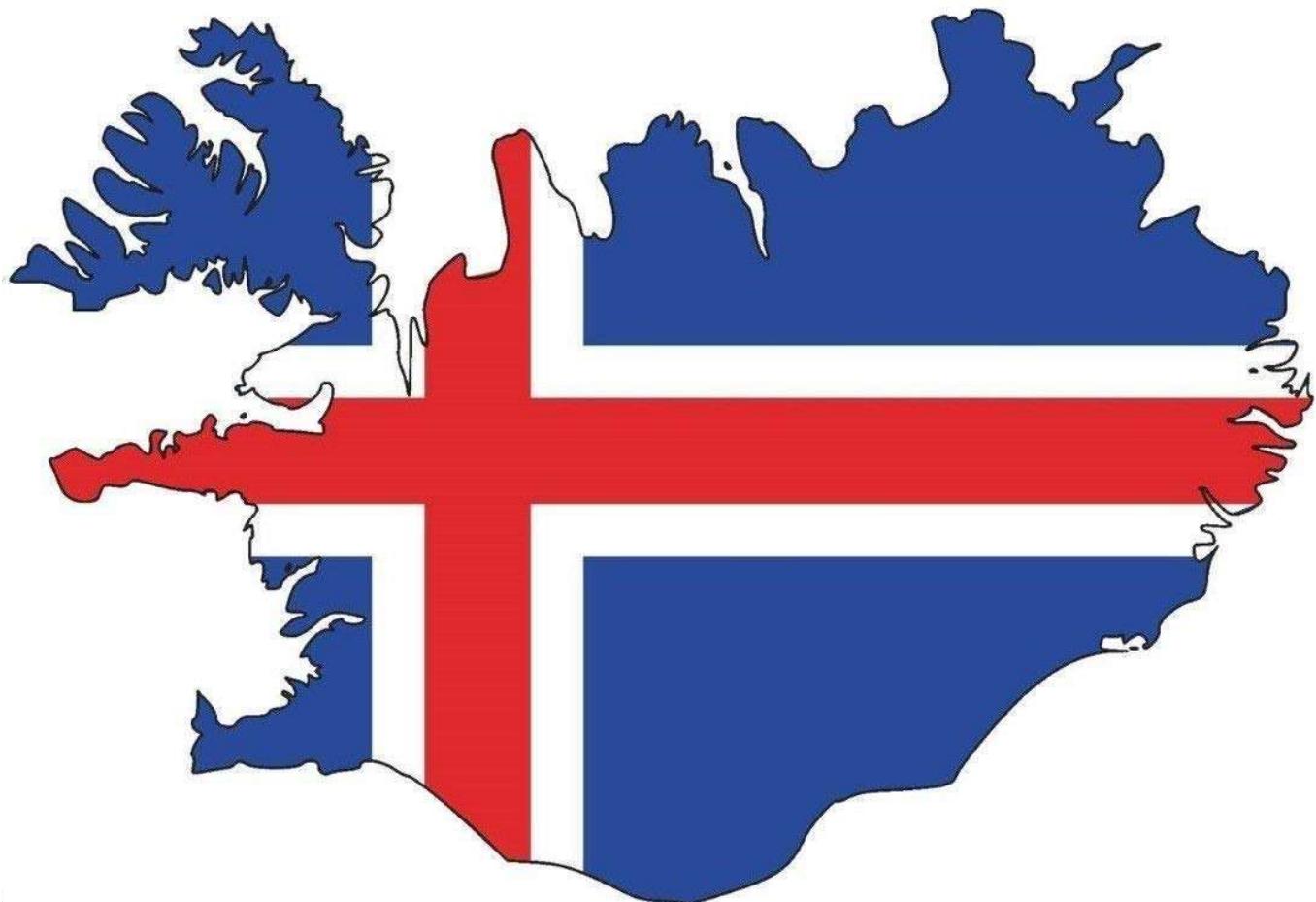


# ICELAND SPRING BREAK TRIP 2020

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH AT JOHNSTOWN  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND EARTH RESOURCES





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## THINGS YOU SHOULD BRING

Please limit yourself to one checked bag and one carry-on (day-pack)

*Most Important:*

- Passport & credit card

*Personal Items:*

- Tissues
- Sunscreen
- Lip balm with sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Toiletries
- Van/Plane Entertainment (iPod, books, cards, small board games, etc.)
- Travel Towel (the hostels will have towels for our use, the hot spring will have towels to rent, but you may want to bring your own)

*Clothes:*

- Rain jacket (think polyester and gore-tex)
  - Rain pants
  - Waterproof hiking boots
  - Wool socks
  - Sneakers
  - Swimming Suit
  - Base layer (think Under Armor or polypropylene)
  - Hats (both for sun protection and warmth)
  - Mittens/gloves
- “Be prepared for horizontal rain/snow as well as “nice” weather.”

