



**SEEDS**

VOLUNTEERING FOR ICELAND

## SEEDS 070. Environmentally Aware & Trash Hunting in Reykjavík

### KEY INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CAMP.

<b>Dates:</b>	18.10.2021 - 03.11.2021
<b>Expected size of the group:</b>	6 participants
<b>SEEDS Fee:</b>	Erasmus+ Grant
<b>Meeting point &amp; time:</b>	SEEDS Office - Grettisgata 3a, 101 Reykjavík Or if paid for at KEF Keflavík International Airport
<b>Emergency contacts:</b>	Oscar: +354 7713300

### Brief camp description:

The Environmentally Aware & Trash Hunting project is part of a series of camps organised by SEEDS in cooperation with different partners. SEEDS works with The Blue Army, an organisation dedicated to the cause of coast cleaning; Sea Shepherd Iceland, an organisation dedicated to defend, conserve and protect the oceans; Whales of Iceland, an exhibition of life size models of whales and porpoises aiming at educating about their lives and human impact on their existence, and SORPA, the organisation in charge of waste collection & management in the Reykjavík area.

This camp allows participants to learn about global and local environmental issues, through non-formal activities such as workshops, discussions, presentations and visits, as well as to contribute directly to environment protection by joining outdoor cleanup tasks.

These cleanup tasks may be arranged in partnership with the abovementioned organisations or organised solely by SEEDS. We aim to also involve the local community, so some of our events may be open to the public. We hope participants will also learn how to plan and do their own trash hunting projects back home. This project is based on similar activities around the world, where outstanding results have been achieved with volunteers. One of the two options below is also included in this camp as a hands-on volunteering activity day:

1. A day trip combining a guided tour to the Hellisheiði power station, a trash hunt in the Blue Mountains area; and the Hot River Hike, a hike up a valley filled with hot springs where one can bathe.
2. A day trip to the Reykjanes peninsula, combined with a coastal cleanup in the area.

Furthermore, participants may be able to visit the recycling centre SORPA, where a tour of the facilities and a lecture regarding waste management in Reykjavík will be provided. The mentioned activities are dependent on conditions such as weather, pandemic-related restrictions, as well as availability of our partner organisations.

This camp combines learning, sharing, hands-on work and fun. No previous experience is needed. Volunteers should prepare to share environmental issues from their countries and be ready to spend time outdoors, walk medium distances during the cleanups, as during other activities and sightseeing. As part of the project happens outdoors, volunteers should

be ready to adapt and be flexible with the work and free-time schedule, as depending on the changeable weather, we may not be able to perform some of the activities planned.

**Meeting point:**

**TIME:** 6:00 pm (18:00) on Monday, October 18, 2021.

**LOCATION:** SEEDS Office - Grettisgata 3a, 101 Reykjavík

<https://seeds.is/files/2021/seeds-office-Grettisgata3a.pdf>

If your flight is delayed or arrives later to Keflavík International airport and you do not manage to be on time at 18:00 in our office, please call the emergency number and let us know so we can give you further details on how and where to meet.

If wished by SVI and all the volunteers arrive at the same time, we may be able to organise a shuttle service for the group for EUR 20 per person, for one way or EUR 40 for the return journey.

**Extras / Special Remarks:**

**The participation fee is covered by the grant allocation of the Erasmus+ grant.**

The participation fee shall be transferred to SEEDS the latest one month before the camp starts, to confirm the placement of the participant/s.

Please transfer the fees to SEEDS account as follows:

Account holder: SEEDS (SEE beyond borderS)  
IBAN Code: IS02 0515 3871 0806 4711 0517 10  
SWIFT-BIC Code: GLITISRE  
Bank: Íslandsbanki  
Address: Kirkjusandi 155, IS - 105 Reykjavík, Iceland

Keep in mind **we do not accept payments with credit or debit cards**. If you prefer to transfer the fee to SEEDS, please let us know in advance and we can send you our bank account details and information needed.

Our fee includes transportation from the meeting point to the camp (on the first day), the visits available; and one trip combined with the trash collection activity (Hot River or Reykjanes). Some of these activities are dependent on conditions such as weather, pandemic-related restrictions, as well as availability of our partner organisations.

