



worldwidefriends
V E R A L D A R V I N I R

SIGLUFJÖRÐUR THE NORTH VILLAGE

P R O J E C T I N T H E N O R T H O F I C E L A N D

Information Sheet

**General Information
2026**

WELCOME TO WORLDWIDE FRIENDS ICELAND (WF)

Founded in 2001, WF Iceland is a non-profit organization promoting nature- and peace oriented activities for volunteers from around the world.

WF also supports Icelanders traveling abroad to participate in similar volunteer programs. Our main activities include workcamps, exchange programs, and educational seminars.

Why Volunteer with WF Iceland?

Volunteering with WF Iceland gives you a unique chance to explore Iceland's landscapes and culture, while working alongside international volunteers and local residents.

You'll gain hands-on experience in environmental and community projects, develop intercultural skills, and build friendships that span the globe.

Key Goals of WF Iceland

Promoting Peace and Friendship

- Build understanding and trust across cultures
- Encourage meaningful international connections

Intercultural Learning and Awareness

- Share traditions and perspectives with volunteers worldwide
- Enhance teamwork, communication, and cultural understanding

Preserving Icelandic Nature & Environmental Awareness

- Protect forests, beaches, and local habitats
- Learn sustainable practices and Iceland's unique ecosystems

Promoting Volunteering Culture

- Inspire a lifelong commitment to volunteerism
- Gain practical experience in community and environmental projects

The WF Iceland Experience

Volunteers engage in **challenging and rewarding projects**, including forestry, beach cleaning, and community activities. This hands-on work combined with the **stunning Icelandic landscapes** and interaction with people from diverse backgrounds makes every day a learning opportunity.

By joining WF Iceland, you become part of a global effort to **promote peace, cultural understanding, and environmental stewardship**—all while creating memories and friendships that last a lifetime.

Welcome to the Land of Fire & Ice....



Project Information

Location

Siglufjörður is a small town of about **1,300 people** located in **North Iceland**, and it is the northernmost town on the mainland. It is approximately a **5-hour drive from Reykjavik**. Together with the neighboring community of **Ólafsfjörður**, Siglufjörður forms part of the **Municipality of Fjallabyggð**.

Nestled between dramatic mountains and the sea, Siglufjörður is a **charming fjord town** with a rich history. Once known as the **“Herring Capital of the North,”** it was one of Iceland’s most vibrant and prosperous towns during the early to mid-20th century. The booming herring fishing and processing industry attracted workers from across Iceland and abroad, turning the town into a lively cultural and economic hub filled with music, energy, and community life.

Although the herring era ended in the 1960s, Siglufjörður has **preserved its maritime heritage** through museums, restored buildings, and local traditions. Today, it is a peaceful yet active community, celebrated for its stunning natural surroundings, strong historical character, and deep connection to Iceland’s fishing heritage.

Address: Suðurgata 4, 580 Siglufjörður

Work

The main work in **Siglufjörður** and **Ólafsfjörður** is **forestry** and **community environmental care**, with seasonal variations. Participants help take care of a **manmade forest**, working to improve and maintain the area, and also assist with **beach cleaning** activities during certain months. Most activities are **outdoors** and can vary depending on the **season and weather**.

Typical Tasks Include:

Forestry and Environmental Work:

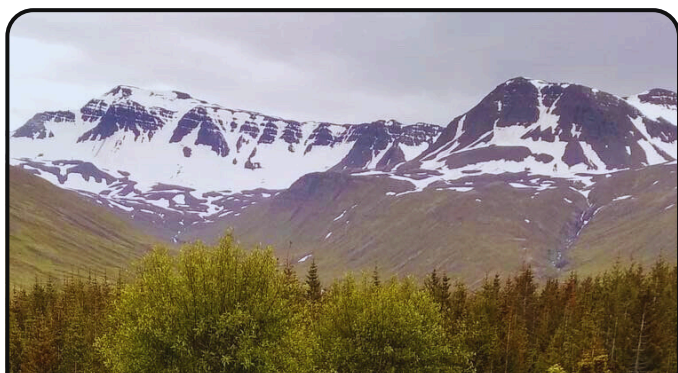
- -Replanting trees, bushes, and flowers
- -Moving plants to more suitable locations
- -Planting new vegetation
- -Repairing or setting up fences
- -Cutting branches, trimming or removing dead trees
- Mowing grass, collecting debris, and maintaining walking paths

