Riding in Iceland with Eldhestar

RIDING TOURS

Greatest Variety of Horse Riding Tours just outside Reykjavik
WELCOME TO ELDHESTAR - VOLCANO HORSES

We offer a variety of riding tours for inexperienced as well as experienced riders, for individuals and groups, all year round. We have up to 350 horses at our farm in the summer and 60-100 in the winter. We do our best to find the ideal horse for everyone. Most of our half day tours, day tours and combo tours are suited for all levels.

The shorter tours (2-5 days riding) provide further insight into the history and landscape of Iceland and take our guests to the most beautiful places in southwest Iceland.

On Eldhestar's longer and wilderness tours (5-7 days riding) participants experience the diversity of the Icelandic horse and try many different horses during the tour, which develops riding skills. We ride with a herd of free running horses just as Icelanders have travelled for centuries, an unforgettable experience!

Eldhestar provides helmets, rain gear and warm winter overalls, we recommend wearing sturdy shoes and gloves. The riding tours are subject to weather conditions and can be changed.

Our show- and competition horses are available for experienced riders wishing to enjoy a tour with a spirited tölt, please contact us.
Welcome to Hotel Eldhestar

Hotel Eldhestar is a cozy countryside hotel with a luxurious atmosphere. It features 37 spacious rooms, a warm, light-filled restaurant and traditional hot tubs to relax in at the end of the day. The hotel’s interior is inspired by the colors and materials found in Icelandic nature, genuine craftsmanship and age-old traditions. It was built in accordance with ecological guidelines and is the first lodging in Iceland to be awarded the Nordic Swan Ecolabel.

Our hotel is situated in the heart of Iceland’s south-western countryside along Road No. 1, about a 30 minutes’ drive from Reykjavik. The unique location between volcanic mountains, rivers and the ocean enables our guests to experience diverse nature and gorgeous scenery. The area around the volcano Hengill with its beautiful valleys and hot springs inspired our name: Eldhestar = Volcano Horses.

NORTHERN LIGHTS AT HOTEL ELDHESTAR

Since Hotel Eldhestar is a small countryside hotel, it is the ideal destination for those who want to experience the Northern Lights. Light pollution is minimal, and guests can often see this natural phenomenon on the site. All rooms have a door to the garden, so it is just to open the door and enjoy the moment, without much effort. We offer a Northern-Light wake-up service if hotel staff observes the Northern Lights.

HOTEL ELDHESTAR AS AN ATTRACTIVE CONFERENCE LOCATION

Hotel Eldhestar is suitable for all who want to experience relaxation, tranquility and recreation in a beautiful environment. Our calm and scenic location, close to Reykjavik and the international airport, is ideally suited to host your meetings, seminars and conferences. Surrounded by inspiring, peaceful nature, you will find the privacy and isolation required for the concentration and creativity.

Restaurant and Hot Tubs on place!
www.hoteleldhestar.is

Groups / Activities

We organise tailor-made tours for your group – please contact us with your ideas!

1a COUNTRYSIDE CHARM

This tour in the Icelandic countryside takes one hour and gives a small taste of the Icelandic horse’s qualities. The tour is ideal for guests travelling by car or groups. We follow gentle riding paths along the meadows around our farm Vellir. Children under the age of 7 can be led by one of Eldhestar’s guides. Available at 13:30 & 14:45. Other times on request. Free pick-up from Reykjavik for 8 persons or more.

1c PHOTO TOUR

30 min riding / All year round / Only for groups.
Here, you tour in the vicinity of our farm as well as ride to Varmá River. We emphasise good photo opportunities for the riders and getting nice pictures of them and the group as a whole. Offered on request.

HORSE SHOW

Every breed of horse is the direct result of the needs and desires of the culture that has created it! Over the last millenium, the Icelandic horse has been a mainstay of Iceland – as both a work and transportation asset. Eldhestar’s horse show presents the Icelandic horse’s historic role as well as its unique qualities as a riding horse for everyone.

Eldhestar’s Horse Show and Barn Visit are offered for groups all year round - reservation is required.

