

**GEOGRAPHY FIELD COURSE:**

**Iceland**

**19<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As we start the Summer term, I wanted to make contact and pass on updated information in regard to the upcoming Iceland trip.

**Trip Administration**

Thank you to everyone who has submitted their passport and medical information. We now have complete information for all pupils, alongside copies of passports. If for any reason, your son's passport details change between now and departure, please forward new details to me at [d.hodder@vcj.sch.je](mailto:d.hodder@vcj.sch.je). Equally, if any dietary or medical information requires updating since submission earlier this year, please feel free to contact me.

**Activities Week – Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July / Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July**

I am pleased to report that we have teamed up with Jersey Walking Adventures and plan to offer a "Fire and Ice" day on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> July staffed by the Geography department, involving a series of walks and talks from both my colleagues and some of the specialist geologist team at Jersey Walking Adventures. I will write closer to the time with more information regarding this day.

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July**

This will be a blank day in order to allow pupils and staff to pack, organise and prepare for our Iceland trip. No dedicated activity will be run on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> July.

**Year 12 Geography Pupils 17<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> July**

By the end of this term, Year 12 pupils will have started their NEA (Non-Examined Assessment) worth 20% of their A-Level. As part of this, they need to collect data on their chosen location. We would strongly recommend Year 12 pupils studying Geography use these two days to support their data collection and thus further their A-Level coursework.

Date	Age Group	AM	PM
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 8 – 11	Tectonics Day	
	Year 12	NEA Data Collection	
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 8 – 11	Packing / Preparation	Packing / Preparation
	Year 12	NEA Data Collection	Packing / Preparation

## Remaining Payments

There is one remaining payment deadline on 10<sup>th</sup> May.

£450 – Due by Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Payment can be made to:

HSBC

Victoria College School Fund

Account Number: 31237632

Sort 40-25-34

Reference: Student surname Ice (e.g. BloggsIce)

## Rooming

I contacted the hotel; sadly, we will only get the rooming breakdown ten days before departure. I have a draft/typical breakdown of rooming, but the hotel cannot promise a clear map of rooms, beds, and layout. We will ensure every pupil is accommodated to the best of our ability; however, this is always a challenging element of any trip. We will endeavour to reflect friendship groups etc. I must state that the perfect rooming group might not always be possible.

## Trip Plan

DATE & TIME		ACTIVITIES
DAY 1	am	<b>MEET AT JERSEY AIRPORT</b> – Staff will be at the airport at 5:30 am to meet pupils.
	pm	TRAVEL – Flight details below
	eve	ARRIVE HOTEL VIKING
DAY 2	am	DEPART FOR SOUTH SHORE ADVENTURE DAY Tour of Skogafoss, Reynisfjar
	pm	DEPART FOR SOLHEIMAJOKULL AND SELIJALANSFOSS
	eve	RETURN TO HOTEL Dinner and evening activity
DAY 3	am	DEPART FOR GOLDEN CIRCLE  TOUR OF KERID, GULFOSS GEYSIR AND THINGVELIIR
	pm	FLIGHT OVER ICELAND – Visit to a VR flight simulator taking the pupils on a 3D tour of Iceland
	eve	EVENING MEAL IN REYKJAVIK
DAY 4	am	BREAKFAST IN HOTEL – Depart for Airport
	pm	RETURN TO JERSEY

## Flights

	Departure Airport	Dept. Time	Arrival Airport	Arr. Time	Date
Outbound	JER	07:05	LHR	08:10	19 <sup>th</sup> July
Outbound	LHR	13:05	KEF	15:15	19 <sup>th</sup> July
Inbound	KEF	07:40	LHR	11:55	22 <sup>nd</sup> July
Inbound	LHR	16:15	JER	17:20	22 <sup>nd</sup> July

On arrival, pupils can be collected from the airport; if you are happy for your son to be dismissed at the airport and catch the bus or walk home, please get in touch with me [d.hodder@vcj.sch.je](mailto:d.hodder@vcj.sch.je)

## Packing List

I would encourage everyone to study the weather for July in Iceland carefully. Average temperatures are around 15c, with a relatively low average rainfall of 5 cm over the month.

Passport	T-Shirts
Socks	Water bottle
Trainers	Small Rucksack
Socks	Toiletries
Waterproof	Sunglasses
Warm jacket	Casual trousers
Jumpers	Swimming Shorts + Towel (we might have a chance to visit the public swimming pool one evening)

In regard to spending money, breakfast, packed lunch and supper are included (with the exception of a packed lunch on the final day). Spending money is a personal preference; however, pupils might wish to purchase food at the airport on both travel days, and while our final night's meal is also included, pupils might want to buy soft drinks and other options off the stock menu. With the longer evenings, we are likely to take pupils into Reykjavik on at least one evening, and again this might be a chance to purchase souvenirs etc. Much of Reykjavik is cashless so a debit card is sensible. I would recommend no more than £100 and £40 - £50 should be more than enough.

## **Baggage**

Please find links to baggage allowances here:

Iceland Air: <https://www.icelandair.com/support/baggage/allowance/> (Economy Standard)

British Airways: <https://www.britishairways.com/en-gb/information/baggage-essentials/checkedbaggage-allowances> (Economy)

## **Phones**

Pupils in years 7-10 must hand in their mobile phones each evening before bed. From experience, they might wish to bring battery packs, as there will be limited capacity to charge phones while held overnight in staff rooms.

## **Behaviour**

Expectations of behaviour will remain in step with those pupils remaining in school. Any cases of behaviour seen to contravene school rules or policy will be dealt with and could result in pupils remaining supervised in the hotel and missing days or, for the most severe issues, returning home early at the cost of parents. Pupils will receive a briefing on behaviour nearer the time to ensure clarity on expectations.

## **FAQs**

I have created a private website <https://www.victoriacollege.je/iceland2023> on which I have published all letters and endeavoured to run an updated FAQ page. Please feel free to bookmark this page, and I will post answers to any common questions which might arise to save on repetition.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me [d.hodder@vcj.sch.je](mailto:d.hodder@vcj.sch.je)

Regards,

Daniel Hodder – Head of Geography