

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

Gallery Braggi, workshop, Ragna Eyjólfsdóttir, Aðalgötu 28.
Tel: 893-5588

Leir 7, workshop, Sigríður Erla Guðmundsdóttir, Aðalgötu 20.
Tel: 894-0425

Little Friends (Smávinir), wood carving workshop Lára Gunnarsdóttir, Ásklif 7. www.simnet.is/smavinir

Fjaran handverk, workshop and flea market , Skúlagötu 24.

St. Franciskus Chapelle. Open daily. Mass is every day at 07:30, on Saturdays at 18:30 and on Sundays at 10:00, further information in Tel: 433-2120.

Stykkishólmur church is an excellent concert-hall and during the summer there are several performances of classical concerts with many great musicians. Open daily from 10:00-17:00.
The old church at Aðalgata is not open, but you can get a key to it in the Norwegian House.

The library, “Amtbókasafnið” During the summertime the library is open from Monday -Friday from 14:00-18:00. At the library it is possible to use a computer and the internet for a small fee. amtsty@stykkisholmur.is .

Eldfjallasafn / Volcano Museum is a unique exhibition of international art and objects related to volcanic eruptions and their impact. The museum includes works of art, old and new, showing volcanic eruptions, as well as objects, artifacts, volcanic rocks from the unique collection of Professor Haraldur Sigurdsson who has carried out research on volcanoes worldwide for forty years. Talks are given daily in the museum in English. Opening hours (1st. May – 31st. September) are daily between 11:00-17:00. Entrance fee is IKR 800 for adults and free for children 15 years and younger, entrance fee for groups is IKR 600. Tel: 433-8154. www.eldfjallasafn.is

Webcam with a view over the harbor and the old town of Stykkishólmur is placed on the outside of The Library of Water. www.stykk.is/webcam.html

Old houses. Stykkishólmur is in fact a museum of 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 harbor. A few years ago it was connected to the mainland. There is a path up to the island, to the „Love nest” 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.

Guided Tours around Stykkisholmur: Stroll around Stykkisholmur, meet the old town and the new with a guide. By agreement, Tel: 848-5315 or ask in the shop, Dagbjört or tel: 898-1457, Heimir.

View points. In and around Stykkishólmur there are three view points: by the Library of Water/Vatnasafn on Bókhliðustigur, on the cape close to Hótel Stykkishólmur and on the hill Helgafell.

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

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. Tel 438-1075. www.golf.is/gms

Swimming pool. (Tel:433-8150) In 1996 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 swimming pool (opened 1999). 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 mon-thu 07:05-22:00, fri 7:05-19 and on weekends between 10:00-18:00. Entrance fee is IKR 500 for adults and IKR 180 for children (6-17) and pensioners.

The sport-centre Átak at Borgarbraut is open Mondays to Saturdays. The facilities are very good and fully equipped. Tel: 438-1111.

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 / Seatours Bird- and nature watching in Iceland, Snæfellsnes peninsula, on a boat in a unique landscape between the thousand islands of the Breiðafjörður fjord. Experience a lot of different bird kinds like puffins, cormorants, the white tailed eagle, kittiwakes and more. See islands with incredible basalt forms and taste scallops and sea urchin fresh from the sea. Two trips daily from Stykkishólmur during the summertime 10th of June until 31st of August 2012 and sometimes off-season tours. More information on www.seatours.is

The ferry Baldur sails across Breiðafjörður bay to Brjánslækur twice a day during the summer, stopping at the island **Flatey**, where there is the possibility of a stopover between trips. 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. www.seatours.is

Ocean Safari offers wildlife adventure tours around the Breiðafjörð islands. The area is abundant with birds, seals and natural beauty. www.oceansafari.is

Stykkishólmur district

Þingvellir. Plans on the peninsula south of the Nesvogur inlet. The „Þing” (official meeting place) was moved there from Hofstaðir and some ruins can be seen, as well as a sacrificial stone, the altar of Thor.

Helgafell. The farm, famous in the Sagas, and a church was in its time the residence of Snorri goði and later of Guðrún Ósvífursdóttir 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 Ósvífursdóttir 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.

