

# THE FERRY – Schedule!

## SUMMER SCHEDULE (MARCH 1ST - OCTOBER 31ST)

### From Hrísey

7.00	9.00	11.00	13.00	15.00	17.00	19.00	21.00	23.00*
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### From Árskógssandur

7.20	9.30	11.30	13.30	15.30	17.30	19.30	21.30	23.30*
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\* June 1st – August 31st

On Saturday mornings the first ferry at 7.00 and the first ferry on Sundays at 9.00 is not on schedule so you must order the morning ferry.

For further information price and winter schedule see:

[www.hrisey.net](http://www.hrisey.net), [www.visitakureyri.is](http://www.visitakureyri.is), [hrisey@hrisey.net](mailto:hrisey@hrisey.net) and +354 695 5544



## BREKKA Restaurant/ Café/Guesthouse in Hrísey

Open everyday from  
May 15th – September 15th  
from 11.00 am.

- Service can be ordered outside opening hours by prior arrangement
- Licensed restaurant
- Accommodation available
- Tel.: +354 466 1751 / +354 695 3737
- [brekkahrisey@brekkahrisey.is](mailto:brekkahrisey@brekkahrisey.is)

## Useful Information

Below are some useful information for visitors to Hrísey Island:

### Restaurant Brekka

Open May 15th-September 15th from 11 a.m. Service can be ordered outside opening hours by prior arrangement (call 695 3737). Food, coffee, cakes and bar. Accommodation available in double bedrooms. Phone: +354 466 1751/ +354 695 3737. [brekkahrisey@brekkahrisey.is](mailto:brekkahrisey@brekkahrisey.is), [www.brekkahrisey.is](http://www.brekkahrisey.is).

### Cafe Hrísey-restaurant-bar

Summer opening hours May 10th- September 23rd from 10am, otherwise open from 12am. Call +354 690 3711 outside these hours. They are on Facebook. Phone: +354 571 3450/+354 690 3711.

### Gallery and workshop Sigurður Högnason

Open by prior arrangement. Phone: +354 848 1377.

### The Pearl Gallery-Handicraft Centre

Open every day June 17th-August 15th, 1pm-6pm or by prior arrangement. Phone: +354 847 6918.

### The Ferry Sævar

All year round. See advertisement in the booklet. Phone: +354 695 5544/+354 696 2544.

### Hrísið-Tool Work Shop and Souvenirs

Open by prior arrangement. Phone: +354 821 8318.

### Júllabúð (convenience store)

Open every day. Snacks and drinks, general food products available. Visit [www.hrisey.net](http://www.hrisey.net). Phone: +354 466 1707. They are on Facebook.

### Summer houses in Hrísey

Information on [www.hrisey.net](http://www.hrisey.net) and [www.visithrisey.is](http://www.visithrisey.is).

### Swimming Pool and Sport Centre in Hrísey

Weekdays 9.00 am-6.30 pm. Weekends 10.30 am-5.00 pm during the summer. Visit [www.hrisey.net](http://www.hrisey.net). Phone: +354 461 2255.

