

# Flateyri, Westfjords, Iceland

A village of 200 souls perched on a narrow spit in Öundurarfjörður fjord, Flateyri punches far above its size with Iceland's oldest store, a haunting avalanche wall, and an endearingly eccentric museum.

Expedition / tender port

Typical call: 4–6 hrs

ISK (cards accepted everywhere)

Icelandic / English widely spoken

Westfjords, Iceland

## MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date:  Arrive:  All aboard:

Excursion:  Notes:

## GETTING ASHORE

**Docking:** Small expedition ships can berth at Flateyri harbor quay; larger vessels anchor and tender in

**Best For:** Authentic Iceland, history, quirky museums, fjord scenery

**Walk to center:** 2–5 min from the pier to the main street

**Don't Miss:** The 1914 bookstore and the avalanche defense wall viewpoint

Getting around: Taxi ~690 ISK base + 330 ISK/km (~\$6 USD minimum, ~\$3 USD/km) · Rideshare not available

## TOP THINGS TO DO

- The 1914 Old Bookstore** — Iceland's oldest surviving shop, run by the same family for four generations.
  - Avalanche Defense Wall** — After the 1995 avalanche killed 20 villagers and destroyed or damaged some 17 homes, Flateyri completed (in 1998) a massive A-shaped earthen wall to...
  - The Nonsense Museum** — A delightfully eccentric display of Icelandic collectors' obsessions — police caps from 100+ countries, PEZ
- dispensers, sugar packets, model planes...

  - Fjord Kayaking or RIB Tour** — Local operators occasionally run sea kayaking in the calm waters of Öundurarfjörður or high-speed RIB boat tours of the fjord walls and bird cliffs.
  - Spit Walk & Birdwatching** — Stroll the sandy shoreline of the eyri, the flat sandspit the village sits on.

## BEST WALKS

- Village Loop: Pier → Bookstore → Church → Nonsense Museum** 1.5 km · 20–30 min · Flat · Free — A compact circuit of the village's main historic sites.
- Avalanche Wall Viewpoint** 2 km return · 30–40 min · Moderate (uphill) · Free — Follow the track behind the village up to the top of the massive earthen avalanche defense wall for sweeping views over the rooftops, harbor, and the full sweep of...

## WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

**CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

|     | Mon | High | Low | Rain |
|-----|-----|------|-----|------|
| Apr |     | 38°  | 31° | 14d  |
| Jun |     | 50°  | 43° | 14d  |
| Aug |     | 53°  | 46° | 12d  |
| Sep |     | 48°  | 42° | 19d  |
| Oct |     | 42°  | 35° | 19d  |

**DAYLIGHT & MONEY**

Apr 5:53AM–9:17PM · Aug 5:12AM–10:01PM · Sep 6:55AM–8:01PM · Oct 8:31AM–6:06PM

## KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Iceland is cashless. You don't need Icelandic Króna — the bookstore, museum, and pub all take cards and mobile pay. Leave cash at home.
- Dress for Westfjords weather. Even in summer, expect 8–12°C with biting fjord winds. Bring a windproof/waterproof layer — conditions can change in minutes.
- The village has ~200 residents. If your ship carries hundreds, you'll outnumber the locals several times over. Be respectful — stay on paths, don't peer into homes.
- Eat at Vagninn. The village pub-restaurant is the best food stop — fresh fish of the day, local beer on tap, and a cozy atmosphere. Worth a visit if time allows.
- No transport in the village. Everything walkable is within 10 min on foot. For the golden sand beaches across the fjord, book a ship excursion or arrange a local guide.
- Buy a book at the old bookstore. Books are sold by the kilogram — a genuinely fun and affordable souvenir from Iceland's oldest surviving shop.

# Flateyri, Westfjords, Iceland — Port Map

[cruiseports.org](https://cruiseports.org)

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



- 1

Gamla Bókabúðin á Flateyri

It's a charming old bookstore and local community hub.
- 2

Önundarfjörður Pier (Holt í Önundarfirði)

This is the pier where your cruise ship docks.
- P

Cruise port / terminal