

The REYKJAVÍK GRAPEVINE



Made of Iceland *Since 2003*

Issue Nº 11 – 2008

FREE

They're Here! They're Queer! Thank God!

Get ready: Iceland's annual Gay Pride is coming

EVE Online's Virtual World Explored
Lesbian Weddings Crashed
Beer Day Remembered
Kimi's Summer Fun Tour Uncovered
Gigs Deconstructed
Restaurants Reviewed



YOUR ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO LIFE, TRAVEL
AND ENTERTAINMENT IN ICELAND
COMPLETE CITY LISTINGS – INSIDE!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Opinion

06 TO WARN OR NOT TO WARN, THAT IS THE QUESTION

An opinion by Alexandra Hertell

Articles

06 CONTRIBUTING TO INTERNATIONAL WELFARE

An interview with Ingibjörg Sólrún Gísladóttir

08 THE BIGGEST LITTLE PRIDE IN THE WORLD

How much has changed for Iceland's LGBT community in the past 30 years?

10 ANOTHER ICELANDIC MONSTER: NYKUR

Fearsome waterhorse of yore: These guys are way evil

12 ONLY AMUSING WHEN DESPERATE

FM Belfast on the band's history, crazy fans and upcoming debut release

14 PÁLL ÓSKAR IS ON

Iceland's favourite flaming singing sensation shows us the ropes

16 LOST IN ICELAND?

Google and others struggle to map Iceland

24 REVIEWS

Andrúm, Mercedes Club and Trentemöller

25 REVIEWS

Peter And Wolf, Boys in A Band and Steed Lord

26 MARRIAGE OF MYSTERY

A new Icelandic film about weddings has more substance than most

29 FAIRGROUND IN THE FAMILY

Taylor made for your fun

30 ROCK 'N' RESPONSIBILITIES

Some of Kimi Records' Roster Travelled the Country in Style

Features

20 NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF PLAY

Grapevine spends a day at CCP's Reykjavík headquarters

Destinations

28 THE ART OF HAVING FUN

A photographer's quest to depict Seyðisfjörður in 12 hours

32 WHITE-WATER FUN!

Grapevine goes rafting

33 HORSE RIDING AT SNORRASTAÐIR

Riding a horse called Fantasy

50 MOUNTAINS, FJORDS AND GODS

Hiking in Hornstrandir

52 SKY'S THE LIMIT

Whitewater kayaking in Iceland

EDITORIAL

Grapevine loves August. There are so many crazy events to keep us happy. The month kicks off with numerous music festivals where locals and travellers unite in a true holiday spirit. The following week features the annual Drag Competition and Grapevine's fabulous cover queen Steini gives us a preview of what to expect. Then there's the annual Gay Pride, with all its glittery costumes and cheerful songs. For one whole day, gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered, together with tens of thousands of pedestrians, will gather to support gay-rights and celebrate the wins in the battle for equality. There will be lots of love in the air when the most colourful street-party of the year takes over the city centre. The month will then reach its peak with one of the biggest events of the year, the enormous Culture Night. With so many happenings scheduled, I doubt the Grapevine reporters will spend much time in the office. I will enjoy reading all about it in upcoming Grapevine issues.

As I write this, I got a little less than an hour left of my roughly two years working for the magazine. Filling in for the boss for the past month has been hard work so I plan to spend the next year having my nails painted and my body covered in all sorts of weird and aromatic oils at a spa resort in some very exotic country. Or I might even try to do something constructive. Who knows.

But seriously, not wanting to sound too corny, sending this last issue to print leaves me with mixed feelings. Excited about my next challenges, I'll miss this place and my awesome coworkers that have made the office more of a home than a place of work. I doubt any place in the world has such a great bunch of people crammed together in a tiny house.

This issue you are now reading is also Grapevine's 80th and I look forward to reading 80 more. I hope you will enjoy it as much as we do. With so many things to celebrate I won't keep this any longer. The past two years have been great fun to say the least. Thanks guys!

Steinunn Jakobsdóttir

MASTHEAD

The Reykjavík Grapevine

Vesturgata 5, 101 Reykjavík
www.grapevine.is
grapevine@grapevine.is
www.myspace.com/reykjavikgrapevine
Published by Fróken ehf.

Editorial:

+354 540 3600 / editor@grapevine.is

Advertising:

+354 540 3605 / ads@grapevine.is

Publisher:

+354 540 3601 / publisher@grapevine.is

Publisher:

Hilmar Steinn Grétarsson
publisher@grapevine.is

Editor:

Sveinn Birgir Björnsson / birgir@grapevine.is

Assistant Editor:

Steinunn Jakobsdóttir / steinunn@grapevine.is

Contributing Writers:

Haukur Magnússon / haukur@grapevine.is
Páll Hilmarsson / pallih@gmail.com
Ben H. Murray / ben@benhmurray.com

Editorial Interns:

Marcus Walsh / marcus@grapevine.is
Oddur Sturluson / oddurs@grapevine.is
Sigurður Kjartan Kristinnsson / sigurdur@grapevine.is
Stevie Ward / stevie@grapevine.is
James Crugnale / james@grapevine.is

Art Director:

Gunnar Þorvaldsson / gunni@grapevine.is

Photographer:

Gunnlaugur Arnar Sigurðsson (GAS)
gulli@grapevine.is

Marketing Director:

Jón Trausti Sigurðarson / jontrausti@grapevine.is

Sales Director:

Aðalsteinn Jörundsson / adalsteinn@grapevine.is

Distribution:

Þórir Gunnar Jónsson / thorir@grapevine.is

Proofreader:

Jim Rice

Press releases:

listings@grapevine.is

Submissions inquiries:

editor@grapevine.is

Subscription inquiries:

+354 540 3605 / subscribe@grapevine.is

General inquiries:

grapevine@grapevine.is

The Reykjavík Grapevine is published 18 times a year by Fróken Ltd. Monthly from November through April, and fortnightly from May til October. Nothing in this magazine may be reproduced in whole or in part without the written permission of the publishers. Although the magazine has endeavoured to ensure that all information inside the magazine is correct, prices and details may be subject to change. The Reykjavík Grapevine can be found in Reykjavík, Akureyri, Egilsstaðir, Selfoss, Keflavík, Ísafjörður and at key locations around road #1 and at all major tourist attractions and tourist information centres.

You may not like it, but at least it's not sponsored. (No articles in the Reykjavík Grapevine are pay-for articles. The opinions expressed are the writers' own, not the advertisers').

Printed by Landsprent ehf. in 30.000 copies.

THE COVER



PHOTOGRAPHY

GAS

MODEL & STYLIST

Steini

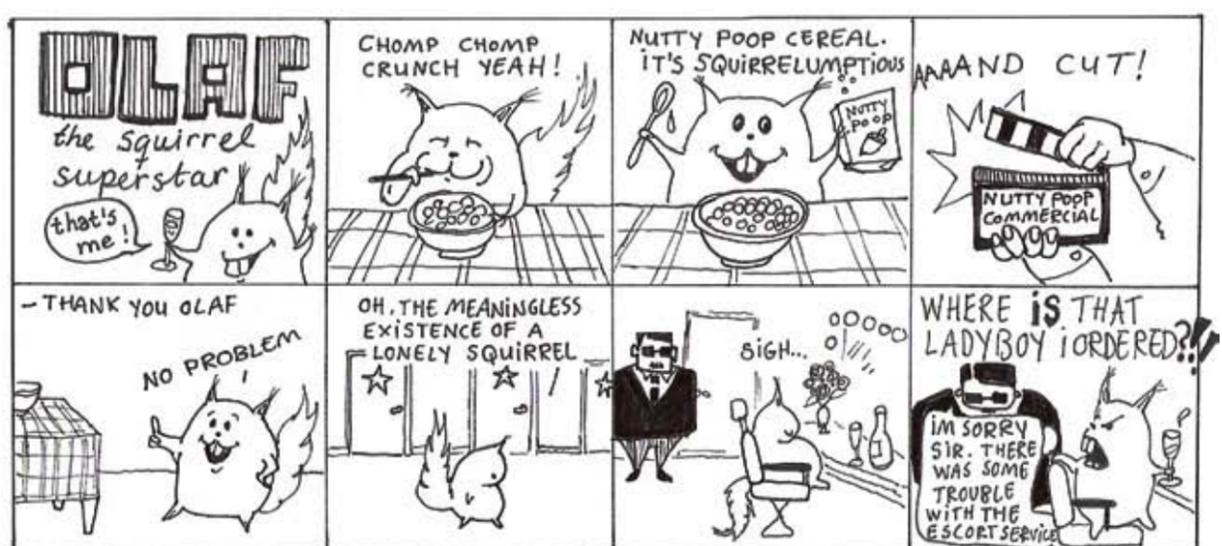
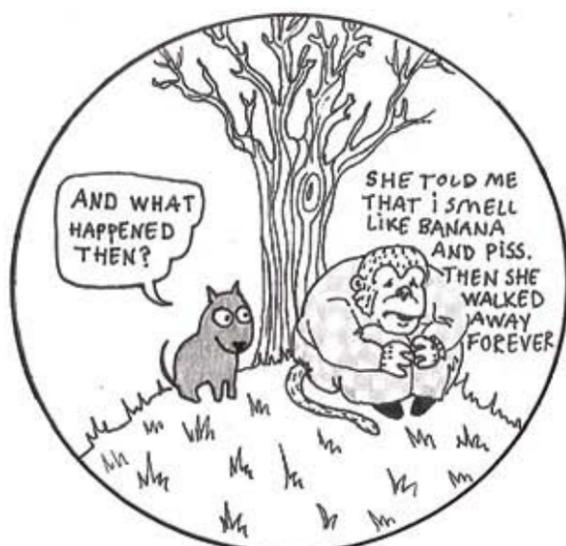
MAKE-UP

Ísak Freyr Helgason at Emm with products from Makeup A

THANKS TO

Aftur

COMIC STRIP "MERRY CHRISTMAS, KING KONG" BY LÓA HJÁLMTÝSDÓTTIR



ÁSDÍS DÖGG ÓMARSDÓTTIR

A PROFESSIONAL GUIDE AND GEOLOGIST
WITH A TASTE FOR CROSS COUNTRY
SKIING, MOUNTAIN BIKING AND LONG-
BOARD RIDES IN 101 REYKJAVÍK.

