

Great Norse Run





lf you're reading this then you've been chosen as one of the select few that we've reached out to about this tenday, heart-pumping, jaw-dropping trip. It also means you're someone we'd like to sit around a campfire with and watch the sparks mingle with the stars:-)

So this is our Iceland adventure. Beautiful scenery, great trails, and a climate that's perfect for running. Plenty of clean fresh air. With its abundance of mountains, volcanoes, glaciers, rivers, lakes, caves, and otherwise rough terrain waiting to be tackled, Iceland is made for adventure.

But, it's also a place that welcomes you with arms wide open. Widely known as "The Land of Fire and Ice", Iceland is home to some of the largest glaciers in Europe, and some of the world's most active volcanoes. We're gonna be passing over and by these whilst waving goodbye to stress with a ten-day, 209-mile trip of a lifetime.

En-route you'll drink Brennivín and eat fermented shark. You'll veer wildly towards the Eyjafjallajokull Volcano, stare longingly at the Hofsjökull glacier, and together with two dozen new friends, slowly clap your hands above your head in true Skol war-cry style.

Each day is an opportunity for a new experience, and to put a smile on your face. Hot spring parties with ice-cold beers, pumping music, majestic silence, and eye-poppingly stunning scenery create memories that will last a lifetime.

This is our time. Our adventure. Let's get lost. Properly lost. Go forth and be awesome!



THE ORGANISERS

Danny Bent Inspirational Leader



World record holder, author, happiness guru, and powerhouse of positivity. He was planning to do this trip solo until, a mate persuaded him to pop a post up on Facebook asking if people would like to get involved. It then became our adventure. This, as with everything Danny does, is as radically inclusive as possible! It's absolutely not a race. We'll probably have a couple of groups—one walking / jogging then another a little speedier. 25 miles a day is a long way but as a tribe we can all make it. With Danny's unashamedly unique approach to bringing a smile to people's faces, our Iceland adventure will live long in your memory.

Nick Carter Logistics



Organising logistics and helping to herd our tribe in the right direction (south), is Nick Carter. Nick is a professional adventurer, expedition organiser and public speaker. Not only has Nick run the length of the UK (1,400km), run in the Sahara (250km), swum the English Channel, climbed Mount Everest and explored some of the world's deepest cave systems...he's also crossed Iceland five times, including unsupported—which comes in pretty handy for this adventure. Any questions or logistical issues, just ask Nick.

StatusCode14 Inspirational Leaders



Face the Challenges, make a difference'

On hand with even more motivation to make sure our tribe all get through this together will be the incredible guys and girls from 'StatusCode14', who are taking on a series of five extreme challenges across the globe, over five years. All to support mental health in the UK Emergency Services. Made up of Ultra runners, Ocean rowers, Channel Swimmers, and Trans Atlantic Sailors they have kitbags full of experience and some great tales to share around the campfire.



OUTLINE ITINERARY



After your arrival, you can grab a burger at The Big Lebowski, chill out in some thermal baths, or look around the town. You're welcome to arrive earlier, but be sure to be in Reykjavik by lunchtime. At 14:15 our coach will leave for the expedition start point. Lunch will be provided, as we make the 4-5 hour trip up to Akureyri in the far north. Overnight at a nice campsite in Akureyri with a cooked dinner.



Today is flat. Very flat. You'll take in stark wilderness views, with the tongue of the Hofsjokull glacier just visible in the distance. Today is our fist (very) wild camp.



Wake up early if you'd like to take a ceremonial toe-dip in the northern Icelandic waters, then start your official Great Norse Run. This day will begin on the main road out of Akureyri; which will dwindle to a dirt track, which will reduce to a path. Civilisation will be very much in the rearview mirror. Night in the barn of a far-flung Icelandic horse farm.



Mind over matter today. Deep in the heart of the lcelandic desert, you need to stay mentally strong to keep on going. Tired legs, but amazing views of two huge glaciers in the distance. Overnight near a remote mountain hut at the foot of the biggest glacier.



Today will be slightly more challenging. We rise slowly (then less slowly) towards the desert plateau. A river babbles to our left, but soon disappears as we hit the scramble to the top. Now the expanse of the Icelandic interior begins, a place not many get to see. Beautiful shades of grey from ground to sky, with nothing to break the view as far as the eye can see. We'll camp overnight next to thermal springs.



Today is all about fire and ice, running between two huge icecaps – very peaceful, very surreal. Watch out for the active volcano to your left! You'll have your first river crossing today. Cold? We prefer 'very bracing'. Make sure you know where your spare socks are! Still surrounded by grey, but bits of green are just visible on the horizon. Wild camp.

OUTLINE ITINERARY



Today is your last day in the interior desert – prepare to see the colour green again. River crossings will be challenging today, expect to get quite (very) wet. Enjoy a celebratory meal in the evening to make up for it. You might actually see someone from outside of our group today, as we cross a small road; but probably not. Wild camp.



After the rest day, you'll be feeling renewed and replenished (well, good enough to get to the finish). You'll run through the stunning national park today, with views to sooth your soul, and natural wonders to inspire your legs to go the extra miles. Save some memory in your camera for this day.