*Equipment:*

- Universal Adapters
- Field Notebook
- Pencils/Pens
- Headlamp/Flashlight (you may want this for the lava tube)
- Water Bottles (or buy in Reykjavík)
- Rock Hammer (must be packed in checked luggage)
- Hand lens

*Other:*

- **WhatsApp** – I would like everyone to download WhatsApp. This is a phone/text service that is free and will allow us to stay in contact via Wifi. This way we will not need to add expensive international calling/data plans to our phone.

## BRIEF ITINERARY

### Day 1: Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – Board flight

7:40 PM: Depart from Dulles, Washington, DC (IAD) Icelandair – Flight 644 (economy)

**YOU WILL NEED TO GET YOURSELF TO DULLES AIRPORT**

**PLEASE ARRIVE AT LEAST 2 HOURS BEFORE THE FLIGHT**

### Day 2: Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – Reykjanes Peninsula

6:30: Arrive in Keflavik, Iceland on the Reykjanes Peninsula (30 miles south of Reykjavik)

7:30: After clearing customs, we'll meet by the café.

8:00: I think it will be best to have breakfast at the airport

8:30: Load into the bus. Here is the info for the bus company:

Guðmundur Jónasson Travel (gjtravel@gjtravel.is)

Vesturvör 34, 200 Kópavogur, Iceland

Emergency number travel agency: +354-895 2007

Emergency number bus department: +354-893 5740

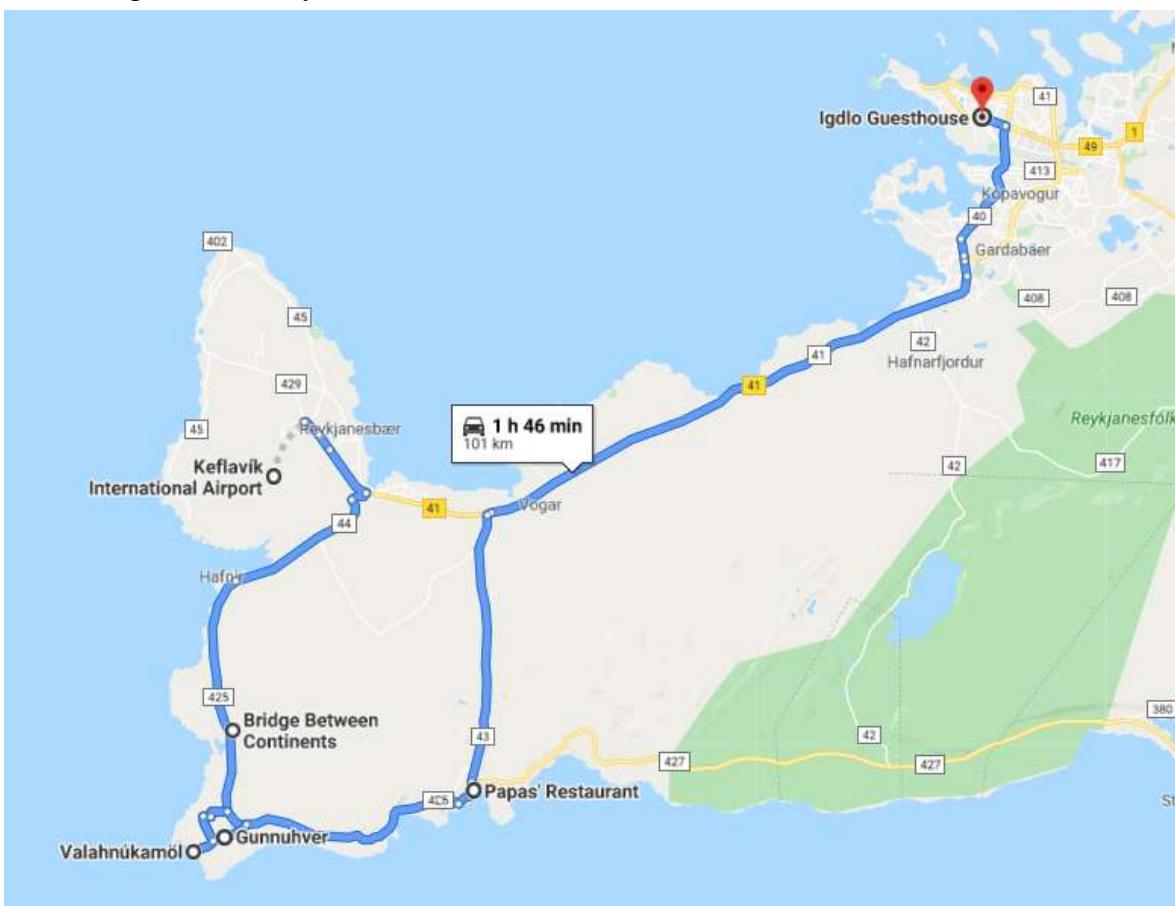
9:00: Stop at Bridge between Two Continents near Sandvik. We'll talk about Mid Atlantic Ridge, the boundary between the North American Plate and the Eurasian Plate.