BARN VISIT

Eldhestar offers a short live presentation on the Icelandic horse. One rider describes all the basic information about the Icelandic horse, while riding and demonstrating its unique qualities as a riding horse and a family horse. Afterwards, you are welcome to look around our newly built stables. Refreshments are also available.
Half-Day Tours

Most of our half-day tours are operated with daily departures and are suited for all skill levels. More detailed information online at www.eldhestar.is/half-day-tours

INCLUDED IN ALL OUR HALF-DAY TOURS

Riding Time: 1 - 3 hours.
Pick-up: In Reykjavík Tour 2a-3e every day at 8:00-8:30. Tour 2a & 2b also pick up at 13:00-13:30. Pick up in Hafnarfjörður, Mosfellsbær, Kópavogur and Seltjarnarnes starts at 7:45.
Meeting time at Eldhestar: At 9:30, Tour 2a & 2b also at 13:45. Return to Reykjavík: Around 13:00, afternoon tours around 17:15.

2a THE HERITAGE TOUR

Explore Icelandic farmland. This tour takes us through meadows, across a lava field and a small river. On our way we pass several farms and have a good opportunity to try the special gallop “rögg” on nice riding trails. At the end of the tour you are invited for coffee and homemade baked cake.
Riding Time: 1.5 - 2 hours.

2b THE SIGGI TOUR

On this tour we offer the best riding routes available each time. Depending on weather and wind, we ride in the scenic surroundings of our farm, the river Varmá and through a lava field area, ending by riding on good riding paths in the meadows south of our farm.
Riding Time: 1.5 - 2 hours.

2c SPECIALITY OF THE SEASON

October – April
Combine riding with tradition, taste Icelandic specialties that are enjoyed by the locals in autumn and winter.
Thorrablot: January - April (Traditional exotic Icelandic food).
Autumn Leaves: October - December (Icelandic smoked lamb).
Riding Time: 1.5 - 2 hours.

2d MIDWINTER WARMTH

October – April
After one hour on horseback, riders can soften up and relax in Hveragerði’s swimming pool and steam sauna.
Light lunch included.
Riding Time: 1 hour.

2e ELFIN TOUR

Elves are important creatures in Iceland. On this tour we see some places populated by these hidden people. Light lunch included.
Riding Time: 1.5 - 2 hours.

2g ICELANDIC DIVERSITY

Fish soup all year round
Get in touch with Icelandic nature on horseback and taste the treasures of the nearby sea.
Riding Time: 1.5 - 2 hours.

2d MIDWINTER WARMTH

We start in soft meadows. Then we follow an old Viking route along the shores of Mountain Reykjafjall with nice views of the landscape between the ocean and the volcanic mountains surrounding the village Hveragerði.
Riding Time: 2.5 - 3 hours.

3a MEADOWS & MOUNTAINS

Fish soup all year round
Get in touch with Icelandic nature on horseback and taste the treasures of the nearby sea.
Riding Time: 2.5 - 3 hours.

3b SOFT RIVER BANKS

This is a tour for experienced riders who would like to ride in an extraordinary environment and enjoy a brisk ride on one of our spirited horses. We ride along Ölfusá River to an old cemetery along Gljúfurá River.
Riding Time: 2.5 - 3 hours.

4a BIKE & RIDE

May 15 – October 15
Enjoy an active day, starting at the harbor in Reykjavík with a guided bike tour to the most popular sights. Eldhestar picks you up for an afternoon riding tour, followed by coffee and cake.
Meeting point: Eldhestar Bike Tours, Ægisgarður 7, at 9.45 am.
Biking Time: 2.5 hours (ca. 7 km), lunch not incl.
Return to Reykjavík around 17.15.

4b THE SEA HORSE

All year round
On this tour you have the chance to meet two big beautiful animals on the same day, the horse and the whale!
Return to Reykjavík around 17:00.