### Bank and Post Office

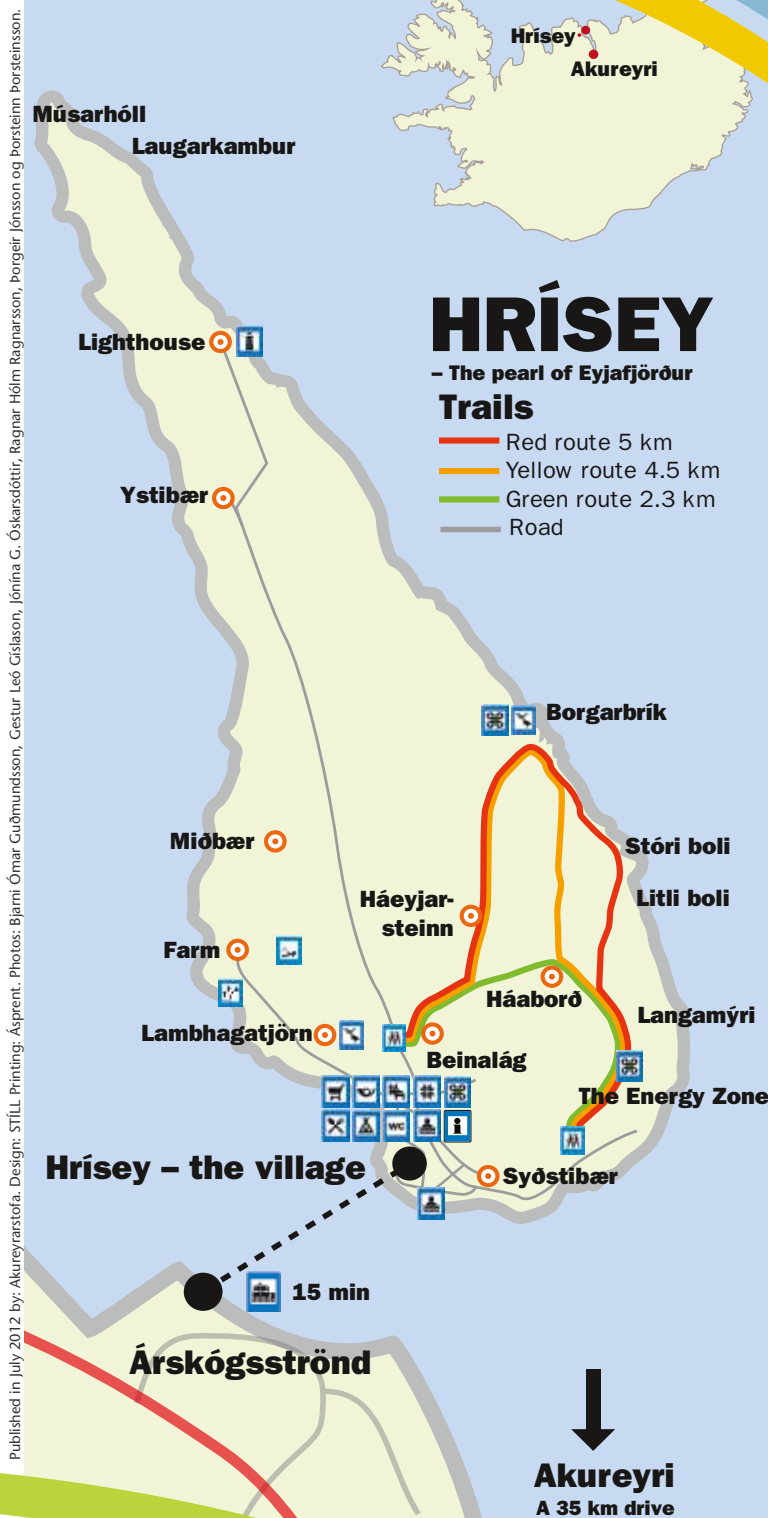
Open weekdays 12 am-3 pm. ATM available 24 hrs. Phone: +354 460 1800.

### Campsite

Right next door to the swimming pool. Information at the swimming pool. Open from June to August or by prior arrangement. Phone: +354 461 2255.

### Tourist Information center

Open every day June 1st-August 31st or by prior arrangement. Information about departure times, prices and bookings for guided tractor trips around the island, boat trips and museums. Phone: +354 695 0077. [hrisey@hrisey.net](mailto:hrisey@hrisey.net)



## Mussels from Hrisey



READY IN  
5  
MIN.

