



An exciting new Icelandic destination:

Port of Eskifjörður



FJARÐABYGGÐ
MUNICIPALITY





Welcome to the Port of Eskifjörður

A host of options await those arriving at Eskifjörður Port, our exciting destination for cruise and pleasure vessels of all sizes. Through its assortment of traditional and modern houses rising above the fjord, Eskifjörður is typical of Icelandic seaside villages. Local residents, as well as other residents of the geographically huge surrounding municipality of Fjarðabyggð, will do their best to provide cruise ship travellers with a pleasant visit. The fjord leading to Eskifjörður is sheltered and free of reefs, while the harbour has a deep approach and outstanding facilities. We extend a hearty welcome to the Port of Eskifjörður!

Steinþór Pétursson, Port Director



Get to know the real Iceland

Eskifjörður is a charming seaside village. Named after the adjacent fjord, it lies centrally located in the region known as Iceland's East Fjords. Since the sea has long influenced village culture and industry, the traveller will enjoy simply walking and looking around, perhaps going to the Maritime Museum for more information. In addition to other historic buildings and piers, the spacious, attractive fishing shed called Randulfssjóhús dates from 1890. At Randulfssjóhús you will not only see how fisherfolk used to work, but you can even try tasting the shark and dried fish which are still produced there. The town has a geothermal swimming pool opened in 2006, a cultural centre, supermarket, boat rental, café and further attractions.

Iceland's easternmost area

With its assortment of village and rural farming communities nestled in the valleys by scenic fjords, East Iceland is steeped in culture and history. The region is known for its varied nature and is the only part of Iceland inhabited by reindeer. A number of easy-to-approach bird species are an added attraction, along with a variety of the landscape types which typically lure people to Iceland, such as glaciers, stupendous mountainsides and peaks, tranquil fjords, wooded valleys and beautiful waterfalls. Geologically, the East is one of the oldest parts of Iceland, and this, together with its colourful rock forms and semi-precious stones, makes it a paradise for specialists and the less scientifically-minded alike. Typical for the region are the fog banks which can suddenly but softly drift in from sea, sometimes staying just off the coastline, or resting at different levels up against the slopes, before suddenly disappearing once more.





Proximity to attractions

One of Eiskjafirður's advantages is the handy access it gives to many of East Iceland's leading treasures.

1. FRENCH HOSPITAL

The erstwhile French hospital is a comparatively sizeable, stately building which was moved in 1939 to Hafnarnesþorp to serve as home to several families, but had originally been constructed in the town of Búðakauptún in 1903 as a hospital for French seamen. In 2010 the hospital was moved back to the town, close to its original location.

2. WORLD WAR II MUSEUM

As the only wartime museum in Iceland, it provides insights into Icelandic society around the time of the Second World War.

3. HÓLMANES NATURE RESERVE

The Hólmanes headland is rich in birdlife and other nature, including beautiful rock formations and rare flora. The southern part of Hólmanes is a nature reserve and the northern part a country park. A network of well-marked hiking trails helps visitors enjoy the area, while a viewpoint beside the road provides an excellent panorama of the fjord.

4. KLIFBREKKUFÖSSAR WATERFALLS

Waterfalls in the Fjarðará river cascade from the heath in a stair-step pattern amidst greenly vegetated slopes, sheltered by murky cliff walls.

5. VÖÐLAVÍK BAY

Vöðlavík is now a deserted inlet and valley with several once-inhabited farms. Situated south of Iceland's easternmost headland – the Gerpir cliffs – Vöðlavík has a long stretch of sandy beach. Unfortunately, some disastrous ship accidents have taken place here. A tour is available to Vöðlavík, using powerful 4WD vehicles.

6. RAUÐUBJÖRG CLIFF

Rauðubjörg is a stunningly reddish rhyolite cliff face on the coast of Norðfjarðarflói bay. Natives of the bay have long said that evening sunlight shining on this cliff bodes fair weather the next day.

7. SANDFELL MOUNTAIN

Sandfell is a rhyolite mountain on the south side of Fáskrúðsfjörður fjord. Dating from the Tertiary period, Sandfell is considered one of the Northern Hemisphere's best examples of the geological formation known as a laccolith.

8. SAXA – THE “SEA GEYSER”

A natural coastal trench, the amazing Saxa is located not far from the deserted farm of Bæjarstaðir near Stöðvarfjörður fjord. When ocean waves pound the coast, seawater gathers in this opening and then spouts high into the air in dramatic eruptions.

9. ICELAND SPAR MINE AT HELGUSTAÐIR

One of the world's best-known sources of Iceland spar, where the mineral was mined and exported from the 1600s into the early twentieth century. Some of the largest crystals ever discovered were found here, and most of the specimens displayed in the world's museums originated at Helgustaðir. One such crystal, weighing 230 kg, is displayed in the Natural History Museum in London.