10:00: Valahnúkamöl cliff. Check the contact between tuff and pillow lava.

11:00: Gunnuhver hot spring and an introduction to geothermal activity.

12:30: Lunch in Grindavík – There is a café called Papas' Restaurant (Hafnargata 7a, 240 Grindavík, Iceland) that might be fine....

2 PM: Get to the hostel (Igdlo Guesthouse, Gunnarsbraut 46, 105 Reykjavík). Stay there for one night. Fend for yourself for dinner. You could eat out or cook, the hostel has a kitchen.



## Day 3: Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – Reykjavik to Heimaey

**7:30AM:** Wake up, pack up, breakfast is provided at the hostel.

**8:30AM:** Load the bus and leave the hostel

**10:00AM:** Arrive at LAVA Centre and tour the museum, people can buy lunch here or on the ferry to Vestmannaeyjar Islands

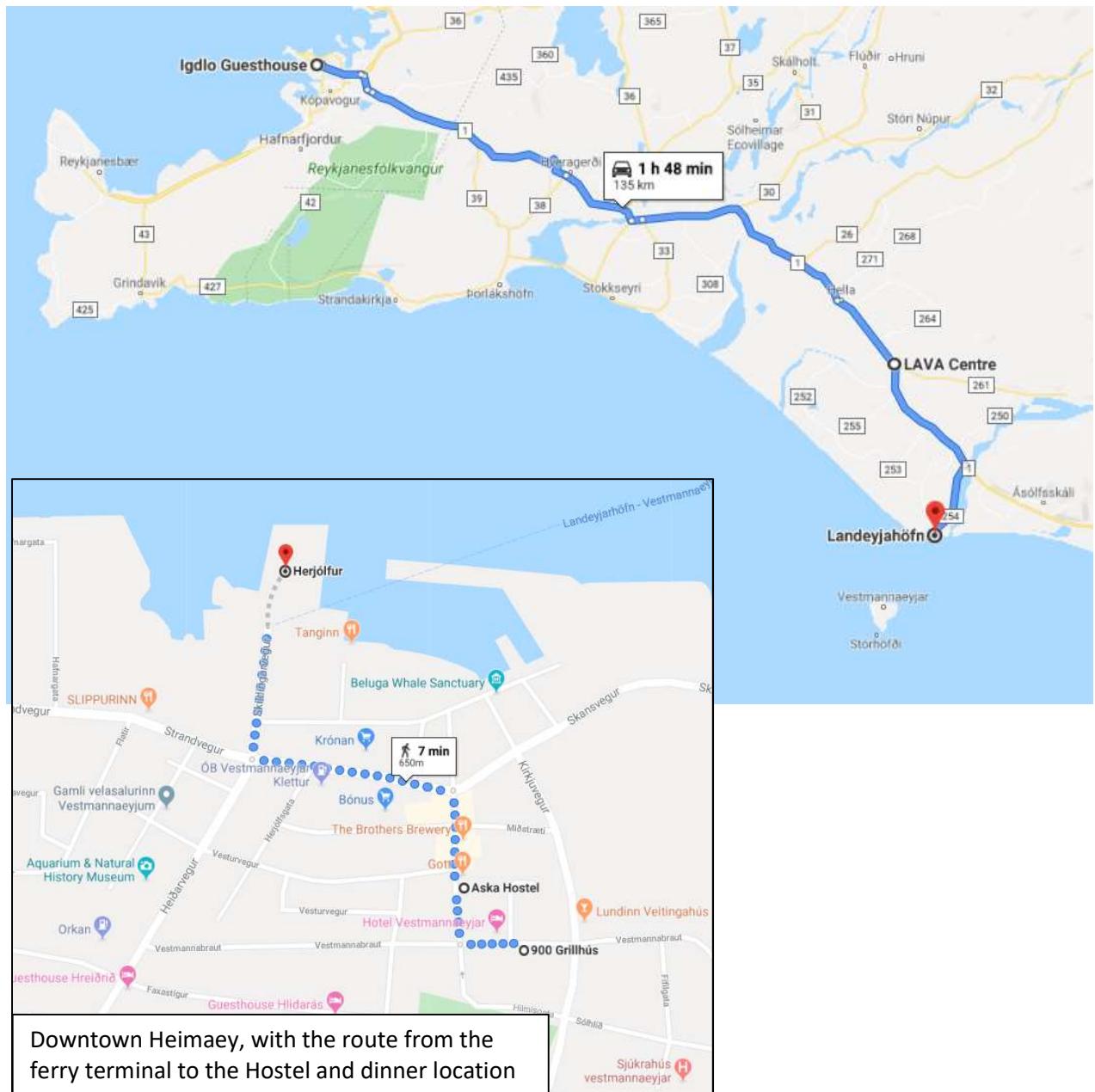
**12:30PM:** Depart from the LAVA Centre