Pure and organic

Rich in Vitamins A & D, protein,  
Omega 3 & 6 and various minerals

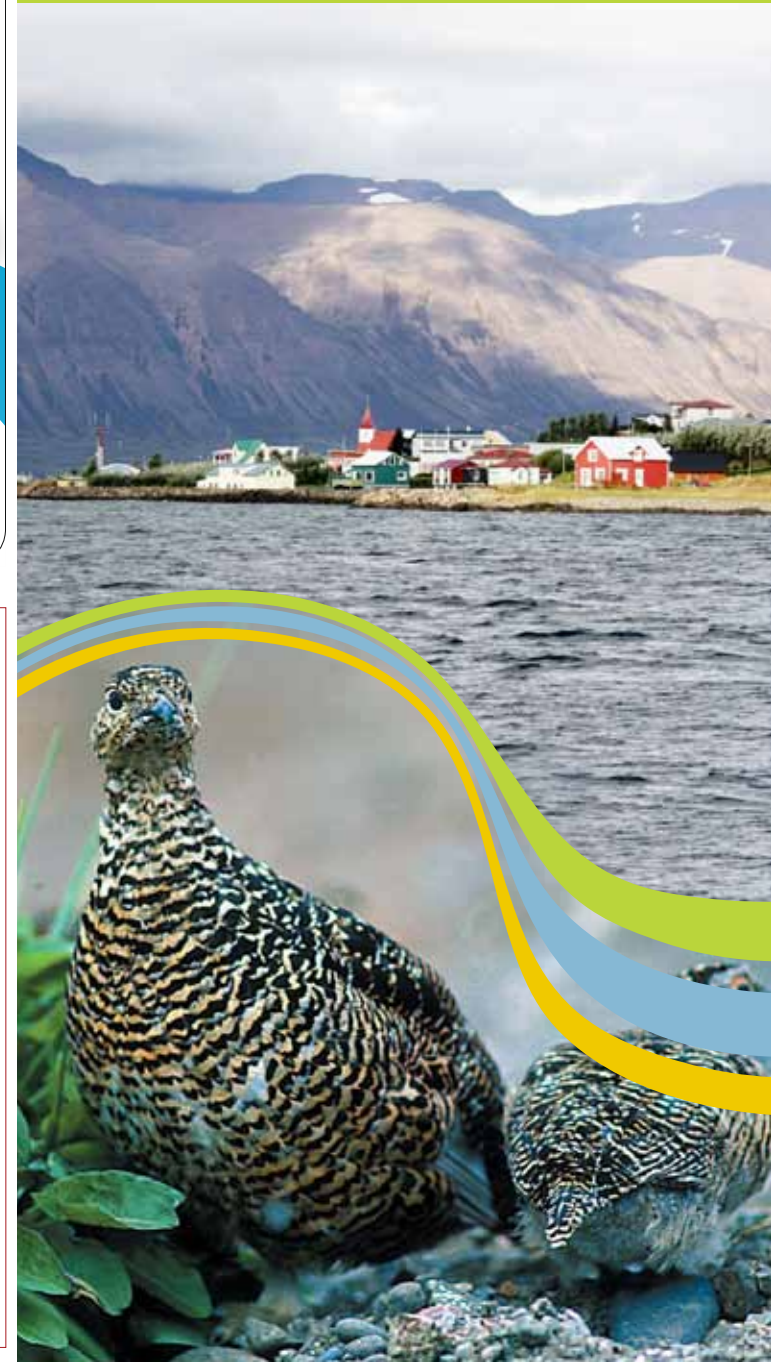
Skelfélagið - Sandhorn - 630 Hrísey - Iceland - Tel.: +354 462 6905 - [www.skel.is](http://www.skel.is) - [skel@skel.is](mailto:skel@skel.is)



Útgerðarfélagið  
Hvammur

# HRÍSEY

THE PEARL OF EYJAFJÖRÐUR





## Hrísey - The pearl of Eyjafjörður

Hrísey is truly unique. It is the pearl of Eyjafjörður and Iceland's second largest island after Heimaey Island. It has a flourishing community, magnificent panoramic views of the fjord and a rich birdlife. It is believed that up to 40 bird species nest on the island where as the ptarmigan (*Lagopus mutus*) is the most prominent.

Hrísey is 7,5 km long and 2,5 km broad at its widest point in the south. The population is about 200. Hrísey merged with the municipality of Akureyri in 2004 and Grímsey Island, another island of Eyjafjörður, joined the municipality in 2009.

There are several marked trails on the island and the small seaside village with its flourishing local gardens is enjoyable to visit.

Sailing to the island with the ferry Sævar only takes about 15 minutes. Departure is from the small harbour at the community Árskógssandur on a regular basis (every two hours).

Welcome to Hrísey Island!