Community Projects:

- -Assisting with small renovation projects, such as helping with the local church or cleaning community spaces

Beach Cleaning (April–June):

- -Collecting litter and debris along the coastline
- -Removing waste that affects wildlife and the natural environment
- -Raising awareness about environmental care in local communities



Tasks often depend on the day's priorities, so **flexibility and teamwork** are essential. Participants also get time to **enjoy the peaceful surroundings**, sometimes ending the **day with a small barbecue by the river**. **This placement offers hands-on experience in community work and environmental care, surrounded by the stunning landscapes of northern Iceland.**

Seasonal Focus:

- **Beach Cleaning: April to June**
- **Forestry: June to September**

Our work will depend on the needs of the local community and the season. This is a perfect camp for people who like outdoor work and physical challenges.

Working hours are on average 5 hours a day, 5 days a week.



Skills & Knowledge

- **Environmental Maintenance:** Hands-on experience in replanting trees, and flowers, as well as learning about native species and sustainable reforestation practices.
- **Forestry Management:** Understanding basic forest care, including cutting dead or unwanted trees, trimming branches, and maintaining healthy forest areas.

The main purpose of the project is to raise awareness of sustainability among both local and international youth in their everyday lives, while also engaging them in cultural exchange activities that foster mutual understanding and intercultural learning.

- **Land and Infrastructure Care:** Developing skills in building and repair, basic construction and trail maintenance.
- **Adaptability and Problem-Solving:** Learning to manage daily tasks that can vary depending on weather conditions and community needs.
- **Teamwork and Collaboration:** Working closely with local coordinators and other participants in a supportive and dynamic environment.



Itinerary:

(2 weeks)

- Monday Pick up 17:00 BSI Bus Terminal
- Tuesday Golden Circle 9:00 to 17:00
- Wednesday Transfer to Project Site 9:00 14:00
- Departure Wednesday Transfer to BSI Bus Terminal. Drop off around 19:00

Accommodation & food

Pre-Camp Accommodation

- Duration: 2 nights in our house on the outskirts of Reykjavík
- Rooms: 2 shared, hostel-style rooms
- Description: A cozy, fully equipped house located about 30 minutes from the city center, surrounded by beautiful hiking trails. This is where you'll receive a warm welcome and your project introduction before heading to the main location.

Note: We share the house with our lovely cat, Lisa!

Project Accommodation

Volunteers will be staying in the house of Worldwide Friends. The house has two large dormitory rooms (8 people each), two double rooms, a fully equipped kitchen, several bathrooms, and comfortable common areas.

- **Wireless internet access is provided free of charge at the accommodation.**
- **Washing machine on site.**

Note: Actual occupancy may vary depending on factors such as season, health regulations, or other restrictions.

Please inform us in advance if you have any food allergies or special dietary needs, so we can accommodate you properly.



Food is included for the entire duration of the work camp; however, everyone is expected to do their fair share of **cooking and cleaning**. Since it's always fun to try new and different dishes, volunteers are encouraged to **bring their favorite recipes from home!**

We also invite everyone to **try vegetarian food** during their stay with us.

We provide a **well-balanced and healthy variety of ingredients**, including whole grains, seasonal fruits and vegetables, pantry staples, dairy products, and vegetarian/vegan options. To help reduce our carbon footprint, we limit meat consumption and promote sustainable, plant-based meals.

We do **not provide soft drinks or candies**, but we do offer plenty of ingredients for **baking delicious snacks**. As **we bake our own bread**, feel free to bring your favorite **golden-crust recipe from home!**

Camp leaders

There are always one or more **Camp Leaders** for each camp, depending on the size of the group. The leaders serve as a vital **link between the hosting community, Worldwide Friends (WF Iceland), and the group of volunteers.**

Their main responsibilities include:

- Coordinating daily work activities and ensuring tasks are completed safely and efficiently
- Organizing leisure activities, cultural events, and excursions
- Managing shopping lists, cooking & house schedules
- Documenting camp activities (photos, reports, feedback) for WF Iceland

Apart from these additional responsibilities, Camp Leaders are considered **equal members of the volunteer team** and participate in all activities alongside others.

