

HÓTEL DALVÍK

Aurora Leisure

The Quiet Fishing Village Experience in Iceland

In close proximity to a variety of activities
A wide selection of accommodation
Only 35 minutes from Akureyri
Complimentary WiFi



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Open year-round, the hotel is located centrally in Dalvík, a fishing village in Eyjafjörður with a population of around 2,000, only 35 minutes from Akureyri.

We offer a variety of rooms to accommodate our guests, from bungalows to deluxe and economy rooms, a six-bed dorm, a quadruple room, and rooms for multiple guests with shared bathrooms. General facilities include a garden and a sun deck with picnic tables. The lobby includes a bar and a lounge with a TV. Complimentary WiFi is available in all rooms and public areas.

Within a 10 minute walking distance from the hotel, the Dalvík harbor offers whale watching tours and sea angling trips via Fjord Cruises and a ferry to Grímsey, where you can cross the Arctic Circle.

A geothermal swimming pool and hot tubs are within a 2-minute walk from the hotel. Ski slopes lie only 1.5 km away and the Hamar golf course is within 4 km.

In approximately 10 minutes, you can drive to Árskógssandur and visit the Beer Baths and take the ferry to Hrísey.

North of Dalvík, the area of Tröllaskagi offers a variety of activities, including horseback riding, hiking tours, snowmobiling, and skiing.

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DALVÍK

HÓTEL DALVÍK
Aurora Leisure

DALVÍK
HARBOR

SWIMMING
POOL

ROUTE TO TRÖLLASKAGI

ROUTE TO AKUREYRI



Skiing above Dalvík

ACTIVITIES

The recreation in the area is versatile and easy to find some entertainment all year round. In the fall we have sheep and horse herding, an Icelandic tradition, as well as berry picking, as the municipality has some excellent berry picking places. Over the winter, skiing in the skiing area of Böggvistaðafjall is always popular, as well as cross-country skiing, and later in the winter off-piste skiing and heli-skiing. Almost all year round whale watching is available from two locations, Dalvík and Hauganes and you can also go horseback riding. Bird watching is popular in the springtime and nourishing to watch the nature come to life after the long winter. Over the summer whale watching, horseback riding, golfing, and hiking are available. All year round you can visit the Beer Baths in Árskógs-sandur, try out the outdoor hot tubs in Hauganes, go swimming and enjoy the cultural life. Coffee houses and restaurants are open all year round. In Dalvíkurbyggð every day is a beautiful day, don't let it get away, for Iceland is truly the land of the ice and snow, from the midnight sun where the hot springs flow.

THE TROLLS IN THE MOUNTAINS

Dalvíkurbyggð lies at the troll-like mountain range of Tröllaskagi, the largest mountain range in Iceland, drawing its name from the troll-like environment. So, no wonder we have many stories about trolls such as the one living in the mountain Stóllinn (The Chair) in Svarfaðardalur, or the ones in Ólafsfjarðarmúli, the old road between Dalvík and Ólafsfjörður. So, if you keep an open mind for a different view you might even see one!

FRIÐLAND SVARFDÆLA

The nature reserve of Friðland Svarfdæla is an 8 km² wetland on both sides of Svarfaðardalsá, stretching from the sea up to Húsabakki in Svarfaðardalur. The area has been a nature reserve since 1972 and is the oldest of its kind in Iceland. The nature reserve is the home and nesting place of over 30 bird species which makes the area perfect for bird watching. The area has marked paths, information on birds, flora, and fauna, bird watching houses and bridges for easy access. You can enter the area from Húsabakki in Svarfaðardalur or from Hrísatjörn near Dalvík. Going from Húsabakki, travelers can walk through the nature reserve down to the river Svarfaðardalsá, cross it on a walking bridge and enter the small forest of Hánefsstaðareitur. The forest and picnic spots. If you listen very carefully, you might even hear a blackbird singing in the dead of night.

FÓLKVANGURINN

The Nature Reserve Fólkvangurinn lies above Dalvík and is a versatile outdoor area with a skiing area, forestry, berries, mushrooms and paths. The small forest Böggur has an outdoor grill, benches and an area for picnicking.

THE BLACK BEACH SAND

The Sand lies near Dalvík and is a part of the Nature Reserve of Friðland Svarfdæla. The area is a popular outdoor area and the locals use it for walking. It takes about a half an hour to walk from the parking lot to the river mouth of Svarfaðardalsá, where it runs into the sea through the beach, and back to the parking lot again.