TECNOSTRETCH TOP: JÓNÍNA CM-524
FLEECE PANTS: ÁSDÍS CM-815

WWW.CINTAMANI.IS



DRESS CODE ICELAND



LETTERS

Sour Grapes

SAY YOUR PIECE, VOICE YOUR OPINION, SEND YOUR LETTERS TO LETTERS@GRAPEVINE.IS OR TEXT +354 893 9589

I recently completed my second trip to Iceland, during which I was amused by Nathaniel Flagg's self hating article about Americans. Things have changed in Iceland from 4 years ago, and not for the better. Icelanders used to be happy to see any tourist - even us terrible Americans (sic), as tourism was a great boost to an economy that had stagnated for generations. I still will recommend Iceland to anyone who has never been there, but warn them of the backlash against tourists also. Roving gangs of very drunk ENGLISH tourists should not ruin the party for everyone, and that goes for just about every European country these days.

As for Mr. Flagg's article, well, I know he is young and impressionable and all that - but really now. His reference to an "unarmed" nation is really funny, considering that US air force base at Keflavik that has defended the island for decades. Icelanders won't be kicking us out any time soon; they are not that stupid, and it is a great bargain for them.

As for all his naive pronouncements about what an international criminal the US has been recently, yawn, perhaps he should have a listen to what all his heroes in the democratic party were saying in the lead up to the Iraq invasion, as well as exactly how they voted for it also. Al Gore would have invaded Iraq the same month that Mr. Bush did - sad to say.

Many European nations were and/or are still in Iraq with US forces. A friend of mine in the Dutch military was there himself. Are they all global bandits also? And what of the troops from Iceland (carrying flowers instead of guns, right?) who are in Afghanistan? Oh wait, that's the "good" invasion, right?

If Europeans were indeed so angry at the US and did not want to feed its militarist adventures, perhaps they could stop smoking and end their financial support of some of the states' most conservative politicians in North Carolina and Virginia. Or stop visiting the US and spending their tourist dollars here. But that's not going to happen any sooner than Icelanders kicking the US air force out of Keflavik, now is it?

Mr. Flagg should take note that people are people wherever you go, and defining someone by the decisions of their country's leaders - be they good or bad - is rather stupid, no matter where you are. If he is so interested in upholding the Geneva Convention and the UDHR, perhaps now would be a good time to remind him of this part of it:

"I will maintain the utmost respect for human life from the time of conception; even under threat, I will not use my

medical knowledge contrary to the laws of humanity. Similarly, I will not give to a woman an abortive remedy. I will...do no harm."

Yeah, I don't think the "good" Americans in the democratic party will be talking too much about that part. Nor will Mr. Flagg.

Lastly, I'd like to urge all Icelanders, a people I still have much affection for, to accept that you have a big and growing hard drug problem in Reykjavik. Perhaps that Iceland Airwaves festival wasn't such a great idea after all. And perhaps you could even confront the scourge of Iceland - the highest breast cancer rate in the world - by realizing that steroids are just as harmful and cancer causing to women as they are to men, even if it's called "birth control."

Sean Cannan
Charlottesville, VA
USA

Dear Sean (I believe that's a derivative of the name Sveinn)

Although I am on vacation, and was on vacation during the issue Flagg's piece ran, I feel I must answer some of the points you raise in your letter.

1. *The "American" Nato base in Keflavik has been closed for over two years. It now houses a university. We probably are just that stupid.*

2. *As for Gore would have invaded Iraq on the same date as Bush did, well, I guess we'll never know, will we? Seeing as his election was stolen and all.*

3. *Pointing out that other nations did the same mistakes in invading Iraq does not justify your own invasion. Take care of your own backyard buddy. As for "the Icelandic Troops" in Afghanistan, a few PR agents on a peace keeping mission can hardly be called 'troops,' but what ever...*

4. *As for the tobacco industry... I couldn't agree with you more. It is a bad habit anyway. Let's quit.*

5. *I didn't read Flagg's article as saying that he would judge a whole nation based on the decisions of its leaders. He did say that the decision of its leaders to invade Iraq was one of the causes for the blow to international perception of US citizens as a whole. This may not be fair. But I do think it is the truth.*

6. *Blaming the Iceland Airwaves festival for growth in hard drug use in Reykjavik*

makes about as much sense as... I'm at a lack for words here. It just makes no sense at all.

7. *Cancer and steroids. Interesting!*

Thanks for reading,

Sveinn Birgir Björnsson

Dear TRG...

Happened to pick up your issue #10 right at the door of the plane as I was leaving Amsterdam for Reykjavik... I work on cruise ships and am spending two nights here in town between jobs. Totally loved your entire paper as it gave me a much better sense of what your great country is all about, including lots of real-world, hands-on tips for tourists like me who don't have time to figure out the local scene on our own! I felt like a local and had a great time checking out the night life thanks to you.

Especially loved the "Fear & Loathing in Reykjavik" story (sorry, couldn't find a by-line for the author)... well done with lots of tips for all tastes. I checked out the Q-Bar and had a fantastic time. Doubt I would've found it without your suggestion. I made sure I told them where I heard about them too!

I was here for a quick one-nighter last week and had read elsewhere about the great Reykjavik night life. Was really disappointed as I got in at 12 AM and couldn't even find a quiet pub for a beer! Great to talk up the fun that's getting better all the time, but might be helpful to let folks know that weekdays are pretty quiet.

Next time I have the opportunity to visit, first thing I'm looking for is the Grapevine... Please keep up the fantastic work; kudos to you and IcelandAir for the best free publication in the land!!

Wishing you continued success...
Cheers!
John

Thanks, John! We love you too!



THE CENTRE // THE OFFICIAL TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE IN REYKJAVIK

All you need

for a great holiday

City Centre Booking Service // Bus Tours and Activities
Hotels and Guesthouses // Car Rentals // Horse Riding
Whale Watching // Internet and Phone Centre

VAT Cash Refund – Money Exchange



Iceland's Largest Booking Service

FREE
BOOKING SERVICE

Simply the most comprehensive Booking Services in the City specialized in customizing and developing travel packages to suit your interests and needs.

We can arrange your accommodation, transfers, tours, flights and car hire based on your requirements.



Reykjavík Welcome Card

Enjoy the Thermal Pools, Museums, Public Transport and discounts.



24 / 48 / 72 hour cards - Great Value For Money

Sold at the Centre and most Reykjavík hotels.

www.visitreykjavik.is



Adalstraeti 2 · 101 Reykjavik · Tel +354 590 1550 · info@visitreykjavik.is

Hressingarskálinn

Hressingarskálinn (Hressó) is a Classical Bistro, located in the heart of the city at Austurstræti 20.

Food is served from 10 until 22 every day. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, after the kitchen closes Hressó heats up with live music. Weekends, DJs keep the party going until morning, with no cover charge.



AtlasFrelsi

More Minutes · More Countries · Lower Price



The most sold prepaid calling card in Iceland!

Prepaid International Calling Card

Save money on international calling

The best way to call home from Iceland



Available in all 10-11 stores

Available for 500, 1.000 and 2.000 ISK

OPINION



To Warn or Not to Warn, That is the Question

BY ALEXANDRA HERTELL

I hail from a surfers' paradise in the Caribbean, where the ocean gets rowdy and unpredictable with undertows and strong currents. The most dangerous beaches all have warning signs, which do not prevent tourists from splashing in the seemingly calm waters only to require rescue or, even worse, resulting in drowning.

From this personal experience, when I learned of the couple who nearly drowned in Dyrhólaey and of the subsequent controversy about whether a warning sign should be erected, I sided with the Environmental Agency of Iceland. It announced that warnings can be risky because tourists then assume that any place without a sign is safe. It also creates a slippery slope. Once you put one sign up, more will follow and then when will it stop?

As a tourist, you have to be aware that the sublime and pristine nature of Iceland is also volatile and unforgiving. It deserves respect, whether that be not standing so close to the shore or not entering an ice cave in the summer months when the ice is melting. The weather here is extremely erratic, especially in the highlands. It can change within a few minutes and drastically at that.

