



Welcome to Port of Eskifjörður

A host of exciting options await those arriving at Eskifjörður Port, the unique destination for cruise and pleasure vessels in East Iceland. Through its assortment of beautiful old seahouses, Eskifjörður embraces the best of a genuine Icelandic seaside village. Situated in Fjarðabyggð, the easternmost municipality in Iceland, this vast region is renowned for its picturesque fjords and beautiful nature. Hospitality also being a part of the natural surroundings, Port of Eskifjörður offers the ideal destination for cruise ship travellers, looking for unforgettable places to visit. The fjord leading to the village, which shares with the settlement the name of Eskifjörður, is sheltered and free of reefs, while the harbour has a deep approach and outstanding facilities.

A hearty welcome to Port of Eskifjörður,

Steinþór Pétursson,
Port Director



Get to know the real Iceland

Eskifjörður is a charming seaside village, lying centrally located in a region known as the East Fjords or simply The Fjords as locals often say. The settlement is one of a total of six in Fjarðabyggð, the largest municipality in the region by population. Fjarðabyggð, literary meaning the settlement of the fjords, is in itself a fitting name, the region's most distinctive geographical feature being the jagged coastline of fjords, bays, valleys and high mountain ridges.

Since the sea has long influenced the local communities, visitors can easily sense the central role of the harbour. Fishing and fish processing has long been the local economy's mainstay. While diversification is underway with a greenfield aluminium smelter at the neighbouring fjord Reyðarfjörður, fisheries remain the economic backbone and the municipality boasts some of Iceland's leading fisheries operators as well as Europe's most state-of-the-art fish processing plants.

Fjarðabyggð prides itself on a vibrant cultural life as well as a broad range of first rate public services. The area offers virtually everything a tourist's heart desires – including exceptional outdoor recreation areas, good swimming pools, entertainment and shops.



The beautiful Seahouses

Centrally situated in the East Fjords, it comes as no surprise that Eskifjörður had become an official trading post already in 1789 and has been a commercial centre ever since. Since village culture and industry have been shaped by the sea for a long time, a walk around town is recommended, noting the red and black painted seahouses. Most of them were built by Norwegian herring operators by the turn of the last century and note that most of these characteristic houses are still in use. A visit to the Maritime Museum in Eskifjörður will add to the experience.

The attractive seafarers' lodge Randulffs Seahouse remains unchanged since 1890, showing the ways of yesteryear's fisheries trade. You can even try tasting the shark and dried fish still produced there. At Randulffs you can also rent a boat and a fishing pole as well, if you'd like to go fishing on the fjord. There's a lot of fish to be caught, which can often be seen feeding at the surface, and if you're lucky, curious seals could be seen swimming around the fjord looking for some delicious fish to eat.



Take a deep breath

The newly built swimming pool in Eskifjörður is one of the regions finest outdoor pools. Taking a swim there can be truly amazing, this being a pool with a view. After a refreshing swim in the 25 m pool, you can enjoy the majestic mountains of the fjord, while relaxing in the hot tub. Two mountains, Eskja and Hólmatindur, dominate the fjord. Hólmatindur, standing 985 meters above sea level, is the pride of the locals and one of the best known mountains in the region.

Not long before the turn of the century, exploratory drilling here was rewarded by enough hot water reserves to make Eskifjörður one of the few places in East Iceland to heat its homes and fill its swimming pool geothermally.

Nearby the swimming pool is the Regional Centre of Music. The rotund building is also serving as a church and cultural centre. In the summer, lots of interesting events are taking place in the centre.

If you have some questions or need further information on Eskifjörður, please go ahead and ask the pool staff. Eskifjörður's tourist information desk is located in the pool's entrance hall and the people working here will be happy to assist.

Welcome to Port of Eskifjörður



The magnificent east coast of Iceland



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Walking paths and trails

If you enjoy the great outdoors, you've come to the right place. On arrival at Port of Eskifjörður, a small mill is one of the first things you can see in the mountainside, and a bit above that there's a small waterfall. A path leads to the mill, which is a cute reminder of a much larger one, operated in Eskifjörður almost a century ago. From there you can go up to the waterfall, but please note that the path is a little rough and sturdy shoeing is advisable.

A walking trail circulating the upper part of the village, can also be recommended. Going further east of the village, the trail will be taking you to the stable and horse resort of the village at Svínaskáli. Mjóeyri Guesthouse and Tourist Centre is on the eastside of the village. By the road at Mjóeyri, an ornate sign showing the distance to most of the largest cities of the world, is one of the most popular places for selfies in the area. Nearby the sign, a small memorial is a dark reminder of the last execution in East Iceland, taking place in 1786.

