

# REYKJAVIK-LISBON



From Iceland's inspiring capital to Ireland's irresistible one, enjoy a voyage that drinks in the beauty of the north. Sail from Reykjavik to Dublin on this Scottish island cruise that will have you gasping at the wonder of Mother Nature. Explore each island's history to discover their unique character. From wind-swept plains to centuries old architecture, underscored by more than a little magic, this 13-day voyage is a must for those who like adventure.



**DATE:** AUG 14, 2022

JUN 14, 2023\*

**DURATION:** 14 DAYS/13 NIGHTS

\*12 DAYS/11 NIGHTS

**EMBARK:** REYKJAVIK, ICELAND

**DISEMBARK:** DUBLIN, IRELAND

\*Reverse Itinerary

**SHIP:** *Silver Cloud*

**FROM:** \$9,200

**All Inclusive** - Free Economy Air or reduced Business Class, Pre-cruise hotel and transfers, shore excursions, gratuities, beverages, and more.

**Pre- and Post-Cruise tour are available.**

## ITINERARY

### DAY 1 –ARRIVE REYKJAVIK, ICELAND – EMBARKATION

The capital of Iceland's land of ice, fire and natural wonder, Reykjavik is a city like no other - blossoming among some of the world's most vibrant and violent scenery. Home to two-thirds of Iceland's population, Reykjavik is the island's only real city, and a welcoming and walkable place - full of bicycles gliding along boulevards. Iceland's largest church's design echoes the lava flows that have shaped this remote land and boasts a clean and elegant interior. The Harpa Concert Hall's sheer glass facade helps it to assimilate into the landscape, mirroring back the city and harbor. Its LED lights shimmer in honor of Iceland's greatest illuminated performance – the northern lights.

**NOTE:** PRE-CRUISE HOTEL NIGHT IS INCLUDED. We are happy to make additional arrangements, including multi-day explorations of Iceland.

### DAY 2 – REYKJAVIK - EMBARKATION

### DAY 3 – VESTMANNAEYJAR, ICELAND

The name Vestmannaeyjar refers to both a town and an archipelago off the south coast of Iceland. The largest Vestmannaeyjar island is called Heimaey. It is the only inhabited island in the group and is home to over 4000 people. The eruption of the Eldfell Volcano put Vestmannaeyjar into the international limelight in 1973. The volcano's eruption destroyed many buildings and forced an evacuation of the residents to mainland Iceland. The lava flow was stopped in its tracks by the application of billions of liters of cold sea water. Since the eruption, life on the small island outpost has returned to the natural ebb and flow of a small coastal fishing community on the edge of the chilly and wild North Atlantic.

### DAY 4 – DJUPIVOGUR, ICELAND

A place where hammers knock on metal in workshops, artists ladle paint onto canvases, and where you might spot a few Icelandic horses roaming across mountains, Djupivogur is an uninhibited artistic hub - full of makers and creatives. The most expansive project is the 34 egg sculptures that dot the coastline, created by the Icelandic artist, Sigurður Guðmundsson. Each egg represents a different native bird species. Wander the surrounding landscapes, where snow-freckled mountains



rise, and lazy seals lie on dark rock beaches, to feel Djupivogur's natural inspiration seeping under your skin.

### DAY 5 – TÓRSHAVN, FAROE ISLANDS

Titanic scenery, mist-whipped mountains and staggering oceanic vistas await you here in the Faroe Islands - a far-flung archipelago of immense natural beauty. This remote and isolated gathering of 18 islands – adrift in the far North Atlantic Ocean – is a self-governing part of the Kingdom of Denmark, and colorful Tórshavn bustles up against the seafront, forming one of the tiniest capital cities in the world. Wander between pretty, half-timbered houses and visit one of the world's oldest parliament buildings, during your time here. With Viking history swirling too, Torshavn is a quaint, charming and heritage-rich city. Surrounded by thrilling landscapes, and cozy Scandi culture, the Faroe Islands are an envy-inducing, off-the-beaten-track destination.