**1:00PM:** Board the ferry and depart for Vestmannaeyjar, Heimaey.

**2:30PM:** Arrive Vestmannaeyjar, Heimaey and check in with the hostel (Aska Hostel, Bárustígur 11, 900 Vestmannaeyjabær, Iceland, <http://askahostel.is/aska/>)

**Rest of the day:** Walk around, hang out, relax, whatever...

**6:00PM:** Group dinner at 900 Grillhouse, Vestmannabraut 23, 900 Vestmannaeyjar, Iceland, <http://www.900grillhus.is/>



## Day 4: Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – Heimaey to the Rift Valley

**8:00AM:** Breakfast in the hostel, pack up, and load into the buses.

**9:00AM:** Leave the hostel and drive around the island, first stop Elephant Rock

**10:00AM:** Pirate Cove & Storhofdi - south edge of the island, hike around and get a view of Surtsey

**11:00AM:** Eldheimar Volcano Museum (10, Gerðisbraut, Vestmannaeyjabær, opens at 11AM)

**1:00PM:** Climb Eldfell Volcano

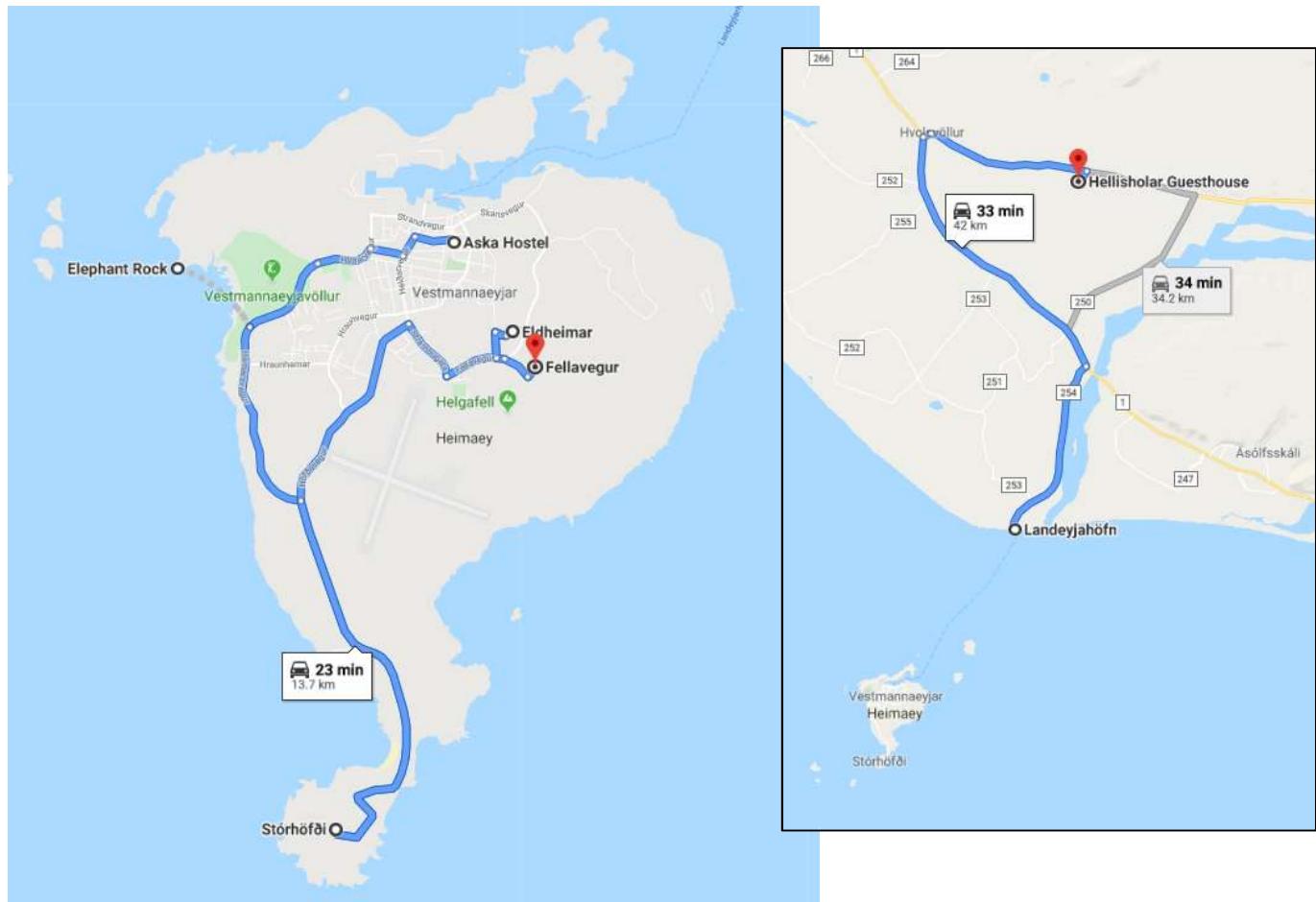
**2:00PM:** Board the ferry and depart for the main land