The Hólmanes natural reserve can be seen on the other side of the fjord, opposite Mjóeyri. This beautiful resort, rich in the flora and fauna of the region, carries several hiking trails. From the Eskifjörður Swimming Pool, there's a brisk 4 km. walk to the reserve, by Norðfjarðarvegur main road. Slightly above the old road that lies by the reserve, parallel to the main road, lies the Völvuleiði or the grave of the sibyl, that has according to folklore been protecting the area against all evils. It is a great lookout point with a guest book for you to mark your visit.



Information Centre

Information centres are located in every village in Fjarðabyggð. At Eskifjörður you'll find the centre in the reception area of the Eskifjörður Swimming Pool, Dalbraut 3a, tel. 476 1218. It is open every day of the week.



Service providers

In a short walking distance from the harbour, Eskifjörður Coffeehouse offers a free hotspot and a cosy veranda. If you're taking the short stroll to the swimming pool or the longer one up to the mill and waterfall in mountainside, this nice café is comfortably situated on the way. Opposite the cruise pier, there's a petrol station with a kiosk and a small diner. Further up town, in a 15-20 min. walking distance from the harbour by the main road, is Randulffs Seahouse restaurant and boat rental. On the way numerous service providers can be found, such as the Maritime Museum, the post office, Samkaup supermarket, the Handicraft Market of Fjarðabyggð and ATM.



Arts & handicraft

Arts and handicrafts are taken seriously in Fjarðabyggð as creative trades, thus supplying visitors with ample opportunities to great souvenirs and giftware. The Handicraft Market of Fjarðabyggð is in Valhöll, the local community center in Eskifjörður, offering an assortment of Fjarðabyggð's finest produce. On a sunny day, local crafts people can often be seen working outside of the centre.



Useful tips

You can get a free wi-fi access at several places in Eskifjörður, such as Kaffihús Eskifjarðar/ Eskifjörður Coffeehouse (no. 6) and Randulffs Seahouse (no. 22). For golfers, there's an excellent golf course close to the bottom of the fjord (no. 1). At the Church and Cultural Centre (no. 4), some excellent musical events take steadily place. The centre is in a short walking distance from the cruise pier.





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Walking routes

- A** 3.2 km
- B** 5.5 km
- C** 2.5 km



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Pjónusta / Service

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p>1 Golfvöllur Eskifjarðar
<i>Eskifjörður golf course</i></p> <p>2 N1 sjálfafgreiðslustöð
<i>Self-service petrol station</i>
Dalbraut 1</p> <p>3 Sundlaug Eskifjarðar
<i>Eskifjörður swimming pool</i>
<i>hot tubs, sauna</i>, open 6-21,
weekends 10-18 (+354 476 1218)</p> <p>4 Kirkju- og menningarmiðstöð
<i>Eskifjarðar, Eskifjörður church</i>
<i>and Cultural Centre</i>, Dalbraut 2</p> <p>5 Tjaldsvæði Eskifjarðar
<i>Eskifjörður camping</i></p> <p>6 Kaffihúsið Eskifirði
<i>Gistiheimili, veitingastaður</i>
<i>og bar, Eskifjörður Coffee</i>
<i>house, guesthouse restaurant</i>
<i>and bar</i>
Strandgata 10, (+354 476 1150)</p> <p>7 Böggablóm blómaverslun
<i>Florist and gift shop</i>
Strandgata 12a</p> | <p>8 Tanni Travel ferðaskrifstofa
<i>Travel Agency</i> www.meetlocals.is
Strandgata 14 (+354 476 1399)</p> <p>9 KR-ÍA, veitingasala,
<i>Skeljungur bensinstöð</i>
<i>Self Service Gas Station, Restaurant</i>
Strandgata 13 (+354 476 1383)</p> <p>10 Videóleiga Eskifjarðar, <i>Video Rental,</i>
<i>Gift Shop</i>, Strandgata 29 a</p> <p>11 Hótelíbúðir, <i>Hotel Apartments</i>
Strandgata 26</p> <p>12 Lyfja, <i>Pharmacy</i>, Strandgata 31
(+354 476 1287)</p> <p>13 Heilsugæslan á Eskifirði
<i>Eskifjörður Health Care Centre</i>
Strandgata 31 (+354 470 1430)</p> <p>14 Sjóminjasafn Austurlands
<i>The Maritime Museum of East</i>
<i>Iceland</i>, Útkaupstaðarbraut 1</p> <p>15 Puffin Hotel
Strandgata 47 (+354 476 0099)</p> <p>15 Hraðbanki, <i>ATM</i>, Strandgata 47</p> | <p>16 Handverksmarkaður Fjarðabyggðar
<i>Fjarðabyggð Arts & Handicraft Market</i>
Valhöll, Strandgata 49, (+354 894 9306)</p> <p>17 Samkaup Strax, <i>supermarket</i>
Strandgata 50</p> <p>17 Rauðakrossverslun, <i>Red Cross</i>
<i>Second Hand Store</i>, 2nd floor</p> <p>18 Pósthús, <i>Post Office</i>,
Strandgata 55, (+354 580 1200)</p> <p>19 Grunnskóli Eskifjarðar, <i>bókasafn,</i>
<i>Eskifjörður Elementary School</i></p> <p>20 Askja gistiheimili,
<i>guesthouse</i>
Strandgata, (+354 477 1247)</p> <p>21 Randulffsjóhús,
<i>veitingastaður og</i>
<i>minjasafn, Randulffs Seahouse,</i>
<i>restaurant, folk museum,</i>
<i>boat rental</i>, Strandgata 96
(+354 477 1247)</p> <p>22 Sporður harðfiskverkun
<i>Stockfish Production</i></p> | <p>23 Ferðapjónustan Mjóeyri,
<i>Mjóeyri Resort and</i>
<i>Recreation</i>
Strandgata 120
(+354 477 1247)
(2.5 km from pier)</p> <p>24 Síðasti aftökustaður
<i>á Austurlandi, The last</i>
<i>execution site in East-Iceland</i></p> <p>25 Silfurbergsgnánan Helgustöðum,
<i>náttúruvætti, The Iceland Spar Mine</i>
<i>at Helgustaðir</i>, 8 km</p> <p>26 Skíðasvæðið í Oddsskarði,
<i>Oddsskarð Ski Resort</i>, 5 km</p> <p>+ Læknavakt, <i>Emergency Watch</i>,
+354 856 9300
In emergency dial 112</p> <p>+ Lögreglan, <i>Eskifjörður Police Station</i>
Strandgata 57, +354 470 6130
In emergency dial 112</p> |
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The East Iceland Maritime Museum