Combo Tours

Experience a great combination of horseback riding and exciting activities.
Eldhestar will pick you up for a half-day tour, suited for all levels. You spend the morning or afternoon with the activity of your choice, offered by our partner agencies. More detailed information online at www.eldhestar.is/combo-tours

INCLUDED IN COMBO TOURS

Riding Time: 1.5 - 2 hours.
Pick-up: In Reykjavík Tour 4b-4f at 8:00-8:30, Tour 4a at 13:00. Pick up in Hafnarfjörður, Mosfellsbær, Kópavogur and Seltjarnarnes starts at 7:45.
Meeting time at Eldhestar: At 9:00. Light Lunch at Hotel Eldhestar (soup and bread etc.), not incl. in tour 4a.

4d RIDING & GULLFOSS, GEYSIR & THINGVELLIR

May 1 – August 20
Enjoy a day with Iceland’s most charismatic animals, starting with horse riding to places populated by elves in the morning and puffin watching on a 1 hour boat tour in the afternoon.
Return to Reykjavík around 16:00.

4f HORSES & PUffINS

May 1 – August 20
Enjoy the only place today for a day of horseback riding combined with a whale watching tour.
Return to Reykjavik around 18.00.
Day Tours

We offer day tours suited for all levels, all year round. During the winter season we warm up with lunch at our hotel. More detailed information online at www.eldhestar.is/day-tours

5a THE HOT SPRINGS TOUR TO REYKJADALUR VALLEY
May 20 – September 15
Views and Volcanoes BEST SELLER
This tour gives a unique opportunity to experience the variety of magnificent Icelandic nature and offers spectacular views. The horses take us on a scenic mountain trail into Reykjadalur valley, where we will see hot springs and also take a relaxing bath in a warm stream. On our way back we can enjoy spectacular panoramas all the way down to the coastline, weather permitting. 
Riding Time: 5 - 6 hours.
Bringing swimsuit and towel.

5b BELOW THE MOUNTAINS
All year round
Discover the beautiful landscape opening up between the mountains and the sea in southern Iceland. We ride along rivers and down to the soft black banks of the mighty river Ölfusá. After the lunchbreak we continue towards the mountains and along an old Viking trail back to our farm.
Riding Time: 5 - 6 hours.

INCLUDED IN ALL OUR DAY TOURS
Riding Time: 1.5 - 6 hours with stops. Pick-up: In Reykjavik every day at 8:00-8:30. Pick-up in Hafnarfjörður, Móstofabær, Kópavogur and Selfjármúneas starts at 7:45.
Meeting time at Eldhestar: At 9:00. Return to Reykjavik: Around 17:15.
Light lunch or lunch box, refreshments.
Note: Day tours 5a-6a are for everyone, but participants should be in good physical condition and be able to mount a horse with little assistance.

5c RIDING & RELAXATION
All year round
Spend a relaxed day in the countryside. We ride half a day on nice trails through meadows and along mountain slopes. After lunch you relax in Hvanngígar’s excellent swimming pool and steam saunas.
Riding Time: 2.5 - 3 hours.
Bringing swimsuit and towel.

5d RIDING & HIKING IN THE REYKJADALUR VALLEY
All year round
Enjoy a morning ride in the meadows around our farm followed by a hiking tour in the beautiful Reykjadalur geothermal valley offering bathing in a warm river. Easy hike in amazing nature, about 2 hours.
Riding Time: 1.5 - 2 hours.
Bringing swimsuit and towel.

6a THE BEACH RIDE
May 15 – September 15. Min. 4 pers.
Experience the extraordinary, the volcanic beach, the river banks and islands of the Ölfusá delta. We ride on soft black lava sand and in the beautiful area where the glacial river meets the sea in a large delta, through shallow water and on grassy river banks along wetlands and meadows with many birds.
Riding Time: 4.5 - 5.5 hours.

6b VOLCANO HENGILL & HOT SPRING VALLEY
May 20 – September 15
Only for experienced riders!
This tour starts along an ancient lava field created by the volcano Hengill. We continue on good trails, cross a mountain ridge and ride towards the magnificent geothermal valley Reykjadalur. The horses then take us up into the valley with great views of colorful hills, the beautiful waterfall Djúpagilsfoss and hot springs. We stop to luxuriate in a warm stream before riding down a scenic mountain trail with a great panorama.
Riding Time: 5 - 6 hours.
Bringing swimsuit and towel.

