



ICELAND : SHEEP ROUND UP – GNUPVERJAHREPPUR - 2011

YOUR ITINERARY

The Icelandic Round Up is a genuine tradition and has its roots way back in the past when pastures and fields near the farms were very precious and had to be kept for the hay harvest.

Join the farmers in South Iceland when they gather the thousands of sheep from the mountains. Experience Icelandic horses at their best, sure-footed and eager to fulfil the task set for them every autumn. Be a part of the singing and celebrating after the successful journey into the highlands to secure the livestock. Visit the many sights of the area, such as beautiful Gjáin valley, majestic waterfalls Gullfoss and Hjalparfoss, famous Geysir hot spring area and Thingvellir National Park! Accommodation in made up beds at Fossnes Farm. Enjoy the hot outdoor tub after each riding day!

This year, we have added the fourth riding day to this popular tour, a day that will take us into the mountains and valleys in the homeland of Fossnes Farm.

DAY 1 - MONDAY SEPTEMBER 12: ARRIVAL IN ICELAND

Transfer from Keflavík Airport to our riding centre in Hafnarfjörður, where we invite you to a Welcome Meeting including traditional Icelandic soup (Kjötsúpa). Receive details of the following tour and meet your fellow riders. At approx. 19.00 transfer to a hotel, situated in the centre of Reykjavík. Those who have arrived earlier this day or the day before will be picked up at the hotel between 16.30 and 17.00.

DAY 2 - TUESDAY: REYKJAVÍK – THINGVELLIR – GEYSIR – GULLFOSS – FOSSNES FARM

Departure from Reykjavík via Thingvellir Nationalpark, Geysir hot springs and Gullfoss Waterfall to Fossnes Farm, situated in beautiful surroundings. Here we meet horses and staff members. After an introduction to the Icelandic horse and its special gaits we start our ride along pleasant trails and explore the colourful Gnúpverjahreppur countryside. During the ride you will enjoy the view of deep green mountains, valleys and the mighty glacial river Thjórsá. Relax in a hot tub before a hearty dinner at the farm. (25 km)

DAY 3 - WEDNESDAY: FOSSNES – HÓLASKÓGUR – FOSSNES

This day takes us into the mountains and fields of black ashes from numerous eruptions of volcano Mt. Hekla. At Hólaskógur mountain cabin we meet the farmers who have been riding in the mountains for some days already to gather the sheep. We leave the horses at Hólaskógur and drive back to Fossnes for an overnight stay and a relaxation in the hot outdoor tub. (35 km)

DAY 4 - THURSDAY AND FRIDAY: RIDING AND ROUNDING UP THE SHEEP

During both days we join the farmers, ride along and help them with their flocks, yet sometimes leaving them to take a look at some of the interesting sights in the area, such as Gjáin valley with its rich vegetation, beautiful Hjalparfoss Waterfall and Stöng, the site of a 12th century Viking farm. We participate in the round-ups, help the farmers sort out their livestock and join in their singing and celebrating after a successful ride into the mountains. (40 km) + (20 km)



DAY 5 - SATURDAY: FOSSNES – BLUE LAGOON – REYKJAVÍK

It is time to say goodbye to our hosts and horses. On our way back to Reykjavík we drive the scenic road along the south coast and visit the well known spa Blue Lagoon (entrance fee is not included). Estimated arrival in Reykjavík at 15:00.

DAY 6 - SUNDAY: DEP. FROM ICELAND

Transfer to Reykjavik Airport in time for the return flight home.

ENJOY YOUR TRAIL !