

Geochemistry & Environmental Issues in Iceland

This program will provide a hands on learning experience involving geochemistry, agricultural practices, and environmental issues in Iceland. The course will stress the importance of interdisciplinary work in STEM disciplines and the inherent struggle of balancing human needs and environmental impacts. Specific topics will include: geothermal environments and energy, glacial geology, climate change, aqueous geochemistry, aquaculture, bauxite manufacturing, geothermal baking, and sustainability.

Prior to the field portion of the course, virtual or in-person meetings and course assignments will provide an introduction to the program with an overview of basic chemistry and geoscience concepts. These assignments will provide the background for more in-depth discussions during the field study. It will also establish course expectations and will cover field health and safety. Throughout the course there will be a strong emphasis on experiential learning including guided tours, field activities, and hikes with student-led discussions at points of interest. The students will give oral presentations throughout the trip and will conduct research and reflection papers. They will also keep a detailed field notebook that will help remind them of their observations during the trip. After the trip, students will complete reflection essays and research papers on their assigned topics as related to their disciplines.



PROGRAM LEADERS



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PROGRAM DETAILS

- Location: Iceland
- Term: Spring 2021
- Onsite: March 4* – 13, 2021
* Thursday before spring break

COURSE

- GEOL 4840: Geochemistry and Environmental Issues in Iceland.
- APSU will count course as an upper division course for Geosciences or Agriculture (GEOL 4550, AGRI 2900, or AGRI 3900).
- Attendance in class meetings is required. At each meeting we will go over what to expect and what is required for travel. You will also be given assignments and their due dates.

ITINERARY

- See details below.

ELIGIBILITY

- Current APSU student eligible to enroll in APSU study abroad courses. Student from outside APSU March join the program as APSU transient students. More information here: <https://www.apsu.edu/admissions/applicant/transient.php>.
- Good academic standing as defined by APSU,
- A minimum of 18 years of age at time of departure,
- No current disciplinary sanctions as verified by the APSU Office of Student Conduct (or equivalent). Students who become ineligible to attend the program after applying due to disciplinary sanctions will be subject to standard program cost penalty rates. Students are responsible for notifying the CCSA when they become aware of this ineligibility. For eligibility questions pertaining to disciplinary sanctions, students should contact the home campus Office of Student Conduct.
- Students must complete home campus study abroad application prior to being registered in this course,
- Student must possess passport book valid for a least six (6) months after return date,
- Full payment prior to departure, and
- Permission of instructor(s) is required.

Program limited to the first 12 applicants. After that you will be placed on a waitlist until first payments received.

PROGRAM COST

Base Package	\$2,139 – \$2,339	Program charges and payments made to your APSU account.
<u>Flight (estimate)</u>	<u>\$1,198</u>	
Total with Flight	\$3,337 – \$3,537	

BASE PACKAGE (included)	EXCLUDED FROM BASE PACKAGE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accommodations: Hostels with shared (gender-specific) rooms with 3-6 beds with private bathroom. Each shared room usually includes one (1) private WC (bathroom) with shower, sink and toilet. Bed linen included. Ground transportation in Iceland for program activities. Items stated in the itinerary. Most breakfast, lunches and a few dinners. International health insurance with travel delay/trip interruption. Admissions for course-related activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> APSU tuition/fees. RT International airfare from Nashville to Keflavik is a separate item and information will be provided by December 1, 2020. Items not explicitly listed in package. Passports and/or visas. Transportation within the United States. Airport taxes or fees. Meals, services, and beverages not included during course-related field programs. Personal expenses such as laundry, phone service, and Internet access. Baggage fees and any costs associated with flight changes. Tips for guides and drivers not included in program-related activity. Tips not normally offered in Iceland. Porterage Services. Services and entrances for non-program activities. Single rooms are available at additional costs and subject to availability. At hostels, towels can be booked extra for 500 ISK per person.
Final program fee subject to change due to travel arrangements.	

