

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE COMMUNITY TRAVEL PROGRAM



ICELAND



JULY 27 – AUGUST 5, 2026



Join San Diego Mesa College geology professor Don Barrie on an educational tour of Iceland's natural wonders: waterfalls, glaciers, icebergs, volcanoes, geysers, hot springs, lakes, canyons, beaches, and wildlife. The tour cost includes a contribution of \$500 for Mesa College Foundation's study abroad scholarship fund, which helps students live and learn in other countries.

LAND COST = \$4690 - includes lodging in a double/twin room, private tour bus, many entries and activities, Professor Don Barrie as group leader, GeoTours guide Matt Ebner, breakfasts, high-quality digital photos of the entire tour. Early registration discount of \$100 if registering by November 15, 2025. Single room costs +\$1400.

Register at WWW.GEOTOURS.US/TOUR/ICELAND2026

AIRFARE is additional, and costs approximately \$900 round-trip from Los Angeles or San Diego to Reykjavik.

INCLUDED ENTRIES/ACTIVITIES

- Reykjavik – Hallgrímskirkja Church Tower
- Strokkur Geyser
- Gullfoss Waterfalls
- Þingvellir – Rift zone between tectonic plates
- Akureyri Botanical Gardens
- Godafoss Waterfall
- Viti Crater Lake
- Grjótagja Cave
- Hverir - Bubbling mud pits and fumaroles
- Dettifoss Waterfall
- Puffins at Borgarfjörður Eystri
- Fjaðrárgljúfur Canyon
- Jokulsarlon - Iceberg lagoons
- Vatnajökull National Park - Skaftafell section
- Svinafell Glacier
- Reynisfjara - Black sand beach & cliffs
- Seljalandsfoss Waterfall
- Skogafoss Waterfall
- Many scenic viewpoints



Contact: Don Barrie – DBARRIEGEO@GMAIL.COM - 619-208-6507
Matt Ebner (GeoTours) – MATTEBINER@GEOTOURS.US – 310-686-8171

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS BY:

WWW.GEOTOURS.US
INFO@GEOTOURS.US

WWW.GEOTOURS.US/TOUR/ICELAND2026



MESA COLLEGE - ICELAND TOUR – JULY 27 – AUGUST 5, 2026

Mon 7/27/26 Depart USA

Depart from USA to Reykjavik, Iceland

Tue 7/28/26 Arrive Reykjavik, Iceland

Arrive Reykjavik, capital city of Iceland. Take a short walking tour of Reykjavik and visit Hallgrímskirkja church tower, with great views over Reykjavik. Two nights in Reykjavik at Center Hotel Arnarhvoll, centrally located within walking distance of restaurants and shops.

Wed 7/29/26 Golden Circle

See some of Iceland's top highlights: Þingvellir National Park where the North American plate is pulling apart from the Eurasian plate, Strokkur Geyser exploding every few minutes, and Gullfoss waterfalls. Return to Reykjavik for night #2 at Center Hotel Arnarhvoll

Thu 7/30/26 Reykjavik to Akureyri

Travel to Akureyri, Iceland's 2nd largest city, located on Iceland's north coast. Visit Akureyri's Botanical Gardens with beautiful landscaping. One night at Hotel Kea in Akureyri, centrally located within 5 minutes' walk of many shops and restaurants.

Fri 7/31/26 Akureyri – Lake Myvatn - Husavik

See the geological wonders around Lake Myvatn: Viti crater with a beautiful lake, Hverir geothermal area with bubbling mud pits and fumaroles, Grjótagjá cave with an aquamarine pool inside, and beautiful Godafoss waterfall. Continue to the beautiful fishing town of Husavik. Option to soak in geothermal waters or go on an evening whale watching cruise. Stay one night in Husavik at Fosshotel.

Sat 8/1/26 Husavik to Egilsstaðir

Marvel at impressive Dettifoss, Europe's largest waterfall. Travel to the Eastfjords to see puffins up close in Borgarfjörður Eystrí. One night in Egilsstaðir at Hotel Eyvindara.

Sun 8/2/26 Egilsstaðir to Vatnajökull National Park

Travel through fjords with magnificent scenery. Visit Jökulsárlón lagoon, with icebergs floating in the water. Stroll along Diamond Beach, with blocks of ice on the beach. Two nights at Hotel Skaftafell on the edge of Vatnajökull National Park.