Most of our Camp Leaders come from **different countries**, as we proudly welcome **international leaders** from partner organizations. All leaders begin their journey with **a one-week training program**, preparing them to manage projects effectively and ensure a rewarding experience for everyone.

Age Limit

If you are healthy, have a great attitude, and want to work alongside a local project team, then we will have a placement for you. In general, volunteers should be at least 18 years old. There is no maximum age limit for the majority of our workcamps.

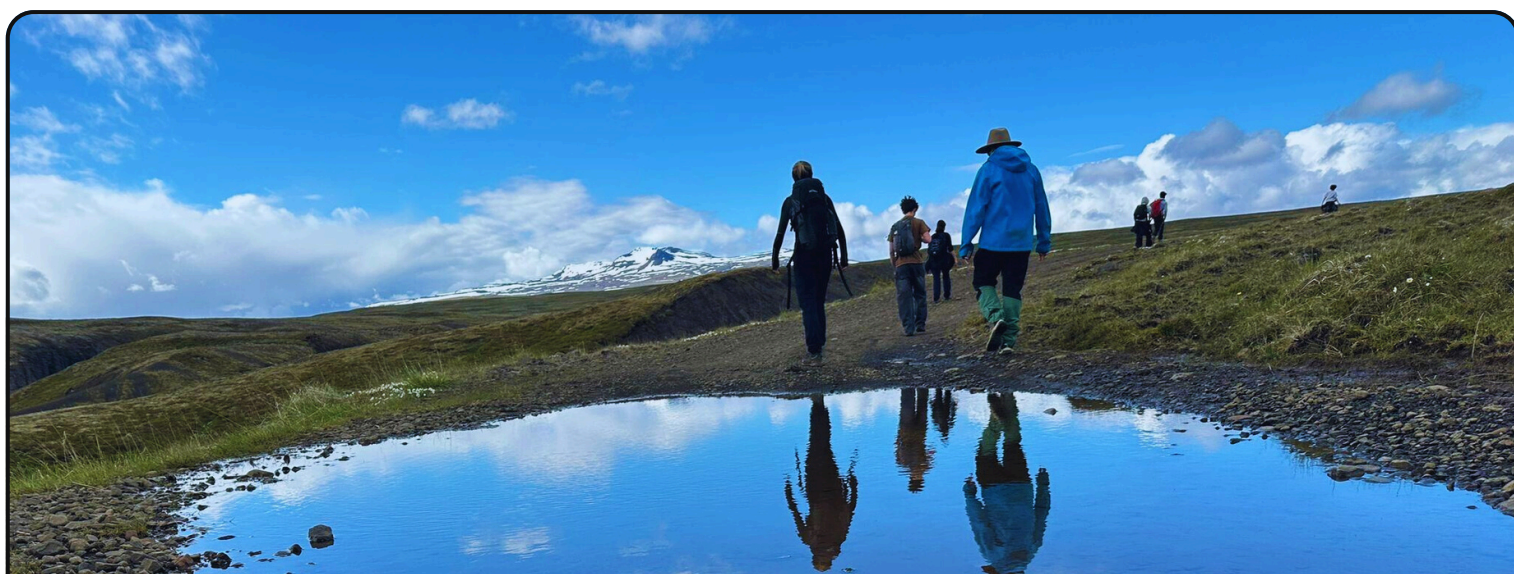
Coordinator

Each Project has an assigned Coordinator which plays a key role in supporting volunteers and maintaining a positive group dynamic.

Their main tasks include:

- **Facilitating communication** and leading group meetings to ensure smooth coordination and teamwork.
- **Providing ongoing guidance and mentorship** to volunteers throughout the project.
- **Being available and accessible** whenever volunteers need support or advice during their stay.
- **Ensuring the safety, well-being, and morale** of all participants.

Supporting conflict resolution and fostering **a cooperative, respectful, and inclusive atmosphere** within the group.