### DAY 6 – PAPA STOUR – FOULA, SHETLAND ISLANDS

A spectacular coastline greets visitors to Papa Stour. The Maiden Stack guards the island's harbor and is so named because the Viking Lord Thorvald Thoresson marooned his daughter in a small house on the stack to protect her virtue. A handful of resilient people still live on Papa Stour Island. In its heyday in the 19th century, the small island of 828 hectares (2046 acres) supported a thriving fishing industry based on six-oared row boats. Fishing is only a small operation today.

Described as the most remote inhabited island of the United Kingdom, Foula seems a world away. The land slopes from a low eastern coast up to dramatic sheer cliffs on the west. At 365 meters (1200 feet), the sea cliffs are the second tallest in Britain. Foula attracts nesting seabirds during spring with many birds remaining over summer. Britain's largest population of Great Skuas nest here.

### DAY 7 - KIRKWALL, ORKNEY ISLANDS, SCOTLAND

Scattered just off the northern tip of Scotland, Kirkwall is the capital of the Orkney Islands - a scenic archipelago of fascinating, dual heritage. The Viking influence is deep, while a prehistoric past and World War history adds to the endless stories that these dramatic islands have to tell. Sparse and beautiful, let the sweeping seascapes of frothing waves, and dance of the northern lights, enchant you as you explore. Windswept beaches are inhabited by whooping swans, while grassy cliffs hide puffins amid their wavy embrace. Sea caves and crumbling castles - and the dramatic meeting of the North Sea and the Atlantic Ocean add to the romantic beauty of these lands, which may be physically close to the UK, but feel an entire world away. The sandstone St. Magnus Cathedral is the centerpiece of Orkney's main town - a place of winding lanes and atmospheric walks - and Britain's northernmost cathedral is a masterpiece that took 300 years to complete. Started in 1137, the beautiful cathedral is adorned with mesmerizing stained-glass windows and has been evocatively named as the Light of the North. Look down over the ruined Bishop's and Earl's Palaces nearby from the tip of the cathedral's tower. Or, test out the islands' history-rich distilleries, which produce smokey sin-

gle malts - said to be the best in the world. You can also venture out to Europe's best-preserved Stone Age Village, at the extraordinary World Heritage Site of Skara Brae, which offers an unparalleled vision into prehistoric life.

#### **DAY 8 - SHIANT ISLANDS, OUTER HEBRIDES, SCOTLAND**

Cliffs of tall hexagonal columns create a sensational landscape at the Shiant Islands, especially when viewed from the sea. The cliffs of six-sided rock columns look like the cross-section of an enormous honeycomb. The rock formations were formed when molten volcanic magma cooled very slowly underground. Millions of years of erosion has exposed the six-sided columns to the sea, and to us. The tallest of these formations is 120 meters (390 feet) high. Some birds nest in burrows while others, like Black-legged Kittiwakes, nest on cliffs. Rather than build nests, guillemots lay eggs on bare rock ledges. The pointed shape of the eggs ensures they roll in a tight circle, not off the ledge to the sea below. The Shiant Islands are part of the Outer Hebrides and located between the Isles of Lewis and Skye.

#### **DAY 9 - ISLE OF SKYE, SCOTLAND**

Near the southern end of the Isle of Skye lies Loch Skarvaig. Open to the sea, the sheltered Loch penetrates the rounded granite hills of Skye. Heather moorlands grow on the hill slopes, with purple flowering heathers providing color, starting in Spring and climaxing later in summer. Common Seals, otherwise known as Harbor Seals, are frequently seen swimming in the coastal water at high tides. Only their heads are visible as they take breaths between diving for a meal of fish, crustaceans or mollusks. At low tides the seals are easier to see, resting on the foreshore rocks. When ashore, Common Seals often lie on one side with their hind flippers and heads raised in a shallow U shape like oversized spotted grey bananas. There are about 300 Common Seals living in and around Loch Coruisk. Skye also has a population of larger Grey Seals with long straight noses.

