

Húsavík, Northeast Iceland, Iceland

The whale watching capital of Europe sits on a bay so rich in marine life that humpbacks surface within minutes of leaving the harbor. Add geothermal sea baths with Arctic mountain views and you have one of Iceland's most rewarding cruise calls.

Pier (small ships) / Tender (large ships)

Typical call: 6–8 hrs

Icelandic Króna (ISK) — cards universally accepted

Icelandic / English widely spoken

Whale watching capital of Europe

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Direct pier for ships up to 220 m; tender for larger vessels anchoring in Skjálfandi Bay

Best For: Whale watching, geothermal baths, Icelandic seafood, scenic Arctic landscapes

Walk to Center: 1–3 min from pier or tender dock; GeoSea Baths 20–25 min on foot

Don't Miss: A whale watching boat from North Sailing or Gentle Giants — success rates exceed 95%

🚗 Getting around: 🚗 **Taxi** ✅ ~4,000–6,000 ISK (~\$28–\$42 USD) for short trips · 🚗 **Rideshare** ❌ not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Classic Whale Watching — Oak Boat or RIB** — Skjálfandi Bay has some of the highest whale encounter rates in the North Atlantic.
- **GeoSea Geothermal Sea Baths** — Infinity-edge pools filled with warm (38–40°C) mineral-rich seawater perched on the cliffs of Húsavík/kuhðfði.
- **Húsavík Whale Museum** — One of the world's premier whale museums, with 11 complete skeletons including a 25-meter blue whale.
- **Exploration Museum — NASA's Iceland Connection** — Apollo astronauts including Neil Armstrong trained in the lunar-like volcanic landscapes near Húsavík in 1965 and 1967.
- **Lake Botnsvatn Walk & Lupine Fields** — A 3 km walk inland from town leads to a peaceful lake ringed by lupine-covered hills in summer.

BEST WALKS

- **Harbor to GeoSea & Lighthouse Loop** 4 km round trip | 1–1.5 hrs | Moderate (uphill stretch) — From the harbor walk north along the waterfront, past the colorful wooden buildings, up to the yellow Húsavík/kuhðfði lighthouse for panoramic bay views, then continue to...
- **Town Center Stroll — Church, Museum & Eurovision Spots** 1.5 km loop | 30–45 min | Easy — Compact loop from the harbor taking in Húsavík/kuhðfði (Iceland's most beautiful wooden church), the Whale Museum, the Exploration Museum, and the Ja Ja Ding Dong Bar...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	40°	31°	12d	
Jun	53°	44°	14d	
Aug	55°	46°	14d	
Sep	51°	42°	17d	
Oct	42°	35°	16d	

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 5:28AM–8:52PM · Aug 4:47AM–9:37PM · Sep 6:30AM–7:36PM · Oct 8:06AM–5:41PM

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Book whale watching months ahead. North Sailing and Gentle Giants fill up completely on ship days. Secure your slot online well before you arrive — you cannot just walk up on the day.
- GeoSea also requires advance booking. Time slots sell out fast. Bring a towel or rent one on-site (fee applies). The walk up is 20 min or grab a taxi from the harbor.
- Dress for Arctic wind, not the forecast. Skjálfandi Bay channels cold air off the bay — even on sunny summer days it can be biting on the water. Whale watching operators provide thermal suits, but wear warm layers underneath.
- Go cashless. Iceland is virtually card-only. You can pay for everything — cafés, restrooms, museums, parking — by card or contactless. No need to carry ISK.
- Tender buffer rule. If your ship is tendering, add at least 1.5 hours to your schedule before all-aboard. Tender queues grow quickly when tours wrap up at the same time.
- Eurovision fans: The Ja Ja Ding Dong Bar (Ketilsbraut 22) is a real pub with craft beer, burgers, and movie memorabilia. Great for a quick stop between the Whale Museum and GeoSea.

Húsavík, Northeast Iceland, Iceland — Port Map

cruiseports.org

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



- 1 Húsavík Harbor** The town's working harbor, where whale watching tours depart.
- 3 Friends of Moby Dick - Whale Watching** A popular company offering whale watching boat tours.
- P Cruise port / terminal**

- 2 Husavik Park** A small, scenic park for relaxation and views.
- 4 Husavik Viewpoint Parking** Parking area for panoramic views over Húsavík and the bay.