

# HOTEL SELFOSS



WHAT TO DO  
IN & AROUND  
SELFOSS





## Selfoss Swimming Pool

The Selfoss Public Swimming pool is in the center of town and within walking distance from all major shops and services as well as having ample parking spaces. Inside the building there is a children's pool and an 18 meter pool. Outside is a 25 meter pool, children's pool with 3 slides, wading pool, steam room, sauna and hot and cold tubs.

There are four changing rooms, two indoors and two outdoors, as well as changing facilities reserved for people with disabilities in both indoor and outdoor rooms. The opening to a new annex building in the summer of 2015 greatly improved all facilities including a new indoor children's pool, a new reception area and larger changing rooms.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 350 meters | [Website: arborg.is](http://Website: arborg.is)*



## The Bobby Fischer Center

The Bobby Fischer Center houses memorabilia of the world chess champion Robert James Fischer. The Center also serves as a club house for Skákfélag Selfoss and others that want to play chess, offers chess classes, and hosts chess tournaments. In addition, the Center has a small chess library for

those who want to learn more about chess and offers lectures about the chess game and other related matters. At the Bobby Fischer Center there are items related to Bobby Fischer on display. They are mainly from his stay in Iceland, i.e. when he became the world champion in Reykjavík 1972 and his last years after he became an Icelandic citizen. A few hundred meters away from the Center, the grave of Bobby Fischer is located at the Laugardælir cemetery.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 500 meters | [Website: fischeretur.is](http://Website: fischeretur.is)*



## Hellisskógur

Hellisskógur is a beautiful forest located only a few minutes walk from downtown Selfoss. The forest is a perfect place for hiking, a family picnic and a wonderful way to explore the river Ölfusá and the cave „Einholtshellir“.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 1,5 kilometers*



## Ingólfsfjall

2-3 hour walk on the mountain Ingólfsfjall, only 5 minute drive from Selfoss. The hiking trail is easy to walk and the view can be spectacular with a view to the coastline, the mountains and the Floi parish. Mt Ingólfsfjall (551m) is a steep sloped hyaloclastite mountain with strata of lava and mostly precipitous upper part. During the latest part of the Ice Age, it was a headland, when the sea level stood much higher. It is connected to the mountainous area of the Grafningur County by the mountain ridge Grafningshals. It was created during the middle of the Ice Age. Just north of the highway the low shoulder Silfurberg, colored by scolesite crystals, extends from the mountain. Opposite, just south of the road is the cone shaped hill Kogunarholl.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 2 kilometers*



## Sólhestar

Sólhestar is a horse rental that offers a broad variety of exciting riding tours. Sólhestar is located just 10 minutes (by car) from Selfoss. The riding tours take place in the beautiful surroundings of Ölfus in the southern part of Iceland.

Sólhestar offers tours for more experienced riders and absolute beginners so everyone can enjoy the riding tour to the fullest.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 18 kilometers | [Website: solhestar.is](http://Website: solhestar.is)*



## Selfoss Golf Course

The golf club of Selfoss runs a small and fun 9 hole golf course in Selfoss. Ölfusá plays a big part in the history of Svarfhóls-course, and some of the courses lay beside this river. On the fourth hole you have to shoot over this river. This course is flat for the most part and really nice for walking. This course has been renovated in the last

few years and it has been well kept. It has been named the best 9 hole course in Iceland. Near Svarfhóls-course is this beautiful club house where you can get food and some wares that are related to golf, there is also a practicing course near this area and a driving range as well.

Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 3 kilometers | [Website: gosgolf.is](http://Website: gosgolf.is)



## Eyrarbakki

Eyrarbakki, population 526, is a friendly village that, in earlier times, used to be the largest commercial community and the main harbor on the South Coast of Iceland. A large number of preserved houses from the period 1890-1920 are situated in Eyrarbakki and

therefore a visit is like reverting a 100 years back in time. On the rocky shoreline you can witness an amazing view of the Atlantic Ocean, as well as watch the surf break. It is an ideal spot for hiking and bird watching. The Flói Bird Reserve lies northwest of Eyrabakki. It is an important nesting area, especially for wetland birds and is listed in The Bird Life International Association.

Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 13 kilometers | [Website: eyrarbakki.is](http://Website: eyrarbakki.is)



## Husid at Eyrarbakki

Húsið (The House) at Eyrarbakki is one of Iceland's oldest buildings, built in 1765 when Danish merchants were allowed to overwinter in Iceland for the first time. Merchant families lived in the House for almost two centuries and over that period the House was the center for art and

European culture in Iceland; fashion, music and literature spread from there throughout the country. Eyrarbakki village was at that time one of the largest harbours and trading places in the country, serving farmers along the coastline from the extreme west to the extreme east.

Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 13 kilometers | [Website husid.com](http://Website husid.com)



## The Ghost Museum

The ghost centre features all of Iceland's most famous ghosts. Ghost appearances are frequently mentioned in the sagas, which date back to the beginning of Icelandic history. Ghost can appear in all living shapes or forms and some of them are still around today.

Guests walk through the ghost maze while listening to the stories and tales of our ghosts in the environment where the spooky tales actually took place.

Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 14 kilometers | [Website: icelandicwonders.is](http://Website: icelandicwonders.is)



## Reykjadalur

The hot water stream gushing down the mountain range is ideal for relaxing and the valley offers a rich variety of hot pools and geothermal springs. It is also possible to have a dip in the river.

It's a great hiking route and to get there drive to Hveragerði, in South Iceland. You will reach its starting point just 15 minutes away from Selfoss.

Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 14 kilometers



## *Kayaktours*

Icelandic kayaktours (Kajakaferðir) has been in operation for 10 years and offers a new way to explore the nature. We travel on kayaks along the unique lagoons of one of Iceland's most beautiful coastline and through a broad water area west of

Stokkseyri. The area consists of small and big ponds connected by narrow canals, and is the ideal surrounding for enormous numbers of birds and plants.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 14 kilometers | [Website: kayak.is](http://Website: kayak.is)*



## *The Wildlife Museum*

The museum was opened to public in 2004. The Wildlife Museum is the only museum in Iceland that is dedicated to hunting and wildlife. The museum is not only established to entertain and inform the public but as a testament to ethical hunting, the right to hunt and to pass

the skill of hunting on to future generations. The collection contains a large number of Icelandic mammals and birds as well as mammals from Africa and Greenland, including a shoulder mount of muskox, full mount polar bear, giraffe as well as full mount lions, male and a female.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 14 kilometers | [Website: hunting.is](http://Website: hunting.is)*



## *Kerið Crater*

The crater Kerið was formed about 6,500 years ago and lies at the northern end of a row of craters known as Tjarnarhólar. It is oval, about 270 m long, 170 m wide and 55 m deep: the depth of the water at the bottom varies between 7 and 14 meters.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 15 kilometers | [Website: kerid.is](http://Website: kerid.is)*



## *The Black beach in Þorlákshöfn*

Go on the perfect tour in South Iceland (only 20 min away from Selfoss) where the black beach meets the blue Atlantic Ocean. You can take a RIB speedboat ride, ATV ride, Yoga on the beach or combine

activities together.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 28 kilometers | [Website: blackbeachtours.is](http://Website: blackbeachtours.is)*



## *Silfra Tectonic Fissure*

The Silfra Tectonic Fissure is a unique phenomenon on this planet. There are several other freshwater rifts similar to Silfra in Iceland, but Silfra itself is the most beautiful, interesting and easily accessible to recreational divers and snorkelers.

The visibility in Silfra exceeds 100m, making it some of the clearest water in the world, and divers and snorkellers dive and float between the American and Eurasian continental plates. There are even places where they can actually touch both continents at the same time.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 43 kilometers | [Website: silfra.org](http://Website: silfra.org)*



## *Friðheimar*

At Friðheimar, tomatoes are grown all year round, despite Iceland's long, dark winters, under artificial lighting in greenhouses. At Friðheimar the owners welcome visitors to see the greenhouses, and then enjoy a taste of the crop. And now they can take delici-

ous food souvenirs away with them, made of icelandic tomatoes and cucumbers. At Friðheimar they also breed horses, and put on a horse show – in fourteen different languages.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 43 kilometers | [Website: fridheimar.is](http://Website: fridheimar.is)*