I experienced this first hand while I was hiking along the stark desert landscape adjacent to the Dyngjufljöll Mountains. A windstorm of mammoth proportions sprung out of nowhere. I was being pelted by tiny rocks with gusts of winds so strong that it felt like I was being shot at with bb guns. The wind swayed me like a paper doll and I had to crawl to get to the car. Once I got to the mountain hut, the ranger in charge told me in what direction I needed to park my car in order for it not to flip over like a Tonka toy.

If you are embarking on a trip that stares Mother Nature in the eyes, it will be remarkable but you may be at jeopardy. This is true in any country. If Iceland were to put a warning sign in places that are deemed perilous, most of the country could be dotted with the word 'danger'. Tourists have perished on the hike from Landmannalaugar to Þórsmörk due to sudden changes in weather, does that deserve a sign? Blue solid chunks of ice have collapsed from an ice cave killing an adventurous tourist. Should there be a sign by the many ice caves tourists visit each year? The foul-mouthed British celebrity chef Gordon Ramsey recently recounted his near-death experience after falling off a cliff trying to catch puffins in the Westman Islands. Should all cliffs where tourists perch on its ledges to capture a close-up of a puffin have a warning sign?

I say no. 🇮🇸

INTERVIEW BY SIGURÐUR KJARTAN KRISTINSSON — PHOTO BY GAS



INGIBJÖRG SÓLRÚN GÍSLADÓTTIR: INTERNATIONAL WELFARE IS SERIOUS BUSINESS

Contributing to International Welfare

Ingibjörg Sólrún Gísladóttir talks about the Iceland Crisis Response Unit

A few years ago, the Icelandic government decided to contribute to international peacemaking and established an organization known as The Iceland Crisis Response Unit, ICRU. Its activity is still somewhat of a riddle to many and some of its operations have been heavily criticised. The stated purpose of the squad is to promote stability in war-zones and other areas in need of help, but various critics consider the unit nothing more than a fledgling "Icelandic Army". Some of the unit's personnel are armed at all times and the ICRU's employee based in Iraq was even withdrawn when Ingibjörg Sólrún Gísladóttir, Iceland's current Minister of Foreign Affairs, took over. Just after the release of their 2007 Annual Report, Grapevine caught up with her and picked her brains about this unique state-operated movement.

What exactly is The Iceland Crisis Response Unit, and what are its functions?

The Iceland Crisis Response Unit is our contribution to peace cultivation in the world and is considerably new. Its actions are merely civilian, not war related at all. Some peace crisis response units are inclusive in a military setup, but of course we don't possess an army of our own so that's not the case here. Let's keep that straight; all of our employees are merely civilian and not soldier-like at all. The unit's main role is elaborate but it basically consists of developing communities damaged in warfare, the basic precondition for the ICRU's arrival is that actual military conflicts have ceased.

What are the main goals of this Icelandic peace movement and how do you plan to attain them?

Well, the main goal is to do our best to encourage development following military confrontations. We emphasise the protection of women and children and the extensive difficulties faced by women and children in demanding times. A lot of them have suffered repulsive abuse; the strategy of using rape as an instrument of war is well known. This is but

part of the substantial aftermath to conflict that needs to be dealt with. We try to achieve our goals with pragmatic assistance and useful instructions. **Many of the areas patrolled by the ICRU are rife with animosity against interfering Western forces. Have diplomatic methods always sufficed to meet ICRU goals? Have they resorted to more hostile approaches?**

No, the ICRU has never been involved with anything of the sort. Our people do not possess the knowledge or training mandatory for extreme measures such as military operations; they have not been trained in warfare so it is really impossible.

It is still a well-known and heavily criticised fact that some of the unit's personnel, for instance the ones in Afghanistan, carry weapons on a standard basis. Are you insinuating that these people have not had the appropriate training for carrying arms, and are incompetent?

No not at all. The ones working at the airport in Kabul carry weapons, and those people have received substantial training. We like to think that although they carry weapons, it is only for protection but not for any professed military responsibilities. The security in Kabul is military operated, though, and we have to abide to their control.

Do you think it is proper to mix development aid, which you say is the main role of the ICRU, with military actions such as in Kabul?

It is of course rather obvious that development aid isn't exactly our main goal in Kabul. Although our professed agenda comprises of various objectives, such as development assistance, there are certain "advanced activities" that are not included in it.

So we are apparently taking part in various militaristic activities. But who decides the unit's projects? Is it the Icelandic Government?

Yes. It's merely us that decide where, how and why we operate.

Is the ICRU established to fulfil Iceland's international commitments?

Not at all. Its establishment was a contribution to international welfare. However, it was always a goal that it would measure up to international criterion. But again, no, we weren't under any international pressure at all. This is our idea, our policy formulation and our decision.

The present cost of sustaining the ICRU is about 600 million ISK a year. What are your future plans for it? Will you augment the budget?

Yes. It is on our agenda to increase funding for development assistance and co-operation, and that includes amplifying the ICRU, which will become

a much more established organisation in the coming years.

Was revoking the ICRU's member based in Iraq some sort of statement? If so, have you received any feedback?

Of course it was a statement. I was against the Iraq invasion from the beginning, and I think the whole situation was a genuine fiasco. When I came into office we reached the conclusion that we wouldn't take part in any operations based in Iraq. Regarding feedback; everybody seems to have concurred with my decision, at least I haven't heard any complaints.

It is on your agenda to obtain a seat in the UN Security Council. Is operating the ICRU perhaps a strategy to further that goal?

I mean, of course it's connected to our bid for a seat in the Security Council. Any nation that sits in the council has to be familiar with the realm of the present conflicts, as they constitute the bulk of the council's work.

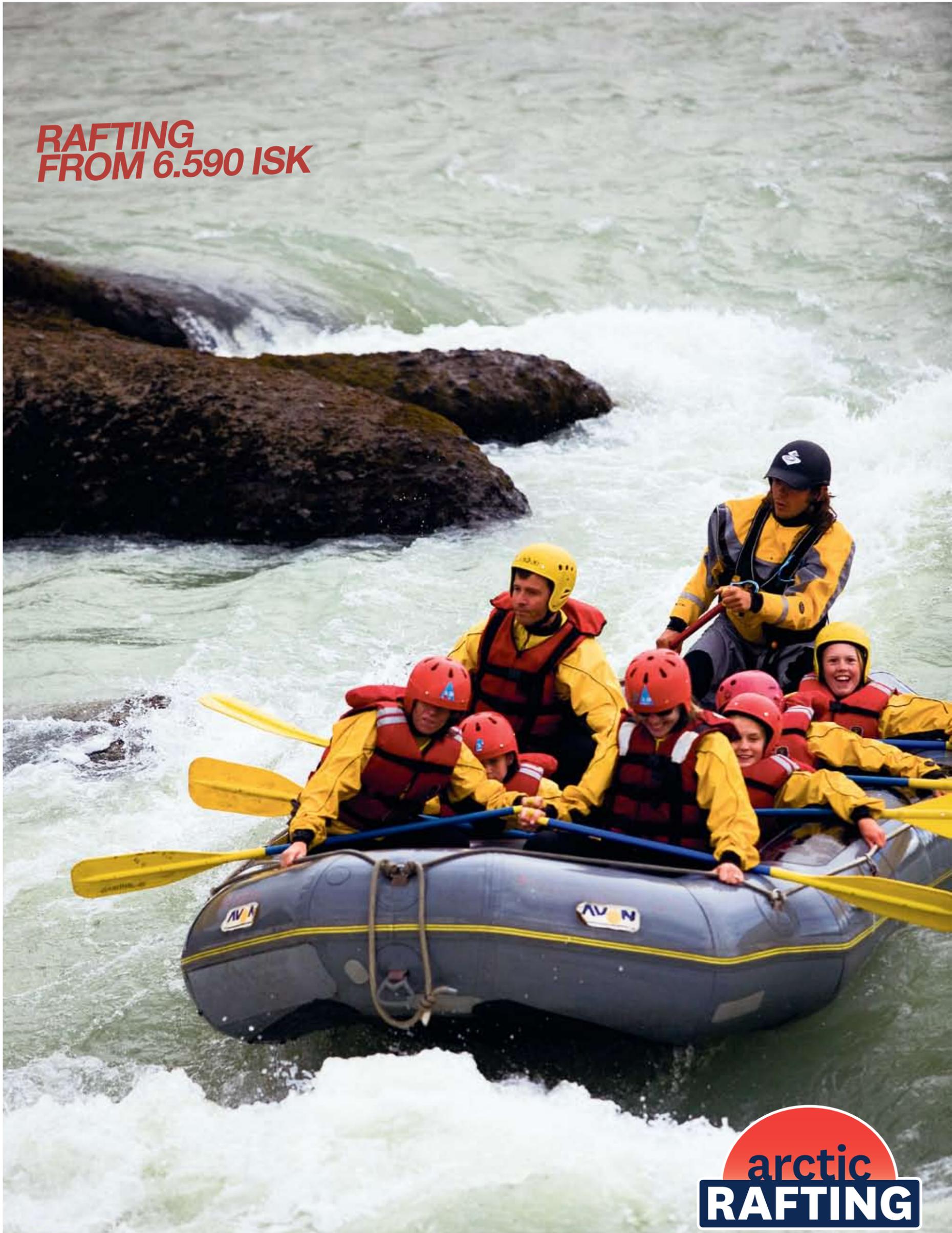
Your annual report cites Dr. Martin Luther King's famous quote: "We have to contribute to peace in a non-violent way". Isn't that a bit sarcastic, since you operate armed divisions?