6c RIDING & RELAXATION
All year round
Spend a relaxed day in the countryside. We ride half a day on nice trails through meadows and along mountain slopes. After lunch you relax in Hvanngígar’s excellent swimming pool and steam saunas.
Riding Time: 2.5 - 3 hours.
Bringing swimsuit and towel.

Shorter Tours

Our shorter tours (2-5 days) are ideal for guests wishing to combine horse trekking with other activities in Iceland. More detailed information online at www.eldhestar.is/shorter-tours

7 VOLCANO CONTRASTS — Hot Springs, Rivers and Broad Meadows
All year round
This is a two-day tour in the diverse area around our farm. We overnight at Hotel Eldhestar, a nearby hotel or at Guesthouse Eldhestar and discover the striking contrasts of Icelandic nature on horseback. It gives you a taste of both the magnificent landscape and good riding terrain. We also have an opportunity to bathe in geothermal water. In the wintertime the tour is adjusted so we can enjoy a warm lunch at our hotel, i.e. we are offering two half-day tours during on the riding days.
Duration: 2 nights – 2 days riding – 39 km.
Departures: Every day.
Hotel Accommodations (tour 7H) or Guesthouse Accommodations (tour 7 G).
Bringing swimsuit and towel.

8a NATURES TREASURES & RIDER’S PLEASURES — Horses and Comfort
All year round
This tour offers many experiences on 3 or 4 days. You stay at Hotel Eldhestar and/or a nearby hotel. We ride in the area around the volcano Hengill, where we discover the amazing contrasts of Icelandic nature in exciting day tours – from the fast-flowing, glacial waters of Ölfusá-river to the hot, geothermal streams of Reykjadalur. At the end of each day, you can enjoy a soak in the hot pot, a good dinner and comfortable accommodations. In the wintertime we offer this tour with hotel- or guesthouse accommodations. The winter program includes various half-day riding tours and 1-2 day sightseeing tours.
Bringing swimsuit and towel.

SUMMER
Duration: Tour 8aH: 3 nights – 3 days riding - 55 km.
Tour 8aH: 4 nights – 4 days riding - 70 km.
Hotel Accommodations (H).
Departures: May 14 – September 13 every Thursday and Sunday.

WINTER
Duration: Tour 8aH & 8aG: 3 nights – 3 days riding & activities - 34 km.
Tour 8aH & 8aG: 4 nights – 4 days riding & activities - 40 km.
Hotel Accommodations (H) or Guesthouse Accommodations (G).
Departures: September 13 – May 13 every day.

www.eldhestar.is
THE BEST OF ELDHESTAR – Fine Selection of Southwest Iceland

**Summer Tour**

On this tour our guests enjoy the best day-long parts from Eldhestar’s shorter and longer tours in the South-west of Iceland. We visit the Valley of the Horses “Marardalur” from “The Golden Highlights of the South”. We will also experience the Reykjadalur Valley from “Around the Volcano”. Furthermore we also enjoy “The Beach Ride” and we ride through Thingvellir the National Park, a fascinating place on UNESCO’s World Heritage List, from “Thingvellir”.

**Duration:** 4 nights – 4 days riding – 100 km.

**Departures:** May 28, June 5, 15 and 30, July 14 and 21, August 2 and 26, September 8.

**Accommodations:** Hotel Accommodations. Bring your swimsuit.

ELDHESTAR EXCLUSIVE – Highlights of the South and Southwest

**Summer Tour**

We have selected the most scenic riding trails in Iceland’s south west corner for this new tour where guests enjoy spectacular days on horseback in small groups and the comfort of our hotel. Every morning we take the horses in a trailer to start the tour in a different riding area. You experience the country’s most popular riding area and unique “horse villages “on the doorstep of Reykjavik, the soft trails in the beautiful Thjórsárdalur Valley, wide open spaces in the highlands and riding on black lava beaches.

