Some practical information

All general services are available in Stykkishólmur. There you will find a supermarket, bakery, bookshop, souvenirs, and those who serve cars and boats. Also there are various accommodation, restaurants and coffee shops. Stykkishólmur has a small airport and a good harbour.

Some useful phone numbers

- Hospital and healthcare 433 2000
- Dentist 438 1315
- Pharmacy 438 1141
- Police 430 4141
- Emergency 112

Tourist Information Centre is in Egilshúsi Aðalgötu 2, and is open daily during the summer from 10:00 – 18:00. At the Information Centre you can pay for the camping site. There you can also go online on the internet.

Culture and arts

Norska húsið (the Norwegian House) A local folk and culture museum run by the government of Snæfellsnes. Exhibitions are frequently held in this old house. Open daily from 11:00 – 17:00. Entrance fee per person IKR 400 and IKR 200 for children.

Gallery Puffin. A local handycraft market in the Lionshouse Aðalgötu. Open daily from 12:30 – 18:00.

St. Franciskus Chapelle. Open daily. Mass is every day at 18:30 and on Sundays at 10:00, for further information contact the hospital, tel: 433 2000.

The library, “Amtbókasafnið” During the summertime the library is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 15:00-19:00. At the library it is possible to use a computer and the internet.

Old houses. In Stykkishólmur there are some old houses which have recently been renovated, giving the town a charming look, such as Kuld's house, Norwegian house, Egil's house, Clausen's house, Tang og Riis and of course the Old Church.
Outdoor activities and sports

Súgandisey is an island near the harbour. A few years ago it was connected to the mainland. There is a path up to the island, to the „Lovenest” and the light-house that is over 100 years old. From the top there is a great view over Breiðafjörður and the islands. The Ferry Baldur docks there.

Walking with a guide through the old town is every day at 13.30 from the store Sjavarborg. Tickets are available at the store and also at Seatours. Walking on the so called Cape between Sílfurgata and Reitarvegur is a nice and easy walk.

View points. In and around Stykkishólmur there are three view points: by the library on Bóikholustigur, on the cape close to Hôtel Stykkishólmar and on the hill Helgafell.

Fishing from the harbour. It is a popular sport to fish from the harbour. It is important to keep safety in mind. The harbor-pilot lends lifejackets.

Playground. Open playgrounds are in nearly every quarter of the town.

The Forestry. The Stykkisholmur Forestry organization is in charge of this area. It is a popular place for picnics and barbecues. The trees make good shelter and there are some benches, tables and paths for walking in the woods.

Golf. Near the camping site is a 9-hole golf course, Víkurcourse. Open daily. Bookings and renting golf clubs is possible at Seatours.

Swimming pool. A few years ago, geothermal heat was discovered near Stykkishólmur. The water is said to be very healthy. Now it is used to heat houses as well as the new swimming pool. There are both indoor- and outdoor swimming pools, hot tubs and a big water slide. The swimming pool is open every day all year. Opening hours (summer) are between 07:00-22:00 and on weekends between 10:00-19:00. Entrance fee is Kr. 280 for adults and Kr 120 for children and pensioners.

The sport-centre Átak on Borgarbraut is open Mondays to Fridays between 10:00 and 21:00. The facilities are very good and fully equipped.

Islands birds and seafood

The Snæfellsnes peninsula and Breiðafjörður bay is known for its natural beauty and remarkable wildlife. Visitors sailing among the islands of Breiðafjörður will see the variety of bird life at close range and might even spot a White-tailed Eagle.

Sæferðir offers a wide range of sightseeing cruises among the southernmost islands of the bay in well-equipped boats where you can enjoy bird watching, unusual rock formations on the islands, scallop fishing and tasting, and the tidal streams which are very interesting in this area. Grand tours are very popular; which consist of cruises among the islands as described above, furthermore they stop in a sheltered place between the islands and offer seafood-dishes on board with live music. Another tour offers a stopover in Hrappsey where you can get guided tours around the island. Hrappsey is one of the biggest islands in Breiðafjörður and is historically and geographically remarkable. A tour to the island Flatey is also a possibility but those tours to Hrappsey and Flatey are only available for big groups. Sæferðir also arranges whale watching and big-whale watching tours from Ólafsvík.

The ferry Baldur sails across Breiðafjörður bay to Brjánsstækur twice a day during the summer, stopping at the island Flatey, where there is the possibility of over night stays. In recent years the old village in Flatey has been restored and is today one of the oldest and best preserved villages in Iceland. On the island there is a camping site, restaurant and sleeping bag accommodation. For a close-up look at the area's wildlife, a boat excursion from Flatey to nearby islands is a possibility.

The motorboat Fugl offers boat trips/bird-watching for individuals or smaller groups. A leisurely walk is available on the basalt-cliff island of Purkey. The boat is also fully equipped for sea angling for those interested. Special angling trips are also available. Time and length to suit everyone. For further information contact the Youth Hostel.

Kayak-rental is now available in Stykkisholmur. You can go on guided tours. No experience is required. All information on the web site www.kayak.vef.is also by phone 690-2877.

Stykkishólmur district

Pingvellir. Plains on the peninsula south of the Nesvogur inlet. The „ping” (official meeting place) was moved there from Hofstaðir and some ruins can be seen, as well as a sacrificial stone, the altar of Thor. The farm offers bed and breakfast accommodation.

Helgafell. The farm, famous in the Sagas, and a church was in its time the residence of Snorri goði and later of Guðrún Ósvífaðóttur of Laxdæla saga. Her grave can be seen there. From 1184 until the Reformation, 1550, there was a wealthy monastery nearby. The small mountain Helgafell, is not high but conspicuous in the plain. It was sacred to people of the Saga age, and they hoped to die on it. The story goes that if you walk the path from the grave of Guðrún Ósvífaðóttur up to the remains of the chapel on top (face east), without speaking a single word or looking back on the way, you can have three wishes. However, the wishes must be pure-hearted and told to no one.

Hofstaðir. The farm of Þórólfur Mostraskeggur who originally settled the Pórñes peninsula. There was the first known “ping”, or official meeting place, in Iceland.

Sauraskógur is a lovely area with widespread birch bushes by the lake Sauravatn. There are several summerhouses and it is a popular place for walking.

Drápahóllafjall. An unusual and colourful mountain containing basalt and rhyolite, with lignite between layers and fossilized tree-trunks. There was believed to be gold in the mountain, only very small quantities were found but some fool's gold can be found there. At the eastern foot of the mountain, you will find Vatnsdalur, a valley with a woody area and a lake, a peaceful place.