There is a crisis going on in Afghanistan and the UN Security Council has ordered squads there to be armed for security's sake. So I wouldn't say it unsuitable to call our measures non-violent. I am not particularly fond of their bearing arms, and even think it might only entertain a false sense of security. But if experts have ordered them to carry arms for their own personal safety, I won't dispute their verdict. It is after all they who face the dangers of that environment. 🇮🇸

I AM NOT PARTICULARLY FOND OF THEIR BEARING ARMS, AND EVEN THINK IT MIGHT ONLY ENTERTAIN A FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY. BUT IF EXPERTS HAVE ORDERED THEM TO CARRY ARMS FOR THEIR OWN PERSONAL SAFETY, I WON'T DISPUTE THEIR VERDICT.



**RAFTING
FROM 6.590 ISK**



Arctic Rafting offers rafting trips on the Hvítá River, only 10 minutes from the Geysir area. The trips start at 6.590 ISK and a variety of combination tours are available every day.

We can also pick you up from your hotel in Reykjavík.

Call us on +354-562-7000, meet us at Laugavegur 11 in the Cintamani Center or ask for us at your hotel or nearest tourist information center.

NATURE IS THE ADVENTURE!

 Rafting	 Glacial Hike	 Diving	 Ice Climbing	 Caving	 Canoeing	 Kayaking	 Snorkeling
 Super-Jeep	 Hiking	 Sightseeing	 Whale Watching	 ATV/Quad	 Horse Riding	 Climbing	 Snowmobile

www.adventures.is | info@adventures.is | +354-562-7000

INTERVIEW



Happily Ever After

The first same-sex church marriage in Iceland

BY JAMES CRUGNALE

On July 2, 2008, Katrín Þóra Víðisdóttir and Erla Björk Pálmadóttir became the first same-sex couple to be officially blessed by an Icelandic church, at Melstaðarkirkja in Miðfjörður. Víðisdóttir said it felt “very good to lead the path” and shared the details of their nuptial celebration with the Grapevine:

How does it feel for you to finally make your vows official in a church?

It feels very good to be finally accepted in the church just as everyone else. Now the fact of being gay doesn't make you any less of a person than if you are straight. We don't have the same law [as straight couples], but the law we have is just as good. There are, of course, things to fix and make better, make new words for a couple of things and then it will be perfect. In Icelandic, the words we use for wedding, husband and wife [et al] does not feel right. And even though we are married, my wife won't get any of our stuff like furniture, the house, car and so on if it is on my name as I have no papers that say that she is the rightful owner after I die. They will have to fix this. But of course, we will live happily ever after!

How long did you have to wait for this to happen?

Actually, we didn't have to wait very long, just about four days. Of course, we have been waiting for this for a very long time but we had no idea that this would come anytime soon, so we had just made plans to get married in the [District Commissioner's] office. Just the two of us were going, and of course, our sisters, because they were our witnesses to get married. Our plan was to go there the morning of our wedding day, and then we were going to drive north when the legal stuff was out of the way and there we were going to have good wishes in the church with our family and friends afterwards, dinner, drinks and fun for everyone.

The priest, Sigurður Grétar Sigurðsson, then phoned us a few days before the special day and told us that the new law was at last here. We could do the whole thing in the church! We were, of course, very happy with this. So the plan changed a little but it was no problem. We didn't have to change anything but just cancel the [appointment with the District Commissioner]. But we had no idea that we were going to be the first gay couple to get married in a church. That was just a happy surprise!

What do you feel is the historical significance of this?

The historical significance of this is that, finally, gay people are accepted by the church. It means that now people are accepting us just the way we are. They are accepting the fact that we have feelings too, and we can love just as much as everyone else. And there's nothing wrong about it. We are people too and should have all the same rights as every other person in the world. Happily ever after, you know? 🍷

INTERVIEW BY JAMES CRUGNALE



THESE LEGO MEN ARE HAPPILY MARRIED UNDER OUR COOL NEW LAW

The Biggest Little Pride in the World

How much has changed for Iceland's LGBT community in the past 30 years?

As the controversy over gay rights continues to seethe over heatedly and caustically in the United States, like freshly expelled volcanic lava from Mt. Hekla, here in Iceland cooler heads have prevailed and much progress has since been achieved.

Way back in 1996, Iceland became one of the first nations in the world to give gays and lesbians civil union rights, as well as thorough protection from discrimination. Most recently, in fact only a few weeks ago, same-sex couples were finally allowed to have their relationships legally confirmed by church ministers. While it isn't quite full-marriage equality, most of the liberties granted by hetero-marriage are included.

“[Iceland's civil union law] includes all the same legal rights as does the traditional heterosexual marriage, and there is only a question of time until we see one unified marriage law for Icelanders regardless of sex and sexual orientation,” says Gay Pride organizer, Þorvaldur Kristinsson. “To make it clear what a progress we have seen, I like to point out that the revised versions of same-sex registered partnership law in 2000 and 2006 gave full adoptive rights to same-sex couples as well as full right to seek assistance in official fertility clinics.”

Moreover, Iceland is one of the biggest European LGBT celebration hotspots of the summer with Reykjavík's cheerfully raucous Gay Pride festival taking place August 7 to 10. Organizers affectionately declare the event “the biggest little pride in the world!”

Despite the present ubiquity of the great strides LGBT people have accomplished in Iceland, the movement has been through hard times and much greater adversity. “Until the 1970s lesbians and gay men were practically invisible in Icelandic society which surrounded them with contempt and massive silence,” says Kristinsson. “Their reaction was either to hide their sexual identity completely or leave the country, correctly termed as sexual political refugees. The radical change we have seen in the last 30 years has mainly been based on a massive educational and

legislative work led by Samtökin 78, the Icelandic national organisation of queer people. A close cooperation with several MPs led to several important recommendations in Alþingi.”

This year, Samtökin 78 celebrates its 30th anniversary. As Iceland's only gay rights organisation, the organisation provides a safe space for LGBT people as well as allies to gather and organise. The group also boasts an umbrella network comprised of similar other subgroups including LGBT students & youth as well as parents and various other caucuses.

Executive director of the organisation, Lárus Ari Knútsson, says that Iceland should be considered a role model to the world on LGBT matters. “The Nordic countries have been the front runners on this issue, we've learned from the others; there's definitely been a strong collaboration.”

DESPITE ADVANCEMENTS, BARRIERS REMAIN

Knútsson acknowledges though that while Iceland has made great strides, there is still a way to go to ensure greater equality for LGBT people. “Unfortunately, we have not reached the same peak as Norway. What Iceland has done is allowing for churches to marry if the priest will agree; Norway has said, ‘Everyone can get married, deal with it.’”

Knútsson also notes that the rights of transgendered people are limited and medical services required for their needs are far and few between. “Icelandic law is quite unclear about the rights and status of transgendered people,” says Kristinsson. “I see it as our most important task here to establish a parliamentary committee to investigate the legal and social situation of transsexual people in Iceland, and suggest progressive improvements, so important for their happiness and well-being.”

PUBLIC SENTIMENT REMAINS SUPPORTIVE

Contemporary public attitudes in Iceland have been growing more accepting of the LGBT community. “Since the early 1990s, opinion polls have shown a surprising change of values in society and express in fact more respect and tolerance towards gay men and lesbians than in other western societies,” says Kristinsson. “Although the situation is almost the best imaginable right now, we

must bear in mind that new generations appear every year and therefore our fight for human rights – as well as for the social security and well-being of gays and other queer people – is a never-ending story especially in terms of educational and informative work. Let us bear in mind that historically speaking we belong to a culture which has always been hostile towards queers. Although being grateful for the enlightenment which characterises the modern Iceland, I am always prepared for some unexpected swing in weather.”

GAY PRIDE FEST

The annual Gay Pride festival is just around the corner and when asked how big he expects the turnout to be this year, Kristinsson said it would depend on the weather. “Last year we saw some 75,000 guests in the Reykjavík city centre. That makes about one fourth of the nation. I would be quite happy to see some 100,000 this time!”

Kristinsson also stresses that locals are very welcoming of LGBT visitors who are coming to the festivities. “A great part of the people who attend Reykjavík Gay Pride is heterosexual, our families and friends, and without this supportive atmosphere, there would hardly be such a big celebration in Reykjavík. The general heterosexual support makes our festivities quite unique in the world and our queer visitors grasp this particular spirit immediately as they arrive,” says Kristinsson. “The number of foreign visitors have increased by every year and many of them come again and again!” 🍷

ALTHOUGH THE SITUATION IS ALMOST THE BEST IMAGINABLE RIGHT NOW, WE MUST BEAR IN MIND THAT NEW GENERATIONS APPEAR EVERY YEAR AND THEREFORE OUR FIGHT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS – AS WELL AS FOR THE SOCIAL SECURITY AND WELL-BEING OF GAYS AND OTHER QUEER PEOPLE – IS A NEVER-ENDING STORY ...





