

Photography Tour

Ian Rolfe & Ewen Bell

Iceland Winter Scapes

Join us for 16 nights of chasing Auroras and waterfalls in the Icelandic winter. Remote locations, volcanic beaches, lava flows and a blend of frozen landscapes with steamy geothermals. Travel with the help of local experts and two professional Photographers.

February 8-24, 2019
Maximum group size of 8
USD \$12,288pp



PHOTOGRAPHY
by Ewen Bell

Ian Rolfe
PHOTOGRAPHY



1

Nice Ice

See Iceland at it's glorious best, dress in white for winter.

3

Inclusions

Everything is covered once you arrive in Reykjavik.

5

Auroras

We'll be chasing auroras in beautiful locations.

2

Blue Caves

We include our own private ice cave visit far from the crowds.

4

Go Slow

Extended time in key locations to explore in a variety of light.

6

Personal

Very intimate tour with just 8 people.

The Itinerary

Please be clear that this tour itinerary is one of the most dedicated photographic journeys you will ever undertake. We spend a lot of time along this route returning to the beaches of Jökulsárlón and views of the Vestrahorn. This part of the trip will be very very slow and allow an excess of time to explore deeply the art of landscape photography and the skills required to chase auroras in the night sky.

Day 1 / Reykjavik

We start our tour in the capital of Reykjavik with a final chance to shop for cold weather gear and prepare for the aurora chases ahead. In the weeks ahead we will do our best to be active at night when the Northern Lights are on show. You will need a very good tripod to make the most of these sessions, plus some suitable warm clothing. We will help you in advance of the trip to ensure you have the right gear for the climate.

Day 2-3 / Geysir and Gullfoss

We spend two nights in the town of Geysir, with lots of time to enjoy Thingvellir National Park along the way. This network of islands and lakes forms a massive wetlands environment that is partially frozen when we visit. This drive also provides more opportunities to stop and meet herds of Icelandic Horses, a pure breed of horse uniquely adapted to the Icelandic conditions and rather photogenic. The highlight of this visit will be the massive landscapes of Gullfoss, a series of plunging waterfalls that photograph best when covered in snow.



Day 4 / Vik

On our way east we spend some time enjoying the black sands of Vik. This is a unique piece of Icelandic coastline and offers a great opportunity to learn about slow-shutter photography.

Day 5-7 / Jökulsárlón

This is the first of our slow sections for this tour. We will spend three nights close to the beaches of Jökulsárlón, with ease of access to return according to the changing light and weather. Our main subject will be the massive glaciers that get washed onto the black sands of the beach. We also will make plans to chase some ice caves while in the area. We have flexibility during this part of the tour to add a walk into Skaftafell or Svínafellsjökull if we enjoy early success with the glaciers.

Day 8-10 / Vestrahorn

We travel a short way along the coast to another amazing part of Iceland, the coastline at Stokksnes and the beautiful lines of the Vestrahorn. The geology of this peninsula offers many inspiring angles, and we want to have lots of time to explore the changing light and foregrounds. We will be here for three nights.

Day 11-13 / Eastern Route

This section of the trip takes us into the farthest route of Iceland, looping around from the southern coast to the north, via the eastern highway. We have a number of charming towns we want to visit and a plan to be ready for more aurora action.

Day 14-16 / Myvatn

One of our favourite parts of Iceland are the lakes and waterfalls found in the far north of Iceland. We have put aside three nights to explore this area. Our two main locations will be the remarkably beautiful waterfalls of Goðafoss and Dettifoss. The wider region of Myvatn has many treasures as well, plus some great inspiration when chasing auroras at night. Having plenty of time to enjoy this section of Iceland will be a rewarding experience, and will allow you to reflect on a special journey designed for the delight of photographers.

Day 17 / Departure

Today is the day we head home. We'll drive to the small airport at Akureyri and drop you off for the flight back to Reykjavik. If you want to stay in Iceland a little longer you can head into the city, or simply connect with your international flight homeward.









Post Capture

Both Ian and Ewen like to emphasize the art of photography that takes place in the digital darkroom.

Every day of this Masterclass will allow for opportunities to discuss, refine and learn about post-processing techniques.

Do bring your laptop and your preferred processing software. A photo is never finished at the moment of the shutter, and as you learn different ways to process your images you can also adjust your technical approach to the camera accordingly.



What You See

What you see in this brochure is exactly what you get.