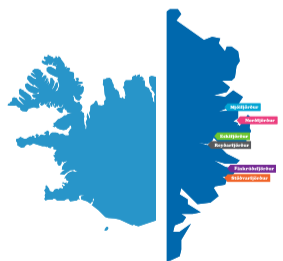
The Maritime Museum is housed in the oldest house in Eskifjörður. Built in 1816 originally as a shop, the house has since served many purposes. During the years 1860 to 1905 the shop owner was a Dane called Carl D. Tulinius and the shop called "Tuliniusverzlun". When the shopkeeper moved into newly-built premises, the house became known as "Gamla-Búð" or "The old shop", a name still used today.

Since the closure of the shop, the building was used as a warehouse, fish processing house, and a storage house for fishing-tackle. The house was renovated in 1968, and was on 4th of June 1983 opened as a museum.



There are various artefacts connected with life on the sea and the processing of seafood kept in the open air at the museum. Models of ships based in Eskifjörður in various times, food-boilers and shark fishing equipment can be named as few examples.

Despite the maritime theme, the museum features a diverse items, ranging from dental health care, textile, carpentry and domestic equipment. The museum is by the main road in Eskifjörður in 5-10 min. walking distance from the cruise pier.



Wonderful Fjarðabyggð

Fjarðabyggð is Iceland's most easterly municipality and, by population the largest one in East Iceland, with some 4,700 residents.

The municipality's six seaside villages are ordinarily referred to by the names of the fjords they are located by. Each town has its own history and traditions, that can in some cases be traced overseas, to the mainland of Europe. Most of the beautiful seahouses in Eskifjörður date, for instance, back to Norwegian herring fisheries, operating there around 1900.

The rich fishing grounds off the East Fjords help make fishing and the processing of marine products a leading industry of Fjarðabyggð, in addition to aluminium manufacture and the services related to it. Trade and other services also figure importantly, and tourism has been growing rapidly in recent years.

Fjarðabyggð is a part of the regional website east.is.

Must do's in Eskifjörður

- Visit the illustrious Maritime Museum.
- Take a refreshing swim at the local outdoor pool.
- See the small fisherman's lodge from the early 1900s at Randulff's Seahouse.
- Rent a boat and enjoy sailing on the fjord.
- Try the local shark meat or dried fish.
- Get a nice selfie at the international road sign at Mjóeyri.
- Take a long and nourishing walk and listen to the sound of silence.
- Enjoy local art and artefacts at Fjarðabyggð's Handicraft Market.
- Try out an Icelandic hot dog.
- Enjoy a good cup of coffee and free internet at the local café, Kaffihúsið Eskifirði.