#### **DAY 10 – ST. KILDA**

Gloriously remote, St. Kilda is an archipelago 50 miles off the Isle of Harris. Although the four islands are uninhabited by humans, thousands of sea birds call these craggy cliffs home, clinging to the sheer faces as if by magic. Not only is St. Kilda home to the UK's largest colony of Atlantic Puffin (almost 1 million), but also the world largest colony Gannets nests on Boreray island and its sea stacks. The islands also home descendants of the world's original Soay sheep as well as having a breed of eponymously named mice. The extremely rare St. Kilda wren unsurprisingly hails from St. Kilda, so birders should visit with notebook, binoculars and camera to hand. While endemic animal species is rife on the island, St. Kilda has not been peopled since 1930 after the last inhabitants voted that human life was unsustainable.

#### **DAY 11 – IONA – LUNGA, INNER HEBRIDES, SCOTLAND**

The beautiful coastline is lapped by the gulf stream and gives the island a warm climate with sandy beaches that look more Mediterranean than Scottish! Add to that a green field landscape that is just beautiful, and you'll find that Iona is a place that stays with you long after you leave. Iona's main attraction is of course its abbey. Built in 563 by Saint Columba and his monks, the abbey is the reason why Iona is called the cradle of Christianity. Not only is the abbey one of the best – if not the best – example of ecclesiastical architecture dating from the Middle Ages, but it also serves as an important site of spiritual pilgrimage. St. Martin's Cross, a 9th century Celtic cross that stands outside the abbey, is considered as the finest example of Celtic crosses in the British Isles.

#### **DAY 12 – ISLE OF MULL – ARDUAINE, INNER HEBRIDES**

An ancient stone castle on a remote rugged landscape evokes all sorts of fantasies, especially when approached from the sea. You can imagine mythical, romantic or historic tales as you approach or explore the Duart Castle on the Isle of Mull. The true stories may be just as good. The Isle of Mull is the second largest of the islands of the Inner Hebrides, after the Isle of Skye. The island has a mountainous core and several radiating promontories covered in moorland. On one headland jutting into the Sound of Mull sits Duart Castle. It was originally built in the 13th century and soon became the ancestral home of the Clan Maclean.

The tiny hamlet of Arduaine with its small stone pier provides access to the adjacent gardens. The gardens were established in 1898 by James Arthur Campbell and became the responsibility of the National Trust in 1992. In the 19th century, natural history was all the rage and gardeners collected and grew exotic plant species from around the world.

#### **DAY 13 - ISLE OF MAN**

The Isle of Man sits in the middle, but a world apart, from the UK. It is in the Irish sea almost equidistant from Scotland, England and Northern Ireland. But it is not part of any of them. It is a self-governing British crown dependency. The island's cultural heritage is Gaelic with influences from the Norse and surrounding lands. This background has produced an island with its own traditions. Everything associated with the Isle of Man is Manx. The people are Manx and the language is Manx.

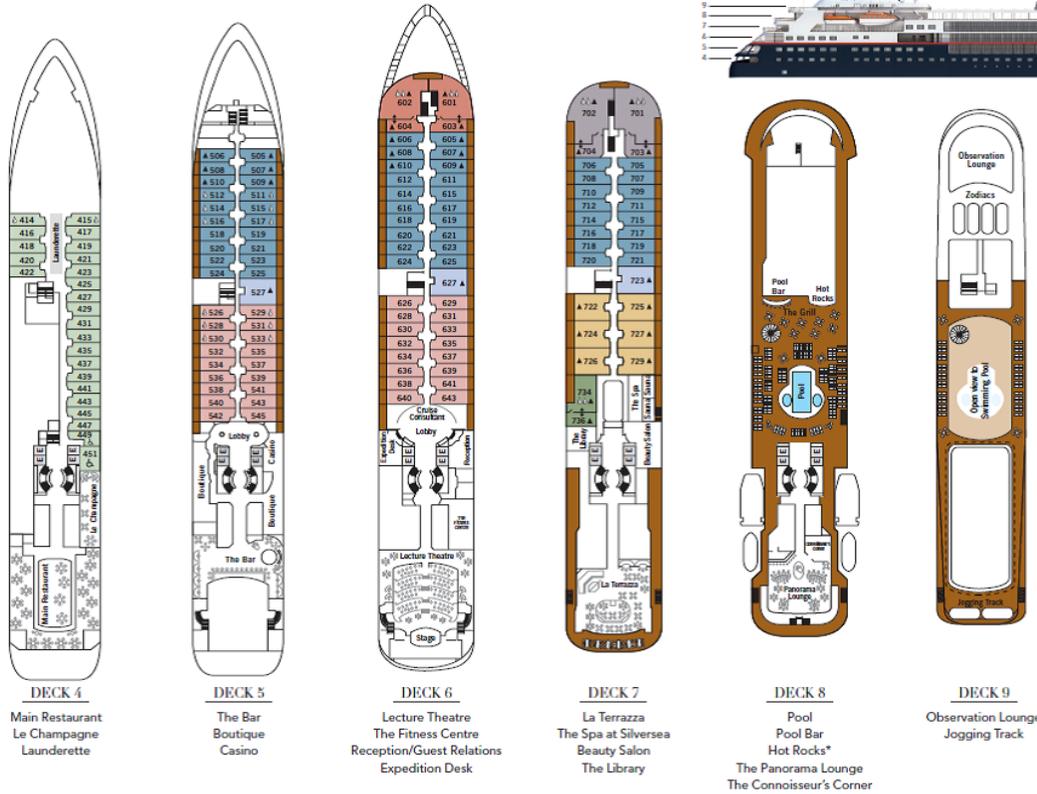
#### **DAY 14– DUBLIN, IRELAND - DISEMBARK**