Other excursions (Golden Circle, South Shore, Vesturland and/or Snæfellsnes Peninsula) can be arranged at discount fares for SEEDS participants if there is free time after the camp workshops and if the weather conditions are favourable.

We also try to organise some local leisure activities such as a visit to the flea market and the city centre.

## Location:

Reykjavík is a dynamic, modern city which lives in harmony with nature, using renewable energy sources. The world's northernmost capital bridges the Atlantic, between Europe and North America. Reykjavík is spread across a peninsula with a panoramic view of the mountains and the Atlantic.

Reykjavík is often called "the nightlife capital of the north", but there is more than pubs and clubs. It also gathers the most interesting aspects of Icelandic culture. It is an incubator of new ideas & styles which often indicates new global trends. It is an International city with a lively cosmopolitan cultural scene surrounded by beautiful nature.

In the area closer than 100 km from Reykjavík, there are several spectacular waterfalls, geysers, impressive coastline and the well-known geothermal Blue Lagoon spa to visit.

## Useful links:

Tourist Information on Reykjavík:	<a href="http://visitreykjavik.is">http://visitreykjavik.is</a>
Official travel guide to Iceland:	<a href="http://www.visiticeland.com">http://www.visiticeland.com</a>
Wiki Guide to Iceland:	<a href="http://wikitravel.org/en/Iceland">http://wikitravel.org/en/Iceland</a>
Local weather conditions:	<a href="http://en.vedur.is">http://en.vedur.is</a>
Latest exchange rate of the Icelandic króna:	<a href="https://www.landsbankinn.is">https://www.landsbankinn.is</a>

## Transport from Keflavík Airport to Reykjavík - Flybus discount

**[Please note that the following information describes the situation before the pandemic. Several factors may be different, according to the changing situation.]**

The most convenient way is to use **the Flybus return ticket** (back and forth, as the price is cheaper than buying 2 singles); we recommend to use the Flybus ticket as it includes the shuttle service from BSÍ bus station to different drop-off stations, hostels, hotels or guesthouses around the city.

SEEDS participants get 50% discount when showing the voucher below completed. If you want to have the discount you need to buy your Flybus return at the Flybus sales counter at Keflavík Airport arrivals hall.

<https://seeds.is/files/2021/seeds-volunteers-reykjavik-excursions-voucher.pdf>

**Discount does not apply on online booking. Print the voucher and buy the ticket at the airport desk to get the discounted price.**

You can pay for the tickets in cash in ISK, Euros or you can use your debit or credit card. Tickets can not be bought on the bus.

Buses leave from the airport 35 - 40 minutes after each flight has landed, so even if you are travelling late at night, or your plane is delayed you will be able to take the bus to Reykjavík.

The journey from the airport to Reykjavík takes around 45 minutes. Passengers are dropped off either at the BSÍ bus station or if you buy the additional service Flybus (which we recommend) then at a hotel, hostel or guesthouse in Reykjavík city centre.

If you are coming directly from the airport to the SEEDS office, the most convenient stop is "Bus stop 8 - Hallgrímskirkja" which is located next to Reykjavík's tallest building and the

church landmark of the city. SEEDS office is located a short walk down the hill from there.

The bus will most likely drop you off at the side of the church Hallgrímskirkja. From there you need to walk towards the Leifur Eiríksson viking statue. Walk down the street Skólavörðustígur, which is in line with the Leifur Eiríksson viking statue. Walk down Skólavörðustígur for about 450 meters until you reach the bookstore Eymundsson (a large glass and wood building on the right hand-side), then turn right onto Vegamótastígur and soon again right into Grettisgata.

Our office is located in the backyard/courtyard of Grettisgata 3, there is a shoe repair store called "Práinn Skóari", next to it there is a hallway (short pedestrian tunnel) to go to the back of the building and there you should find us!

For more details about getting to Iceland please read the section "Travel to Iceland" of the SEEDS CAMPS GENERAL INFORMATION SHEET.

