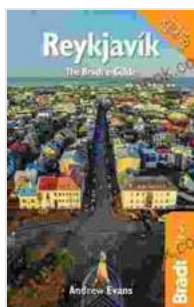


# Reykjavik, Iceland: The Ultimate Travel Guide



## Reykjavik ([CG] Bradt Travel Guides (City Guides))

by Andrew Evans

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Enhanced typesetting: Enabled

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Reykjavik, the capital of Iceland, is a vibrant and cosmopolitan city with a rich history and culture. With its stunning natural beauty, thriving arts scene, and abundance of outdoor activities, Reykjavik offers something for everyone. Whether you're looking to explore the city's museums and galleries, hike to the top of Mount Esja, or simply relax in one of its many geothermal pools, Reykjavik is the perfect destination for your next adventure.

## Getting to Reykjavik

Reykjavik is located on the southwestern coast of Iceland, and is easily accessible by air or sea. The city's international airport, Keflavik International Airport (KEF), is located about 50 kilometers (31 miles) from the city center. There are several airlines that offer flights to Keflavik from major cities around the world. Once you arrive at the airport, you can take a

bus or taxi to the city center. The bus ride takes about 45 minutes, while the taxi ride takes about 30 minutes.

If you're traveling to Reykjavik by sea, you can take a ferry from Denmark, Norway, or the Faroe Islands. The ferry ride from Denmark takes about 2 days, while the ferry ride from Norway takes about 3 days. Once you arrive in Reykjavik, you can disembark at the city's harbor.

## **Getting around Reykjavik**

Reykjavik is a relatively small city, and it is easy to get around on foot or by bike. The city center is home to most of the city's attractions, and it is within easy walking distance of the harbor and the airport bus terminal. If you're staying in one of the city's suburbs, you can take a bus or taxi to the city center. The bus system is reliable and affordable, and it covers all of the major areas of the city. Taxis are also readily available, but they are more expensive than buses.

## **Where to stay in Reykjavik**

Reykjavik offers a wide range of accommodation options, from budget-friendly hostels to luxury hotels. If you're looking for a budget-friendly option, you can stay at one of the city's many hostels. Hostels typically offer dorm rooms with shared bathrooms, but some hostels also offer private rooms with en-suite bathrooms. If you're looking for a more comfortable option, you can stay at one of the city's many hotels. Hotels offer a range of room types, from standard rooms to suites, and they typically have private bathrooms and other amenities such as TVs and Wi-Fi. If you're looking for a truly luxurious experience, you can stay at one of the city's many luxury hotels. Luxury hotels offer the highest level of service and amenities, and they typically have stunning views of the city or the surrounding mountains.

## What to do in Reykjavik

Reykjavik offers a wide range of activities and attractions, from museums and galleries to outdoor activities and geothermal pools. Here are some of the most popular things to do in Reykjavik:

- **Visit the National Museum of Iceland.** The National Museum of Iceland is the largest and most comprehensive museum in Iceland. The museum tells the story of Iceland's history and culture, from the first settlers to the present day. The museum has a wide range of exhibits, including artifacts from the Viking Age, the Middle Ages, and the modern era.
- **Walk around the city center.** Reykjavik's city center is home to many of the city's most popular attractions, including the Hallgrimskirkja Church, the Harpa Concert Hall, and the Reykjavik Art Museum. The city center is also home to a variety of shops, restaurants, and bars.
- **Hike to the top of Mount Esja.** Mount Esja is a mountain located just outside of Reykjavik. The hike to the top of the mountain is challenging, but it offers stunning views of the city and the surrounding countryside. The hike takes about 2-3 hours.
- **Relax in one of Reykjavik's geothermal pools.** Reykjavik is home to a number of geothermal pools, which are heated by the natural hot water from the earth's crust. The pools are a great place to relax and soak in the warm water. Some of the most popular geothermal pools in Reykjavik include the Blue Lagoon, the Laugardalslaug Pool, and the Nautholsvik Geothermal Beach.

## Where to eat in Reykjavik

Reykjavik offers a wide range of dining options, from traditional Icelandic cuisine to international fare. Here are some of the most popular restaurants in Reykjavik:

- **The Grill Market.** The Grill Market is a popular restaurant in Reykjavik that serves traditional Icelandic cuisine. The restaurant has a warm and inviting atmosphere, and the food is delicious.
- **Fish Market.** Fish Market is a seafood restaurant in Reykjavik that serves fresh seafood dishes. The restaurant has a casual atmosphere, and the food is reasonably priced.
- **Apotek.** Apotek is a fine dining restaurant in Reykjavik that serves modern Icelandic cuisine. The restaurant has a sophisticated atmosphere, and the food is exquisite.
- **Cafe Loki.** Cafe Loki is a popular cafe in Reykjavik that serves traditional Icelandic dishes and pastries. The cafe has a cozy atmosphere, and the food is delicious.

## Where to drink in Reykjavik

Reykjavik has a vibrant nightlife scene, and there are a number of bars and clubs to choose from. Here are some of the most popular bars and clubs in Reykjavik:

- **The Lebowski Bar.** The Lebowski Bar is a popular bar in Reykjavik that serves a wide range of beer and cocktails. The bar has a relaxed atmosphere, and it's a great place to meet other travelers.
- **Kaffibarinn.** Kaffibarinn is a popular bar in Reykjavik that serves a variety of beer, cocktails, and coffee. The bar has a casual

atmosphere, and it's a great place to listen to live music.

- **B5.** B5 is a nightclub in Reykjavik that plays a variety of music, from house to techno. The club has a large dance floor and a great sound system, and it's a great place to dance the night away.
- **Húrra.** Húrra is a nightclub in Reykjavik that plays a variety of music, from indie to electronic. The club has a small dance floor and a great atmosphere, and it's a great place to see up-and-coming Icelandic bands.

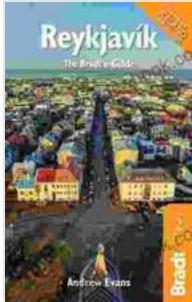
## Planning your trip to Reykjavik

Here are some tips for planning your trip to Reykjavik:

- **Book your flights and accommodation in advance, especially if you're traveling during the peak season (June-August).**
- **Purchase a Reykjavik City Card, which gives you free access to public transportation, museums, and geothermal pools.**
- **Dress warmly, even in the summer, as the weather in Reykjavik can be unpredictable.**
- **Be prepared for rain, as it is a common occurrence in Reykjavik.**
- **Learn a few basic Icelandic phrases, such as "hello" (halló) and "thank you" (takk).**
- **Be respectful of Icelandic culture and customs.**

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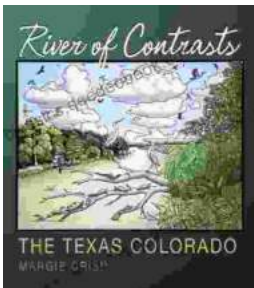


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