**Duration:** 4 nights – 4 days riding – 85 km.

**Departures:** May 13 and 20, June 10 and 23, July 6 and 28, August 10, September 2.

**Accommodations:** Hotel Accommodations. Bring your swimsuit.

AROUND THE VOLCANO – Through Valleys to Hot Springs

**Summer Tour**

This tour takes you over spectacular lava fields of the volcano Hengill into a fascinating area with amazing volcanic formations, green valleys and hot springs. You will be given information about the unique nature and geology of Iceland, about volcanic eruptions and hot springs, which especially emphasise the landscape you experience during the tour.

**Duration:** Tour 9H: 3 nights – 3 days riding – 70 km / Tour 9G: 3 nights – 3 days riding – 70 km.

**Departures:** May 16 and 23, June 11, July 4, September 1 and 9.

**Accommodations:** Hotel or Guesthouse Accommodations (G).

THÓRSMÖRK – The World of Contrasts

**Summer Tour**

On this tour you experience the variety and beauty of Icelandic nature. We start in the lush district of Fljótshlíð, the setting of one of the Icelandic Sagas. From there we ride into Thórsmörk, one of the most beautiful valleys in Iceland, which is only accessible by crossing glacial rivers. We spend a night surrounded by green forests, volcanic mountains and glaciers before continuing along the foot of Eyjafjallajökull volcano. We also visit the impressive canyon Stakkholtsgjá and stop at Seljalandsfoss waterfall.

**Duration:** 4 nights – 4 days riding – 90 km.

**Departures:** May 27, June 5, 15 and 24, July 8, 15 and 25, August 12 and 29, September 5.

**Accommodations:** Hotel Accommodations (H) or Guesthouse Accommodation (G).

KRYSVIK & THE BLUE LAGOON – Beaches, Green Meadows and a Steaming Moonlike Landscape

This tour offers magnificent views, first over South Iceland and glaciers, then over Reykjanes, Reykjahlíð, and all the way to Snæfellsnes. We start riding along the delta of the river Ölfusá, visit the mythic Strandarkirkja Church and ride on the beach before continuing to Krysuvík, a colourful hot spring area which contrasts sharply to the volcanic sand and lava fields. On the tour we visit the Blue Lagoon, where we have the opportunity to relax in the soothing geothermal waters.

**Duration:** 4 nights – 4 days riding – 100 km.

**Departures:** June 9 and 19, August 23.

**Accommodations:** Sleeping Bag Accommodations. Bring your swimsuit.

THINGVELLIR & LAKE THINGVALLAVATN – A Deep Dip into History

On the way to the ancient site of Iceland’s parliament, Thingvellir, we experience one of the volcano Hengill’s most beautiful valleys, “The Valley of the Horses” (Marardalur). At Thingvellir National Park, we take a sightseeing tour and continue riding on scenic trails through lava and forests and along the lake shore, ending at a hut in the volcanic mountains. The tour ends with the ride to Reykjadalur Valley, where we can enjoy a dip in a warm river and a nice view over the Ölfus area.

**Duration:** 5 nights – 5 days riding – 125 km.

**Departures:** June 2, July 10, August 6.

**Accommodations:** Sleeping Bag Accommodations.

### INCLUDED IN SHORTER TOURS

**Pick-up in Reykjavik:** 17:30 - 18:00

**Riding Time:** 4 - 6 hours per day with stops.

**Tour 7, 8, 9:** Hotel accommodations (double room) or guesthouse accommodation (2-4 bed rooms).

**Tour 10, 11, 12:** Accommodations in guesthouses and mountain huts (sleeping bag).

**Tour 9G, 10, 11, 12:** Accommodations in Reykjavik is not included.

More detailed information online at www.eldhestar.is/shorter-tours
Longer Tours

Our longer tours (13, 14, 15 & 16) include 5-7 days on horseback and some days riding with a herd of free running horses. These tours are for everyone, but participants should be in good physical condition. Every rider is responsible for evaluating their own riding ability and physical condition. If you are not sure, please contact Eldhestar for booking. More detailed information online at www.eldhestar.is/longer-tours

13 THE GOLDEN HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SOUTH – Attractions and Wilderness

This tour takes us to the most popular attractions in South Iceland. We follow paths between lava and volcanic hills to the Valley of the Horses and continue through soft grass to beautiful Lake Thingvallavatn. After a visit to the ancient site Thingvellir, we ride across heathland to the hot springs at Deysir. We proceed to the giant waterfall Guilfoss with Langjökull Glacier in the background, cross lava fields to Thjórsá River and ride through a forest. The tour ends with a ride on soft sand alongside the volcano Hekla.