SVARFAÐARDALUR

Svarfaðardalur is a wide, fertile and densely populated valley in North Iceland, dotted with quintessential farmsteads, gurgling streams and surrounded by a ring of spectacular mountain peaks. The highest mountain in the area is Dýja-fjallshnjúkur, with a summit of 1,445 m.

Svarfaðardalur is part of the Dalvíkurbyggð municipality. The Svarfaðardalsá River flows through Svarfaðardalur, opening up at the coast of Dalvík, and is known to be an excellent spot for visiting anglers.

The best way to visit this area is on a relaxed self-drive tour. One of the best options for doing so is this 7-day Arctic Coast Way self-drive, available in the summer months.

THE MIDNIGHT SUN

It is very easy to find spots in Dalvíkurbyggð to enjoy the midnight sun, such as from Sandurinn (the black sand beach). Ólafsfjarðarmúli is probably the best one though. Beside the mouth of the tunnel, lying through the mountain, is a spacious parking lot, ideal for watching the midnight sun. In good weather, if you look up ahead in the distance, it is possible to see all the way to Grímsey from this spot. Another possibility is to walk the old road that lies through Ólafsfjarðarmúli, up to a so-called Plan and watch the midnight sun from there.

NORTHERN LIGHTS

The Northern Lights can be seen in many places in the area around Dalvík. The best ones are probably where there is little artificial light, such as Svarfaðardalur and in Árskógsströnd.



Svarfaðardalur



Berrypicking



Northern Lights



HIKING TRAILS

There are several hiking trails in and around Dalvík. The greater region of Tröllaskagi, Troll Peninsula, is one of the most extraordinary mountain scenarios in Iceland, with several peaks reaching over 1,200 m above sea level, some over 1,400 m. It is the part of Iceland with the highest elevation outside the central highlands. The glaciers have forged the landscape for centuries, leaving behind more than just the troll-like mountains but also mountain passes, grassy valleys, small glaciers, and mountain lakes. The tranquility, power and magic leave no one untouched. It leaves a feeling of being alone in the wilderness, far away from the human touch with the power of the earth below us and above us only sky.

Therefore, the landscape is perfect for hiking, both for experienced hikers and those wishing easier routes. At Hótel Dalvík you can get a map showing 10 easy routes with a starting point near the hotel.

We urge everybody to choose a fitting hiking trail, seek advice from the Information Center about the route, let somebody know where you are heading and always, always travel with great caution.

Please travel through our nature with respect and take all litter home with you for disposal. Otherwise you might disturb the elves.



WHALE WATCHING DALVÍK

Arctic Sea Tours is located in Dalvík and offers whale watching tours in an area that is known for its excellent whale watching conditions. The tours take place in the Eyjafjörður fjord, where you can find various types of whales including humpback whales, minke whales, and the majestic blue whale as well as other fascinating wildlife like dolphins and various bird species like puffins. On average we have a 98% sightings success on our tours, making it the best in the country. Our Express Whale Watching tour adds an adrenaline pumping experience, as we go faster and even further allowing us to cover more area in hopes of seeing more wildlife! Join us for a fun and exciting whale watching adventure!

DALVÍK SWIMMING POOL

The swimming pool in Dalvík is at the sports center, only 2-minute walk from Hótel Dalvík. It has a beautiful view of Svarfaðardalur. Beside the swimming pool, you will also find hot tubs, children's pool, waterslide and sauna. In the sports centre you will also find a well-equipped gym.

DALVÍK BEACH

In the harbor of Dalvík, at its southern end, is a little wooden bridge over the rock dam which offers access to a beautiful black sandy beach that invites you to take a walk until you reach the delta of the river Svarfaðardalsá. Take a rest in the dunes and observe the rich bird life.

BERG CULTURE HOUSE

Berg Culture House is in the town center of Dalvík. The Public Library is located in the building, as well as a café. Art performances, concerts, conferences and cultural tourism also have their place in the house. Various events are scheduled all year round.

DALVÍK SKI AREA

Dalvík has one of the best skiing areas in the country. There is a wide variety of runs suitable for all members of the family, one of the slopes being floodlit and 1,200 m long. The area is equipped with a new snow production system which ensures better snow conditions. When conditions permit, a track for cross-country skiing is prepared right next to the skiing area. Skis can be rented.