**3:30PM:** Reach Landeyjahöfn and drive to the Guesthouse

**4:30PM:** Get to Hellishólar Guesthouse, Öldubakki 5, Hvolsvöllur, Iceland, <https://hellisholar.is/>

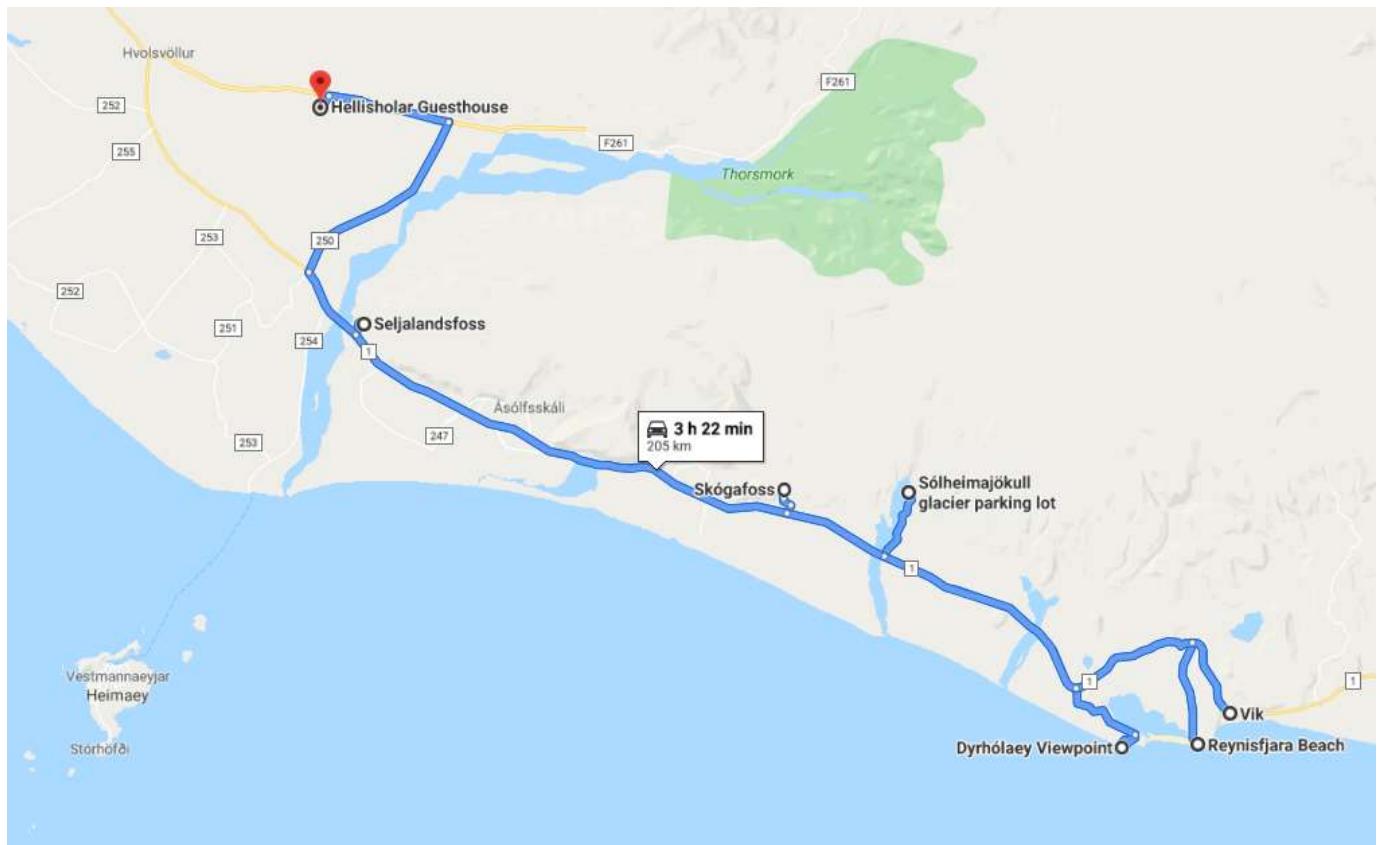
**6:00PM:** Group dinner at the hostel

**That