The First & Last Day of the Workcamp

The first day of the camp is **Arrival Day**, and the last day of the camp is **Departure Day**. The minibus will be at the meeting point in Reykjavik on the morning of the first day of the workcamp and will return to the **Meeting Point / BSI Bus Terminal in Reykjavik** on the evening of the last day.

Important Notes:

- The night of the last day of the camp is **not included**. Please make arrangements for accommodation in Iceland before and after the workcamp.
- **If you cannot arrive at the meeting point on time, please contact us as soon as possible so we can try to find a suitable solution.**

Drop-off will be on the evening of the last day of the program at **BSI Bus Terminal**, around 20:00. Please note that the time may vary due to adverse weather conditions or other factors.

Requirements

English is the main language spoken at our camps, so a **basic knowledge of English** is required. We ask volunteers to be **mindful and respectful of others** and to speak their native language **only when necessary**. This is a great opportunity to **practice and improve your English skills while interacting with people from all over the world**.

Arrival To The Workcamp

During the travel day, you will have **several stops along the way**. When you arrive at the workcamp, you will be **warmly welcomed by your Camp Leaders and fellow volunteers** at the house.

The Camp Leader will **show you around** and direct you to your room. You will **share a room** and the house's common facilities with other participants.

After a long day of travel, **dinner will usually be ready for you**. However, sometimes the Camp Leaders may **travel with you to the house**, in which case **you will prepare the first dinner together** as a group.

This first day is a time to **settle in, meet your fellow volunteers, and get ready** for the exciting work and experiences ahead!



Transport from/to Keflavik airport

Incoming flights to Iceland arrive at **Keflavik International Airport (KEF)**. The easiest way to get to Reykjavik is by taking the **Flybus**, which can be booked on the Flybus website:

<https://www.re.is/tour/flybus/>.

- When booking, choose the **“flexible” option**, which allows you to take any bus after your arrival.
- The Flybus departs from Keflavik Airport approximately **35–40 minutes after each flight arrival**.
- The journey to **BSI Bus Station in Reykjavik** takes about **50 minutes**.
- Buses are located **right outside the terminal building**. If your flight is delayed or you arrive late at night, don't worry—there will still be a Flybus available for you.
- **Approximate cost:** €30–35 (one way) per person.

Public Bus Option

The Strætó Route 55 runs from Keflavik Airport to Reykjavik. The journey takes approximately **1 hour and 10 minutes**, with several stops along the way, including **BSI Bus Station**.

Schedules may vary depending on the season, so check <https://www.straeto.is/> for up-to-date times.

Approximate cost: €5–6 (one way) per person.

Klappið is the official app for public buses in Reykjavík, available on the **App Store** and **Google Play**. Use it to buy tickets, plan routes, and track buses in real time.

1. **Download & Register:** Install the app, create an account, and add a payment method (credit/debit card; American Express not accepted).
2. **Buy Tickets:** Purchase single, multi-journey, or monthly passes. Tickets can be saved for later use without immediate activation.
3. **Activate & Scan:** Tap to activate your ticket and scan the QR code on the bus scanner.
4. **Validity:** Single tickets are valid for 75 minutes, including transfers.





During the Workcamp

Depending on your workcamp, the first morning is usually a **late start**, as everyone is often tired from the long journey.

On the first day, your **Camp Leader** will provide an introduction to:

- **The House** – facilities, rooms, and common areas
- **The Community/Area** – local surroundings and points of interest
- **Waste Recycling** – proper disposal and environmental care
- **Daily Cleaning** – shared responsibilities in maintaining the house
- **Work** – an overview of the tasks and project goals
- **Leisure Activities** – available options for free time and excursions

All participants will **contribute to creating a weekly schedule**, dividing tasks equally between volunteers and camp leaders. This schedule will include: **cooking, cleaning, work, and free time.**

- **Breakfast** is self-prepared, allowing volunteers to cook for themselves.
- **Lunch and dinner** are usually prepared in pairs or small groups, depending on the number of participants, with everyone taking turns for **cooking and cleaning afterward.**

Living and working with people from **different backgrounds and cultures** can sometimes be challenging. To prevent or resolve conflicts, it is important to:

- Maintain **respect for others**
- Be open-minded and **willing to compromise**
- Work together calmly to **resolve disagreements**

Understanding and appreciating cultural differences is not only essential for **harmonious coexistence**, but it also enriches the overall volunteer experience.

