystri.is/home>

<https://www.east.is>



Tour 1 (Forward run Geirastaðir-Loðmundarfjörður) July 07-14, 2024

1st day, July 07

Arrival at Geirastaðir, horseback riding to the river Jökulsá - Overnight Geirastadir

We meet in the afternoon in the small town Egilsstaðir at the domestic airport at 15.35 o'clock. Then we drive "out into the country", about 40 km to our farm Geirastaðir. Cozy coffee, then we go on a short riding tour to getting to know the horses.

2nd day, July 08

Departure for the riding tour: Geirastaðir-Hóll- Overnight Geirastaðir

Now it starts with the whole herd on our tour. On the old postal route over the vast land of the Hróarstunga, first to the beautiful old wooden church at Kirkjubær. Enjoy a hearty lunch break at the sheep farm before continuing along the Lagarfljót river towards the mountains. The horses stay at the abandoned farm Hóll in the pasture, we drive back and stay overnight on Geirastaðir

3rd day, July 09

Hóll - Gagnstöð - Overnight Geirastaðir

A wonderfully scenic and diversified route. Experience has shown that it is difficult to keep the horses together as a herd on this route, so we ride with hand horses. We go along the open grass and sand plain of the Héraðsandi in the direction of the mountains. A part of the ride is directly at the beach through the black lava sand with an amazing view of the sea.

The ride today is not very long so it will be possible to drive to Egilsstaðir and enjoy the evening at the geothermal bath Vök (www.vokbaths.is). Last overnight stay at Geirastaðir

4th day, July 10

Gagnstöð-Borgarfjörður eystri, Overnight Hotel Blábjörg, Borgarfjörður eystri

Now it continues with the whole herd again, first towards the sea / Stapavík, but then on a narrow path steeply uphill over the mountain pass Gönguskarð. During the descent, we lead the horses at steep stretches. The view of the mountains of Borgarfjörður eystri in front of us is breathtakingly beautiful. The well deserved lunch break is in the sheepfold of the farm Njarðvík. Afterwards, continue along the winding country road directly along the sea to Borgarfjörður (see www.borgarfjordureystri.en) and to the idyllic village of Bakkagerði, where there is much to discover, including: the bird cliff Hafnarhólmi, where hundreds of puffins and various seagull species breed in summer. There is also an "Elven Hill" for hiking and the cozy Álfakaffi. We treat ourselves to a "luxury night" in the Hotel Blábjörg with bed linen, hot pot and spa directly by the sea (extra fee) and a wonderful breakfast buffet.

5th day, July 11

Borgarfjörður-eystri-Breiðavík, *overnight mountain hut Breiðavík*

Again a beautiful route through the colorful, gigantic mountains around the Borgarfjord. Even now there are about 600 meters to overcome, but this time not quite as steep as on the Gönguskard and on wider, well-fortified gravel roads. Our destination this time is the bay Breidavik, where we spend the night in a cozy hiking hut.

If you want, you can ride on your favorite horse to the beach in the evening or the next morning....

6th day, July 12

Breiðavík- Húsavík – *overnight mountain hut Húsavík*

We continue riding through the fascinating mountain landscape, past the mountain lake Gæsavatn and the striking liparite-rich rock Hvitserkur to the next mountain hut Húsavík. From there we can in the evening ride or drive again to the sea and visit the small beautiful Húsavík Church.

7th day, July 13

Húsavík - Loðmundarfjörður *overnight mountain hut Lodmundarfjörður*

The last day of the tour takes us over a mountain pass in the particularly beautiful Loðmundarfjörður surrounded by majestic mountains. There we stay in the hiking hut next to the old church Klyppstaðir, barbecue and celebrate our successfully completed riding tour. The horses are released in plenty of grass into the well-deserved break.

8th day, July 14

Drive back to Egilsstaðir. We drive you over the mountains back to Egilsstaðir (duration with break about 4 hours) - Arrival there at afternoon. We will drive you at the domestic flight at 16.05 o'clock.- and wish a good home journey or even onward journey in Iceland.





Tour 2 (way back, Loðmundarfjörður - Geirastaðir) July, 16.– 23. 2024

1st day, July 16

Arrival in Egilsstaðir, drive to Loðmundarfjörður

Overnight mountain hut Lodmundarfjörður

We meet at 08.35 o'clock at the domestic airport of the small town Egilsstaðir and drive approximately 150 km, scenic route into the beautiful fishing village Bakkagerdi in Borgarfjörður eystri, where we make leisurely a lunch break at the puffin rock Holmavík. Then it's about 2 hours on serpentine paths in the enchanted, lonely Lodmundarfjord where our horses have been accommodated since Tour 1. After coffee break we will go to the first horse ride to the sea to get to know the horses before it starts with the whole herd the next day. We spend the night in the cozy hiking hut in Lodmundarfjörður next to the small church Klyppstaðir with a magical view of the surrounding mountains.

2nd day, July 17

Loðmundarfjörður – Húsavík, Overnight mountain hut Húsavík

Now it starts with the whole herd on our tour. A very beautiful route over the steep mountains to the next mountain hut in Húsavík.

From there we can in the evening ride or drive again to the sea and visit the small beautiful Húsavík Church.

3rd day, July 18

Húsavík –Breiðavík, Overnight mountain hut Breiðavík

We ride from the hut in Húsavík through a fascinating mountain landscape, past the striking liparite-rich rock Hvítserkur and the mountain lake Gæsavatn, down into the next fjörd Breiðavík. The hut is very close to the sea and you can ride again in the evening to the beach with your favorite horse.

4th day, July 19

Breiðavík -Borgarfjörður-eystri, Overnight Hotel Blábjörg, Borg.eystri

It goes over 2 amazing mountain passes towards Borgarfjörður eystri and back to the idyllic village of Bakkagerði, where apart from the bird rock Holmavik there is still much more to discover: an "elf hill" to be walked around, the old church of Bakkagerdi, the cozy Álfacafe and if you want finally the hot pot /spa next to the sea to relax (extra fee) "Luxury" overnight at Hotel Blábjörg (, see <http://www.blabjorg.com/>)

5th day, July 20

Borgarfjörður-eystri –Gagnstöð, Overnight Geirastaðir

After the delicious breakfast buffet in Blábjörg, we start from Bakkagerdi on the country road along the sea to Njarðvík, where we take a leisurely break at the sheepfold. Then we ride or if necessary lead the horses over the steep, scenic mountain pass Gönguskarð with an amazing sea view over the last mountain of our tour. On the other side we leave our horses at the farm Gagnstöð and drive to our farm Geirastadir.

6th day, July 21

Gagnstöð-Hóll, Overnight Geirastaðir

We ride over sand dunes and open uneven meadow areas through the beautiful Héraðsandur area. Experience has shown that it is difficult to keep the horses together as a herd on this route, so we ride with hand horses. A part of the ride today will be at the beach, a good opportunity to make great fotos on the black lava sand. The ride today is not very long so it will be possible to drive to Egilsstaðir and enjoy the evening at the geothermal bath Vök (www.vokbaths.is). Overnight stay at Geirastaðir

7th day, July 22

Hóll –Geirastaðir, Overnight Geirastaðir

The last part of the riding tour along the big river Lagarfljót to the old church Kirkjubær, from where an old postal tour leads directly to our farm Geirastaðir. There the horses are allowed finally on their native pastures and we ourselves celebrate the "made" tour with Roasted lamb.

On the morning of the **23th of July** we drive the participants to the domestic airport (departure 9 o'clock) in Egilsstaðir - and wish a good home journey or even onward journey in Iceland.