Running out of the desert into a national park. Expect Lord of the Rings and Game of Thrones scenery. Other-worldly shaped hills, ridiculous colours and multi-coloured rainbow cliffs. Geothermal plooms all around. Enjoy, it's your rest day tomorrow!



Just one more (small-ish) icecap to run past, then expedition's end. The Great Norse Run comes to an official close, celebrated with tea and medals. Team bus back to Reykjavik. We'll be staying in Reykjavik, with a reasonably rowdy party that evening.



Carriette Contract

You'll take a rest from running today, but still get some adventure in with amazing walks on multi-coloured cliffs, the smell of sulphur all around. There will be activities for those who want them, and absolutely nothing for those who don't. Thermal streams are just five minutes walk away to wash away your pains.



Depart for the airport from Reykjavik with sore feet, new friends, possible hang over, and thousands of new memories. Ran across the whole country of Iceland? Tick

KIT LIST

| Camp-side kit list – Required items | | | | Item | | Qty | Notes | ✓ |
|--|-----|---|----------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----|--|----------|
| Item | Qty | Notes | ✓ | | personal ack or duffel | 1 | 65 litres should do (remember to roll clothing, don't fold it) | |
| Warm jacket | 1 | Preferably waterproof / showerproof | | Metal and k | l spoon, fork nife | 1 | Don't bring disposable plastic. It has a 100% chance of breaking / melting | |
| Warm trousers | 1 | e.g. Rab Kinetic Alpine 2.0 Water- proof Pant | | Plastic mug | c / expedition | 1 | | |
| Thermal base layer top | 1 | e.g. Rab Syncrino Base LS Tee | | Plasti plate | c / expedition | 1 | | |
| Thermal base layer bottom | 1 | e.g. Rab Syncrino Base LS Tee | | Wash | kit | 1 | You know what goes in a wash kit, but add nail clippers and wet wipes | |
| Camp shoes / normal shoes | 1 | Better if waterproof, but not essential | | Sleep | ing bag | 1 | Rated down to -5°C / 4 seasons | |
| Camp socks | 3 | The thicker the better | | Trave real p | l pillow / illow | 1 | A real pillow is bulky, but you can't put a price on a good night's rest | |
| Hat | 1 | Warm beanie type hat | | | able sleeping roll mat | 1 | Full length, as comfortable as possible | |
| Towel and flannel | 1 | Don't bother with 'quick-dry'. They don't | | | weather clothes mid, bottoms) | 3 | Pack for three days in a pretty cold place. Jumpers, long trousers, etc. | |
| Swimming costume | 1 | Yes, really | | - Ju | ımper | 1 | e.g. Rab Outpost Hoody | |
| Medium size dry bag | 1 | It can rain in Iceland. This keeps some things a bit less wet | | - Tro | ousers | 1 | e.g. Rab Incline Pants | |
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KIT LIST

Camp-side kit list – *Optional items*

| Item | Qty | Notes | ✓ | Item | Qty | Notes | ✓ |
|-----------------------------------|-----|--|----------|--|-----|--|----------|
| Silk inner liner for sleeping bag | 1 | Very nice to have. Will keep you more toasty | | Hydration system or water bottles | 1 | Make sure it's easy to carry. Plan to carry 1–2 litres (3 pints) | |
| Portable battery | 2 | (e.g. Anker) - note that we will not provide power | | Lightweight water- proof jacket | 1 | Mostly to keep the wind off | |
| Personal stereo and headphones | 1 | It's nice to have epic music to go with epic adventures | | Good quality running shoes | 2 | You can get away with one pair, but at your own pair-il! | |
| Camera | 1 | Lightweight, or camera phone | | Non-rubbing under- wear. | 3 | Whatever works best for you | |
| Headlamp | 1 | The camp will be well lit, but you can never have too much light | | Good quality running or expedition socks | 6 | Six pairs, not six socks obviously | |
| Ear plugs and eye mask | 1 | People snore. This shuts them up | | Running bottoms and tops | 3 | Three full sets, assume mostly long sleeve and long trousers | |
| | | | | Running tape | 2 | We will have some, but bring your own zinc-oxide / second skin, etc. | |
| | | | | Running gloves | 1 | When a good wind gets up you'll be glad of a pair of running gloves | |
| | | | | Sandals | 1 | One pair of lightweight sandals for river crossings | |
| | | | | | 2 | | |

Running kit list – Required items

KIT LIST

Running kit list – *Optional items*

| Item | Qty | Notes | ✓ |
|------------------------------------|-----|--|----------|
| | | | |
| Waterproof trousers | 1 | Often not worth the hassle | |
| | | | |
| Waterproof gaiters | 1 | Often better than the waterproof trousers. Plus it makes you look sexy | |
| | | | |
| Buff or neck protector | 1 | Bright colours preferred, so you look the part | |
| | | | |
| Running sunglasses | 1 | It can be dazzlingly bright in Iceland. Sometimes | |
| | | | |
| Lightweight running base layer | 2 | For covering your arms in a cold wind, and may reduce rubs | |
| | | | |
| Very small running pack or bum bag | 1 | You'll carry snacks, a small radio or tracker, water and first aid (<3 kg) | |
| | | | |
| Suntan lotion | 1 | You never know. To avoid stinging eyes, use the bar kind for your face. | |
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