7-day Course in ICELAND

Study Visit to Schools in Iceland

Reykjavík (Iceland)

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

This structured course is designed for **teachers, head teachers, principals and other school staff** who would like to learn about the Icelandic education system within the context of Icelandic culture. Although the pedagogic encounters with schools are focused on **Primary**, **Secondary** and **Vocational** school levels, other educational sectors may also benefit from the general approach of this course.

Language of communication: **English**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Our **7-Day Course** is for those who want to learn about Icelandic education and culture through a combination of pedagogic encounters with schools, seminars, field projects "Contexts4Content", and workshops.

English Matters will select educational institutions related to Primary, Secondary and Vocational school levels. Participants will learn about educational organization and management of learning and will have the opportunity to share their experience and ideas with colleagues from a variety of schools around the world.

The course offers several **key activities**:

1. Pedagogic encounters with schools to learn about educational organization and management of learning.
2. Seminars and workshops to explore specific aspects of the education system and culture of Iceland.
3. Professional and cultural discussion resulting in a concluding presentation of learning.
4. Field projects "Contexts4Content" to explore places of natural, historical, and cultural significance, as a basis for the development of teaching materials to assist their students in meeting their learning goals and be aware of the socio-cultural richness of Europe.

Objectives:

- Become familiar with relevant aspects of the Icelandic education system.
- Learn about examples of teaching practices in schools in Iceland.
- Participate in seminars and workshops related to educational and cultural aspects of Icelandic society.
- Participate in field projects "Contexts4Content" to places of natural, historical, and cultural significance, to support the development of teaching resources.

This **7-Day Course in Iceland** will allow you to experience the authenticity of the country and its people from the very moment you step foot in the airport.

Allowing yourself to spend enriching days in full contact with Icelandic society and culture and combining this with pedagogic encounters with schools, will bring you an in-depth understanding of the Icelandic education system.

The way in which students are educated can be a window to a deeper vision of society. This can also lead to reflection on why a society educates its people in a certain way and may encourage you to see your own education system from a refreshed perspective.

This combination of elements will help build a holistic vision of education and culture in Iceland from several enriching perspectives.

A NOTE ON THE ICELANDIC EDUCATION SYSTEM

The **Icelandic education system** is probably one of the most interesting in Europe. The system is firmly committed to equal opportunities for all and is built around fundamental pillars such as literacy in the widest sense, education towards sustainability, health and welfare, democracy and human rights, equity, and creativity.

In recent years, the overarching goals of the Icelandic education system have been to promote and preserve culture, history, and Icelandic language and ensure that Icelandic education is comparable to the education provided by the world's leading nations. Objectives have been clarified and the curriculum is totally focused on the achievement of these goals, receiving broad popular support.

LOCATION of the course: Reykjavík (ICELAND)

Iceland is defined as **the land of fire and ice**, volcanically and geologically active: lava beds, volcanoes, geysers, hot springs, glaciers, and powerful rivers and waterfalls on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge where the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates come together. The country has a population of about three hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants.

Reykjavík is the country's capital and largest city and the northernmost capital in the world. The clean air, the pure fresh water, or the popular thermal pools in the city, contribute to a warm feeling of well-being that people tend to experience during their visit. Reykjavik is also the gateway to the fascinating nature of Iceland, such as the Northern Lights or the Golden Circle with its geysers, waterfalls, lava valleys and glaciers.

DURATION OF THE COURSE

7-day course: **40 hours, a Sunday to Saturday course.**

CERTIFICATION AWARDED

A Certificate will be awarded and will include the name of the participant, description of the course and its learning outcomes, dates and course hours.

DATES

7-day Course in Iceland

Location: **Reykjavík (Iceland)**
Language of communication: **English**
Duration (days): **7 training days in Iceland**

Dates in 2026	Dates in 2027
25 - 31 October Reykjavík · 7 training days	04 - 10 April Reykjavík · 7 training days
	17 - 23 October Reykjavík · 7 training days

Note: Dates may be subject to amendment according to school calendar year of the country visited. This change, if necessary, will be informed to participants before the course confirmation.

Programme of the 7-day course:

The table below shows the display of our **7-day Course**:

Study Visit to Schools in Iceland Reykjavík (Iceland)
7-day Course in Iceland (from Sunday to Saturday)
Sunday Registration Fundamentals: principles, structure, framework Tools for reflection on learning & Professional Development International Dimension An Introduction to Iceland Field learning "Contexts4Content" approach **Monday** Education System in Iceland Framework for pedagogic encounters with schools. Field Learning Project: "*The Golden Circle*" (Þingvellir, Geysir, Gullfoss) and the geological wonders of the fissure zone **Tuesday** Educational Visit to School I: Educational organization & management of learning. Feedback on educational visit to school. **Wednesday** Educational Visit to School II: Educational organization & management of learning. Field Learning Project: *The Making of the Icelandic Nation* **Thursday** Educational Visit to School III: Educational organization & management of learning. Feedback on educational visit to school. **Friday** Assessment of learning management in Iceland. Field Learning Project: "*The home of Iceland's famous Njal's Saga*" - South coast and rock formations **Saturday** Professional dissemination. Strategies International dissemination: Presentation of participants' learning portfolios Final reflection on learning acquired Evaluation of the programme.

NOTE: This programme may be subject to amendment. Such amendment, if necessary, would be kept to a minimum, consistent with the quality and balance of the programme.

THE IRISH AMERICAN EDUCATOR INITIATIVE

Culture. Connection. Professional Learning.

The **Irish American Educator Initiative** gives teachers from across the United States the opportunity to learn beyond the classroom, gain meaningful experiences and fresh inspiration, and return home with new perspectives to share with their students. Based in Ireland, our courses connect American educators with Irish history, heritage, literature, art, and culture through engaging learning experiences inspired by Irish writers, artists, educators, and cultural representatives.

Whether you have Irish roots or simply want to discover a new culture, our programmes provide fresh ideas, meaningful connections, and practical inspiration for the classroom. Explore Ireland, deepen your professional knowledge, and bring new stories and perspectives back to your students.

As part of the initiative, teachers also have opportunities to take part in study visits to Finland, Sweden, Iceland, Norway, Estonia, Portugal, and Spain. These visits allow participants to see teachers at work, visit schools, meet local educators, and explore different approaches to teaching and learning.

By sharing ideas across cultures, American teachers can discover fresh perspectives and practical inspiration to bring back to their own classrooms.