Mon 8/3/26 Vatnajökull National Park

Great hiking opportunities (up to 5 miles) in Vatnajökull National Park to see glaciers and waterfalls. In the afternoon take an optional walk from the hotel to Svinafells glacier. Night #2 at Hotel Skaftafell.

Tue 8/4/26 Vatnajökull National Park to Reykjavik

Short hike at colorful Fjaðrárgljúfur Canyon, carved into the volcanic landscape. Stroll along a black sand beach at Reynisfjara, backed by volcanic cliffs. See 2 magnificent waterfalls: Seljalandsfoss, which you can walk behind, and Skogafoss. One night in Reykjavik at Center Hotel Arnarhvoll.

Wed 8/5/26 Depart Iceland

Depending on time of departure, shop in Reykjavik or visit Blue Lagoon for a dip in the warm geothermal waters. Fly home to the USA and arrive the same day, or extend your time in Iceland to explore more on your own.



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GENERAL INFORMATION – MESA COLLEGE ICELAND TOUR 2026

Tour Dates

- Depart USA, Monday, July 27, 2026; arrive Reykjavik in the morning, Tuesday, July 28, 2026.
- Depart Reykjavik, Wednesday, August 5, 2026, arriving in the USA in the evening, Wednesday, August 5, 2026.

Land Cost

- \$4690, including lodging in a twin/double room, ground transport, many entries/activities, English-speaking guide, breakfasts.
- \$100 early registration discount if registering and submitting payment by November 15.
- Tour cost includes a contribution of \$500 for Mesa College Foundation's study abroad scholarship fund, which helps students live and learn in other countries.
- Iceland is an expensive country. This trip has all breakfasts included. Restaurant meals are expensive (\$20-60 for dinners)
- Lunches (additional cost) will usually be simple (soup, sandwiches) at snack bars, small cafeterias, or markets.

Airfare

- Additional cost (about \$900) for round-trip to Reykjavik from the USA. GeoTours will provide flight recommendations.

Registration Procedure

- It is not necessary to be affiliated with San Diego Mesa College to join the tour.
- The registration link can be found at WWW.GEOTOURS.US/TOUR/ICELAND2026
- After completing online registration submit a \$500 deposit to GeoTours LLC within 7 days (see payment info below).
- If there are any problems registering online then you should contact GeoTours at 310-686-8171 or info@geotours.us.

Payment Schedule

- Payments can be sent by check to GeoTours LLC, 1547 E. Puente St., Covina CA 91724, or online through Venmo or Zelle to payment@geotours.us or 310-686-8171 (GeoTours phone #).
- 1st payment of \$500 is due within 7 days of registration.
- 2nd payment of \$800 is due on January 31, 2026.
- 3rd payment of \$1200 is due on March 31, 2026.
- Final payment is due May 15, 2026. There will be a \$100 late fee for payments made after May 31, 2026.

Cancellations

To cancel your participation, you need to inform GeoTours in writing or by email. Cancellation date is the date when GeoTours receives your written notice. *Cancellation penalty is the amount shown below PLUS any non-recoverable expenses already paid on behalf of the passenger, such as non-refundable tickets or hotel rooms.

<u>Date of Cancellation</u>	<u>Cancellation Penalty</u>
On or before November 30, 2025	\$100*
December 1 – 31, 2025	\$200*
January 1 – February 28, 2026	\$400*
March 1 – April 31, 2026	\$600*
After May 1, 2026	No Refund

Leader/Guide & Group Size

- San Diego Mesa College geology professor Don Barrie will lead the group.
- GeoTours guide (Matt Ebner) will accompany, direct, and guide the tour.
- Group size will be 12-18 people, plus Don Barrie, Matt Ebner, and an Icelandic driver.

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Accommodation

- Price is based on double occupancy (sharing a room); if you don't have a preferred roommate, we will try to match you with a roommate of the same sex but this is not guaranteed. Single rooms are limited. A single room costs +\$1400.
- Lodging is at hotels in rooms with an attached, private bathroom. Rooms in Iceland are sometimes small and simple but always clean and usually in a beautiful location. Some hotels do not have elevators nor do they have portage service.

