

# Hostels welcome

With a total of 32 HI Hostels situated all around the country, Icelandic HI Hostels represent far more than simply an affordable place to stay.

No two HI Hostels are alike which makes the stay at each hostel unique. Conveniently located, HI Hostels provide a good night's rest after a long day of cycling.

For further information take a look at our homepage www.hostel.is or contact us directly.



HI Iceland ■ Tel. +354 575 6700 ■ info@hostel.is ■ www.hostel.is





#### **Scheduled Buses 2014**

The Line Map shows various travel possibilities with scheduled coaches in Iceland. The colours and numbers of the lines show the different bus systems and local connections in the country.

> The STRÆTÓ System This is the main official bus system.

Tel. 540 2700 - www.bus.is "ICELAND ON YOUR OWN"

A system run jointly by "Reykjavik Excursions" and "SBA-Norðurleið" **REYKJAVIK EXCURSIONS:** Tel. 580 5400 - www.ioyo.is - www.re.is SBA-NORĐURLEIÐ: Tel. 550 0700 - www.sba.is

> The STERNA System Tel. 551 1166 - www.sterna.is

**LOCAL OPERATORS:** TREX Tel. 587 6000 - www.trex.is



#### Schedules to **Þórsmörk** and **Landmannalaugar**.

Main lines in the WESTFJORDS **OPERATION NOT GUARANTEED** (as of June 20, 2014) Please call Westfjords Tourist Information

İsafjörður area To Suðureyri - Flateyri - Þingeyri www.isafjordur.is - Tel. 450 8060 & 893 6356

Local Bus Operators in the Westfjords *Ísafjörður – Bolungarvík:* Valdimar L. Gíslason Tel. 892 1417 & 456 7195 Patreksfjörður - Bíldudalur: Torfi Elís Andrésson Tel. 893 2636

Tel. 450 8060 - www.westfjords.is

· Askja & Herðubreiðarlindir MÝVATN TOURS: Tel. 464 1920 - www.myvatntours.is FJALLASÝN: Tel. 464 3941 & 464 3940

The SVAUST System Tourist Info Center in Egilsstaðir: Tel. 471 2320 www.east.is - www.fjardabyggd.is - svaust@austurbru.is

> SBK Tel. 420 6000 www.sbk.is & www.rexbus.is

Garður and Sandgerði: Tel. 840 1540 - www.bus4u.is

Reykjavik Excursions Tel. 580 5400 - www.re.is - www.flybus.is

TRANSFER TO KEFLAVIK AIRPORTS airportexpress Tel. 540 1313

Weather in Iceland

www.yr.no

www.olis.is

www.bvko.is

www.husa.is

www.ellingsen.is

www.skeljungur.is

bike equipment

www.belgingur.is/locales/en

Service stations offering

These are found in every town

food, WC and air pumping

Shop chains with seasonal

Roads and road conditions

Useful info in English for cyclists:

The Icelandic Mountain Bike Club • Ulf Hoffman

www.vegagerdin.is/english

The Bikina Book of Iceland

Trails you can find in the

Mirjam Wouters - blog

Westfjords. www.vestfirska.is

flybus Tel. 580 5400 www.re.is - www.flybus.is

Guided Bike Tours and Bike Renta

www.bikecompany.is | info@bikecompany.is | +354-590-85

**Useful Links & Info for Cyclists** 

**Swimming Pools** 

www.swimminginiceland.com

www.samferda.is - Carpooling in Iceland

Travelling in Iceland

www.planiceland.com

www.visiticeland.com

www.visitreykjavik.is

Free maps of Iceland

Accommodation

www.farmholidays.is

Camping Grounds

www.bikinaiceland.com

Michiel Erens

icecvcle.htm

has cycled around Iceland for many

has cycled around Iceland since 1998

www.members.ziggo.nl/erens/

vears. Web in German and English

www.hostel.is

**EMERGENCY NUMBER 112** 

**Cycling Iceland and Public Transport 2014** 

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ther employees of Vegagerðin, Ulla Zuehlke, Karl Benediktsson, Kjartan Guðnason, Róbert Berman, vík Eckart Gústafsson, Guðbjörg Lilja Erlendsdóttir, Morten Lange, Árni Davíðsson, Alban Johns

Landmælingar Íslands and Tour Info staff around Iceland. Based on info available on 20 June 2014. While we take a lot of care to get the details correct,

we cannot accept responsibility for any errors. Check details for yourself, take care, and enjoy your time cycling in Iceland

This map is dedicated to our generation, our children and our future.

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www.travelnet.is

www.nat.is

**≒**K\*EXPRESS Tel. 823-0099

#### Practical hints for Cyclists using Public Transport

•Cyclists bringing their bikes on flights to Iceland need to pack them in suitable boxes. •At Keflavik airport there are no facilities for assembling or disassembling bikes.

the airport and the Hostel. At Keflavik airport, Bilahotel offers storage of transport boxes. •In most domestic airports you will find some space to work on your bike. Just be considerate and don't take up too much space.

