



# 2024 Wool & Wonders of Iceland with Longmont Yarn Shoppe

*with Rowan Tree Travel*

 Reykjavík, Iceland

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View booking and trip details **here**

# Trip Overview



Your host

Rowan Tree Travel 

 Sep 26 – Oct 6, 2024

 Group size: 16–25

 Reykjavík, Iceland



## About this trip

Ready for an adventure? Next fall, Longmont Yarn Shoppe and Rowan Tree Travel & Fibercraft are taking you on an 11 day/10 night, fiber-infused trip to the land of frost and fire: Iceland! Our group of creative travelers will explore the country's wool and textile traditions, distinctive foods, contemporary culture and dramatic landscape. We'll start in the capital city, Reykjavik, then fly over Iceland's mountainous interior to the far north coast. From there, we'll drive down Iceland's west coast to its verdant southlands. Along the way, we'll stay in comfy, contemporary inns and hotels. We'll visit glaciers, fiber folks and fjords, learn about turf homes and the history of Iceland's settlement, soak in geothermal pools here and there and enjoy some fine, farm-to-table meals. Here's a special bonus for the trip: Our group will be in Iceland during the South Iceland Wool Week festival. We couldn't have timed this tour better! During this transitional season from endless summer days to dark winter

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# Trip Overview

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evenings might we see northern lights? Might we come to love *skyr*, rye bread and *kjötsupa*? Will we be able to fit an Icelandic lamb in the mini-coach to bring with us? Come along and find out!

## Tour Cost, per person:

- Single (\$7200, per person) – a private accommodation for one person
- Shared (\$5950, per person) – one room for two people, your choice of one shared bed or two separate beds
- To Register

A Registration Form and a non-refundable \$1000 deposit are required to join the trip. Once you submit your online registration and deposit payment is received, your spot on the tour is secure. See our Terms & Conditions [HERE](#).

*Please Note: RTTF is no longer able to accept checks as a payment form.*

## IMPORTANT DETAILS TO KEEP IN MIND

### Tour Activity Level:

We would describe this trip as a **Woolly Wander**. If you'd like to review our trip activity levels, take a look [here](#).

**This trip needs at least 20 participants in order to proceed.** Our regular Terms and Conditions apply for cancellation ([click here to see our Terms and Conditions](#)).

### Travel Insurance

Rowan Tree Travel highly recommends purchasing travel insurance. You may purchase through our preferred partner **Arch RoamRight** by clicking [here](#) or through your own provider.

### Arranging Your Flights

You may do so on your own or work with our booking agent, Vivienne Kelly at Crystal Travel. She can

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# Trip Overview

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assist in identifying the best itinerary for your needs, coordinate with other participants, and take care of ticket purchase, seat selection and upgrades. Contact her at (617) 327-2700 (EST) or [vivienne@crystal-travel.com](mailto:vivienne@crystal-travel.com).

In order to gather easily for the tour, we provide an arrival and departure "window" at a major transportation hub - typically an international airport at your destination country. Flights scheduled outside the provided windows may result in additional transportation costs and missed tour activities. For this reason, we greatly appreciate your cooperation in booking travel that accommodates our specifications.

## **Please Note the Following**

Rowan Tree Travel reserves the right to alter any part of this itinerary in order to address weather conditions, unforeseen circumstances or to improve the participant experience.

Have questions? Please contact us at [info@rowantreetravel.com](mailto:info@rowantreetravel.com)



# Trip Overview

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## What's included

✓ Accommodations	All accommodations in Iceland during the trip
✓ Breakfast	Breakfast is included every day
✓ Workshops	Workshop Fees & Supplies
✓ Activities	All entrance fees and activity fees
✓ Meals (partial)	An average of two meals per day. Prepare to purchase either dinner or lunch based on the day's activities
✓ Transportation	Private group transportation in a mini-coach
✗ Airfare	
✗ Beverages	Soda, alcohol, cafe items
✗ Gratuities	
✗ Personal Items	



# Packages & Options

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## Available packages

### Single Accommodation

**\$7200**

Single Accommodation: \$7200 per person; one person per room for the duration of the trip

Deposit: \$1000

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### Shared Accommodation

**\$5950**

Your choice of:

Deposit: \$1000

Standard Shared Accommodation: \$5950 per person; two people per room with two beds (roommates can sign up to room together or we can assign a roommate if needed)

or,

Cozy Shared Accommodation: \$5950 per person; two people per room sharing one bed (please note we cannot assign roommates in this category - you must have a roommate signing up also)

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# Itinerary

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## Day 1 Thursday, September 26

### Reykjanes Peninsula

*Welcome to Iceland!* No need to arrive early for this tour – our first day is tailor-made for scooping you up, showing you some sights while still jet-lagged and then settling you in for a soft landing at our Reykjavik Hotel. We'll meet everyone at Iceland's International Airport in Keflavik. Once together, we're headed for a beautiful morning of soaking at the famous Blue Lagoon. Hot water and good food will get all the kinks out! By the afternoon, we'll drive north to check in at our city-center hotel in Reykjavik. The location means we can have a nice walk around to get oriented, pop into the Icelandic Handknitting Association's shop and then find some dinner (or head right to bed, your choice). For a special hello to Reykjavik before bed, hop in the elevator and go right to the top floor. We have a spectacular view of the city lights!

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## Day 2 Friday, September 27

### Reykjavik

After breakfast, we'll gather for a ramble around Reykjavik. Our local guide, Anna, will tell you about the city's rich history and contemporary culture plus add her own observations as a longtime resident. You'll get to know the shopping, business, waterfront and neighborhood districts before arriving for our visit at the National Museum of Iceland. Dinner together will be at one of our favorite restaurants in Reykjavik! And after, perhaps a drink or some hot tea and knitting at the top of our hotel????

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# Itinerary

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## Day 3 Saturday, September 28

### Husavik

Take the morning to have a wander along Reykjavik's shopping streets or the waterfront sculpture walk. By midday, we'll be checked out from our hotel and on our way to a knitting workshop in traditional Icelandic tassel hats with Þórdís Halla Sigmarsdóttir and Guðný María Höskuldsdóttir (but you can call them Thordis and Guthny). Once our heads are well appointed with our own handcrafting, we're getting on a flight to the north coast of Iceland! Our plane will travel over Iceland's mountainous interior and land us in the capital of the north, Akureyri. It's a short drive over to Husavik, a tiny but sweet village perched on the edge of Skjalfandi Floi (Shaky Bay) and famous for its wildlife, especially whales. (Anyone recognize the town's name from the movie *Eurovision Song Contest: The Story of Fire Saga* with Will Ferrell and Rachel McAdams?)

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## Day 4 Sunday, September 28

### Iceland's North Coast

This morning we'll get to know Husavik's most famous residents: whales of the North Sea. Though the town is small, it hosts a world class museum that will teach us a great deal about these behemoths. Then we'll have time to visit the small shops and restaurants, shop for yarn and *plutolopi* in the hardware store (really!) and have a look in the beautiful wooden church, Húsavíkirkirkja. Then we're off for a truly fabulous soak at GeoSea, where the cliffside seawater pools are warmed by geothermal activity. If the weather is just right, we'll get to enjoy a beautiful view across Skjalfandi Floi to the snow-covered Viknafjoll and Kinnarfjoll

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# Itinerary

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mountains and catch a sunset while relaxing in the pools.

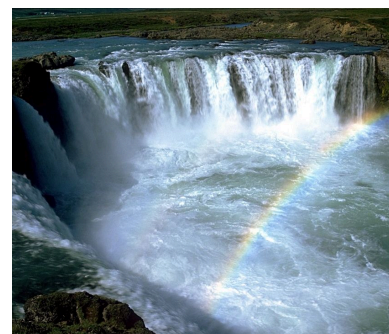
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## Day 5 Monday, September 30

### Iceland's North Coast

We'll depart from Husavik early in order to watch the morning light as it plays across Godafoss, a spectacular waterfall along the north coast of Iceland. We continue on to Akureyri for a very special activity involving Iceland's fabled "Hidden People"! In the afternoon, we'll visit a fantastic local yarn shop and have lunch with its owners, hearing about their experiences with the fiber community in Iceland's far north. We'll also visit a traditional Icelandic turf house to get a first-hand look at the way Icelanders lived, farmed and survived the harsh conditions of the 17th to 19th century. Then we'll enjoy dinner and a night's stay at one of our favorite Icelandic guesthouses. The views along the valley, mountains and out toward Skagafjordur are not to be missed!