REYKJAVÍK'S LARGEST SHOPPING CENTRE

In **Kringlan** you will discover more than 150 quality shops, varied restaurants and diverse services such as banks and a multiplex cinema. Kringlan offers a variety of international brands, including Boss, Karen Millen, Zara, Sand, Marc O'Polo, Oasis, Vero Moda, Topshop and many more, as well as 66°North and Icelandic designs and souvenirs.

For your convenience, you can claim your **tax-free** cash refund at our service desk and reclaim up to 15% of the VAT.

Kringlan is only 5 minutes from the city centre by car or bus.

Mon. to Wed. 10-18.30, Thursday 10-21, Friday 10-19, Saturday 10-18, Sunday 13-18

www.kringlan.is

Kringlan

ARTICLE BY JAMES CRUGNALE



Great Moments in Icelandic History

Iceland gets the beer back

Imagining Reykjavík without beer is like imagining Amsterdam without hash brownies. However, only nineteen years ago (!) it was against the law to sell and buy beer in Iceland.

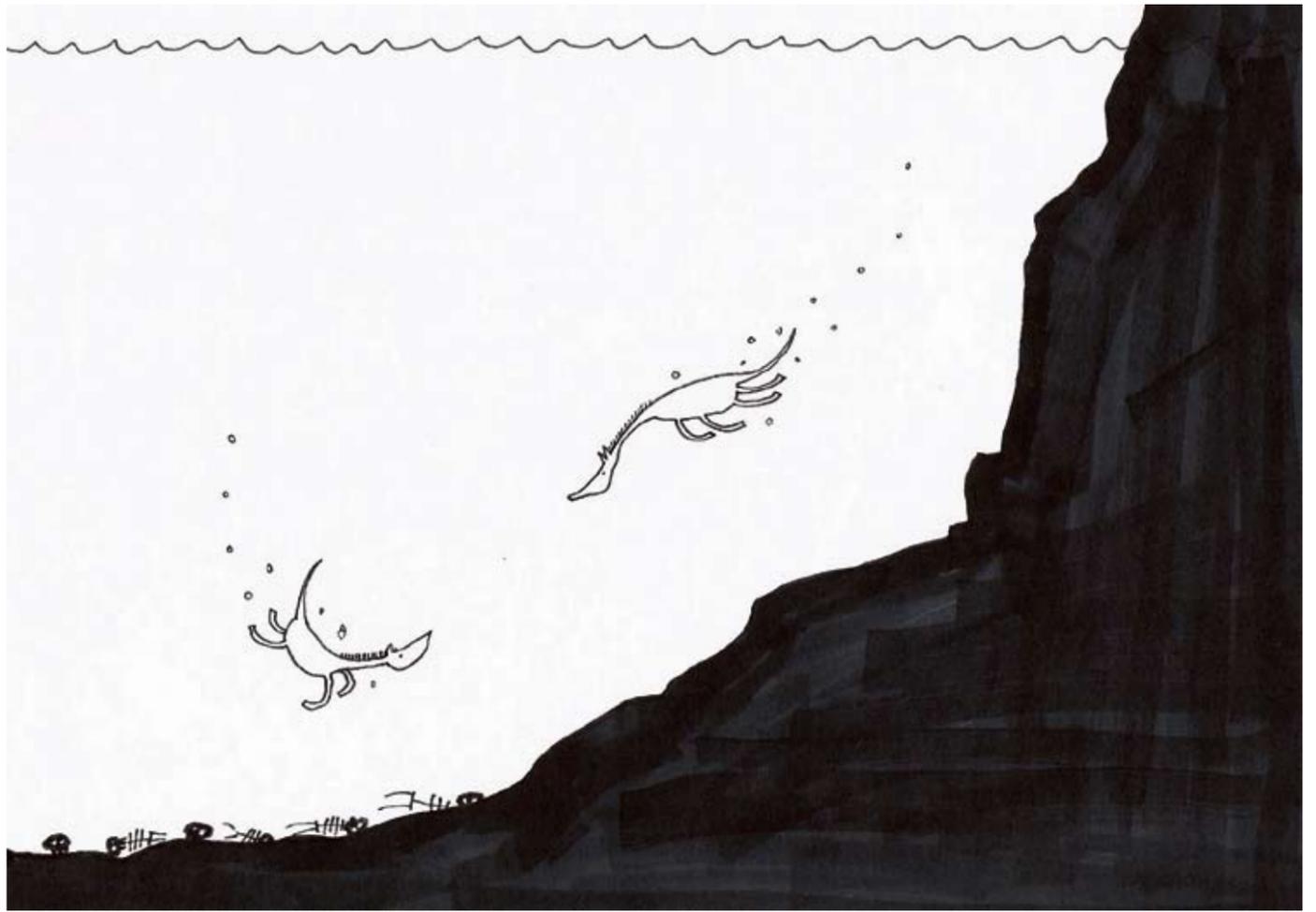
The long, strange saga began in 1908 when Icelanders actually voted for a hardcore, full-alcohol ban. It eventually went into effect in 1915. The island's sober, teetotaling party didn't last long until trouble erupted, as Spain put its foot down and declared if Iceland wasn't going to buy its wine, they weren't going to buy Iceland's fish – a potential death knell for the economy. To remedy this, in 1922 prohibition for wine was repealed, and other alcoholic beverages have been legally imported since 1934, yet, bizarrely, beer was exempt. For nearly a century, boozers jonesin' for a brewski had to smuggle them into the country. It wasn't until 1988 that a beer-sympathetic parliament finally stepped in; Alþingi voted 13 to 8 to end the ban. The New York Times reported at the time that there was jubilation in the streets as "a dozen beer-lovers flashed victory signs outside Parliament after the results came in."

When beer was officially legalised on March 1, 1989, it was truly a night to remember, recalls Ölstofan bar owner, Kormákur Geirharðsson. "I remember a lot of drinking and a lot of pissing all night long and the next days, and it [was] not stopping," said Geirharðsson. "This was the day Icelanders took the step to try to become civilized. Ölstofan was not open then, but the idea of owning a bar started there."

According to a report by alcohol studies researcher, Hildigunnur Ólafsdóttir, once the beer ban was lifted, the number of liquor licenses in Reykjavík jumped by 47% in one year. Immediately following the introduction, total alcohol consumption rose by 23% from 1988 to 1989, from 4.48 to 5.51 litres of alcohol per inhabitant 15 years old and over. As of 2007, consumption is up to 7.1 litres of alcohol per capita. Since the repeal of the ban, aside from the bars, beer can be purchased at the state-run alcohol distributor, ÁTVR. Viking is the most popular beer-brand sold there; Thule is second.

To commemorate Iceland's day of beer freedom in the country, March 1 is considered Beer Day and citizens hoist a brew to spite alcoholic oppression. The legalisation of beer remains a cultural milestone in Iceland and a major seismic shift in the nation's alcoholic beverage preference, as beer has today become the most popular alcoholic beverage of choice. 🍷

ARTICLE BY HAUKUR S MAGNÚSSON — ILLUSTRATION BY HUGLEIKUR DAGSSON



A COUPLE OF NYKUR, SWIMMING IN THE LAKE

Another Icelandic Monster: Nykur

Fearsome water horse of yore: These guys are way evil

The creature we feature this month, for all your learning pleasures, is the horse-like amphibian Nykur. Try saying that slowly: Nykur. Ny-kur. It sounds kind of sinister rolling off your tongue. And that's fitting, for Nykur is a sinister beast. In fact, its sole purpose of being is seeing wandering Icelanders (or their visitors) to a watery grave. This is your cue to gaze over Hugleikur Dagsson's chilling illustration and shiver.

Nykur is a horse-like being that lives underwater. Easily identified by its grey colour and backwards hooves, the Nykur will occasionally surface to try and lure passing humans to mount it. Once mounted by an unwitting passer-by (and it cannot be un-mounted, as its skin is all sticky), the Nykur will immediately ride towards its underwater home – drowning whoever stuck to it in the process. This makes the Nykur very happy.

So here is what you need to remember: If you are ever wandering the Icelandic countryside and find yourself confronting a grey horse hanging out by a massive source of water (e.g. a lake, a stream or the ocean), check if his hooves are on backwards. If they are, run like hell, for you have confronted a Nykur. And those guys are really big on the idea of drowning you.

If you don't feel like running you can, however, rid yourself of the beast simply by muttering its name. This will reportedly prompt it to run back into the water and rid you of any imminent drowning danger. If yelling "Nykur!" at him doesn't seem to work, you should try uttering some of his synonyms: Nennir, Nóni, Vatnaskratti ("water demon") or Kumbur for starters.

