

SHORTCAKE

ICELAND





Editor's Letter

SHORTCAKE Mag is a travel based indie publication (both online and print generated) that sheds light on customs around the world that certain individuals would not have access to otherwise. Our main goal is to display fashion, food, and most importantly the atmosphere that each particular region conveys through their heritage.



Table of Contents

Iceland's History 6-7

When In Iceland... 10-11

Come On Iceland
Where's The Bars? 12-13

Famous Bars 14

SHORTCAKE

ICELAND

HISTORY



Iceland is a Nordic Island country that is placed between North Atlantic and the Arctic Ocean. It has a population of 329,100, which makes it the most populated country in Europe. The capital and the largest city of Iceland is Reykjavik, and the areas that surround the southwest are home to over two thirds of the population. Iceland is a volcanically and geologically active.

Iceland is founded on the nation's Scandinavian heritage. Mostly all Icelanders are descendants of Germanic and Gaelic settlers. Icelandic (a North Germanic language) is descended from Old Norse. The country's cultural heritage includes traditional Icelandic cuisine, Icelandic literature and medieval sagas. Iceland has the smallest population of any NATO member and is the only one with no standing army, its lightly armed coast guard being in charge of defence.

Swedish Viking explorer Garðar Svavarsson was the first to circumnavigate Iceland in 870 and establish that it was an island. He stayed over winter and built a house in Húsavík.

Garðar departed the following summer but one of his men, Náttfari, decided to stay behind with two slaves. Náttfari settled in what is now known as Náttfaravík and he and his slaves became the first permanent residents of Iceland. The Norse chieftain Ingólfr Arnarson built his homestead in present-day Reykjavík in the year 874.

The internal struggles and civil strife of the Age of the Sturlungs led to the signing of the Old Covenant in 1262, which ended the Commonwealth and brought Iceland under the Norwegian crown. Possession of Iceland passed to the Kalmar Union in 1415, when the kingdoms of Norway, Denmark and Sweden were united. After the break-up of the union in 1523, it remained a Norwegian dependency, as a part of Denmark–Norway.

Around the middle of the 16th century, as part of the Protestant Reformation, King Christian III of Denmark began to impose Lutheranism on all his subjects. Jón Arason, the last Catholic bishop of Hólar, was beheaded in 1550 along with two of his sons. The country subsequently became officially Lutheran and Lutheranism has since remained the dominant religion.





When In Iceland...

Take a Bath In true Iceland Style

Suitcase magazine reports that Iceland's geothermal activity shows that the whole country is dotted with naturally heated rivers and hot tubs.. The fan favorite is the hot river in Hveragerði (which is a drive that is not too long from Iceland's capital).

Go Whale Watching

Suitcase magazine reports that Iceland's geothermal activity shows that the whole country is dotted with naturally heated rivers and hot tubs.. The fan favorite is the hot river in Hveragerði (which is a drive that is not too long from Iceland's capital).

THE STRYTA IN EYJAFJÖRDUR

Take the plunge and escape for a night or two to The Stryta in Eyjafjörður, which is the only geothermal cone in the world that you can scuba dive into. If you are a qualified diver you can go on diving tour to the Silfra Rift in the Þingvellir National Park, between the American and Eurasian continents.

SADDLE UP!

Icelandic horses are really cute, but you mustn't tell them that. They are a short and stocky breed (they stand just a little higher than most ponies) and are covered in coarse fur to protect them from the elements.



Come on Iceland, Where's The Bars?

Drinking, it might be said, is part of the Icelander's DNA. The Sagas, some of the earliest examples of literature in the Icelandic language, are filled with accounts of the Vikings' fearsome drinking exploits. Although mead has since given way in popularity to beer, wine and spirits, the capital remains a hot destination for anything from grabbing a quick cocktail before dinner, to really letting your hair down on a Saturday night.

KEX HOSTEL BAR

Kex hostel, built inside an old biscuit factory downtown, offers fashionable and cheap accommodation in the centre of the capital. The hostel's first floor bar has become one of Reykjavík's premier watering holes and live music venues.

HARPA COCKTAIL BAR

Designed by Icelandic architect Ólafur Elíasson, the Harpa Concert Hall opened its doors in 2011. The hall's award-winning glass façade, built to mimic the natural form of crystallized basalt columns, allows the building to reduce lighting costs and minimise its electricity usage.



<http://www.tonedearf.com.au/224188/reykjavik-iceland.htm>

Dillon: Laugarvegur 30

One of the oldest houses in Reykjavík, this two story wooden and brick bar is local and tourist favourite. Playing exclusively rock music, the venue holds concerts indoors and outdoors in the beer garden in summer. Its also described as having the “cream of the rock DJs”.



Index

Cover Page: Image by <http://www.gosee.us/news/editorial/grace-and-the-raw-beauty-of-iceland-in-a-fashion-editorial-in-suitcase-magazine-combined-by-photographer-grant-thomas-c-o-patricia-mcmahon-32166>, **Suitcase Magazine**

Pg 2: Image provided by Suitcase magazine

Pg 3: Image provided by <http://suitcasemag.com/travel/explore/iceland-travel-guide/> **image by Patrick Moriearty**

Pg: 6 & 7: Image provided by <https://guidetoiceland.imgix.net/237751/x/0/7-things-icelanders-hate-about-tourism-in-iceland-1.jpg?auto=format&ch=Width%2CDPR&dpr=1&ix-lib=php-1.0.6&q=80&w=883&s=5330e1b8a85d53421005084dbaf4f6b9>, words provided by <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iceland>

Page 8 & 9: Image provided by http://www.mikenyff.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/Shelter-from-the-Elements_950.jpg

Page 10 & 11: Image and words provided by <http://suitcasemag.com/travel/explore/iceland-to-do/#jp-carousel-20697>

Page 12 & 13: Image provided by <http://ioniceland.is/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/IONhotel1.jpg>, words by <http://suitcasemag.com/travel/explore/iceland-to-eatdrink/>

Page 14: <http://www.tonedearf.com.au/224188/reykjavik-iceland.htm>

Page 15: Image provided by: https://www.instagram.com/p/_txb-kOFdDJ/?taken-by=suitcasemag

Closing page: Image provided by <http://www.gosee.us/image/800012/news/32166>

Editor In Cheif
Latecia Joiner

