Adventures in the North

Visit Akureyri

Grimsey Island on the Arctic Circle

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Arctic Island of Grimsey

www.arctictrip.is

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Events

Annual events in Grimsey:
- Summer Solstice Festival, June 21st to 23rd. An annual festival, celebrating the longest day of the year, from June 21st to 23rd, is a major event in Grimsey.
- The Arctic Run. Takes place each year mid-September on the island.
- Fish-Celebration, Fifth of October. The Fish-Celebration is a major event in Grimsey.
- The International Day of the Arctic.

Useful information:

Bike rentals
- Mountain bikes, adult bike in size small and medium.
- Venegasarinn, Tel: (+354) 770 5441. Email: sveinagardar@simnet.is

Campsite
- Open during ferry stops in summer and otherwise upon request.
- Phone: (+354) 467 3190. Email: sund@akureyri.is

Swimming pool and hot tub
- Open all year Mon/Tue/Wed at 20.00 – 21.30 & Sat 14.00 – 16.00.
- Phone: (+354) 467 3155.

Supermarket
- Open in the summer time, otherwise upon request.
- Phone: (+354) 848 8982058.

Shop Búðin
- Open in the summer time, otherwise upon request.
- Phone: (+354) 467 3190. Email: info@arctictrip.is

Restaurant Krían
- On the island.
- Tel. +354 770 5441. Email: sveinagardar@simnet.is

Restaurant Kóki
- Tel: +354 588 4000. Email: circleair@circleair.is

How to get there

Ferry Saflag, scheduled trips all year between Dalvík and Grimsey. A 3 hours sailing each way. The trip in Grimsey varies from two to five hours sailing, depending on the weekday and season.

During summer (June 1 – August 31) there are five departures a week (Mon/Wed/Thu/Fri/Sun), but the rest of the year four departures (Mon/Wed/Thu/Tue).

Note that changes can occur so check the ferry’s webpage for details and departure times www.samskip.is

Phone: (+354) 345 8970 or email: saefari@samskip.com

Tickets can be bought at the Tourist Information in Hol, Alkøyri, and at the ferry’s office in Dalvík. Pre-booking recommended during summer.

Phone: (+354) 450 1050 or email info@visitakureyri.is.

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Farmer tenants had to pay them the annual rent in dried cod. The island was owned by monasteries on the northern mainland and the island’s “Sogn” district in Norway, but there may be other explanations for the name of the island to a settler named “Grimur” who sailed from the island. Abundant resources of fish and birds were widely renowned. A legend ties Grímsey has been inhabited since the Viking settlement of Iceland. Its name is derived from the Latin word “grimus,” meaning “shining.” The island’s location on the Arctic Circle made it a strategic spot for nations wishing to prove their navigational prowess. Fish were processed and packed on the island in the 18th century. Grímsey is renowned for its cultural activities despite its small population. The islanders were well known for their proficiency in chess. In the 19th century, a wealthy American chess enthusiast, Mr. Daniel Willard Fiske, sailed past the island and was intrigued by the lifestyle of the inhabitants and their love of chess. He promoted them to donate a chess set to every home and he also donated a considerable amount of money to the community to support their future endeavors. The islanders celebrate their memory every year on his birthday on the 11th of November. In the library on the island you can see some of the gifts from Fiske, books, photos and chess set. There is a primary school on the island for children up to 14 years. In the library on the island you can see some of the gifts from Fiske, books, photos and chess set. There is a primary school on the island.