Not much is known about the Nykur's origins, but it has counterparts in many neighbouring countries' folklore, so it has to be assumed that the creepy beast plagued the greater Scandinavia area in centuries past. In Orkney, Nykur's cousin is called a Nuggle, Swedes call him Bäckahästen and Celtic folklore refers to him as Kelpie. 🍷



ARTICLE BY MARCUS WALSH

Wake Up And Smell The Coffee

Cafe D'Haïti on Tryggvagata 16 was established last April and has been steadily gaining fans ever since. Owner Methasulen returned to Iceland from Haiti with wife Elda and now finds himself keeping Reykjavík's caffeine enthusiasts on their toes. Elda is the very essence of Cafe D'Haïti, her arcane eyes and all-knowing smile acknowledge you as aromas smoulder around the shop.

Elda has applied Haitian interpretations to Turkish and Americano coffees amongst others. Makaya Bleu incredibly is the only type of bean the company uses. Roasting the product on-site almost every day is the secret to the delectable taste and the cup of coffee itself is simply the outgrowth of a lot of love.

When you enter Cafe D' Haïti it is as if Elda's anticipating your very entrance and some of the customers describe her as the face of the company. Far from guarding the stove, Elda lets Grapevine wake up by smelling the coffee beans and nibbling on cardamom, which is derived from the ginger family and forms the Cafe Arabiskt (380 ISK), an acquired taste that comes highly recommended. 🍷



www.flybus.is

ENJOY YOUR TRIP WITH FLYBUS

The Flybus airport shuttle will take you from Keflavik International Airport to Reykjavik city and vice versa. The Flybus is connected to all arriving and departing flights at Keflavik airport.

Seats are always guaranteed.

WE'LL TAKE YOU THERE!

ALL THE MOST EXCITING PLACES IN ICELAND



RE-04 Golden Circle

Don't miss out on the fascinating experience the Icelandic Golden Circle gives you. On this tour we take you to the geysers, the famous Gullfoss waterfall along with a visit to Pingvellir National Park. This tour is a must to make your visit to Iceland complete.

BOOK YOUR DAY TOURS ON OUR WEBSITE / www.re.is



Blue Lagoon Express

A peaceful time in the Blue Lagoon is the perfect start or end to your holiday in Iceland. We offer many trips a day and you can either go straight to the airport or go back to Reykjavik. So take a dip in the Blue Lagoon and feel rejuvenated afterwards.

BOOK YOUR DAY TOURS ON OUR WEBSITE / www.re.is



RE-80 Glacier Adventure

Want to add some excitement to your visit to Iceland? What about snowmobiling on a glacier with a wonderful view over the south coast! This tour will combine your need for an adrenalin rush with the Icelandic landscape.

BOOK YOUR DAY TOURS ON OUR WEBSITE / www.re.is



RE-05 Reykjavik Grand Excursion

Get to know the capital with an expert by your side. We take you around Reykjavik with a guide and show you the highlights of the city. The tour ends at the National Museum of Iceland where you can see Icelandic culture at its best.

BOOK YOUR DAY TOURS ON OUR WEBSITE / www.re.is



RE-81 Take a Walk on the Ice Side

Want to see and feel something completely different? Why not take a walk on a glacier and experience a surface that you have never been able to walk on before! Take a tour with us and try something new - a once in a lifetime experience for most.

BOOK YOUR DAY TOURS ON OUR WEBSITE / www.re.is



RE-24 Gullfoss and Geysir Direct

If you want to spend your afternoon in the countryside join this tour with us and we will show you two of Iceland's most famous attractions - Gullfoss and the geysers. Make sure you don't miss out on this one.

BOOK YOUR DAY TOURS ON OUR WEBSITE / www.re.is



RE-08 Saga Circle

This tour is perfect for all Saga enthusiast. On this tour we take you around the area where one of the Icelandic Sagas took place - along with enjoying spectacular landscape. Come and follow the footsteps of the Vikings with us.

BOOK YOUR DAY TOURS ON OUR WEBSITE / www.re.is



RE-15 South Shore Adventure

This tour takes you along the sandy coastline of the South with a taste of Icelandic nature. On this tour you breathe in the fresh air by a black beach just before seeing striking waterfalls that mesmerize you while gazing at them.

BOOK YOUR DAY TOURS ON OUR WEBSITE / www.re.is

EXPO



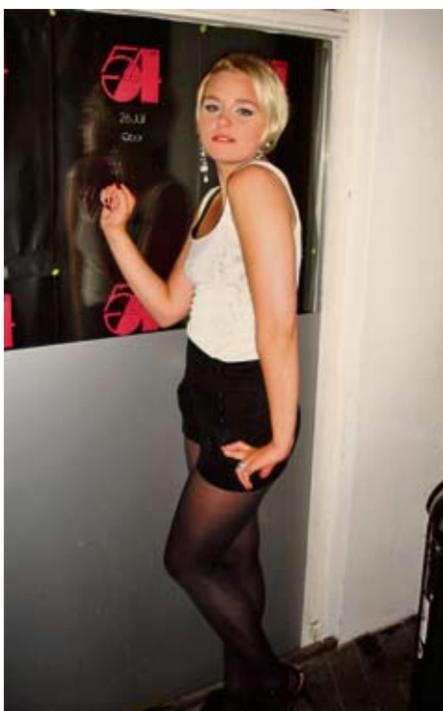
Reykjavik Excursions
KYNNISFERÐIR

**NAME:**

Annie

OCCUPATION:

Photographer

**NAME:**

Birna Sif

OCCUPATION:

Hairdresser and make-up artist

**NAME:**

Katrín Helga

OCCUPATION:

Student



THE MIGHTY BELFAST: THEY'RE PRETTY GOOD

Only Amusing When Desperate

FM Belfast on the band's history, crazy fans and upcoming debut release.

As soon as Grapevine heard rumours about a forthcoming full-length release from the dance moguls in FM Belfast they sent a reporter to find out whether the stories were factual. It wasn't exactly easy reaching the rising stars but after several attempts of getting them all together it finally happened.

Grapevine: Shouldn't we begin by you telling me what it's all about? Who are you?

[Their faces turn weird. They soon burst out laughing, explaining that this is way too open-ended a question. Lóa eventually reveals that they'd really prefer yes and no questions if possible. When I'm getting ready to bombard a dull yes and no list, one of the band's two Árni interrupts the muggy silence.]

Árni "+1" Hlödversson: Well, we are primarily a band, but we are also friends. And uh, yeah, we are kind of fun.

[I feel forced to try and rouse some enthusiasm, and tell them I'd heard they were "wild and crazy" interview subjects. I ask if that was a misunderstanding.]

Lóa Hlín Hjálmtýsdóttir: No, no, no! We just finished eating you know, nobody's fun just after a heavy meal. And my fingers are still kind of greasy, we had chicken wings.

+1: Yeah, all the blood goes to your stomach while you eat. That can't be good for your humour. We are always kind of dull when we're full. We only crave sleep, not some journalist nitpicking at us.

Árni Vilhjálmsson: It's better to interview us when we are extremely desperate.

Grapevine: So, when are you desperate, when should I visit upon you again?

ÁV: Well, we're always desperate when we're completely broke, you know.

Grapevine: And you are loaded with money right now?

Lóa: Well Árni, you have to speak for yourself!

+1: Árni has some money, we don't! So maybe this is a good time after all. Who would've thought?

Grapevine: Árni, can you explain your alleged wealth?

The other Árni: Uhm, the bulk of my funds actually have a negative status but I have some petty

cash, to please my whims.

Grapevine: When did you start joining forces on stage?

Lóa: The three of us started out in Airwaves 2005.

+1: Yeah, then everything started happening. But the three sitting at this table are the real FM Belfast. Kinda the essence of the band. But our posse gets pretty vast at times. When everyone has time.

Lóa: There have been times where there are eight of us on stage.

+1: Yeah, we get really crazy sometimes. But to tell you the truth, it doesn't happen very often.

Lóa: Like at Airwaves, there were eight persons that simply jumped the stage.

+1: Without notice!

Grapevine: And you just let everybody take part in the romping?

+1: yeeeah... If they've got rhythm, I don't mind if they shake something or fool around.

Lóa: Someone like the drunken chick in New York is not welcome

ÁV: No, she was not welcome!

+1: We don't exactly put up an "OPEN" sign next to the stage; this is not an open mic. But our friends are welcome at any time.

Lóa: Except that dude, you know, and the drunken chick!

+1: Yeah, I think we shouldn't be talking about them. But OK, let's rephrase this: All of our friends are welcome, except the shaky dude and the drunken chick.

Grapevine: What have you been up to lately?

+1: Well, we've been playing a lot. We performed at Naked Ape's anniversary the other day. It was kind of cool, out in the street. And we even got to amuse a few drunks. They really loved our music; they danced around like there was no tomorrow.

Lóa: They didn't want to join us at the stage though.

ÁV: Yeah, that was kind of odd.

+1: They knew their place in life. We also played at the Lunga festival in Seyðisfjörður. That was fun.

ÁV: On several occasions in NYC. Just all around really.

[Árni +1 and Lóa seemed to be the dominant members of the trio; the other Árni got few opportunities to interrupt their eagerness. However, it should be noted that they are an official item.]

Grapevine: So Árni +1 and Lóa, are you the king and queen of FM Belfast?

+1: No not at all, we are but humble peasants under the great other Árni.