You will also have **free time** during the camp. Weekends are usually free and often include excursions, but when this is not possible, the Camp Leader will plan group activities such as **hiking, picnics, or swimming.** This balance of work, leisure, and exploration ensures a **rewarding and enjoyable camp experience.**

Last Day

On your last day, the group will do a **general house cleaning** — please make sure no rubbish is left behind. It's always nice to leave the house **cleaner than you found it!**

Pack a lunch for your day trip. **Clean and tidy your room**, and remember to **change your bedsheets. Complete your Evaluation Form** — ask your Camp Leader for the link.

Double-check that you've **packed all your belongings.**

You'll be **picked up in the morning**, with a few stops along the way.

Arrival in Reykjavík is around 20:00 hrs, and drop-off will be at the **BSÍ Bus Station.**

What to bring along

First and foremost, bring plenty of **enthusiasm, good energy, and a huge smile!**

Iceland is beautiful but unpredictable, so it's important to be prepared for any kind of weather.

Suggested items:

- Don't forget to bring your hiking shoes!— for outdoor activities and excursions
- Water bottle – to stay hydrated during work and excursions
- Towel
- Swimsuit – to enjoy traditional swimming pools and hot springs
- Warm and waterproof clothing/shoes – essential, as much of your time will be outdoors
- Snow gear – depending on the season
- Work clothes – clothes you don't mind getting dirty
- Slippers or indoor shoes – shoes are not worn inside the houses
- Raincoat/ Waterproof Jacket and pants
- Medication – if needed
- Intercultural Night items – food, photos, or anything interesting from your country
- Cash – ISK or Euros for camp fees and excursions (credit cards are generally not accepted on the spot)

Luggage allowance:

1 large suitcase and 1 small carry-on

Feel free to bring **music, games, musical instruments, recipes, or other items** for cooking and social activities. These will be especially enjoyable when volunteers take initiative in group activities.

Money and Currency Tips:

- It's recommended to **withdraw cash ahead of time**, as ATM fees may be high depending on your bank.
- You can also **exchange money before arriving in Iceland or at Keflavik Airport**, as the only other place to exchange cash is at a bank.
- Keep in mind that **shopping in Iceland requires ISK.**





Leisure

There's plenty to enjoy in **Siglufjörður**, from outdoor adventures to cultural attractions. You'll find **great hiking trails, museums, swimming pools, and restaurants**, as well as a lively local culture.

WF Iceland organizes **affordable weekend and one-day excursions** to Iceland's most stunning natural sites — including **waterfalls, glaciers, volcanic and geothermal areas, lava fields, hot springs, and more.**

Explore available trips at: wf.is/excursions

(A minimum number of participants is required to run excursions.)

Nature is always within reach here — go hiking, play golf, try ocean swimming, or even skiing. Remember to **plan your hikes safely**, respect nature, stay on marked trails, and never climb steep mountains without a professional guide.

The **Northern Lights** can be seen from **September to April**, when the skies are dark and clear.

Electricity & Mobile

- Iceland uses **240V, 50Hz AC**. Plugs have two or three round pins; bring an adapter if needed.
- Check with your mobile provider about **international roaming**, or consider buying an **Icelandic SIM card**.

Flights

International: Keflavik Airport (KEF), 45 min from Reykjavík.

Domestic: Flugfélag Íslands flies year-round to major towns; other regional airlines serve remote areas. Flights may be canceled due to weather, so plan ahead.

Banks and exchange

Major banks: Íslandsbanki, Landsbanki Íslands, Arion Banki. Most have ATMs.

Credit cards (Visa, Mastercard) are widely accepted, even for small purchases. ISK is used for cash transactions.

American Express is not commonly accepted. Travelers' cheques can be cashed in banks if needed.

Travelling and transport

Ring Road (Hringvegur): 1,500 km loop around Iceland's coast connecting major towns.