Transportation and Pace/Physical Effort

- Private tour bus with English-speaking driver.
- This trip has a moderate pace and participants should be able to walk up to 5 miles on the longest day.
- The average bus travel time is 3-4 hours per day, but a couple of days have 5-7 hours on the bus.
- The weather is cool in July/August (average high = 50-55°F; low = 40-45°F) and rain is likely 3 or 4 days per week.

Safety & Travel Insurance

- Iceland is a safe, peaceful country with almost zero crime, but international travel always has inherent risks for injury, sickness, or loss. Trip participants must agree to the Terms and Conditions below.
- Travel insurance is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED**. Compare different travel insurance policies at [squaremouth.com](https://www.squaremouth.com).
 - Trip participants should get Travel Insurance with Trip Cancellation (including Covid-19 cancellation coverage), Trip Interruption, Medical Evacuation, Medical (for Covid or anything else), and Lost/Stolen Baggage.
 - Cancellation coverage means that travel insurance will reimburse nonrefundable trip costs if you cancel for a covered reason, like getting COVID before or during the trip. Cancellation coverage only works if you purchase the insurance BEFORE a sickness or injury forces you to cancel, and an insurance claim requires a physician's written advice that you should cancel your trip due to your illness or injury.
- **Tin Leg Gold** (found on www.squaremouth.com/) costs about \$400 for a 65-year old, \$5500 trip cost (GeoTours price + airfare), destination Iceland, July 27 – August 5, 2026. The cost depends on age, costing more for older travelers.

Covid Policy

- Iceland does not have any Covid vaccination or testing requirements.
- GeoTours recommends that trip participants are fully Covid-vaccinated with a recent booster shot.
- Group travel in an airplane & tour bus carries the risk of contagious transmission of viruses: common cold, RSV, or Covid.
 - Trip members who fall ill should mask themselves on the bus and other enclosed spaces, to prevent infecting others.
 - It is recommended that travelers carry N-95 masks in their luggage in case they fall ill.
- Trip participants who test positive for Covid during the tour will not be required to leave the group. They will decide for themselves what their best course of action should be, in consultation with the trip leaders. Such actions might include leaving the group, or continuing the trip with social distancing, mask wearing, and skipping group meals.
- Neither GeoTours nor Mesa College will reimburse trip participants for COVID-related costs, and there will be no refund to participants who miss any activity or portion of the trip due to Covid or any other reason.
- Participants should seek reimbursement from their travel insurance carrier for any Covid-related costs, or for trip cancellation or trip interruption.

Terms and Conditions

The program participant agrees that GeoTours LLC and San Diego Mesa College assume no liability whatsoever for loss of property, injury, accident, illness, death, irregularity, and delays during the duration of the tour. In addition, the program participant agrees to hold GeoTours LLC and San Diego Mesa College harmless for damage, delay, or cancellation due to equipment problems, quarantine, pandemic, declared or undeclared war and insurrection, terrorist and criminal activity, revolt, civil disturbance, hostility, military action, strikes, labor unrest, any "act of God" or nature and for any act of any third party. The participant, by registering for this tour, agrees that GeoTours LLC and San Diego Mesa College are not responsible for delay, rerouting, omission, and additional expense resulting from the passenger's improper travel documents such as passport, visa, and health document. Any losses and expenses related to such circumstances are within the responsibility of the program participants and not of GeoTours LLC or San Diego Mesa College. GeoTours LLC and San Diego Mesa College are not responsible for acts of any government authority. GeoTours LLC and San Diego Mesa College reserve the right to adjust itinerary and contents and to substitute accommodation providers as deemed necessary. GeoTours LLC and San Diego Mesa College reserve the right to accept or decline any person as a program participant as well as to refuse to retain any participant's membership in the program. Participants that do not participate in an activity or entry, or who leave the tour early or arrive late, will not be entitled to any refund. By registering for this tour, the participant agrees to all such terms and conditions.

Any Questions? Please contact:

- GeoTours guide and tour coordinator Matt Ebner
 - mattebiner@geotours.us; 310-686-8171
- SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE Professor of Geology, Don Barrie
 - dbarriegeo@gmail.com; 619-208-6507

Travel arrangements by GeoTours LLC, CST # 2099683-40
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[WWW.GEOTOURS.US/TOUR/ICELAND2026](https://www.geotours.us/tour/iceland2026)