

**GEOGRAPHY FIELD COURSE:**

**Iceland**

**19<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I appreciate your interest in the proposed Geography trip to Iceland, one of the most stunning areas in Europe. Its dramatic volcanoes and beautiful waterfalls provide the perfect backdrop for the department's teaching of the physical and human environment.

**The Trip**

Our current itinerary (this is subject to change based on weather and availability).

DATE & TIME		ACTIVITIES
DAY 1 19th	am   pm  eve	MEET JERSEY AIRPORT (pupil to meet at the airport)  ARRIVE LONDON  DEPART LONDON  ARRIVE REYKJAVIK  ARRIVE HOTEL VIKING  Afternoon/evening activity – Visit Reykjanes peninsula
DAY 2 20th	am  pm  eve	DEPART FOR SOUTH SHORE ADVENTURE DAY  Guided tour of Dyrholaey and Reynisfjara  DEPART FOR SOLHEIMAJOKULL AND SELIJALANSFOSS  Guided tour of the Iceland Lava Centre  RETURN TO HOTEL Dinner and evening activity
DAY 3 21th	am  pm  eve	DEPART FOR GOLDEN CIRCLE  TOUR OF KERID, GULFOSS GEYSIR AND THINGVELIIR  FLIGHT OVER ICELAND – Visit to a VR flight simulator taking the pupils on a 3D tour of Iceland  RETURN TO HOTEL – Evening meal
DAY 4 22nd	am  pm	BREAKFAST IN HOTEL – Depart for Airport  RETURN TO JERSEY (pupils collected from the airport)

For additional information regarding flights, our currently reserved flights are as below:

19JUL	JER	LHR	0705 0810
19JUL	LHR	KEF	1305 1515
22JUL	KEF	LHR	0740 1155
22JUL	LHR	JER	1615 1720

Those seeking to depart on overseas holidays at the end of term, please be aware that **Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July, is a day after the end of the summer term.** Parents wishing to collect their sons at Heathrow on the 22<sup>nd</sup> should be aware we will be arriving at Terminal 2 and must meet their sons in person for collection during our transit time in Heathrow (12:00-14:00) on 22<sup>nd</sup> July. I cannot offer a reduced fee for the non-return to Jersey; however, this might be an option following further discussions with our tour operator in the coming weeks.

For more information about our itinerary, please visit: <https://www.discover-the-world.com/study-trips/iceland-highlights/>

### **Accommodation**

Pupils will stay at Hotel Viking in multi-bed rooms; we will endeavour to allocate rooms based on year groups and, if possible, friendship groups. However, please be aware that this might not always be possible. Staff will be staying in the same accommodation block with a current ratio of seven pupils to one staff member.

We have opted for a full board option, with the hotel kindly providing packed lunches. Based on information from our tour operator and supported by staff members who have previously used this hotel, these are good quality packed lunches, and closer to the time, we will collect dietary requirements and needs. Pupils are welcome to purchase their own lunches; however, all food is included in the trip price.

For more information: <https://www.discover-the-world.com/study-trips/hotel-viking/>

### **Cost**

The all-inclusive cost, based on an attendance of 30 students, will be no more than £1450 per pupil, payable with an initial non-refundable deposit of £100 and three instalments of £450.

£100 – Initial non-refundable deposit

£450 – Due Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January

£450 – Due Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March

£450 – Due Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Payment can be made in full at any time during this period. Late joining via full payment after 10th May might incur an increased cost due to flight and accommodation availability.

Financial support for the trip is also available by completing a form which can be gained from the school's Bursar, Mrs Carolyn Ferguson, [c.ferguson@vcj.sch.je](mailto:c.ferguson@vcj.sch.je).

We have based our costings on 30 pupils. If we have more than this, we would be hopeful of offering a rebate in the form of additional activities or payment back to parents on our return.

### **Payment**

Payment can be made to:

HSBC

Victoria College School Fund

Account Number: 31237632

Sort 40-25-34

Reference: Student surname Ice           (e.g. BloggsIce)

### **Sign Up**

Alongside the initial payment of £100 could I ask you to complete the form found in the link below to complete the initial sign up process.

To sign up please complete this form: <https://forms.office.com/r/fda0nz6igg>

Regards,

Daniel Hodder – Head of Geography

[d.hodder@vcj.sch.je](mailto:d.hodder@vcj.sch.je)

## FAQ's

### **What is the luggage allowance for Iceland Air & British Airways?**

Iceland Air: <https://www.icelandair.com/support/baggage/allowance/> (Economy Standard)

British Airways: <https://www.britishairways.com/en-gb/information/baggage-essentials/checked-baggage-allowances> (Economy)

### **Is travel insurance included in the price?**

Yes – as part of the price we will organise travel insurance. If, for any reason, you feel your son might have a medical issue requiring additional exemptions, don't hesitate to get in touch with Daniel Hodder at [d.hodder@vcj.sch.je](mailto:d.hodder@vcj.sch.je)

### **What is the Covid travel policy to Iceland (21/11/2022)?**

At the time of writing, there are no restrictions on travel to Iceland linked to Covid. Our travel agent has a Covid policy - <https://www.discover-the-world.com/study-trips/covid-assurance/> for more information.

### **My son doesn't hold a UK or EU passport. Does he need a visa?**

Depending on the nation and passport in question, we might be required to organise an entry visa. This cost would be in addition to the tour price. Please get in touch with me at [d.hodder@vcj.sch.je](mailto:d.hodder@vcj.sch.je) if you have any questions prior to paying the initial deposit.

### **The Iceland trip only covers part of the activity week. So, what does my son do at the start of the week?**

I am aware that many of the pupils have already signed up for elements of activities week. I plan to work with the department and see if we can put on events linked to both the subject and Iceland for the two preceding days and create an "Iceland week". The conformation of arrangements will be forwarded once we have it.

### **Where can I find up-to-date information on the Iceland Trip?**

Following this message, I will ensure any further messages alongside more FAQ's appear on our official website <https://www.victoriacollege.je/iceland2023>. Additionally, if you have any more I questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at [d.hodder@vcj.sch.je](mailto:d.hodder@vcj.sch.je)