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## Day 6 Tuesday, October 1

### Iceland's North Coast

This morning, something a bit different! We're all aware of Icelandic sheep and the beautiful, hard-wearing wool gathered from the country's flocks each year. But did you know there is also an Icelandic breed of goat? This breed lives only in Iceland and was almost extinct as recently as a decade ago. The Icelandic goat's undercoat is super soft and fine enough to qualify as cashmere! We'll visit the home and studio of a north Iceland goat keeper and get to know more about



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# Itinerary

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these fantastic animals, plus taste some of the farm's culinary produce and fondle some cashmere yarn. (Yes, we can also purchase.) Next we're off for a specially hosted tour of the Icelandic Textile Museum in the town of Blonduos. Our day ends with a soft landing at our west Iceland hotel where a beautiful dinner awaits!

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## Day 7 Wednesday, October 2

### Langjökull Glacier

When in Iceland, it's important to encounter, well... some ice! We'll do that with a visit up onto the Langjökull glacier. Our visit to the ice cave up there is a fantastic, highly educational experience – a full day event and true highlight of the tour. Once we get down off the mountain, we'll enjoy a good hot soak in our hotel's hot pools before another great Icelandic farm-to-table (or should we say greenhouse-to-table) dinner.

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## Day 8 Thursday, October 3

### Iceland's West Coast

Today we travel from the west coast of Iceland to the south. We'll stop at some of Rowan Tree's favorite sites including Thingvellir National Park, the location of Iceland's historic Althingi (the world's earliest parliament). Thingvellir is also the rare site where we can see geology happening in real time: the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates are pulling apart here at the rate of an inch per year, creating the Thingvellir Rift Valley. We'll land for our final three-night stay at the most luxurious of our Icelandic accommodations. Enjoy!

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# Itinerary

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## Day 9 Friday, October 4

### Ullarvikan a Sudurlandi 2024

(South Iceland Wool Week)

As we've traveled down from the north, the 2024 South Iceland Wool Week has been going on in and around the town of Selfoss. Depending on the festival's schedule, we'll join in for today's farm visits, demonstrations and other events of interest OR enjoy some exploration around Iceland's beautiful southern coast. Lots to explore here!

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## Day 10 Saturday, October 5

### Ullarvikan a Sudurlandi 2024

(South Iceland Wool Week)

Hooray! Today is the South Iceland Wool Week Makers Market! The sheep keepers, dyers and crafters of the region gather to show off their wares – and we'll be there to peruse, join in the cake & coffee discussions and purchase goodies to our hearts' content. It's a great way to wrap up our time in Iceland. Then we'll enjoy a final, celebratory dinner together at the hotel's exquisite restaurant.

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# Itinerary

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**Day 11** Sunday, October 6

## Homeward Bound

After a hearty breakfast, we'll load up the bus with all our luggage and acquired goodies and head over to Keflavik International Airport (about an hour and a half away) for flights home.

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**Your Fiber Ambassador** Anna Toher

We're so lucky to have found **Anna Toher**! She's a native Icelandic and lives in Kópavogur, just south of Reykjavik. In her work at the National Museum of Iceland, she greets and guides visitors through the exhibitions while explaining the history, changes to and current culture of Iceland. She holds a BA in Art History and Tourism. She's also training to become a certified guide. Anna rediscovered knitting in 2020 after a 30 year hiatus. Now she's unstoppable – and has compiled “a lot of stash” along with numerous projects. Leading trips with Rowan Tree Travel & Fibercraft gives her the opportunity to share her passion for knitting, wool, travel and history with visitors from all over the world.

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# Itinerary

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## Your Fiber Ambassador Anna Turk

Anna is an avid knitter and fledgling spinner with a general passion for all things fiber and textile. After being intimidated early in her crafting, Anna feels strongly about creating a welcoming environment within the fiber community for people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. She enjoys knitting and fiber traveling, test and service knitting, a good challenge (knitting or otherwise), and is likely to have at least 3 WIPs at any one time. She lives with her husband and three fur babies (dogs) in Minnesota.

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## Your organizer

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### Rowan Tree Travel

★★★★★ 11 reviews

Small Group Escorted Knitting and Fibercraft Trips to North America, The British Isles and beyond.

Dunbarton, New  
Hampshire, United States

+1 603-738-2009

Member of ARC VTC

 <http://www.rowantreetravel.com/>

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