## *The Secret Lagoon*

Secret Lagoon natural hot springs are located in the small village called Fludir and are in the Golden Circle area. It has been kept natural and unique for the guests so they can get the true Icelandic feeling. The pool's natural surroundings and steam rising into the air gives the place a magical feeling. The warm water stays at 38-40

Celsius all year. In the whole area there are several geothermal spots and a little Geysir which erupts every 5 minutes, showing off for the guests relaxing in the hot spring. During winter, the northern lights often give a great lightshow above Secret Lagoon.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 47 kilometers | [Website: secretlagoon.is](http://Website:secretlagoon.is)*



## *Eldheimar Museum in Vestmannaeyjar*

The exhibition focuses on the 1973 volcanic eruption in Vestmannaeyjar, without a doubt one of Iceland's biggest natural disasters. Visitors get a glimpse into people's lives on

Heimaey before the eruption that would change their lives forever. The people of Heimaey had to leave their homes in the middle of the night and evacuate the island, many of them never saw their homes or any of their belongings ever again.

The eruption started in the early hours of January 23rd 1973 on the island of Heimaey, the only inhabited island of the Vestmannaeyjar islands and it lasted for 5 months. Lava and ash destroyed almost 400 homes and businesses, a third of all buildings on Heimaey. While the eruption lasted no one knew if the island would ever be populated again.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 80 kilometers | [Website: eldheimar.is](http://Website:eldheimar.is)*



## *The Lava Center in Hvolsvöllur*

Examine the various volcanoes, eruptions and lava flows, volcanic and rift systems, faults and glacial floods that make Iceland a showcase of volcanism. The centre introduces the Katla Geopark plus Iceland's elaborate monitoring system for surveying volcanoes and earthquake zones.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 50 kilometers | [Website: lavacentre.is](http://Website:lavacentre.is)*



## *Vestmannaeyjar*

Vestmannaeyjar is one of the best kept secrets in Iceland and you haven't seen Iceland until you have visited the islands. Vestmannaeyjar are one of the wonders of nature, surrounded by mountains, islands, volcanoes, puffins and other seabirds. Vestmannaeyjar also has one of the most beautiful

and extraordinary 18 hole golf course in the world.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 80 kilometers | [Website: vestmannaeyjar.is](http://Website:vestmannaeyjar.is)*



## *Sólheimajökull Glacier*

There are no words to describe the feeling that comes up when walking on the glacier. You simply have to try it! Solheimajokull glacier, an outlet glacier of Myrdalsjokull glacier which is the fourth largest glacier in Iceland, is about 8 km long and 1-2 km wide. The environment is unique, with

some amazing terrain with crevasses, sink holes and ice ridges.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 108 kilometers*



## *Myrdalsjökull Glacier*

Myrdalsjökull is a glacier located in the south of Iceland. It is situated to the north of Vík í Mýrdal and to the east of the smaller glacier Eyjafjallajökull. Its peak reaches 1493 m in height and in 1980 it covered an area of 595 km<sup>2</sup>. The view on a clear day is one of the prettiest in the world.

Guided snow scooter, snowmobile, Super Jeep, dog sledding and iceclimbing tours are offered on the Myrdalsjökull

glacier. Travelers on the glacier have to be extremely careful about crevasses and inexperienced travelers should not go there alone. Weather conditions shift very rapidly and high winds and snowstorms can appear in a flash all year round.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 129 kilometers*



## *Landmannalaugar*

Landmannalaugar is an area near the volcano Hekla in southern section of Iceland's highlands with varied shapes and forms with colorful rolling hills and mountains tinted by rhyolite minerals and obsidian post glacial lava flows. The area displays a number of unusual geological elements, like the multicolored rhyolite mountains and expansive lava fields, not far from the service center. The Landmannalaugar

area is a popular tourist destination and hiking hub in Iceland's highlands. It is almost invariably the starting point of the famous Laugavegur trekking trail, but also an ideal base for a variety of rewarding daylong or shorter hikes. The local natural geothermal pool and showers facilitate perfect relaxation at the end of the day. Tourists visit the area from June through late September, after which time the road is closed.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 125 kilometers*