10. SKRÚÐUR ISLAND

Near the mouth of Fáskrúðsfjörður fjord lie three islands: Andey, Æðasker and Skrúður. Deserving of its name, which alludes to its beauty, Skrúður rises abruptly and grandly from the sea.

11. PÁSKAHELLIR – EASTER CAVE

Páskahellir's name means “Easter Cave”, because from here you are supposed to be able to watch the sun dance on Easter morning. Carved out by sea erosion, the cave has holes in its walls left by trees which once stood in a forest, until being overrun by lava about 12 million years ago. Beautifully shaped pillow lava and the geological formations called dykes appear in the nearby rock. Steps lead down to Páskahellir, which is part of the Norðfjörður Country Park, right by Neskaupstaður town.

12. PETRA'S ROCK AND MINERAL

One of East Iceland's most popular tourist attractions. This large, fascinating private exhibition of rocks was gathered by a woman who used to live in the house, named Petra. The rocks and minerals, many of which are rare, were generally found on the slopes along this fjord, Stöðvarfjörður.





Museums

For such a sparsely settled municipality, the area has an amazing array of museums, all related to the rich history or nature of the various fjords. Fáskrúðsfjörður museum traces the century-long history of French seafarers who came to fish here and elsewhere off the coast of Iceland. At Reyðarfjörður, the Wartime Museum provides insights into Icelandic society around the time of World War II. In Eskifjörður, the Maritime Museum and a nineteenth-century fishing shed, Randulfssjöhús, give insights into Icelandic fishing culture. Neskaupstaður's Museum House contains three distinct museums: the Tryggvi Ólafsson Art Collection, Museum of Natural History and Jósafat Hinriksson Museum, which exhibits crafts and items associated with seafaring. Two excellent museums build on area geology: Sören and Sigurborg's rock and mineral collection at Eskifjörður and, as one of East Iceland's most popular long-time tourist attractions, Petra's Rock and Mineral Collection at Stöðvarfjörður.



Sightseeing excursions

- Stroll around Eskifjörður to experience local life. Visit the museums to see how fishermen from the area used to work, and taste some products from the sea.
- Petra's Rock and Mineral Collection, Stöðvarfjörður – The cosy little village of Stöðvarfjörður is also home to a local market, a gallery run by the artists themselves, and more.
- The town with a French heritage, Fáskrúðsfjörður – Many buildings, a graveyard and various relics preserve the culture and atmosphere of the French fishermen who maintained an Icelandic fishing station here during the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries.
- Neskaupstaður town – This trip includes the lighthouse, a museum on three floors, avalanche-defence structures and the country park by the coast.
- Reyðarfjörður town – excursion taking in the Icelandic Wartime Museum together with a variety of other local reminders of the World War II period.



Harbour approach

Approximately 2 km in length, Eskifjörður fjord is a calm arm of East Iceland's longest fjord, Reyðarfjörður, which is about 30 km long and 7 km wide, as well as very deep. Eskifjörður's safe, clear channel gives you a chance to observe the fantastic views of surrounding mountains and the village. The piers and other waterfront structures, along with colourfully painted houses in the background, show Norwegian influences, and lend the town an immensely charming character even before your cruise ship reaches berth just below the town centre and beside the immaculate marina for small craft. Tour buses have plenty of space by this berth for manoeuvring and picking up ship passengers.



Eskifjörður

GENERAL	
Name of harbour	Port of Eskifjörður
Name of pier	Hafskipabryggja
Email	hofnesk@fjardabyggd.is
Telephone	+ 354 476 1199
Fax	+ 354 476 1597
Location	65°04'46"N and 14°01'42"W
Approach	Through a deep, clear fjord
Pilot	Pilot available
Pilotage	Compulsory for vessels over 100 metres in length
Pilot station	65°01'6N and 13°55'0W
Tugboat	Yes, one tug with 27.8-tonne bollard pull and equipped or firefighting with a capacity of 300 m ³ /hr
Local time	GMT
Harbour open	24 hours
Scenic cruising	Reyðarfjörður 21 km long; cruise duration: 1½ hours
Seasons	Best time to visit: May – September
Minimum depth at low tide	>25m (82ft)
Tidal difference	1.7m (5.5ft)
Current	Outgoing current in Reyðarfjörður of 1.7-2.0 knots
Swell	0m (0ft)
Ice conditions	Both approach and port are free of ice year-round.
Air draught restrictions	None
Restrictions on port entry	None
Port charges	See www.fjardabyggd.is for list of charges
Nautical chart of port	#715 Eskifjörður
Issued by	Icelandic Hydrographic Service Fax +354 545 2001
Website for chart information	www.lhg.is
ENC catalogue	www.ic-enc.org/page_coverage_catalogue.asp