All images here were taken by Ian Rolfe and Ewen Bell during recent visits to the same locations in 2014 and 2016. Images were shot on a Canon 5D MkII or SR, often with the help of a tripod and sometimes an inexpensive ND Graduated filter.









Art and Creativity

The camera is like a paintbrush, and in the hands of different people it will produce very different images.

Ewen Bell specialises in teaching people about the creative potential of photography, to go beyond the technical issues of a camera and start taking creative control. Expression is at the heart of great photography, sharing your perspective, your view, your experience.

Combining with Ewen's creative outlook is Ian Rolfe and his decades of experience in Landscape Photography. Two unique and powerful aspects are brought together to provide a once in a lifetime adventure for photographers in search of something out of the ordinary.

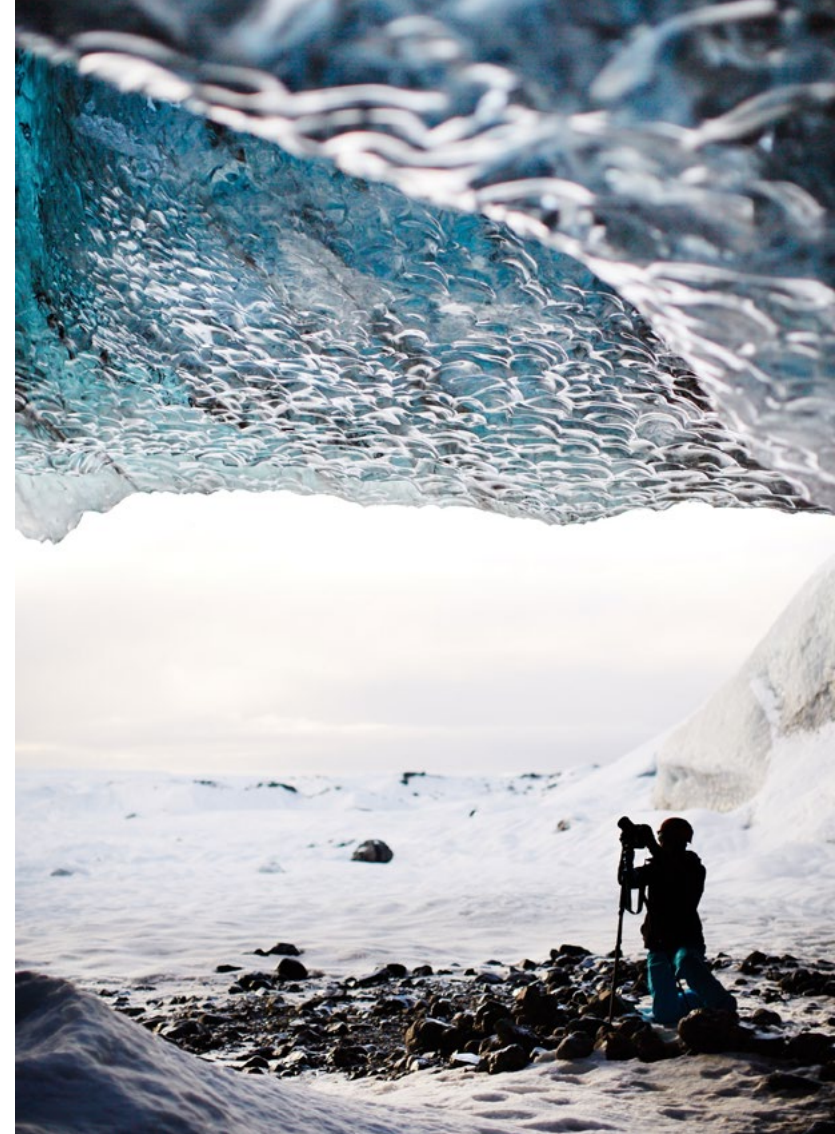


Cameras are cool

We hear a lot of fuss about taking cameras into Arctic conditions and how to prepare for the freezing temperatures. If you're shooting with a modern DSLR camera then you need no special equipment, modifications or protection. Keeping cameras tidy in the snow is very easy. Rain is more inconvenient and we want seriously colder temperatures in order to avoid getting wet. Snow is our friend.

On a recent journey in a colder region of the Arctic we spent hours with our gear shooting the Northern Lights in -32 temperatures. No problems. Your camera will go colder than that and still keep shooting. Your batteries won't last quite as long as when warm, but it's no drama. Really.