•For getting out of Reykjavik, public transport to a town outside the city (e.g. Akranes, Borgarnes

or Hveragerði) is a good option. It is cheap and there can be two bikes on each bus if space permits. Transport of bikes in the buses of Strætó bs. is free of charge.

·By starting the trip from Reykjavik on the bus the cyclist avoids the hectic and traffic-loaded roads leading to and from the city. By taking the bus to Akranes or Borganes, one bypasses • Revkiavik City Hostel offers facilities to assemble and disassemble bikes and will store transport the only tunnel in Iceland that is not passable by bike: the Hvalfjörður tunnel. Leaving the bus bike boxes. This is also the location of the Reykjavik camping area. The bus takes you between in Kjalarnes on the way to the West and cycling the Hvalfjörður fjord is especially pleasant, though. The fjord enjoys fantastic nature and sparse car traffic.

> •In Iceland public transport buses are operated by several companies. The map reflects which company operates which routes. The operators have homepages showing the seasonal schedules, prices and other useful info. Apart from Strætó, most collect fees for the transport of bicycles. It is advisable to check beforehand the conditions of the operator you plan to travel with.

•You can get on or off the bus anywhere the main road meets smaller roads on the route in rural areas. Just be sure to make clear if you want the bus to stop. In the Capital area and other areas with local buses, they only stop at marked stops.

•For routes 79, 83, 84 and 85, please consult the service centre at tel. 540 2700.

•In rural areas, bikes are put in the luggage compartments of the buses or on bike racks. The number of bikes that can be allowed on any given bus can not be guaranteed, but bikes are usually allowed as long as there is room for them.

•For all rural buses, you can buy tickets on the bus with cash or credit cards. When you pay for a single fare in local Strætó in Reykjavik, you must have the exact amount, as there is no change. •Most domestic ferries do charge for the transport of bicycles.

#### **PUBLIC TRANSPORT - Summer 2014** Hofsós Q 85 **57** fjarðarnes Borgarfjörður eysti Egilsstaðir Stöðvarfjörður Breiðdalsvík Akranes Reykjavík 18 Emstrur 9 T11 Airports with scheduled flights See info in "Domestic Flights 2014" **Scheduled Ferry Connections** LEIĐALYKILL® OVERGROUND See info in "Scheduled Ferries 2014" For dashed route lines of STRÆTÓ passengers must call Tel. 540 2700 at least 2-4 hrs. before departure.

#### Cycling in Iceland

f you are planning an adventurous cycling trip, Iceland is unique in many ways. It is safe to travel here if you are properly prepared, and you will find Icelanders both helpful and friendly. You can plan your own trip but there are also a few companies that specialize in guided bike tours.

#### The weather

Iceland's cool, oceanic climate is guite mild for its latitude, thanks to the Gulf Stream. The summers are short, and the best time to visit is late May to early September. The average daytime temperature around the coast during May to September is 10-12°C (50-55°F). Average daily sunshine in July and August is 5-6 hours, and during the summer months the nights are bright: on clear days you have 24 hours of daylight and even the midnight sun near the Arctic Circle.

owever, the weather is extremely changeable and unpredictable so you should always be prepared for the unexpected. You can encounter strong sudden winds and even snow in the middle of summer. Even if you stick to the main road, you should always follow the weather forecast and in all cases carry warm clothing with you. Try to keep your plans flexible so you can go with evening. Benefits of this also include far less motor traffic on the busier roads and the wonders of experiencing sunset and sunrise, but of course less access to shops and services.

You can get the weather forecast by telephone: 902 0600 or just by asking the locals. Icelanders follow the weather forecast almost religiously. At altitudes in the interior highlands the temperatures are of course lower. Check the weather forecast at the Icelandic Meteorological Office http://en.vedur.is or http://en.vedur.is/m for mobile phones.

#### The roads

A rather large portion of Iceland's road system is made up of gravel roads, especially those with less traffic. The main highway around Iceland, Route 1, circles the country in around 1400 kilometres.

Travel in Iceland the

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iPhone Android Windows

bus.is

Once you get away from the South-West, the traffic becomes less but it is still fast and the roads get narrower, especially once you get off Route 1. On the gravel roads you may encounter long stretches with potholes, "washboards" or loose sand but far less traffic. Cyclists are allowed in all tunnels except the one under Hvalfjörður north of Reykjavík.

#### The interior highlands

The mountain roads across the interior highlands are usually closed until late May or even as late as July, depending on the road and the weather conditions in spring.

The Road Administration has information on mountain roads and when they open in the summers at www.vegagerdin.is/english

The highland roads are all rough gravel/dirt roads of various qualities from packed mud to washboards, loose gravel and even sand which may be impossible to cycle when it has been dry for some period. Many rivers must be crossed at fords and can become dangerous in or after rain, and in the case of glacial rivers, in warm periods. You may therefore have to wait until late night or early morning to cross some glacial rivers during the summer. Mountain bikes with fat studded tires for good tracking and comfort and low gear ratios to help climbing steep hills are recommended. the wind instead of struggling against it. If you must go against the wind, you might consider Please remember that in the highlands the nearest lodging can be far away. The highlands are cycling in the late evening and in the night (in June and July) as the wind often calms down in the generally devoid of shops and any services. Terrible storms may rage. Large areas have no mobile telephone coverage and some tracks are very lonely.