Hofsstaðir. The farm of Þórólfr Mostraskeggur who originally settled the Þórsnes peninsula. There was the first known "þing", 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.

Drápuhlíðarfjall. 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.

Berserkjahraun. ("Berserks- lava field") 4000 years old lava from a small row of craters below Kerlingarskarð passes, the largest crater being **Rauðakúla**. The name of the lava field is derived from Víga-Styr's berserks. In the year of 982 the berserks were forced by their leader to cut a path through the lava, **Berserkjagata**, but then he betrayed and killed them. The path is still visible, and also the burial mound of the berserks which is beside it.

Hraunflöt. Near Berserkjahraun is a peaceful and beautiful area called Hraunflöt by the lake Selvallavatn which is surrounded by lava from three directions. In the northern outskirts of the lava are nice grass-grown cups called Nátthagar. It is a popular place for camping. To get there you have to take the old road through the lava Berserkjahraun.

Bjarnarhöfn. ("Björn's harbour") is a place worth visiting. Enjoy the beautiful surrounding, learn about the processing of shark meat and taste this very special delicacy. Last but not least visit the maritime museum. Entrance fee per person IKR 800. Open from 9:00-18:00. Tel: 438-1581

Wild berries – In Stykkishólmur and surroundings you can find wild blueberries and northern crowberries. The season for berries is late August and September and you can find them on the hills in and around the town. There is also good berry-land at the eastern foot of Drápuhlíðarfjall in Vatnsdalur and Seljabrekkur, also in Nátthagar, the northern outskirts of Berserkjahraun.

Practical information

All general services are available in Stykkishólmur. There you will find a supermarket, bakery, liquor store, hairdresser's- and beauty salons, 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 harbor. A good **camping site** with a service hut is in Stykkishólmur and it is placed next to the golf course. At the Club house/Tourist Information Center you can pay for the camping site. The camping site is a **wireless hot-spot**. Tel: 438-1075. Further information: www.stykkisholmur.is



EARTHCHECK

Stykkishólmur, along with four other municipalities on the Snaefellsnes peninsula, is the **first community in Europe to get the EarthCheck environmental certification**. The town is operated in as environmental friendly way as possible continually measuring various environmental indicators.

Travel by bus: Scheduled bus tours are offered between Stykkishólmur and Reykjavík (and vice versa). Departure is from the bus terminal in Reykjavík and the Oils gas station in Stykkishólmur. Time schedule can be found on www.sterna.is or in phone (+354) 461 1106.

Useful phone numbers



Emergency / Police / Hospital **112**
Dentist 438-1315
Pharmacy 438-1141
Garage & tyre repair:
- Dekk og Smur Tel: 438-1385 / 862-9971



Tourist Information

Golf clubhouse/Camping site

Open daily between 8-22
in June, July, August.

Tel.: **summer/ winter** / 433-8120
e-mail: travelinfo@stykkisholmur.is

www.stykkisholmur.is



Summer 2012

-recreational activities in Stykkishólmur



Stykkishólmur is an European Destination of Excellence

The little town of Stykkishólmur, West Iceland, was Iceland EDEN-winner 2011 for preservation and renovation of the old part of the town and ambitious strategy for sustainable development in tourism.

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. Opening hours (1st June – 1st September) are daily between 12:00 –17:00. Entrance fee per person IKR 800 and IKR 300 for children (6-18). Tel: 433-8114, e-mail info@norskahusid.is

Exhibitions in the Norwegian House 2012

Ground floor: The Icelandic Eider Centre will be housed in the kitchen. The eider will be presented through informative text, photography and old and new methods of cleaning the eider down will be introduced to the visitor. Duvets and handcraft made from eider down will be for show and sale.

1st floor: 19th century home.

2nd floor: Open storage room with objects from 19th century.

Vatnasafn/Library of Water. The library building has been altered in a number of ways to make a calm and beautiful viewing room which also houses three related collections: of water, words, and weather reports. A constellation of 24 glass columns flows into the main room. The columns contain water collected as ice from some of the major glaciers in Iceland, formed many millennia ago and now rapidly receding. Opening hours (1st June – 1st September) are daily between 13:00-18:00. Information: 857-1221 & www.libraryofwater.is Admission Free