## *Arctic Wings Sightseeing Flights*

Iceland is a country full of natural wonders. Visitors can expect to find glaciers, frozen lakes, canyons etc. The best view of these beauties of nature is from the air. Sightseeing

flights allow you time to sit back and relax while seeing a maximum number of places in a minimum amount of time. The airplane sightseeing tour gives you the opportunity to glide through the popular attractions of Iceland and a chance to visit the more beautiful sites like Landmannalaugar, Thorsmork, The Golden Circle, Kerið caldera, Westman Islands, Eyjafjallajökull, and many more places. The sightseeing flight is a fun, fulfilling and relaxed way to explore Iceland.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 3 kilometers | [Website: arcticwings.is](http://Website: arcticwings.is)*



## *Þórsmörk*

Þórsmörk – an oasis of natural birch woods. The valleys of Þórsmörk, Langidalur and Básar, are popular destinations for many travelers, not least among the local population, both in winter and summer. Þórsmörk is to the north of the treacherous Krossá river with the rivers Markarfljót and Þröngá as boundary still further to the north. Langidalur is the end or the start point of the very popular Laugavegur trekking trail. Básar is to the south of

Krossá with the imposing Eyjafjalla- and Myrdalsjökull glaciers' in its back garden. Landmannalaugar

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 125 kilometers*



## *Vatnajökull Glacier*

Vatnajökull is the largest glacier in Europe covering 8% of the island of Iceland. Vatnajökull National Park - which encompasses the earlier national parks of Skaftafell and Jökulsárgljúfur - is the largest protected area in Europe and believed by many to be the most beautiful place on earth.

In this area you'll find some of the most stunning and diverse sights in Iceland. Among those are Iceland's highest peak,

Hvannadalshnjúkur, its most active volcano, Grímsvötn, beautiful waterfalls such as Svartifoss by Skaftafell and Dettifoss, Europe's most powerful waterfall, stunning canyons such as Jökulsárgljúfur and Ásbyrgi, and the breathtaking Jökulsárlón, an ice-riddled glacier lagoon that is one of the most beautiful attractions in Iceland.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 129 kilometers*



## *The Glacier Lagoon*

The Glacier lagoon in Iceland is close to highway number one, and it is said to be one of the greatest wonders of nature in Iceland. This lagoon is a recent one, the result of a warming climate. The surface is at sea level and sea water flows into the lagoon at high tide.

Huge blocks of ice constantly break off the glacier, Breiðamerkurjökull, and large icebergs float on the lagoon. The lagoon is

not very wide but it is up to 250 meters deep which makes it the deepest lake in Iceland. Breiðamerkurjökull is an outlet of the Vatnajökull glacier.

*Distance from Hotel Selfoss: 322 kilometers | [Website: icelagoon.is](http://www.icelagoon.is)*



## *Golf in South Iceland*

Golf enthusiasts have many options in choosing among excellent golf courses throughout the island. In the south you can choose from several golf courses. The summer season offers 24 hour daylight which gives you the chance of playing a round in

the midnight sun. There are few interesting golf courses near Hotel Selfoss in Selfoss, Hveragerði, Þorlákshöfn and Vestmannaeyjar.



## *Photography in South Iceland*

Take a photo tour to the South coast of Iceland for a photography adventure. Incredible nature and amazing landscapes make this the perfect place to explore with your camera. From Hotel Selfoss many possibilities are at your grasp when it comes to capturing

the perfect photo. Tours can be arranged for bigger or smaller groups from your hotel. And for the photographic enthusiasts a tour with the world known Ragnar Axelsson/RAX can be arranged.

*[Website: rax.is](http://www.rax.is)*



## *Icebook*

Need help planning your day? Need to get from one place to another?

Icebook works closely with Hotel Selfoss and offers services of all kinds for our guests. No job too big or too small. We provide rental cars directly from Hotel Selfoss.

*[Website: www.icebook.is](http://www.icebook.is)*



*Hotel Selfoss is located on the banks of  
Ölfusá river in downtown Selfoss.  
The location is a perfect starting point for  
exploring Iceland's most famous sights and  
attractions. From there everything is possible.*



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