<https://seeds.is/files/2021/seeds-iceland-general-information-sheet-2021.pdf>

**Take note that most participants won't be able to come to our office directly from the bus terminal, because of virus testing and quarantine requirements. Please make sure to read the following section about travelling and COVID-restrictions and plan your trip accordingly.**

### COVID, Travel & Quarantine

Because of the current pandemic situation, travellers arriving in Iceland need to take a virus test on arrival at the airport, stay in quarantine for 5 days and take another test. To avoid risks, we at SEEDS do not allow participants to join our camps until we are certain that they have not tested positive for COVID; therefore we recommend everyone to arrive in Iceland at least 5 days prior to the meeting time, to allow for the quarantine period to pass before joining the camp.

For more detailed information about the government's decisions, the health service's advice and the procedures involved, please read our info document below:

[https://seeds.is/files/2020/SEEDS\\_Iceland\\_Travel\\_Information\\_COVID.pdf](https://seeds.is/files/2020/SEEDS_Iceland_Travel_Information_COVID.pdf)

This document will be updated as soon as the situation changes, so be sure to check it from time to time (remember to refresh your browser's cache, to ensure it shows the newest version).

### Accommodation during the camp

SEEDS participants will stay in a house in Reykjavík. The facilities are basic with a kitchen, showers, and a washing machine. Everyone is expected to show consideration for their companions. Participants will sleep in shared rooms or dormitories. Please bring your own sleeping bag.

Volunteers will receive food supplies and will be in charge of cooking and cleaning. Please note the food SEEDS provides will be **vegetarian**. Do not forget to bring some traditional/typical food, drinks, recipes, music, games or movies from your country for the intercultural evening. Please be aware some items or ingredients may be expensive in Iceland and you will need to buy them yourself or bring them from your country.

Please note that SEEDS provides food & accommodation for the participants from the evening of the first day of the camp until the morning of the last day of their camps.

There is no internet access (WiFi) in SEEDS accommodations, but there are many coffee houses with free WiFi internet access in Reykjavik, so there is this possibility if you need to use the internet.

## Accommodation after the camp

We can recommend you to book night/s in one of these hostels:

<http://www.lofthostel.is/>

<http://www.kexhostel.is/>

<http://www.hostel.is/Hostels/Reykjavikdowntown/>

<http://www.hostel.is/Hostels/Reykjavikloft/>

<http://www.hlemmursquare.com/>

or to use one of the following services:

<http://www.airbnb.com>

<http://www.booking.com>

## Essential equipment

Please read section 4, "What to bring with you", of the SEEDS GENERAL INFORMATION SHEET. <https://seeds.is/files/2021/seeds-iceland-general-information-sheet-2021.pdf>

It is **ESSENTIAL** that you bring:

- Clothes that you do not mind getting dirty
- Good, strong shoes that you do not mind getting dirty
- Waterproof jacket and trousers that you do not mind getting dirty
- Sleeping bag
- Sandals or flip flops, to use indoors in the accommodation
- Swimsuit and towel
- Warm clothes, hats, gloves & scarves as the project takes place outdoors.

We **strongly** recommend you to bring:

- Refillable water bottle
- Lunch box to carry food during the excursions
- Face mask

## Free time:

Participants will have some days-off during the camp: either during the weekend or on the usual working days, Monday to Friday, depending on the camp schedule and activities.

The fee includes transportation from the meeting point to the camp (on the first day), the visits available and one trip combined with the trash collection activity.

Other excursions (e.g. Golden Circle, South Shore, Vesturland and/or Snæfellsnes Peninsula) can be arranged at discount fares if there is additional free time after the camp workshops/sessions. It may be cold and/or rainy, so we recommend bringing warm and waterproof clothes (underlayers, overcoats, scarves, gloves and hats) and good walking

shoes, as some of the activities take place outdoors.

If you wish to do an activity independently of the group, you must discuss it with the camp leader and s/he must be fully aware of your plans. Your independence will be respected during the camp but the leader has the ultimate responsibility for you and your safety while on our camp in Iceland (they will have to sort out the problems if you get lost or injured).

Do not forget our leaders are volunteers like you, so try to cooperate with them at work and during free time activities. They are not fully responsible for organising your free time and they hope for your ideas and contributions.

During free time, participants will have the opportunity to explore and discover places in the city; if weather conditions are on our side, we will have plenty to see and visit.

Weather in Iceland is unpredictable and it can be cold or rainy. Please bring warm and/or waterproof clothes, overcoats, scarves, gloves and hats as part of the project takes place outside.