THE BROTHERS FROM BAKKI

The Brothers from Bakki named Gísli, Eiríkur and Helgi are infamous for their stupidity. The story says they lived at the farm of Bakki in Svarfaðardalur. An example of their stupidity is when they built a house with no windows and then tried to carry the sunlight into the house in their hats. Another one is when they were bathing in an outdoor geothermal pool they mixed up their legs so no one knew which legs belonged to whom. Travelers can walk up to the small geothermal pool that is located in Svarfaðardalur, called Fótlaug Bakkabræðra.

RESTAURANTS

Dalvík and the surrounding area offers a wide selection of food and beverages. Á Gregor's Restaurant is a nice neighbourhood bar with unexpected qualities where the locals stop by to chat with Gregor himself!

Norður Restaurant is a friendly restaurant in the heart of Dalvík, located by the harbor with a great view over Eyjafjörður and offers a wide variety of food and beverages.

Baccalá Bar is a restaurant in Hauganes, on the west bank of Eyjafjörður, just 12 km from Dalvík. Inside the beautifully decorated interior—and outside on the porch, which is shaped like a Viking ship and offers stunning views of Eyjafjörður—you'll find a variety of delicious Icelandic dishes for the whole family. It's a popular spot among both locals and travelers alike.



WHALE WATCHING IN HAUGANES

Just a short drive from Dalvík, Hauganes Whale Watching offers unforgettable whale watching and sea angling tours in the heart of Eyjafjörður. Operating the oldest whale watching tours in Iceland, they use traditional Icelandic oak boats—stable, comfortable, and full of character.

All tours are carbon-neutral, with emissions offset by tree planting and the use of biodiesel blends. Whale sightings are frequent and impressive, with whales often just 20 minutes from shore. You may encounter humpback whales, minke whales, porpoises, fin whales, and even orcas during the summer months.

Perfect for families, friends, or groups—this is a North Iceland experience not to be missed.

SEA SWIMMING AND HOT TUBS

For a unique and invigorating experience, head to Hauganes, where you can swim in the North Atlantic and relax in geothermal hot tubs right by the sea. Just steps from the harbor, you'll find changing facilities and easy access to the black sand beach—one of North Iceland's best-kept secrets.

This picturesque beach is the region's only south-facing shoreline, and thanks to its shallow waters, the sea can be surprisingly warm on sunny summer days. After a refreshing dip, unwind in one of the three traditional hot tubs—or in the popular hot tub made from an authentic fishing boat—filled with natural geothermal water from the village.

The Hauganes Beach Baths are a favorite among ocean swimmers and aqua sports enthusiasts. Whether you're seeking a thrill or a tranquil soak with a view, this seaside spot offers the best of both worlds.

STRYTAN DIVECENTER

Strytan Divecenter is located in the small fishing village Hjalteyri, 26 km south of Dalvík. Dive at one of the world's natural wonders—Strýtan or Arnarnesstrýtan, unique hydrothermal vents found in shallow water. The only similar site in the world is located at a depth of 2,500 meters. You can also dive at the fissure Nesgjá, where the continental plates of Europe and North America meet.



Hauganes Hot Tubs



Diving



Whale Watching



The Beer Spa

THE BEER SPA

The Beer Spa in Árskógssandur is one of Iceland's most unique wellness experiences, located just a short drive from Dalvík.

There, you can soak in a tub filled with warm water, young beer, hops, and live yeast, followed by a session in a relaxation room. The live beer yeast, known for its nourishing properties, is left on the skin for several hours after bathing to maximize its beneficial effects—leaving the skin feeling cleansed, revitalized, and healthy.

The spa has seven tubs, accommodating up to 14 people per hour. Guests can choose to bathe alone or with a companion. While the bathwater contains no alcohol and has no age restriction, the draft beer taps next to each tub are available only to guests aged 20 and over. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

KALDI BREWERY

Located next to the spa in Árskógssandur, Bruggsmiðjan Kaldi is Iceland's first craft brewery. Known for producing high-quality, unpasteurized beer with no added sugar or preservatives, Kaldi is brewed using pure local water and traditional Czech methods.

