



17<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Study Tour to Iceland: 24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

First of all, thank you so much for your patience with this trip. As I am sure you are aware planning trips like this take extra time due to the number of people that need to be involved and some of these processes feel very drawn out. I am thrilled to say that we have been given permission from the Academy to go ahead with the Iceland trip on the new dates, with a slightly altered itinerary.

The final cost for the trip is a slightly increased £935 per student, which, although higher than previously, is much lower than if we have stuck to our original plan.

**The package includes:**

- Return flights from Gatwick Airport – and transfers to and from London.
- Accommodation in the Icelandic countryside for optimal opportunity to see the **northern lights**.
- Full board basis – breakfast, packed lunch and evening meals
- Guided sightseeing tour by coach with a Teacher Tour Leader to explain all the sites
- Insurance

Students will require spending money to cover personal expenses such as souvenirs. Students will be accompanied on this trip by CTC Kingshurst Academy Staff. Students will also require their own full British Passport and they must ensure that this is valid on both the departure and return dates as a passport valid for the proposed period of your stay is required for entry to Iceland and correct names will need to be provided at the time of the deposit.

Our itinerary has changed slightly, our flight times and new schedule are now listed below. Our main changes include a longer 4<sup>th</sup> day in Reykjavik and a trip to the Blue Lagoon. Unfortunately on the new itinerary the Glacier Walk is not included, but students will still visit the Glacier tongue to see what it is like.

These are the flights that we have reserved for this tour:

	Dep. Time		Arrival Airport	Arr. Time	Date
<b>Departure Airport</b>					
<b>Outbound</b>	London	11:40	Keflavik	14:00	24 OCT 2018
	Gatwick				
<b>Inbound</b>	Keflavik	15:30	London	20:10	27 OCT 2018
	Gatwick				

**Our 4 day / 3 night itinerary:**

**Day 1 – Reykjanes Peninsula**

- After arriving at Keflavik Airport at 2pm, head to Reykjanes Peninsula where you'll find Krysuvik, a boardwalk through the hissing geothermal areas plus mud pools like, Gunnuhver, Iceland's largest mud pool with a diameter of 20m!
- Walk across the Bridge Between Continents and look down into the Mid Atlantic Ridge to witness the effects of continental drift.
- Feel the sea mist as you approach the coast to gaze upon Iceland's oldest lighthouse, built in 1878.





- Visit the spatter cones called the Stampar crater row. These lava fields are in an active rift zone which is prone to frequent but very small earthquakes.
- In the evening you will arrive at Hotel Hella for the night, ready for a busy day tomorrow.

### **Day 2 – South Coast**

- Visit the brand-new Lava Centre, an interactive exhibition which allows visitors to experience earthquakes and learn about the formation of Iceland.
- Walk behind the iconic waterfall – Seljalandsfoss – and feel the spray of the water as it falls 60m over the cliffs.
- Get close to the huge glacier tongue of Solheimajokull and note the signs of it receding.
- Pose for the quintessential class photo on the basalt columns of Reynishverfi beach.
- Observe dramatic coastal formations at Dyrholaey.
- Head to Skogafoss, one of Iceland's most famous volcanoes and hear the roar of the 25m wide curtain of water.
- Return to Hotel Hella for the evening.

### **Day 3 – Golden Circle**

Embrace the sights (and smells) in the geothermal village of Hveragerdi. A collection of hot springs and solfataras.

- Dip in the warm waters of the secret lagoon, natural hot baths enjoyed by locals.
- Discover the two-tiered waterfall Gullfoss.
- Continue the watery theme by watching Strokkur, the most dynamic geyser in Geysir erupt into the sky.
- The third attraction in the Golden Circle is Thingvellir. Sitting upon the mid-Atlantic ride, Thingvellir is a national park and site of the first ever Icelandic Parliament.
- After a busy day it will be time to set off to Hotel Cabin in Reykjavik to get a good night's sleep so you can fit in as much exploring as possible on your last morning.

### **Day 4 – Reykjavik**

- Chance to explore the city of Reykjavik including the Presidents House, the Harpa Reykjavik Concert Hall, Hallgrímskirkja – Cathedral, The Solfar statue where the Vikings are said to have first landed and the famous Roland Reagan hot dog stand
- Depart Reykjavik for the airport at 12:30 for a 1:30 check in.

If you have already paid the £100 deposit and agree with the new price and dates then there is nothing more to do. If you are still to pay the £100 deposit this needs to be completed by the 29<sup>th</sup> January.

The further payment plan will be as follows:

26<sup>th</sup> March - £175

30<sup>th</sup> April - £152

28<sup>th</sup> May - £152

25<sup>th</sup> June £152

23<sup>rd</sup> July - £152

27<sup>th</sup> August - £52

If you do have any questions in the meantime please do get in touch. Email would be preferred [eleanor.grierson@ctckingshurst.academy](mailto:eleanor.grierson@ctckingshurst.academy). The trip will be organised by Discover the World, for more information please visit their website [www.discover-education.co.uk](http://www.discover-education.co.uk).

Kind regards,

Mrs Grierson, Head of Geography