Heading outside at night to shoot the aurora does require that you take care of yourself, and ensure you keep your feet and fingers warm. A tripod is essential and a timer remote is very handy.



Northern Lights

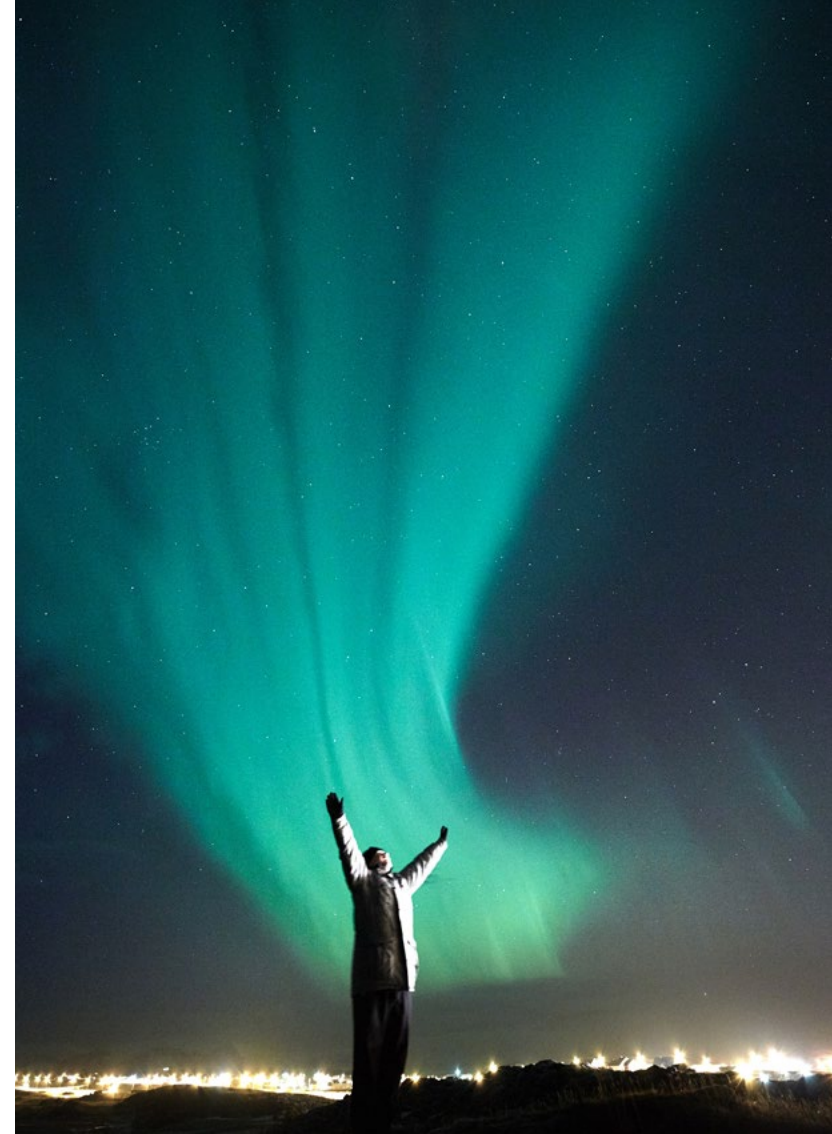
This tour is an ideal opportunity to chase the Aurora Borealis, the Northern Lights. The tour is designed to take full advantage of clear skies at night, with immediate transport available to head out to special locations if conditions look promising.

There are no guarantees with Aurora activity however. You need high solar activity as well as clear skies to get a light show, although even a low grade intensity Aurora is something spectacular to see and photograph.

We will have dedicated sessions to plan for the Northern Lights and explain how to photograph them. A sturdy tripod is required for best results and a remote shutter cable is recommended.

For more information on preparing for the northern lights, please have a read of my tutorial guide here...

ewenbell.com/nordlys







Escort / Ian Rolfe

Ian has travelled extensively in Australia, New Zealand, Great Britain, Scandinavia, The Himalayas, South-East Asia, North America and much of the Pacific regions, where he has built up an extensive photo library, which is used by various media outlets world-wide and in his photographic writing.