Visitors are welcome to explore the brewery through guided group tours, which include tastings of fresh, unfiltered Kaldi beer and a presentation on the brewery's origins and brewing philosophy. It's an ideal stop for beer enthusiasts and curious travelers alike.



Beer Baths



Kaldi Beer

THINGS TO DO WITHIN A 1-2 HOUR DRIVE FROM DALVÍK

On the following pages, you'll find a variety of activities and natural wonders to explore within a 1-2 hour drive from Dalvík. From scenic landscapes to cultural highlights, North Iceland offers countless opportunities for adventure and discovery.





TRANSPORTATION

SBA-Norðurleið specializes in coach and mini-bus transportation and is one of the largest companies of its kind in Iceland, based in Akureyri and Reykjavik. SBA-Norðurleið has a tight group of managers, mechanics, drivers, and guides with over three decades of experience in operating group excursions by coach. The fleet consists of well equipped vehicles that seat 6–73 passengers and are equipped with 4G/5G and most have USB charging ports for passengers.

SBA-Norðurleið always prioritizes safety and comfort for both passengers and employees. Every effort is made to select vehicles that are suitable for each group, depending on weather conditions and circumstances.

RING ROAD ———
ROAD ———
SAILING ROUTE - - - -



HRÍSEY

Hrísey is Iceland's second-largest island, after Heimaey in the Westman Islands. Covered in lush vegetation, the island is mostly flat, rising to just 110 metres at its highest point. Its bedrock is ancient basalt, formed around 10 million years ago.

At the southern tip lies a small village where most of Hrísey's residents live. Visitors can enjoy a modern swimming pool and even take a sightseeing tour from the trailer of a tractor—an experience you won't find just anywhere!

The ferry crossing from Árskógssandur to Hrísey takes about 15 minutes, with multiple departures daily.

GRÍMSEY

Grímsey is Iceland's northernmost inhabited point, located directly on the Arctic Circle. It's home to around 100 people, over one million seabirds, and one of the largest puffin colonies in Iceland—making it an exceptional destination for birdwatching and nature lovers.

Grímsey is also one of the best places to experience the midnight sun during the summer solstice. You can reach the island by ferry from Dalvík several times a week, or by flight from Akureyri—available year-round, with daily service in summer.

ARCTIC TRIP

Founded in 2015 by Halla Ingólfssdóttir, Arctic Trip offers meaningful travel experiences in Grímsey and North Iceland. Halla brings over 20 years of guiding experience, particularly in Eyjafjörður and on Grímsey, where she has spent most of her life.

Arctic Trip is the result of years of preparation, local knowledge, and a deep respect for Iceland's natural environment. Halla and her team are passionate about storytelling, wildlife, and helping travelers enjoy a relaxed and enriching stay at the top of the world.

Their mission is simple: to help you create lifelong memories while respecting Iceland's fragile and extraordinary nature.

FAIRYTALE AT SEA

Fairytale at Sea is a small tour company based in Ólafsfjörður, offering scenic adventures in unspoiled landscapes beneath Ólafsfjarðarmúli and Hvanndalabjarg—the highest sea cliffs in Iceland.

Their guided jet ski tours last about two hours, with a maximum of eight guests per group. Free photos and videos of the trip are included, and all safety gear and protective clothing is provided. Custom tours are also available upon request.

AKUREYRI BOTANICAL GARDEN

Akureyri's Public Park was established in 1912, with the botanical section added in 1957. The garden's mission is to grow trees, shrubs, and perennials adapted to the challenging climate of North Iceland—where dramatic shifts in temperature and daylight define the seasons.

Located in the shelter of Eyjafjörður, one of Iceland's longest fjords, the garden benefits from a favorable microclimate. In addition to 430 native species, an impressive 6,600 non-native species (alien taxa) thrive here. The garden is a member of the IPEN network and actively participates in seed exchanges, education, and conservation initiatives.

The Public Park and Botanical Garden is open from June 1st to September 30th.

LYST RESTAURANT

Located within the Botanical Garden, LYST is both a restaurant and cultural venue. Known for its seasonal lunch menu—highlighted by fresh fish and vegetables—LYST crafts flavorful dishes using locally-sourced ingredients.

Guests can complement their meals with a selection of natural wines or enjoy high-quality, specialty coffee. The setting within the lush garden makes LYST an exceptional venue for concerts, community events, and memorable gatherings.