Duration: 7 nights – 7 days riding - 215 km. Departures: from the farm Valt: June 7, July 2, August 18. Departures from the farm Faldivill: August 28.

14 SNAFELLNESS – Magic and Mystery: Black Lava and White Sand

The Snaefellsnes peninsula in West Iceland is often referred to as “Iceland in a nutshell” because of the diversity in landscape and wide range of colours. We ride through green valleys, across black lava fields, along the blue sea and on the golden beach. We begin outside Borgarnes, cross a river on our way to the old farm Grimsstad and proceed into the wilderness. After hiking up the crater Eldborg we ride on one of the longest beaches in Iceland, Lónsgrúður. This view is panoramic, with the ocean on one side, mountains on the other and the magical Snaefellsjökull Glacier before us.

Duration: 6 nights – 6 days riding - 190 km. Departures: July 22 and 31.

The second tour goes in the opposite direction.

15 THE VOLCANO HEKLA – Mystique and fantastic riding paths

This tour takes us to the colourful area between the famous volcano Hekla and Tindafjallajökull Glacier which is known for amazing nature, shaped by the forces of volcanoes and ice. We ride on excellent, soft riding paths on black sandy ground covered by green grass and through lava fields in a mystic scenery of volcanic formations created through the centuries. On our way we pass beautiful hidden valleys, wide green pastures and mighty rivers. The route also follows the old trail known from the great Viking sagas.

Duration: 5 nights – 5 days riding - 180 km. Departures: June 14, July 12.

16 THE VALLEYS OF BORGARFJÖRÐUR – Between Western Valleys and Thermal Pools

The fertile district Borgarfjörður in south western Iceland is known for some of Iceland’s most beautiful natural sights, an abundance of hot water from geothermal sources and as the setting of many Iceland-ic sagas. Starting in the town Borgarnes we ride on good trails in diverse landscape, often crossing rivers and riding along soft river banks. We experience riding in Husafell forest and on mountain paths between green valleys with stunning views of the surrounding countryside, mighty rivers and glaciers. Borgarfjörður offers many top-notch swimming pools, allowing us to go for a swim every evening. We stay at the Community Center Logaland in the picturesque valley Reykholtstúlur during the whole tour.

Duration: 6 nights – 6 days riding - 185 km. Departures: June 16 and 27.

Wilderness Tours

The wilderness tours (17, 18, 19 & 20) are recommended only for experienced riders. They are physically challenging and require stamina. We ride with a large herd of free running horses.

More detailed information online at www.eldhestar.is/wilderness-tours

17 LANDMANNALAUUGAR – Colourful mountains and soft lava sand

The tour starts at Fálmúli farm close to the volcano Hekla and takes us to Landmannalaugar, a valley in the highlands best known for its colourful rhyolite mountains, extensive lava fields and hot springs that gave the valley its name. We ride over highlands alongside Hekla until we reach Landmannahlíð, where farmers kept their sheep in a cave during the round-up in the old days. We follow soft trails to Landmannalaugar, where we can bath in a warm river before heading west towards a mountain pass of exceptional beauty, and a large lake. The tour ends at Fál水域 farm.

Duration: 6 nights – 6 days riding - 210 km. Departures: June 21, July 1, August 1.

18 BETWEEN THE DESERTS – Cold Glaciers and Hot Springs

On this tour we ride in the area between the two highland deserts Kjölur and Sprengisandur, exploring in detail the landscape south of Hofsós, the third largest glacier in Iceland. We start the tour along the Helsa River and visit the famous Guilfoss waterfall before heading north into the wilderness towards the glacier. At the Korgafjöll, the colourful mountains of the “old ladak”, we experience the stunning contrast of glacial ice and hot springs. The tour continues east towards Sprengisandur, down the beautiful canyon Laugarfjöll where the tour ends.