ÁV: Yeah, you could say I am the Count of FM Bel-

fast.

+1: Well. We're mostly democratic.

Lóa: Of course we started out just the two of us, but nothing happened until the other Árni joined us.

Grapevine: Has it never caused any complications that the band has two bearers of the name Árni?

+1: Well it will probably cause some confusion in this interview later on, you know, when you're typing it up.

ÁV: We really hate when people mix us up, so you should listen closely to our inflexion, mister.

[It was at this time point that Árni Vilhjálmsson began showing his skills as a professional entertainer. After a few minutes of enigmatic, educated jokes, with the appropriate jollification of the rest, we managed to continue.]

Grapevine: Tell me about your forthcoming full-length.

+1: It was partly recorded in NYC, and partly here and I just finished mixing it, so things are on the move. We recorded, mixed, and mastered it ourselves. And we're also creating the artwork. Pretty independent, huh?

Lóa: That's something

+1: We hope to have it in stores by the end of August. The next few weeks will go into sorting out all the dates. The record itself is smashing, I would have liked it if anyone else had made it.

Lóa: We were listening to it in the car the other day, it was really demented!

+1: I like to fall asleep listening to it...

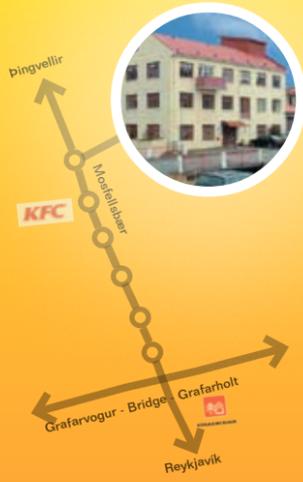
ÁV: OK

Grapevine: Unfortunately, we have to wrap this up. Would you like some sort of epic ending to your interview?

ÁV: Could we be the band that lived?

Lóa: It's not really appropriate to make fun of that. But what about the band that survived a year's separation? 🍷

WE DON'T EXACTLY PUT UP AN "OPEN" SIGN NEXT TO THE STAGE; THIS IS NOT AN OPEN MIC. BUT OUR FRIENDS ARE WELCOME AT ANY TIME.



Álafoss - outlet
Álafossvegur 23
Mosfellsbær
 (C.a 16 km away from
 Reykjavík on the road
 to Þingvellir)

Open:
Mondays - Fridays
9:00 - 18:00
Saturdays
9:00 - 16:00

Álafoss
Laugavegur 1
Reykjavík - City Center

Open:
In summer:
Every day
9:00 - 22:00

In Winter:
Mondays - Fridays
10:00 - 18:00
Saturdays
10:00 - 14:00



ÁLAFOSS
 Wool & Souvernir Shop

Take the warmth
 with you!
www.alafoss.is



Design: Sjalldur auga minn 2008 / Photo: Halgrímur Késtinsson

Fire is needed by the newcomer
 Whose knees are frozen numb;
 Meat and clean linen a man needs
 Who has fared across the fells.*

The Icelandic Sheep,
Keeping the people alive since 874 AD.



*From the Hávamál, 1300 AD



PÁLL ÓSKAR BRINGS OUT THE BEST IN PEOPLE

Páll Óskar is On

Iceland's favourite flaming singing sensation shows us the ropes

Reykjavík's LGBT community is rapidly readying the 2008 Gay-Pride extravaganza. Pop star extraordinaire Páll Óskar took time out of his busy, busy schedule to divulge some tricks for the sleeves of our Gay Pride suit.

Páll Óskar Hjálmtýsson ("Palli" or "Paul Oscar") is a true Icelandic icon if there ever was one. He has been one of Iceland's most revered singers since releasing his solo debut, *Stuð*, in 1993. Lauded as disco's Great White Hope for the nineties, Palli has churned out hit albums and singles at a steady pace ever since, reaching his greatest success yet with the release of last year's full-length *Allt fyrir ástina* ("All for Love"). A creative epoch as well as listeners' favourite, the album earned him the Icelandic Music Awards for "Singer of the Year," "Net Voters'

Favourite" and "Listeners' favourite". Indeed, the hit album has Palli in such great demand that one is confronted with the following voice-mail message when trying to reach him by phone:

"Hi, this is Palli. I am no longer accepting bookings for 2008..."

Paul Oscar is also a well-known and highly outspoken gay activist, and can be regularly found commenting on gay and lesbian issues in the popular media. As always, he will feature quite prominently at this year's Gay Pride bash, and will perform at the Open Air Concert at Arnarhóll, Saturday, August 9, as well as the legendary Gay Pride Dance at NASA that evening. The Grapevine met up with Paul Oscar last week, and got him to comment on some clubs (night- or otherwise) that that have proved important for him as a homosexual, performer and human being.

You can buy and download all of Paul Oscar's music on www.tonlist.is, and befriend him on MySpace at www.myspace.com/palloskar

PÁLL ÓSKAR ON... Q BAR

Q Bar on Ingólfsstræti is very popular among the young gay crowd in Reykjavík. They have great DJs, throw great parties, and the club itself manages to dance on the thin line of being neither too large nor small. If you like to dance and get properly drunk, this is the place. If you're lucky, you will probably hook up with someone in there, eager to show you around Reykjavík in more than one sense. www.Qbar.is

PÁLL ÓSKAR ON... SAMTÖKIN 78

Samtökin '78, the National Organisation of Lesbians and Gay Men in Iceland, was founded in 1978, at a time when prejudice and discrimination forced many gays and lesbians to emigrate. The success of the new organisation was nothing short of remarkable. If you're a gay tourist, this is the first place to go, if only to check out the fabulous library, which hosts the biggest collection of gay literature in Scandinavia. www.Samtokin78.is

PÁLL ÓSKAR ON... 22

In the late eighties and early nineties, the club 22 on Laugavegur 22 was my hangout as I was coming out. I look back at this place with great nostalgia, and refer to it as "The Gay 22". It was like the house itself embraced the gay crowd, we loved it back, and I never experienced a bad evening in there. I did my first DJ gigs there, in the very early nineties. The dance floor was so small, it was the perfect place to rehearse or test your DJ skills, so I slowly mastered my technique in there. I also did my very first performance in drag in there. I mimed to a Mae West record, to a song called "They call me sister Honkey Tonk". Brought down the house. This is not a gay bar anymore, and I doubt it ever will be again. "This too shall pass".

PÁLL ÓSKAR ON... GAY PRIDE

The Reykjavík Gay Pride has grown from a small get-together into a massive heart-warming celebration, with more than 60.000 people in attendance. I think the message of self-respect has touched a chord in the public. Anyone who has doubted their own self-respect can relate to this. To me, it is a long-term project. I think it's important to children and teenagers to witness the Gay Pride event taking place. That's why we have to do this every year. In 25 years, it will be interesting to see the real harvest of Gay Pride. I look forward to witness the straight peoples' attitude towards gay people in the future, not to mention gay peoples' attitude towards themselves.

PÁLL ÓSKAR ON... MSC ICELAND

The MSC Club is a private club on Saturdays for men only, where you have to ring a doorbell to get in. If the club is open, there is candlelight lit at the front door. The doorkeeper will let you in if you follow the dress code. It is OK to wear tight jeans, workers shirt and boots, not tight jeans and sneakers for example. This is not a suit and tie club. What waits for you inside is the cream of Icelandic gay men, lovingly friendly and relaxed atmosphere. There is enough space for 30 to 40 men, three chairs and one cage. I love this club. If I'm not DJ-ing next Saturday night, you'll probably find me there. You can get all the information about this club and the dress code at www.msc.is.

PÁLL ÓSKAR ON... NASA

NASA at Austurvöllur is the best, biggest and most glamorous club venue in Iceland, hands down. It hosts the Gay Pride party [DJ'd by Paul Oscar himself] on Saturday August 9, which will be the best party of your gay life. Tourists visiting Nasa usually have their eyes popping out of their sockets. They cannot believe that a fab club this size can be hidden behind that rather small and crummy entry. I'll be singing my own pop songs, spinning a lot of Madonna, Kylie and Eurovision favourites. If you're wearing Dolce & Gabbana, this is the club to show it off. Expect confetti bombs and sing-alongs. 🇮🇸