PORT SERVICES

Bunkers	Yes
Supplies	No
Waste handling	Yes, available by truck
Fresh water	Yes
Black (sewage) and grey (sink) water	Yes, available by truck
Bilge and sludge	Yes, available by truck
Cruise ship clearance	Yes

FACILITIES – ANCHORAGE

Anchorage position	65°04'2N and 14°01'5W
Turning basin	>800m (2,625ft)
Water depth at low tide	>25m (82ft)

TRANSPORTATION

Shuttle services	Yes
Excursion buses	Yes
Taxis	Yes
Public transportation	No

FACILITIES FOR TENDERS

Tender landing location	Small craft harbour
Length of tender dock	10m (33ft)
Width of tender dock	3.17m (10.4ft)
Type of tender dock	Floating
Height of tender dock above water	0.5m (1.6ft)
Depth of water at low tide	2.5m (8.2ft)
Type of fenders	Wood
Surface of tender dock	Wood. Note that when it is dark outside, the tender dock has no illumination.
Dockside restroom facilities	No
Wind, current, swell or seasonal problems for tenders	Generally not. Ship tenders may be used for both passengers and crew.
Distance from anchorage to tender dock	0.3nmi
Distance from tender dock to town centre	0.5km (0.28mi)
Availability of shore tenders	No



PASSENGER FACILITIES IN PIER VICINITY

Terminal building	No
Tourist information	Yes
Shopping	Yes
Restrooms	Yes
Currency exchange	Yes, in town centre
Automatic teller machine (ATM)	Yes, in town centre
Internet access	Yes, several places in town centre
Tourist guides	Yes
Local maps	Yes
Public telephones	No
Mailboxes	Yes

DISTANCES

To town centre	0.9km (0.55mi)
To geothermal swimming pool	1.0km (0.6mi)
To museum	0.4km (0.2mi)
To airport	49km (30.4mi)
To neighbouring towns:	
Reyðarfjörður	15km (9.3mi)
Norðfjörður	23km (14.2mi)
Fáskrúðsfjörður	36km (22.3mi)
Stöðvarfjörður	59km (36.6mi)
Mjóifjörður	72km (44.7mi)

FACILITIES - DOCKING

Name of pier	HAFSKIPABRYGGJA
Length of pier	130m (426ft)
Height of pier above water at low tide	3m (9.8ft)
Height of pier above water at high tide	1.3m (4.3ft)
Apron width	20m (65.5ft)
Type of fenders	Rubber tyres
Distance between bollards	12m (39ft)
Bollard capacity, tonnes	100
Dolphins	No
Security zone around the vessel at pier	20m (57.8ft)
Depth alongside pier at low tide	10.0m (32.8ft)
Permissible draught in turning basin	>800m (2,625ft)
Maximum allowed draught in turning basin	>20m (57.8ft)
Maximum permissible length of ship	220m (721.7ft)
Availability of shore gangways	No
Availability of fork lifts/cranes/pallet jacks:	Yes
Distance from pier to town centre	0.9km (0.55mi)



Eskifjörður Map



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|---|--|---|
| <p>1 SWIMMING POOL
Tel. (+354) 476 1218
www.fjardabyggd.is</p> <p>2 CHURCH AND CULTURAL CENTRE
Tel. (+354) 476 1740</p> <p>3 CAFÉ AND GUESTHOUSE
Tel. (+354) 477 1064</p> <p>4 TRAVEL AGENCY
Tel. (+354) 476 1399</p> <p>5 PETROL STATION
Tel. (+354) 476 1383</p> <p>6 VIDEO RENTAL AND SWEETS SHOP
Tel. (+354) 476 1347</p> <p>6 BARBER
Tel. (+354) 476 1347</p> <p>7 PHARMACY
Tel. (+354) 476 1287</p> | <p>8 MARITIME MUSEUM
Tel. (+354) 470 9000</p> <p>9 BOOKSTORE
Tel. (+354) 476 1160</p> <p>10 BANK
Tel. (+354) 410 4166</p> <p>11 SUPERMARKET
Tel. (+354) 475 1580</p> <p>12 STONE COLLECTION
Tel. (+354) 476 1177</p> <p>13 POLICE STATION
Tel. (+354) 470 6130</p> <p>14 POST OFFICE
Tel. (+354) 580 1200</p> <p>15 LIBRARY
Tel. (+354) 476 1586</p> | <p>16 MUSEUM / BOAT RENTAL
Tel. (+354) 477 1247</p> <p>17 SPORÐUR
Tel. (+354) 892 3418</p> <p>18 GUESTHOUSE (100m)
Tel. (+354) 477 1247</p> <p>19 SITE OF EAST ICELAND'S LAST EXECUTION (100m)</p> <p>20 THE ICELAND SPAR MINE AT HELGUSTAÐIR (8km)</p> <p>21 FLOWER STORE</p> <p>22 FASHION STORE</p> |
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Contact:

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[Norðfjörður](#)

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