Duration: 6 nights – 6 days riding - 220 km. Departures: July 17 and 26.

19 SPRENGISANDUR – Between Glaciers into the Desert Wilderness

We ride along the ancient Sprengisandur route across Iceland, experiencing the fascinating and extreme contrasts of Icelandic landscape. In the South, we ride on soft green paths along the banks of Thjórsá River. The spectacular, barren wilderness emerges as we follow the sand and rock plains between the glaciers Vatnajökull and Hofsjökull. We stop at a hot spring to relax in geothermal water, a sharp contrast to this scenery, and pass Arnarfell Mountain, Iceland’s geographical centre. The tour takes us until the bottom of Eyjafjöllfjöll in the North Iceland.

Duration: 6 nights – 6 days riding - 260 km. Departures: July 9 and 18.

The first tour starts in the south, the second in the north.

20 KJÓLUR – Varied Wilderness Up Close

The Kjölur route is an ancient riding trail, intimately associated with many dramatic events in Icelandic history. We visit the popular attractions of Guilfoss and Deysir as well as uninhabited tracts of land, glaciers, wilderness and hot springs. We ride north between glaciers and spend a night close to a creeping glacier. Hot springs await us at Hveravellir, like an oasis in the desert. We continue towards Northern Iceland until we reach one of its many green and beautiful valleys, our final destination.

Duration: 6 nights – 6 days riding - 240 km. Departures: June 17 and 26, July 13 and 21, August 5 and 15.

Every other tour goes in the opposite direction.
Riding & more for all seasons

In winter, spring & fall we offer Shorter Tours providing a varied program for riders of all levels and families. You can choose between riding all day both on excellent trails and in the spacious riding hall or combine riding with sightseeing and other activities. After riding, you can warm up and taste traditional Icelandic food, stay in our comfortable country hotel, relax in the hotel’s hot tubs and experience the stunning Northern Lights. Winter time is the time for training and education of horses and riders. Our facilities are ideal for a combination of riding instruction in small groups, both theoretical and practical in our riding hall, with riding tours in diverse terrain. Riders who are used to other breeds will learn how to ride an Icelandic horse on well-trained tölters. This course is suited for riders of all levels, we put emphasis on riding the different gaits with the rider and the horse in good balance. Participants stay at Hotel or Guesthouse accommodations.

### Shorter Tours – Winter, Spring & Fall

#### 8d NORTHERN LIGHTS TOUR – Riding, Relaxing and Northern Lights
On this tour you will take part in several of our half-day tours as well as Day Tour 2b – Below the Mountains and enjoy the comfort of our hotel. After the morning ride you warm up at lunch at our hotel and spend the afternoon riding, relaxing in Hveragerði’s excellent geothermal swimming pool or sightseeing at Gullfoss waterfall and Geysir hot springs. When the sky is clear and the auroras borealis forecast is promising, you can just walk outside to observe the stunning phenomena, or we drive where the chances to watch the northern lights are the best.

**Hotel Accommodation.** This tour depends on weather, and sightings are not guaranteed.

**Duration:** 3 nights – 2.5 days riding & ½ day excursion – 34 km.

**Departures:**
- 2019: January 27, February 3, 17 and 24, March 2, 9, 23 and 30, April 6, September 28, October 5 and 19, November 2, 16 and 30.

#### 8e NORTHERN LIGHTS GRAND TOUR
This tour gives you the opportunity to combine riding with excursions to impressive natural sights and other activities such as hiking and whale watching. We ride several half-day tours, enjoy bathing in Hveragerði’s excellent geothermal swimming pool, our hotel’s hot pool or even a natural warm river and visit Gullfoss waterfall, Geysir and Thingvellir. You stay in the guesthouse at our farm and enjoy our restaurant and facilities. In the evenings, we go out to observe the Northern Lights above our farm (weather permitting).