Atmospheric cobbled streets, with buskers scraping fiddles and characterful pubs inviting passersby inside, is Dublin in a snapshot. A city of irrepressible energy and lust for life, Ireland's capital is as welcoming a place as you'll find. Horse-drawn carriages plod along cobbled centuries-old streets, blending with an easy-going, cosmopolitan outlook. Known for its fun-filled gathering of pubs, any excuse works to enjoy a celebratory toast and chat among good company.

**Post-Cruise arrangements are available.**



SILVER CLOUD EXPEDITIONS



SUITE CATEGORIES

- Owner's Suite . . . . . ●
- Grand Suite . . . . . ●
- Royal Suite . . . . . ●
- Silver Suite . . . . . ●
- Medallion Suite . . . . . ●
- Deluxe Veranda Suite . . . . . ●
- Veranda Suite . . . . . ●
- Vista Suite . . . . . ●

SPECIFICATIONS

- Crew . . . . . 208
  - Officers . . . . . European
  - Guests . . . . . 200/260
  - Tonnage . . . . . 16,800
  - Length . . . . . 514.14 Feet/156.7 Metres
  - Width . . . . . 70.62 Feet/21.5 Metres
  - Speed . . . . . 18 Knots
  - Passenger Decks . . . . . 6
  - Connecting Suites . . . . . ↓
  - 3rd Guest Capacity . . . . . ▲
  - Bathtub/Shower Combination . . . . . 6
  - Bathtub & Separate Shower . . . . . 6
  - Disabled Suites . . . . . 449, 451
  - Built . . . . . 1994
  - Registry . . . . . Bahamas
  - Ice-class Rating . . . . . 1C
- Deck plans are for illustration purposes only and may be subject to change.
- Suite diagrams shown are for illustration purposes only and may vary from actual square footage. Please refer to suite specifications for square footage.
- \* Please note that Hot Rocks opening hours are subject to weather and destination conditions.

Rates are per person, based on Double Occupancy and Includes all beverages, gratuities to crew, all excursions, port charges, enrichment lectures by a highly qualified Expeditions Team, spacious suites, unlimited free Wifi, and more. **Pre- and Post-Cruise tours are available to suit your interests.**



**Reservations & Information**  
**1-855-EXPLOR1 (397-5671)**  
 Email - [info@explorcruises.com](mailto:info@explorcruises.com)  
[www.explorcruises.com](http://www.explorcruises.com)

| SUITE          | AUG 14 2022 | JUN 14 2023 |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Vista          | WL          | \$9,200     |
| Veranda        | WL          | \$10,400    |
| Deluxe Veranda | WL          | \$11,900    |
| Medallion      | WL          | \$15,100    |
| Silver         | WL          | \$17,600    |
| Royal          | WL          | \$20,500    |
| Grand          | WL          | \$31,300    |
| Owners         | WL          | \$34,500    |