TERMS & CONDITIONS

- A group flight is offered with schedule in the itinerary below. A minimum of 10 people must fly on the group reservation to secure the price stated above.
- Independent travel is permitted after the group minimum is achieved. Independent travel is permitted only for those not within reasonable proximity to Nashville AND with prior approval of program leaders. Since the program starts on the morning of March 5 at the international airport in Keflavik, Iceland, all participants must arrive at the same time or before the program leaders.
- All participants will be held to the home campus Code of Conduct.
- All participants will complete a CCSA Custom Global Application and an APSU application. All payments made to APSU.
- Passport. Each participant must have a passport that includes an expiration date, which is 6 months beyond the last date of the program.
- Physical Expectations. Participants should be in good physical condition and be prepared to walk 4-5 miles a day.
- STEP (Smart Traveler Enrollment Program). Participants must show proof of registration by February 15, 2021. <https://step.state.gov/STEP/Index.aspx>

Payment Schedule: All payments made to APSU	
November 1, 2020	APSU Application Fee of \$30 (non-refundable -- billed to student account)
November 1, 2020	Flight payment of \$1,198 (billed to student account)
December 1, 2020	First payment of \$1,069 (estimated 50%) (billed to student account)
February 1, 2021	Final payment of Balance Due (billed to student account)

Penalty for Withdrawal or Non-payment:	
See APSU Process	Withdraw from a Study Abroad Program

PENALTIES FOR CHANGES - After the first payment deadline, changes requested by participating individuals March incur fees. These may include, but are not limited to, the following:	
Flight Changes	Airline fee + \$200
Housing Changes	Lodging direct costs + \$200
Optional Excursion Changes	\$200
Early Arrival/Late Departure	Lodging direct costs + \$100

LOGISTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- FAFSA. In order to qualify for financial aid, student should apply for FAFSA at time of application.
- Money Matters: If you have a credit/debit card or ATM card, inform your bank of travel dates as state above. Recommend that you budget for at least US\$250 for personal expenses. The Iceland Krona (ISK) is standard payment. Credit cards used widely although chip-pin cards are preferred. Check with your bank on credit card options. [Here is the exchange rate for the ISK to US\\$.](#)

CCSA – The Cooperative Center for Study Abroad and its associates are not responsible for any loss due to theft, personal injury, flight or weather delays, negligence, or default of suppliers, or suppliers changing of itineraries. They and their associates are not responsible for any loss due to travel/flight delays or changes in travel plans due to Acts of Nature or other unforeseen circumstances, nor are we responsible for accidents and medical care. Tour services are furnished by independent contractors who are not agents or servants of CCSA. Refunds are not available for unused portions of the package.

Subject to change with notice to participants due to adjustment in program or pricing.

APPLY NOW

ITINERARY

All dates and locations are subject to change.

Thursday, March 4, 2021

Travel Day

Depart Nashville
Arrive Reykjavik (+1)

Group Flight
Keflavik airport

Friday, March 5, 2021

Arrive Reykjavik (11:30AM)
Clear customs & immigration

PICK UP RENTAL VEHICLES (flight number for the airport pick-up)

Full map – <https://goo.gl/maps/Dr628oVM7d6KRs2EA>

Reykjanes Peninsula Tour - Brimketill, Bridge Between the Continents, Gunnuhver, Leiðarendi Lava Tube Cave. Visit the area of Seltún and of Kleifarvatn Lake.

Overnight in Reykjavik.
Reykjavik City Hostel HI (5/12) - 3x4 bedded rooms (private facilities) + Breakfast / Lunch-bags
Sundlaugavegur 34, 105 Reykjavík, Iceland

Class meeting and Orientation

Saturday, March 6, 2021

<https://goo.gl/maps/fE5m9PppkM7wvita9>

Gígjökull and Canyon, Seljalandsfoss visitor center.
<https://www.icelandtravel.is/attractions/seljalandsfoss/>

Saga regions around Hvolsvöllur to the Þorsmork area. See area that has survived the Eyjafjallajökull eruption. Hike around the area.

