## **Reykjavik: The Ultimate Travel Guide**



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

by Andrew Evans

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 5 out of 5

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Reykjavik, the capital of Iceland, is a vibrant and cosmopolitan city that offers a unique blend of natural beauty, cultural attractions, and exciting nightlife. Whether you're looking to explore stunning glaciers, marvel at Northern Lights, or simply relax in thermal baths, Reykjavik has something to offer every traveler.

This comprehensive travel guide will provide you with all the information you need to plan your perfect trip to Reykjavik. We'll cover everything from the best time to visit to the top attractions, restaurants, hotels, and nightlife spots. So whether you're a first-time visitor or a seasoned traveler, read on for everything you need to know about Reykjavik.

#### When to Visit Reykjavik

Reykjavik is a year-round destination, but the best time to visit is during the summer months (June to August). During this time, the weather is mild and pleasant, and the days are long. You'll also have the best chance of seeing the Northern Lights during the winter months (September to April).

#### **Getting to Reykjavik**

The most common way to get to Reykjavik is by plane. Keflavik International Airport (KEF) is located about 45 minutes from the city center. There are several airlines that offer direct flights to Reykjavik from major cities in Europe and North America.

Once you arrive at KEF, you can take a bus or taxi to the city center. The bus fare is about 2,000 ISK (about \$15 USD), and the taxi fare is about 10,000 ISK (about \$75 USD).

#### **Getting Around Reykjavik**

Reykjavik is a very walkable city. Most of the major attractions are located within easy walking distance of each other. You can also take advantage of the city's excellent public transportation system. The buses are clean and efficient, and they cover all of the major tourist areas.

If you're planning on ng a lot of day trips outside of Reykjavik, you may want to consider renting a car. This will give you the flexibility to explore at your own pace.

#### Where to Stay in Reykjavik

Reykjavik has a wide range of accommodation options, from budget hostels to luxury hotels. Here are a few of our top picks:

 Budget: The Reykjavik City Hostel is a great option for budget travelers. It offers clean and comfortable rooms, and it's located in the heart of the city.

- Mid-range: The Icelandair Hotel Reykjavik Marina is a great mid-range option. It offers modern and spacious rooms, and it's located right on the waterfront.
- Luxury: The Hotel Borg is a luxury hotel that offers stunning views of the city. It's located in the heart of Reykjavik, and it's just steps away from all of the major attractions.

#### What to Do in Reykjavik

There's no shortage of things to do in Reykjavik. Here are a few of our top picks:

- Visit the Hallgrimskirkja Church: This iconic church is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Reykjavik. It's known for its unique architecture and stunning views of the city.
- Explore the National Museum of Iceland: This museum is a great place to learn about Iceland's history and culture. It features exhibits on everything from the Vikings to the present day.
- Take a walk through the Old Town: The Old Town is one of the most charming areas of Reykjavik. It's home to cobblestone streets, colorful houses, and unique shops.
- Visit the Blue Lagoon: This geothermal spa is located about 40 minutes from Reykjavik. It's a great place to relax and rejuvenate in the warm, mineral-rich waters.
- See the Northern Lights: If you're visiting Reykjavik during the winter months, be sure to take a Northern Lights tour. This is a once-in-a-

lifetime experience that you won't want to miss.

#### Where to Eat in Reykjavik

Reykjavik has a thriving culinary scene. Here are a few of our top picks for restaurants:

- The Grill Market: This restaurant is known for its fresh seafood and delicious grilled dishes.
- Dill Restaurant: This restaurant is one of the most popular fine dining restaurants in Reykjavik. It offers a modern take on Icelandic cuisine.
- Cafe Loki: This cafe is known for its traditional Icelandic dishes. It's a
  great place to try some of the local favorites.
- Bæjarins Beztu Pylsur: This hot dog stand is a Reykjavik institution.
  It's the perfect place to grab a quick and affordable bite to eat.
- Lebowski Bar: This bar is a popular spot for locals and tourists alike.
  It offers a wide selection of beers and cocktails.

### Nightlife in Reykjavik

Reykjavik has a vibrant nightlife scene. Here are a few of our top picks for bars and clubs:

- **Kaffibarinn:** This bar is one of the most popular nightlife spots in Reykjavik. It's known for its live music and lively atmosphere.
- Paloma Bar: This bar is a great place to dance the night away. It offers a wide selection of drinks and a fun atmosphere.

- Prikið: This club is one of the most popular places to go clubbing in Reykjavik. It offers a mix of electronic music and hip-hop.
- **The Dubliner:** This pub is a popular spot for locals and tourists alike.
- Húrra: This venue is a popular spot for live music and club nights.

### **Shopping in Reykjavik**

Reykjavik has a wide range of shopping options, from independent boutiques to designer stores. Here are a few of our top picks for shopping:

- Skólavörðustígur: This street is home to a variety of shops, including independent boutiques, designer stores, and souvenir shops.
- Laugavegur: This street is another popular shopping spot in Reykjavik. It's home to a mix of shops, restaurants, and bars.
- The Reykjavik Flea Market: This flea market is a great place to find unique and affordable items.
- The Kolaportio Flea Market: This flea market is another great place to find unique and affordable items.
- The Kringlan Shopping Mall: This mall is home to a variety of shops, including department stores, clothing stores, and electronics stores.

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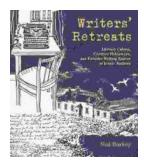
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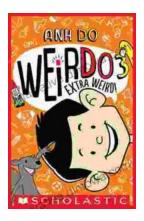
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