> The map overleaf only shows the amount of traffic and where loose sand can be expected. It shows only the major fords. Please read the legend to the map carefully. Those who plan to travel in the interior highlands, must acquire further information, not covered by this map.

#### Accommodation

The Cycling Map shows urban areas in Iceland where camping or indoor accommodation is available. In the rural areas camping and other accommodation are only marked if they are 20 km or further away from urban places. Huts in the highlands may (quite likely) be full and need to be booked well in advance.

In general travellers are allowed to put up their tents everywhere except on cultivated land, too

close to residential buildings and especially protected areas. It is a common courtesy to ask farmers for permission before camping on their land. Food and drink

#### Food can be purchased only in towns and some other highway locations. You will therefore have

to take food for several days when you are crossing the highlands. As Iceland is sparsely populated there may be 100 to 200 km between shops even on the Ring Road between Mývatn and Egilsstaðir and Höfn and Skaftafell. Nater can usually be accessed quite easily in the countryside from streams and rivers. However in

sand and lava areas water needs to be carried. Never take water from areas where farms or fields are upriver. There you can visit the farms and get tap water. Water from glacial rivers should only be drunk in emergency and preferably filtered. Usually 1 to 2 litres of water carrying capacity

Based on information from The Icelandic Mountain Bike Club, visit their website for further info: http://fjallahjolaklubburinn.is/english

#### **Cycling events in Iceland** www.hjolamot.is











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info@hikeandbike.is - Tel.: +354 899 4845 www.hikeandbike.is

EAGLE AIR

Hike & Bike is a travel agency, a booking center and

a tour operator, located in the village of Reykjahlid,

Day tours Air tours Scheduled flights Experience excitement in celand's pure nature or get a bird's eye view of Iceland's most beautiful places



#### **Scheduled Ferries 2014**

Reykjavík - Viðey Island Tel. 533 5055 & 519 5000 - www.videy.com

Vestmannaeyjar

Harbour, or in bad weather from

Tel. 433 2254 - www.seatours.is



**E EIMSKIP** The ferry **Herjólfur** sails from LANDEYJA

www.eimskip.is/EN/iceland\_domestic/herjolfur Stykkishólmur - Flatey - Brjánslækur Car Ferry Baldur across Breiðafjörður Bay:

Seatours

Litli-Árskógssandur - Hrísey Ferry Sævar to Hrísey: Tel. 695 5544 www.hrisey.net/en/page/the\_ferry\_schedule

ÞORLÁKSHÖFN. Tel. 481 2800 - www.herjolfur.is

Visit Hrîsey

Dalvík - Hrísey Ferry Sæfari: Tel. 458 8970 & 467 3102 www.landflutningar.is/saefari

Dalvík - Grímsey

Landflutningar

To Hornstrandir and Vigur Island VESTURFERÐIR: Tel. 456 5111 - www.vesturferdir.is BOREA: Tel. 456 3322 - www.boreaadventures.com/boat\_tours

**Drangey Island** 

Ferry from Reykir to Drangey: Tel. 821 0090 - www.drangey.net

#### **Domestic Flights 2014**

**AIR ICELAND destinations:** Ísafjörður, Akureyri, Egilsstaðir, Grímsey, Þórshöfn, Vopnafjörður. **Tel. 570 3030** - **www.airiceland.is** 



**EAGLE AIR destinations:** Vestmannaeyjar, Höfn, Húsavík, Bíldudalur, Gjögur. Tel. 562 4200 - www.eagleair.is





www.reykjavikbiketours.is | Call / text: 00 (354) 694 8956

CELAND

ON YOUR OWN

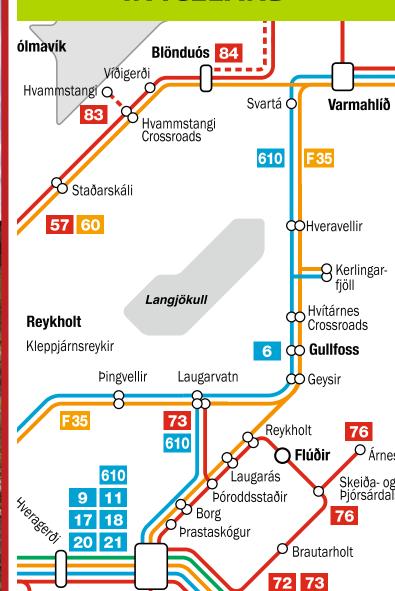
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& Bus Passports

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Reykjavik

### **PUBLIC IN ICELAND**



Summer 2014

🔾 Sandvík

🕽 Tjarnarbyggð

Rjúpnavelli

Leirubakki

**Selfoss** 

Eyrarbakki



zi.inyəfafaerni.is

## TRANSPORT

Summer 2014

CYCLING ICELAND