

# Annual Events in Akureyri & surrounding areas 2020



V I S I T   A K U R E Y R I

**20<sup>nd</sup> - 22<sup>th</sup> March: Iceland Winter Games**, the northernmost big jump free ski competition of the season. Outdoor and winter sport activists will find a great variety of events to enjoy or partake in... in breath-taking landscape!

**3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> April: AK Extreme** - A four day snowboarding festival with events scheduled at Mt. Hlíðarfjall and in downtown Akureyri. The main event is a competition and exhibition of jumps that takes place in center of Akureyri.

**22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> April: Donald Duck Ski Competition** - Takes place in Mt. Hlíðarfjall by Akureyri at the end of April (since 1976). It is the biggest ski event in Iceland and is for kids at the age of 6-15. Each year about 800 kids from all over Iceland compete in cross country skiing, alpine skiing and snowboarding. Social events and prize ceremonies are hosted down town every night.

**23<sup>rd</sup> April: Museum Day** - The first day of summer in Iceland, numerous and interesting museums along the fjord Eyjafjörður organize different happenings and programs. Entrance free.

**7<sup>th</sup> June: Fishermen's Day** - celebrates the hard work and sacrifices of the Icelandic fishermen. Concerts, events, boat tours and rowing competitions.

**17<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> June: Akureyri Motor Events** - The largest motor sport event in Iceland and is an annual celebration of cars, motorbikes and general motor sport vehicles from around Iceland. Races, drag racing, displays etc.

**17<sup>th</sup> June: National Day of Iceland** - Celebration of the birth of Republic of Iceland. The main festivities start at 13.00 in the Botanical gardens. A parade, program for kids, entertainment at the town square and celebration of graduates from the local school.

**18<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> June: Summer Solstice Festival in Grímsey** – Celebrate the summer solstice with the locals in Iceland's northernmost inhabited island that lies within the Arctic Circle.

**22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> June: Hiking Week** – Annual hiking week with different hikes in and around Akureyri. Varied levels ranging from easy 2-4 hours walks to day tours.

**24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> June: Midsummer Magic** - Enjoy the midnight sun on the longest day of the year with cultural events building on old traditions and mythology.

**24<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>nd</sup> June: The Arctic Open** - International golf tournament that takes place around Summer Solstice (end of June) on the northernmost 18-hole golf course in the world.

**24<sup>th</sup> June - 31<sup>th</sup> July: Akureyri Art Summer** – Concerts, visual art, exhibitions, various happenings and outdoor art. Akureyri Art Summer is an ideal platform for artists, young and old, to promote themselves.

**1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>rd</sup> July: Two big Icelandic football tournaments N1 and Pollamót** – for 12 years old boys and adults who want to show they haven't lost their touch.

**1<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> July: Folk Music Festival** - Icelandic folk ballads, folkdance, courses and lectures in town Siglufjörður.

**4<sup>th</sup> July: Thorvaldsdalur Terrain Run** - The oldest terrain run in Iceland, only about 25 km from Akureyri.

**10<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> July: Hrísey Festival** – A family-based festival in a small island in the middle of the fjord Eyjafjörður with a population of 170. During this weekend people are invited to come and enjoy music, tractor trailer rides, and visit locals and enjoy café in private gardens etc.

**17<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>st</sup> July: Motorbike Days** – A motorbike event with drag race, concerts and other events.

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**18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> July: Medieval Trading Weekend at Gásir** - The old medieval trading site is re-constructed for 2 days. The villagers dress in medieval costumes and demonstrate medieval crafts; spinning wool, wood carving, tanning, blacksmithing and much more. Medieval sword fighting's are held daily, and guests can join in medieval ball games and archery.

**20<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> July: Hiking Days** - Annual hiking days with different hikes in and around Akureyri. Varied levels ranging from easy 2-4 hours walks to day tours.

**22<sup>nd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> July: Bike Festival of Greifinn and HFA** – Various bicycle races and events, everyone should find something that suits one's age and competence.

**25<sup>th</sup> July: Boating Days Family Festival** - A different family festival including e.g. free Sea angling and barbecue at the Harbour. Fun and entertaining, in Siglufjörður.

**30<sup>th</sup> July - 2<sup>nd</sup> August: Iceland Summer Games** – All sort of extreme and outdoor sports, endurance tests and recreational games such as mountain hiking, triathlon, swimming in the sea, biking, sailing ect. Fits for competitors and for those enjoying exercise and the outdoor.

**30<sup>th</sup> July - 2<sup>nd</sup> August: Family festival "Ein með öllu"** – during the „Verslunarmannahelgi“, the Merchants' Weekend, the town of Akureyri hosts the event "Ein með Öllu" family festival: where live music, Tivoli and different performances fill up the streets of Akureyri together with sport events of the Iceland Summer Games.

**30<sup>th</sup> July - 2<sup>nd</sup> August: Blueberry Music Festival** – A classical music festival, numerous artists from all over the country performing. In Ólafsfjörður.

**6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> August: The Great Fish day** - A fish festival with free tasting of all kinds of fish products in town Dalvík.

**6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> August: Arctic Handcraft and Design** – Exhibition and market displaying exclusive handcraft, art and design that often is based on the old Icelandic traditions. In Hrafnagil by Akureyri.

**28<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> August: Akureyri Town festival – Cultural Night** – Celebrations of the Anniversary of Akureyri. Annual highlights are: Opening ceremony in the Botanical garden, concerts in the center of town and events along the Artist Alley. Different theme each year.

**1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> October: Ladies Days** – Get pink and shimmery and enjoy Ladies Days with concerts, exhibitions and various events happening around the town. Many stores offer various discounts and organize different events.

**1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> October: A! Performance Festival** - A four-day performance festival with variety of performances and theatre-based projects of all kinds.

**3<sup>rd</sup> October: Local Food Festival** - one of the biggest food festivals in Iceland, held every 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

**21<sup>st</sup> November - 23<sup>rd</sup> December: Advent Festival** – Program from the first to the last day of Advent. Concerts, exhibitions, markets etc. Starts with lighting of the Christmas tree in town square.

Information about all events in and around Akureyri can be found on following two links.

**Annual events:** [visitakureyri.is/en/things-to-do/events-and-festivals](https://www.visitakureyri.is/en/things-to-do/events-and-festivals)

**All events according to month/year:** [visitakureyri.is/en/calendar](https://www.visitakureyri.is/en/calendar)