

Nordic Geological Winter Meeting 2022

The Dynamic Southcoast of Iceland, 14-16th of May

Spectacular three-day trip along Iceland's Southcoast which highlights a rift valley, glaciers, present-day glacier landscapes, lavas, volcanoes, jökulhlaups and much, much more of geological interest.

Guides:

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Day 1.

Reykjavík. Quick on-the-bus introduction to the geology of Reykjavík, including Quaternary geology and geothermal utilization.

Rauðhólar. Inside and outside view of pseudo-craters close to Reykjavík

Nesjavellir. Central volcano and a geothermal power plant

Thingvellir. Great example of continental drift, rifting tectonics and rift valley.

Drumbabót. Ancient forest which was destroyed in a flood ("jökulhlaup") from the ice-capped volcano Katla in 822 AD.

Steinsholtsjökull. Short hike at the foothills of the world famous Eyjafjallajökull volcano where we explore debris and flow path of a glacial lake outburst flood caused by a rockslide in 1967.

Thórsmörk (Húsadalur). We stay for the night at this beautiful place surrounded by glaciers and glacial rivers (which we will drive into on our way to the hut).

Day 2

Landeyjahöfn. Interesting harbour-design on a high-energy sand beach.

Vestmannaeyjar. Short visit to the Vestmannaeyjar islands where we will see the impacts of the volcanic eruption in 1973 on the village.

Reynisfjara. Columnar basalt and beautiful sand beach. Popular tourist attraction.

Vík. We will stay for the night in or close to the small village of Vík.

Day 3

Mýrdalssandur and Kötlujökull. Black sands formed by floods from the ice capped Katla Volcano, close encounter of the Kötlujökull glacier which is the outlet of most of the floods and pseudo crates.

Skaftáreldahraun. View of the moss covered Skaftáreldahraun which was formed in a devastating volcanic eruption in 1783-1784.

Reykjavík. In the afternoon we will return to Reykjavík and aim at be back around dinner time.