Roads outside towns may be **gravel**; interior roads **require 4x4 vehicles** and are open **June–August. Check conditions at vegagerdin.is.**

Car rentals are common but can be expensive.

Book early for summer.

Buses: Public buses (Strætó) operate in cities and nearby areas. City passes are available in Reykjavík. **Tickets can be bought via the [Klappið](#) app or in cash (exact fare required).**



Swimming Pools

Geothermal pools are a key part of Icelandic culture.

When visiting:

- **Shower thoroughly without clothes** before entering pools or hot tubs.
- Swimwear must be **clean**; do not wear a swimsuit used in the sea without **washing**.
- **No cameras or phones** are allowed in changing areas or pools.

Experiencing Iceland

Overview

Iceland, known as the “**Land of Fire and Ice,**” is famous for its dramatic landscapes, from glaciers and volcanoes to hot springs and fjords. The weather is **unpredictable**, so be prepared for anything.

Learn some Icelandic

Góðan daginn - Good Morning

Takk - Thank you.

Já - Yes.

Nei - No.

Hvað er klukkan? - What time is it?

Hvar er klósettið? - Where is the toilet?

Hað kostar þetta? - How much?

Hjálp! - Help!

Afsakið - I'm sorry.

Ég Veit Ekki - I don't know.

Til hamingju! - Congratulations!

Ég elska þig - I love you.

Ég er sjálfboðaliði - I am a volunteer.

Events to attend in Iceland

All year round, Iceland offers a wide **variety of activities** that we strongly encourage you to take part in during your time while in the country. Whether you are seeking adventure, natural beauty, or relaxation, Iceland offers an unforgettable experience for everyone.

Here are our suggestions:

- Þorrablót.
- Rainbow Reykjavík Winter Festival.
- Design March.
- Food and Fun.
- Reykjavík International Literary Festival.
- Aldrei Fór Ég Suður.
- International Museum Day.
- Vaka Folk Arts Festival.
- Reykjavík Metal Festival.
- National Holiday Celebrations (June 17th).
- Festival of the Sea.
- Lunga Art Festival.
- Eistnaflug.
- Reykjavík Pride.
- Vestmannaeyjar National Festival.
- Reykjavík International Film Festival.
- Réttir.
- Reykjavík Jazz Festival.

Contact details

Main Address
WF Iceland / Veraldarvinir
Grandagarður 16, 101, Reykjavík

Director WF Iceland / Veraldarvinir
Tóti Ivarsson
+354 666 6222
toti@wf.is

Workcamps Project Manager
Victoria Aguilar
+354 760 1951
victoria@wf.is

Workcamp placements
workcamps@wf.is

Erasmus+
erasmus@wf.is

Activities you can enjoy in Iceland:

- River Rafting.
- Volcano Hiking.
- Sailing.
- Whale Watching.
- Horse Riding.
- Fishing.
- Glacier Walking.
- Camping.
- Northern Lights Hunting.
- Snow Sports.
- Swimming in a hot spring.



Emergencies

Iceland provides first-rate healthcare and emergency services. There are hospitals or healthcare in every major town in Iceland as well as pharmacies, called Apótek in Icelandic.

Just in case you need assistance during your stay in Iceland it's a good idea to make note of the Icelandic emergency number is 112 (police, fire and ambulance)

Remember the most important thing is to use common sense, follow safety warnings, remember the emergency number 112 and enjoy your stay in Iceland!

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the name of Iceland's international airport?

A: Keflavik International Airport (KEF).

Q: How do I get from Keflavik Airport to Reykjavik?

A: The easiest way is to take the Flybus from Keflavik to BSI Bus Station in Reykjavik.

Q: Does the WF minibus go from the airport to Reykjavik?

A: No. The WF minibus is organized to transport volunteers between the meeting point in Reykjavik and the workcamp site, not from the airport.

Q: When should I arrive in or depart from Iceland?

A: We recommend arriving at least one day before the first day of your workcamp and departing no earlier than one day after the last day.

Q: What can I do if I miss the minibus trip?

A: Contact us as soon as possible. You can also use public transportation to reach the workcamp.

Q: Does the accommodation include internet access?