Overnight in the Dyrhólaey area.
Vík Hostel HI (5/19) - 2x4 bedded / 1x2 bedded (shared facilities) + Breakfast/ lunch-bags

Sunday, March 7, 2021

<https://goo.gl/maps/hCTg7JHYg7h8AxLF9>

Depart toward Vatnajökull glacier. <https://www.vatnajokulsthjodgardur.is/en>

Blue Ice Cave Tours Iceland
Vatnajökull Glacier - Expedition, Vesturbraut 9, 780 Höfn í Hornafirði, Iceland

Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon to see icebergs float and grind together.
<https://guidetoiceland.is/nature-info/jokulsarlon-glacier-lagoon-the-crown-jewel-of-iceland-s-nature>
<https://guidetoiceland.is/book-holiday-trips/zodiac-tour>

Overnight in the Skaftafell area.

Vagnsstaðir HI Cottages (or similar).

[1x6 bedded + 1x4 bedded \(shared facilities\) + Breakfast](#)

Monday, March 8, 2021

Skaftafell National Park, including a glacier walk and a hike to Svartifoss to see the Skaftafell glacier tongue.

Continue on to Skaftafell national park and see Öräfajökull, the highest peak in Iceland.

<https://www.vatnajokulsthjodgardur.is/en/areas/skaftafell>

<https://www.vatnajokulsthjodgardur.is/en/about-us/basic-information/rates-and-tariffs>

Vagnsstaðir HI Cottages (or similar).

[1x6 bedded + 1x4 bedded \(shared facilities\) + Breakfast](#)

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

<https://goo.gl/maps/L7Kz8ctEzaA3SN797>

Depart for Kirkjubærklaustur and across the enormous Eldhraun lava field and the black desert sands of Mýrdalssandur.

See black beach at Reynishverfi (Vik)

Icelandic Lava Show (Vik) – Show time @ 8 pm for groups over 10

<https://www.icelandiclavashow.com/>

Overnight in the Dyrholæy area.

Vik Hostel HI (5/19) - 2x4 bedded / 1x2 bedded (shared facilities) + Breakfast/ lunch-bags

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

<https://goo.gl/maps/y2jiVDEy9oz1erMV6>

Geothermal bakery at Laugarvatn

<https://www.fontana.is/en/rye-bread-experience>

Fridhaimar Farm (Greenhouse and horse table; Tomato soup with freshly baked bread (10+))

<https://fridheimar.is/en>

Geysir, Gullfoss (if time and weather permitting)

Overnight in Selfoss.

Selfoss HI (5/20-21) 2x5 bedded (shared facilities) + Breakfast

Thursday, March 11, 2021

<https://goo.gl/maps/RRZ6AWBmm2zXNPDP7>

Solheimar Ecovillage

Sesseljuhus also offers an educational package called “Sustainable Development and Solheimar.” This is a general discussion about sustainable development, sustainable buildings and the various environmental issues Solheimar has encountered since its establishment in 1930. The educational package begins with a conference discussion on sustainable development, the requirements for sustainable buildings and how Sesseljuhus meets these requirements accompanied by a photo slideshow and walk through Sesseljuhus. The group then is taken through the “Clean

Energy—A Better World” exhibit which focuses on renewable energy sources. The program concludes with a walk through the village of Solheimar with commentary on its history and everyday life.

<http://www.solheimar.is/en/solheimar/group-programs-and-tours/>

Pingvellir National Park,

<https://www.thingvellir.is/en/plan-your-visit/visitor-centre/>

Northern lights tour on March 11 - Based on the lunar calendar, we have really good odds of seeing the lights March 11 or 12, or at least the best odds of the trip. Based on your itinerary, we would be situated nicely on the 10th-12th for possible viewing.

<https://www.vercalendario.info/en/moon/iceland-year-calendar-2021.html>

Overnight in Reykjavik.

Reykjavik City Hostel HI (5/22-23) - 3x4 bedded rooms (private facilities) + Breakfast

Friday, March 12, 2021

<https://goo.gl/maps/hmcRNV7Dtcy8pGTb6>

Rio Tinto Alcan

Geothermal power station of Hellisheiði.

Explore day in Reykjavik

Northern lights tour March 12 (6% lunar intensity) as a back-up.

Passport Check

Final on-site class meeting

Overnight in Reykjavik.

Reykjavik City Hostel HI (5/22-23) - 3x4 bedded rooms (private facilities) + Breakfast

Saturday, March 13, 2021

Departure Day.

Reykjavik City Hostel HI - fly out (breakfast only)

Group Flight

TBD

All dates and locations are subject to change.