evening:** I am hoping this location will give us a good shot at seeing the Aurora Borealis, the Northern Lights



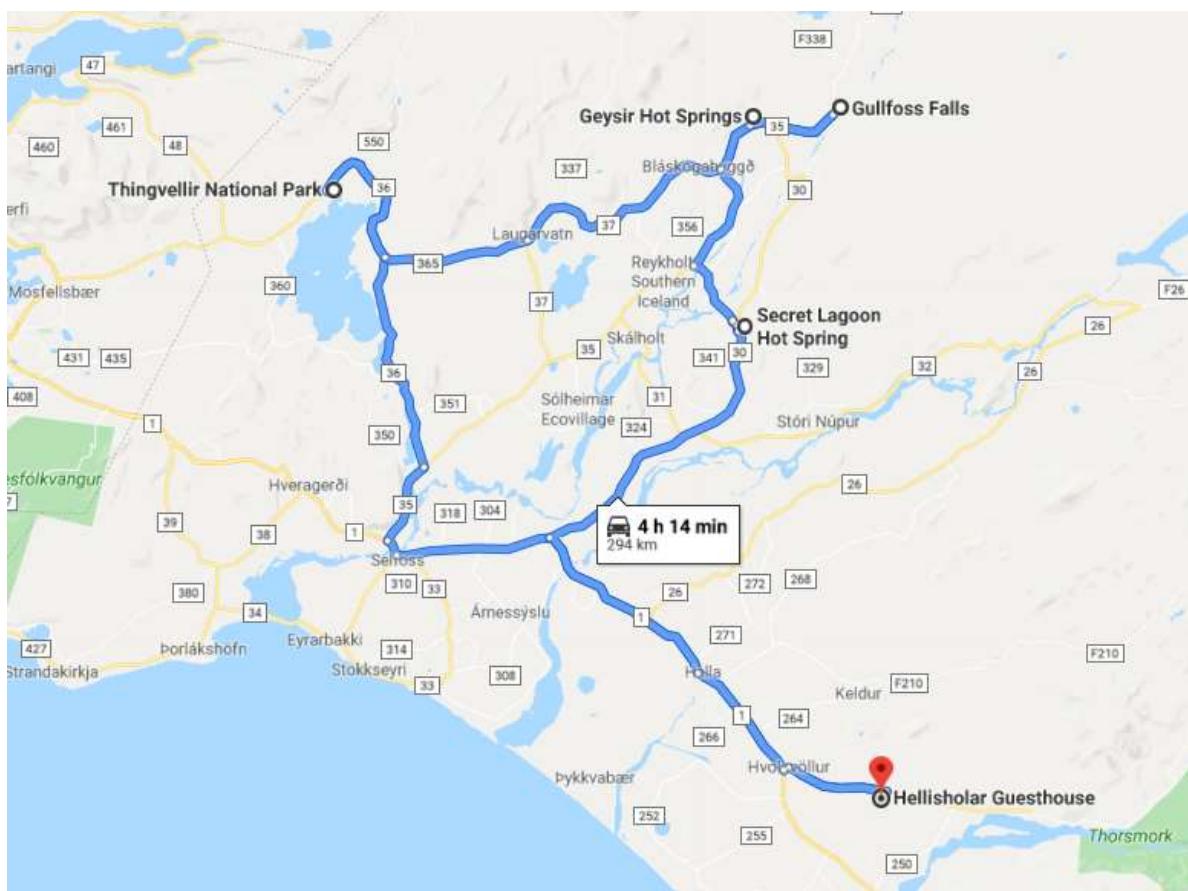
## Day 5: Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – Waterfalls, Glaciers and Vik Beaches