His travel and landscape photography became well known over fifteen years ago when his column started to appear in the Photo-master and Total Image magazines. Since then his work has been published in countless books, Photography magazines and travel brochures and his images are currently represented by the world's largest photo Libraries. Ian also conducts up to nine Photographic workshops each year both locally and internationally.

He also gives lectures and presentations at Clubs and Societies to help members who are passionate about developing further in their photographic knowledge and skills. Ian is a Grand Master of Photography APS, an Associate of the AIPP and currently serves as President of the Victorian Association of Photographic Societies.

www.ianrolfelightscares.com
www.ianrolfephotography.net



Escort / Ewen Bell

Travel photographer and journalist, Ewen has been shooting in the Flinders Ranges for over 25 years. His photography of the landscapes and people in the region has been published internationally, most recently featuring in the UK, China and Australia's own RM Williams publications. Ewen's work also appears in photographic magazines, National Geographic Traveller, Food & Travel UK, Lonely Planet Traveller, Vacations & Travel, and many other outlets.

Ewen describes photography as a lifestyle, and enjoys sharing his love of the art with a select few travellers every year. Ewen dedicates his photo tours to sharing his knowledge on photographic matters of technical, creative and career inspiration. His website "Photography for Travellers" is dedicated to offering advice on practical approaches to changing your creative perspective.

"Iceland is a bold landscape that can be challenging to tame, filled with quirky people and dramatic geological forces. You don't take it lightly, you take it with great care and patience. Most of us only visit Iceland once in a lifetime, so we want to make that visit truly special."

www.ewenbell.com

www.photographyfortravellers.com









Learn and Explore

Anyone who loves photography can join this tour.

Skills and experience is not a prerequisite. Enthusiasm is essential. There is ample one on one time so that your questions can be answered, your photos can be reviewed and your expression can be encouraged. With such a small group size we can ensure everybody gets the encouragement and guidance they desire.

If you're a confident photographer or already work at a professional level, then this journey will simply assist with getting great shots. We encourage everyone on tour to share ideas, to discuss their experiences and learn from each other as well.

Partners are also welcome on these photo tours, but they may need to exercise a little patience with the desires of photographers to make the most of special moments. These photography adventures put the photographers first :)



Dress for the Cold

This is not an expedition to the North Pole, you will not freeze to death when visiting Iceland in the winter. There's always a warm cabin and a hot cup of chocolate just around the corner at all times, but the experience of winter in the ice and snow is truly magical. We know what you should pack to stay cosy on this tour...

A big puffy down jacket:

You can quickly go from toasty temperatures inside the cottage to mega minus degrees outside.

Windstopper gloves:

Essential for operating your camera on sub-zero days.

Big boots:

Leave room in the boots for extra air and you'll always have warm feet. Buy a bigger size and then stomp through knee deep snow without a worry.

Dry pants:

We often romp through fresh snow to reach a shot, so a thin layer of dry pants simply keeps the snow and wind off your legs.

Thermals:

A layer of thermals will keep a warm core close to your skin on the coldest of nights when heading out to shoot aurora activity.

Keeping warm simply requires the right gear, and a toasty warm cabin when you need it.
"There is no bad weather, only bad clothing."







The Fine Print

Dates

February 8 to February 24, 2019

Price

AUD \$12,288

Group Size

This tour is limited to 8 participants

Inclusions

- All meals are included and will be delicious
- Accommodation
- Park fees and local guiding services
- Expert tuition from Ian and Ewen
- Endless inspiration from the scenery of Iceland

Exclusions

- Your camera gear
- Drinks and alcohol
- Flights into and out of Reykjavik
- Items of a personal nature

Accommodation Standard

The price is based on accommodation in hotels and cabins of good tourist class standard. They are essentially the nicest available accommodation for our remote regions, and are always toasty and warm.

Twin Share

The default rooming for this tour will be twin share, and there is an option to upgrade to a single room at additional expense of \$1,580.

The itinerary information may vary slightly for your specific departure, as we continuously research and develop each trip. Inclement weather or other factors outside our control may also necessitate minor alterations.



Make Your Booking

Maximum of 8 places

How to Book

Please visit the website link below to register for this tour. A deposit of \$2,500 is required to confirm your place on the trip and a maximum of just 8 and a minimum of 5 travellers will be accepted.

www.ewenbell.com/bookiceland

Airfares & Extensions

Flights to and from Iceland are not included for this trip, but Ian will be using his regular travel agent to make flight arrangements and can include your arrangements in that process.