GOÐAFOSS

Goðafoss is one of Iceland's most stunning waterfalls. The river Skjálfandafljót plunges 12 meters over a span of 30 meters, creating a breathtaking cascade easily accessible from the Ring Road. Parking is available on both sides of the river, and paved paths lead to viewing platforms.

Goðafoss holds deep historical significance. Around the year 1000, Iceland's law speaker, Þorgeir Ljósvetningagoði, made the momentous decision to adopt Christianity as the nation's official religion, easing tensions with European neighbors—particularly Norway.

As a symbolic gesture, Þorgeir cast his pagan idols into the waterfall. The name "Goðafoss" means "Waterfall of the Gods," commemorating this pivotal moment in Icelandic history.





Herring Era Museum

THE HERRING ERA MUSEUM

The Herring Era Museum is Iceland's largest maritime and industrial museum, offering visitors the chance to explore the herring fishery and processing industry that sustained Iceland's economy for much of the twentieth century.

Three unique museum buildings provide insight into this fascinating chapter of Icelandic history:

Róaldsbrakki is a Norwegian herring station dating back to 1907. Much of the building remains just as it was when "herring girls" lived and worked there during the summer months.

Grána showcases a small herring factory from the 1930s. Here, visitors can observe the workings of the reduction industry—widely considered Iceland's first major industrial enterprise.

The Boathouse recreates the atmosphere of a bustling herring port, with the fleet docked as it would have been on a summer evening in 1950. It invites visitors to imagine walking the quaysides during the height of the herring era.

FOREST LAGOON

Forest Lagoon is a 1,300 square-meter geothermal spa nestled in a forested hillside near Akureyri. The complex features two infinity pools with swim-up bars, a cold tub, a sauna, and a cozy bistro.

The facility can host up to 200 guests and is open daily from 10:00 to midnight. During the summer months (June, July, and August), it opens an hour earlier at 9:00.

The pools are heated with natural geothermal water sourced from Vaðlaheiði mountain, discovered during tunnel construction. Today, this water is used for its soothing warmth and healing properties—offering visitors a relaxing and revitalizing experience in nature.



Forest Lagoon

THE ICELANDIC AVIATION MUSEUM

Located in a large hangar at Akureyri Airport, the Icelandic Aviation Museum documents the country's aviation history through photographs, videos, artifacts, models, and historic aircraft—some of which are still airworthy and featured in the museum's annual air show each June.

The exhibition traces the evolution of aircraft and airlines in Iceland from 1919 to the present. Several aircraft are open for visitors to explore from the inside, offering a hands-on journey through the country's aviation heritage.

HOFÓS SWIMMING POOL

The public swimming pool in the village of Hofós, is beloved for its architectural design, breathtaking views of the fjord and Drangey island, and its warm, inviting hot tub.

Widely regarded as one of the most beautiful pools in Iceland, it offers a tranquil and scenic bathing experience in any weather.



Hofsós Swimming Pool



Mývatn Nature Baths

MÝVATN NATURE BATHS

Enjoy a relaxing visit to the Mývatn Nature Baths, located in the heart of northeast Iceland. Lake Mývatn and its surrounding area are considered one of Europe's greatest natural treasures. As a designated nature reserve, the region is known for its fragile beauty, where tourism has been developed with care to preserve its delicate ecosystem.

Inspired by centuries-old traditions, the beautifully designed complex offers a natural bathing experience that begins with a dip in steam rising from deep underground fissures and ends with a soothing soak in geothermal water sourced from depths of up to 2,500 meters.

Enriched with minerals, silicates, and geothermal micro-organisms, the warm waters of the Mývatn Nature Baths are known to benefit both body and mind.

What better way to experience one of Europe's most remarkable destinations than by relaxing in one of Iceland's finest geothermal spas?



Dettifoss

DETTIFOSS

Dettifoss is the most powerful waterfall in Europe, where 200 cubic meters of water thunder over the edge every second. The falls are 45 meters high and 100 meters wide, offering a truly awe-inspiring spectacle.

A 34 km hiking trail follows the canyon between Dettifoss and Ásbyrgi, and camping is available in Vesturdalur. Access depends on the season and road conditions. Dettifoss is part of the famous Diamond Circle route, making it a must-see highlight in North Iceland.

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