- 7:00AM:** Wake-up, breakfast is provided by the hostel.
- 8:30AM:** Depart from the hostel
- 9:00AM:** Arrive at Seljalandsfoss waterfall.
- 10:30AM:** Arrive at Skogafoss waterfall.
- 11:45AM:** Sólheimajökulsvegur Glacier, A pack lunch will be provided by the hostel, we can eat at the glacier
- 2:30PM:** Arrive at Dyrhólaey Viewpoint
- 3:30PM:** Arrive at Reynisfjara Beach
- 4:15PM:** Arrive at Vik
- 5:45PM:** Arrive back at the hostel
- 6:30PM:** Group meal at the hostel



## Day 6: Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – Þingvellir, Geysir, Gulfoss

- 7:00AM: Wake-up, breakfast at the hostel  
8:00AM: Depart for Þingvellir National Park  
9:30AM: Arrived at Þingvellir National Park  
10:00AM: Walk to the Law Rock and through the rift valley.  
11:30AM: Depart for Geysir  
12:30PM: Arrive at Geysir, have lunch (the hostel will be providing packed lunches, but there is also a café there).  
1:00PM: Walk the hydrothermal spring and geyser trail  
1:45PM: Leave for Gullfoss (Golden Waterfalls)  
2:00PM: Arrive at Gullfoss visit the fall and visitor's center  
2:30PM: Depart for Secret Lagoon Hot Springs, Fludir (<https://secretlagoon.is/>)  
3:00PM: Arrive at Secret Lagoon Hot Springs  
5:00PM: Depart for Hellisholar Guesthouse  
6:00PM: Arrive at hostel  
6:30PM: Group dinner at the hostel



## Day 7: Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – Hellisheiði Power Plant, Raurfarholshellir Lava Tube, and back to Reykjavik