**Guesthouse Accommodations.** This tour depends on weather, and sightings are not guaranteed.

**Duration:** 5 nights – 3 days riding & 2 day excursion & activities – 50 km.

**Departures:**
- 2019: January 27, February 3, 17 and 24, March 2, 9, 23 and 30, April 6, September 28, October 5 and 19, November 2, 16 and 30.

#### 30b WINTER RIDING COURSE
In Iceland, winter season is the time for training and education of horses and riders. Our facilities are ideal for a combination of riding instruction in small groups, both theoretical and practical in our riding hall, with riding tours in diverse terrain. Riders who are used to other breeds will learn how to ride an Icelandic horse on well-trained tölters. This course is suited for riders of all levels, we put emphasis on riding the different gaits with the rider and the horse in good balance. Participants stay at Hotel or Guesthouse Eldhestar, with access to the hotel’s hot tubs and the geothermal swimming pool with steam bath in Hveragerði.

**Duration:**
- Tour 30bH & 30bG: 3 nights – 3 days riding program.
- Tour 30bH & 30bD: 5 nights – 5 days riding program.

**Hotel Accommodation (30a/bH) or Guesthouse Accommodation (30a/bD)
Departures:**

#### 33a FAMILY VACATION – Riding & more for all seasons
33b We provide an ideal opportunity for families to relax in Iceland with our horses during school holidays. You get to know different horses, starting with a lesson in the riding hall and then on nice riding trails in a variety of terrains. In the evenings you enjoy good food and bathing in the hot tubs. Children can take care of their “own” horse and are welcome to spend some time helping in the stable to learn more about horses. Family members who do not want to ride or only want to join a short ride can book the tour without riding program and take part in individual sightseeing tours to the most popular natural attractions in South Iceland instead. For this tour we offer a child reduction for children 17 years and younger. Suited for riders of all levels.

**Duration:**
- Tour 33aH & 33aG: 3 nights – 3 days riding program.
- Tour 33aH & 33aD: 5 nights – 5 days riding program.

**Hotel Accommodation (33a/bH) or Guesthouse Accommodation (33a/bD)
Departures:**
- 2020: February 3 and 17, April 13, October 12.

#### 21 SHEEP ROUND-UP
This tour provides the unique experience of participating in an Icelandic round-up of sheep. This is an adventure that allows the participant to experience Icelandic nature and the Icelandic soul - both guaranteed to leave a lasting impression.

**Duration:** 5 nights – 5 days riding – 90 km.

**Departure:** September 8-13.

**Recommended only for experienced riders!**

**Guesthouse Accommodations.**

#### 35 RIDING & PHOTOGRAPHY COURSE
Enjoy our horses while improving your skills and techniques as a photographer. This special packages combines riding with professional photo shootings, photography theory classes, photoshop tutorials and reviews of your own pictures. Step by step you will improve your photographer skills and become an expert in the “painting with light”. Eldhestar provides the perfect surroundings and possibilities to take your horse, action, people and landscape photography to the next level! Imagine 200 horses running in the evening sun towards your lense or a fancy fog shoot setting in the romantic scenery of Iceland! The tour includes an excursion to Gullfoss, Geysir and Thingvellir so you will come back with stunning, extraordinary horse and landscape pictures for your own portfolio.

**This course will be held in collaboration with Sandra Fencl and Eva Frischling, both professional photographers and horse trainers.

**Duration:** 7 nights - 2 1/2 days on horseback, 1 day excursion, 3,5 days photo workshop (also in some of the riding evenings photo classes are held).

**Tour 7 Volcano Contrast and Tour 8a/b Natures Treasures and Riders Pleasures are available all year round.**
EIcelandic horses are not vaccinated and are therefore susceptible to infectious agents from abroad! Used riding clothes and boots should be washed in a washing machine or dry cleaned prior to entering the country. Clothes, boots and helmets that cannot be placed in a washing machine or dry cleaned should be washed and disinfected.

www.mast.is/Uploads/document/augl_mast_protectHorse.pdf

Environmental Policy
www.eldhestar.is/environmental

Important information
www.eldhestar.is/important-info

Cancellation Policy
www.eldhestar.is/cancellation-policy

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www.mast.is/Uploads/document/augl_mast_protectHorse.pdf