[www.hrisey.net/en](http://www.hrisey.net/en)



## What do you want to do?

There is a variety of things to do in Hrísey, besides the beautiful nature, there are interesting museums to visit, a nice geothermal pool and several marked trails. Also one can participate in one of the following:

**Guided tractor rides** in a hay wagon are very popular. Daily trips are available during the summer. Each trip takes about 40 minutes. Trips to the lighthouse, where the view is optimal and the sunset truly amazing, are also available.

**Boat trips** are available for groups where one can sail around the island, get to know a bit or two about mussel farming, go fishing, bird watching or sail towards the midnight sun.

In the oldest house of Hrísey, the **House of Shark Jörundur**, you will find an exhibition about the history of the island and the history of shark fishing in Iceland in earlier centuries. The house has been renovated and brought to its original state and now hosts the Tourist Information Office during summer.

A memorial museum of a typical **working-class home** from the era when the new and the old times met, is in a house called **Holt** located in the village.

Find more information about trips, museums and how to book at the Tourist Information Office. Tel. +354 695 0077. Visit [www.hrisey.net/en](http://www.hrisey.net/en).

## The Family and Shell fish Festival

This festival takes place in the middle of July. The focus of the festival is the wonderful shellfish harvested from the ocean around the island and also on offer are food tastings, games, music, campfire and dancing – all in all adds to create a great family based festival.

## Trails

There are various marked trails on the island with signs with information about the flora, fauna, geology and the island's history.

## The Energy Zone

The Eastern area of Hrísey is said to be full of energy and is considered to be the second most powerful area in Iceland after Mt. Snæfellsjökull Glacier. The energy is transferred to Hrísey from the stunningly beautiful Mt. Kaldbakur across the fjord. Here you can sit down and enjoy the scenery while inhaling positive and relaxing energy.

## Flora

After sheep grazing was stopped in Hrísey in 1974, the vegetation grew back and today it is common to see woolly willow, tea-leaved willow, common juniper, birch, brushwoods (*Betula nana*) as well as many other species on the island in large numbers. The name of Hrísey comes from the plant "hrís" (*Betula nana*) which covered most of the island during the settlement.

## Delicious mussels

The sea around Hrísey is very suitable for mussels cultivation. The Blue Mussels are farmed organically and are very rich in Omega 3, A and D vitamins, iron and are high in protein. Hrísey's Shellfish Company cultivates, processes and sells high-quality mussels for the domestic market and for export.

## The herring came and left

The period from 1930 to 1950 was undoubtedly the biggest boom for the island. There was a lot of herring salting and the deep-sea fishing was very successful. The population multiplied during these months. Young girls eager to work flocked to Hrísey from all over Iceland. The life during these days is still a matter of discussion on many elderly homes far and wide across the country. Stories are told about the wonderful evenings when the midnight sun would play on the peaks of the mountains and young people went hand in hand on the island. The setting sun would dance across the ocean in the dusk and the ground and the heather were so soft and gave off such a pleasant smell. Young people found love on that fairy tale island and kept it forever in their heart. A joke from the period reflects the atmosphere best: A young girl was asked if she had ever been married. "No", she replied, "But I've been to Hrísey Island." [Þorstein Þorsteinsson's narrative in the book "Þekktu bæinn þinn" (e. Know your town) by the historian Jón Hjaltason.]

## The Bull of Þorgeir

The Saga of Þorgeirsboli, The Bull of Þorgeir, one of Iceland's most vicious ghost is said to originate from Hrísey. The ghost-bull's presence was often sensed late at night in the countryside, when his dark, devastating moos would rumble the earth. Those who saw him and lived to describe it have reported him appearing as a dog, a cat and a string of fog, although most see a skeleton-bull dragging its bloody loose skin behind on its tail.

## Bird Watching

Around 40 bird species nest in Hrísey, some can only be counted in a few pairs while others are in thousands. The main reason for this unusually large concentration of birds is that all hunting of birds and gathering of eggs is banned on the island and there are no predators such as foxes, minks, mice or rats. Hrísey also has very favourable conditions for birds with low growing willow and bushes and plentiful food. For a time, Hrísey was one of the largest Arctic tern nesting sites in Europe. A bird watching house is located by the "Lambhagatjörn" pond (see map) where one can find a wide variety of ducks and wading birds.

Welcome to Hrísey!  
More information on [www.hrisey.net/en](http://www.hrisey.net/en)