**6:00AM:** Wake-up, have breakfast, pack our things, and load the vans.

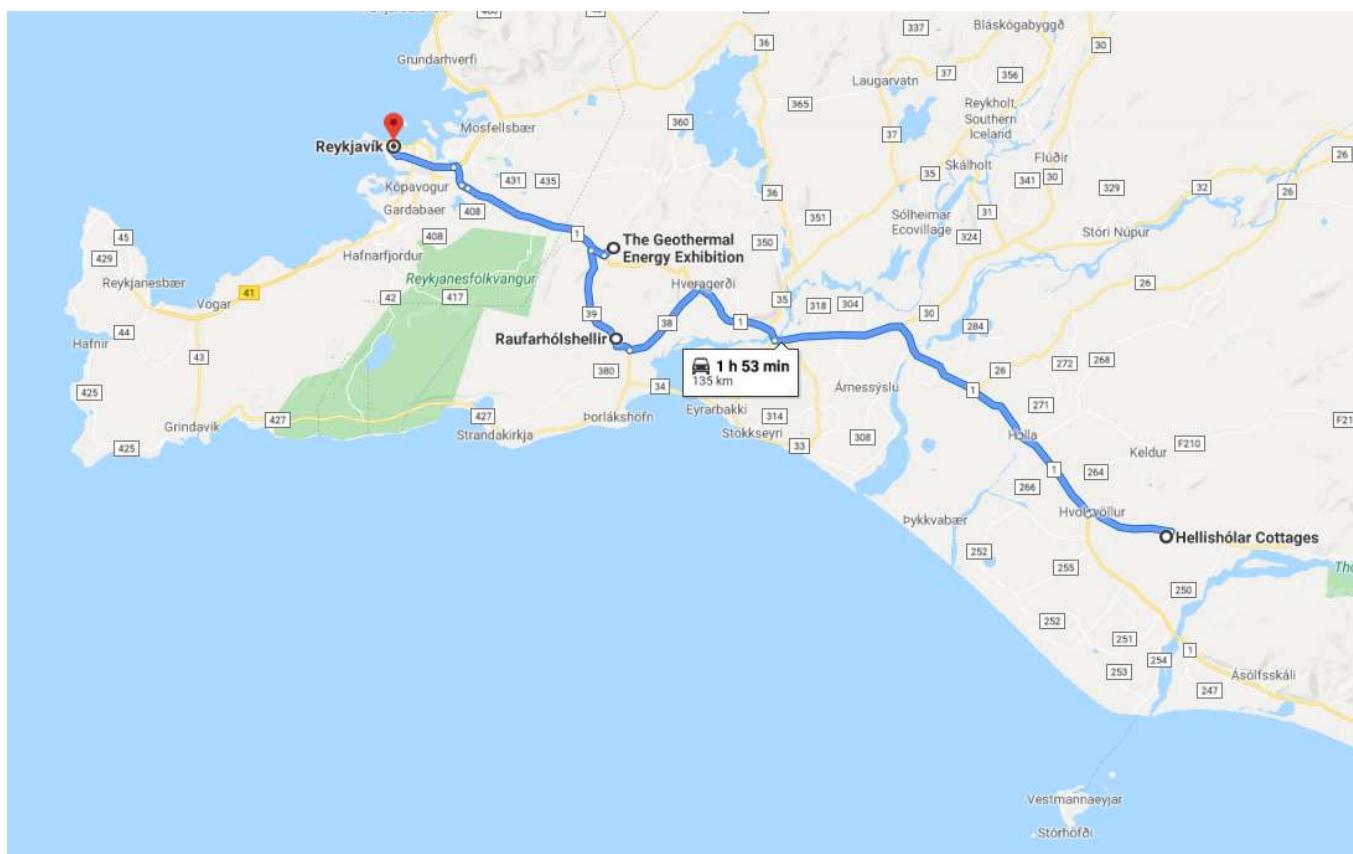
**7:30AM:** Depart for Raurfarholshellir Lava Tube

**9:00AM:** Take a tour of the Raurfarholshellir Lava Tube (<http://thelavatunnel.is/>) THIS REQUIRES STURDY BOOTS

**10:30AM:** Take a tour of the Hellisheiði Power Plant geothermal museum and a “behind-the-scenes” tour of the power plant

**12:00PM:** Finished tour. Have lunch.

**1:30PM:** Returned to the van and head into Reykjavik. We will be staying in the same accommodations (Igdlo Guesthouse, Gunnarsbraut 46, 105 Reykjavík).



## **Day 8: Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – Free Day in Reykjavik**

**All day – This is a free day, there is a lot to do in the city, enjoy!**

**6:00 PM:** Group Dinner, location to be determined.

## **Day 9: Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – Reykjavik and return home**

**8:00:** Wake-up and have breakfast (provided by the hostel)

**9:00:** Load the vehicles

**10:00:** Hang out in Reykjavik

We have to be checked out of the hostel by 11AM

**2:00PM:** Load up in the van and head to the airport

**3:00PM:** Arrive at the airport

**4:50PM:** Boarding Icelandair Flight 645

**7:25PM:** Arrive in Dulles, Washington DC

***YOU WILL NEED TO GET YOURSELF HOME FROM DULLES AIRPORT***