A: Yes. WF provides free Wi-Fi throughout the workcamp. Since everyone shares the same bandwidth, volunteers are asked not to download large files like movies or music.

Q: Who should I contact for information or in case of problems?

A: Please email workcamps@wf.is.

Q: Can I pay in Euros in Iceland?

A: Most shops only accept ISK, so we recommend bringing Icelandic Krona.

Q: Do Icelanders speak English?

A: Yes, English is widely spoken; Icelanders learn it from a young age.

Q: Can I arrive at the workcamp by myself?

A: Yes. We recommend arriving on the same day as the group and letting us know in advance.

Q: Can I buy alcohol in Iceland?

A: Yes, if you are over 20 years old. Alcohol is expensive and can only be purchased at state-run shops (Vínbúðin).

Q: Do you provide accommodation before or after the workcamp?

A: No. We recommend nearby hostels such as KEX Hostel or Bus Hostel.

Q: Can I extend my program?

A: Yes, depending on availability.

Q: If I extend my program, do I have to pay?

A: Yes. Fees depend on the program and dates; we will provide details.

Q: If I leave earlier, will I get a refund?

A: No. We cannot refund early departures, as costs for your program have already been incurred.

Q: Can I invite friends over to the WF House?

A: No. Accommodation is shared, and not all volunteers may be comfortable with guests.

Q: Can we use the WF car?

A: No. The car is reserved for WF staff only.

Q: If I leave earlier, do I have to pay for transportation?

A: Yes. Transportation costs from the workcamp will be your responsibility.

Q: Where can I exchange currency?

A: The easiest place is at KEF Airport upon arrival.



Terms & Conditions

Changes to Itineraries

WF Iceland reserves the right to alter itineraries, schedules, or timetables due to adverse weather or other unforeseen circumstances. WF is not responsible for expenses or other costs caused by factors beyond its control, including flight delays, cancellations, injuries, natural disasters, war, or other unforeseeable events.

Insurance

- WF Iceland provides third-party liability coverage during the duration of the camp.
- Medical insurance is not included, so volunteers are strongly encouraged to purchase appropriate coverage for their stay in Iceland. European volunteers should bring their European Health Insurance Card (EHIC).

Travel Insurance

We strongly recommend purchasing travel insurance in your home country that covers cancellation, medical emergencies, and other risks. Travel insurance is inexpensive and provides peace of mind when traveling abroad.

Icelandic Weather and Conditions

All trips and outdoor activities are weather-dependent. WF Iceland reserves the right to alter routes, itineraries, departure times, or cancel activities to ensure volunteer safety. Icelandic weather can change rapidly, particularly in winter. Staff are trained to make decisions prioritizing safety.

WF Iceland cannot be held responsible for:

- Loss, damage, accidents, injury, or sickness
- Schedule changes due to weather, strikes, natural disasters, or other factors outside WF's control
- Defaults or delays of external service providers, including hotels, tour operators, airlines, or restaurants

Participants are responsible for any additional costs incurred due to changes in flights or travel plans, including extra accommodation, meals, or transfers. Comprehensive travel insurance is strongly recommended.

Cancellation Fees & Charges

Cancellation charges apply from the time written notification is received:

- More than 30 days before start: Free of charge
- 30–14 days before start: 50% of total fee
- Less than 14 days before start: 100% of total fee (unless cancellation is due to a medical reason with appropriate documentation)
- Expenses related to early departure are the responsibility of the participant; no refund will be given.

Code of Conduct

Participants are expected to comply with the following:

- **Clothing:** Wear appropriate outdoor clothing and footwear. Participation may be refused if attire is unsafe.
- **Non-prescription drugs:** Participants under the influence of drugs may have their program terminated without refund.
- WF reserves the right to refuse participation or terminate the stay for participants whose behavior endangers others, causes offense, or disrupts the program. Any expenses incurred from early departure are the participant's responsibility.

Photo Release

During your stay at the project, photos and videos may be taken for promotional or educational purposes. By participating, you agree that your image may be used by WF Iceland on websites, social media, brochures, and other promotional materials.

If you do not wish to be photographed or filmed, please notify your Camp Leader upon arrival. WF will make reasonable efforts to honor your request.