FOREX

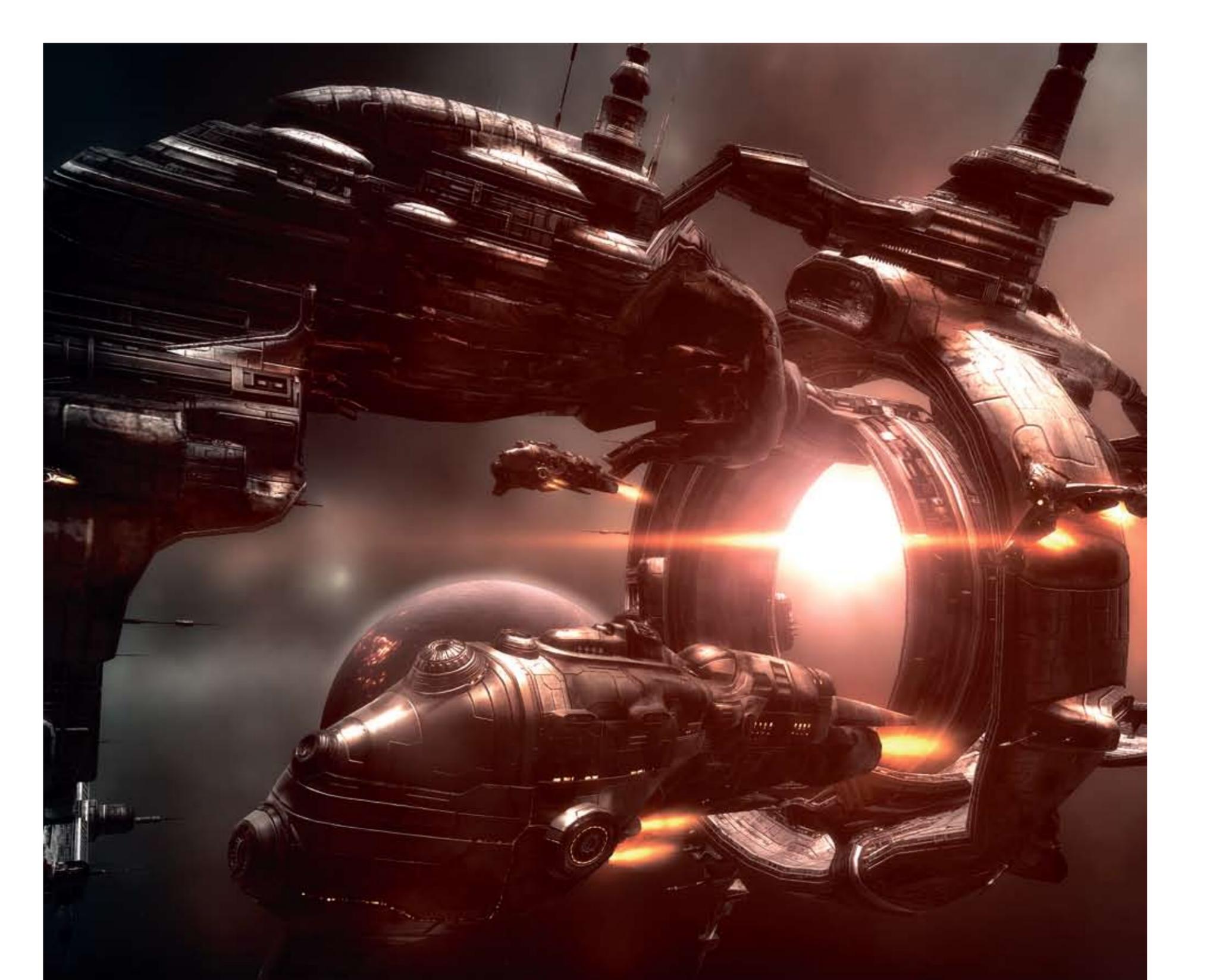
MORE MONEY FOR YOUR MONEY



Money Exchange - MoneyGram - FOREX Money Transfer - Tax Free

www.forex.is

Bankastræti 2, 101 Reykjavík, 551-7755 · Smáratorg 3, 201 Kópavogur, 551-7757



JOIN THE TEAM!

REYKJAVIK – ATLANTA – SHANGHAI

GENIUSES WANTED IN ALL LOCATIONS

GET MORE INFORMATION AT WWW.CCPGAMES.COM/JOBS



CHEAP REYKJAVÍK

ARTICLE BY JAMES CRUGNALE

Eat Pizza and be Merry

BY HAUKUR S. MAGNÚSSON

Welcome to yet another instalment of Cheap Reykjavík, where the Grapevine's resident misers share some of their patented money saving tricks and tips. If you've got some miserly penny-pinching advice you'd like to share with Grapevine readers, drop a line to haukur@grapevine.is. and he will pass it along.

CHEAP PIZZA

Most will agree that pizza is pretty good. Everyone will agree that a pretty good pizza is absurdly expensive in Iceland. Icelanders in their college years spend many a hung-over Sunday devising master plans to get one with cream cheese, pepperoni and garlic delivered on lay-away, with oft-varying results. You can however munch your hangovers into oblivion with the proper foresight, for Bónus offers surprisingly adequate frozen pizza for a very meagre price (which we can't really divulge, because they keep changing it every five minutes. But it's generally cheap).

The Euroshopper line of frozen foods is probably made of cardboard and petroleum by-products, but with the correct use of spices, condiments and add-ons, the fact can be easily ignored. The Euroshopper Pizza can be found either in "Margarita" form, in thick, green packs of three (these are the cheapest per pizza), or as a "Pepperoni" or "Three cheese" scorcher (a bit pricier, but still cheap as dirt). These will set you back around 125–250 ISK each, and can be easily made to resemble some sort of Italian food using common household items, such as vegetables, lunch meats and oil. Enjoy!

CHEAP DRINKING

The cliché goes that you need to sell your kidney to be able to sacrifice your liver drinking in Iceland. This may be true – if your definition of drinking involves fancy-schmanzy trivialities such as "welcoming atmosphere", "pleasant company" and any form of good taste. If, however, you are willing to give those things to get your drunk on, frugal drinking in Iceland can be done.

Firstly: do you think the mumbling "bohemians" cavorting on Austurvöllur on a given afternoon are made of money? No! Most of them suffer an extreme lack of cash, yet they manage to stay drunk 24/7. Drinking on the cheap can be done, and those professional party animals are living proof.

Here is our first tip: be sure to stock up on alcohol while the state liquor stores are still open. But not just any alcohol. If you're a vodka drinking feller, then Koskenkorva should be your choice for small, easily concealed bottles. For beers, Thor and Slots are the cheapest to be had at 119 ISK per 33 cl can. While the taste is nothing to write home about, and their alcohol percentage is quite low, they can still keep you drunk pretty much all day if you gulp down enough of them. 🍷



THEY KINDA LOOK LIKE LEGOS, DON'T THEY?

Lost in Iceland?

Google and others struggle to map Iceland

Google has mapped the moon, Mars and the sky, yet amazingly cannot provide a roadmap for Iceland. While every other European country has been road-mapped for years on its website, Iceland remains a black hole when it comes to finding directions to simple landmarks like Hallgrímskirkja or the Blue Lagoon. Google Map commands (such as "pizza in Reykjavík") that typically work in Copenhagen, Stockholm and Oslo also will leave locals and tourists stranded. While Google does include aerial photography of the country as well as new Flickr and Wikipedia features, streets, landmarks and businesses remain missing. So what is the problem?

"We usually acquire data from commercial mapping companies (e.g. Tele Atlas), and they do not include Iceland in their products," said Ed Parsons, geospatial technologist at Google's London office.

"Normally, Google Maps has privately owned data," explained Iceland's Ministry of Environment's National Land Survey service manager Gunnar Haukur Kristinsson. "In Iceland, there aren't many map companies. Unlike the US, whose maps are public domain, we must sell our data by law. In recent weeks, we were contacted

by Google, which was looking for data and asking how much." While Parsons wouldn't divulge how much Iceland was charging the company to purchase the maps, insiders speculate that Iceland's government charges exorbitant amounts for the rights.

Karl Arnar Arnarsson, a staff member from Ísgraf, an Icelandic company specializing in selling mapping software, said that he had a few theories about Iceland's long absence from Google Maps. "Now that Google has mapped [everything else], they've moved on to Iceland and because the maps are owned by the government, they're not willing to pay a lot for them," Arnarsson said. "They're not looking at Iceland as an isolated problem; they're looking at the overall picture."

Other mapping-based companies like Garmin have run into similar mapping difficulties for the country. To remedy the problem, Google appears to be circumventing purchasing expensive

Other countries missing roadmap information from Google Maps:

Armenia
Azerbaijan
Bhutan
Dominican Republic
Equatorial Guinea
French Guiana
Georgia
Greenland
Guyana
Lesotho
Mauritania
North Korea
Suriname
Western Sahara

mapping rights with the creation of Google Mapmaker, a program where users can add geographic information to selected areas

Google Public Affairs rep Clara Armand-Delille said this new program would help make local Icelanders "citizen cartographers." "No one knows local information better than the people that live there," according to Armand-Delille. "We believe that the knowledge of our users will improve and expand the depth and breadth of coverage in Google Maps [and] will eventually be added to Google maps but it may take a few months to show."

As to whether Iceland's map companies were intimidated that Google is allowing users to take matters into their own hands with

mapping the country themselves, Kristinsson remained at ease. "We don't see [Google Mapmaker] as a threat, our customers want verified data. It will not hurt our business, only widen the use of geographic information" said Kristinsson. 🍷



Hafid Blaa
útsýnis & veitingastaður
restaurant

seafood restaurant
With a splendid view
(354) 483 1000 - www.hafidblaa.is





DAYtours

Spectacular
Breathtaking
Unforgettable

Glacier & Hot
spring walks

www.mountainguides.is
Phone: +354 587 9999



**ICELANDIC
MOUNTAIN
GUIDES**



TAKE A LITTLE PIECE OF ICELAND HOME WITH YOU

At Leifur Eiriksson Air Terminal you will find a wide selection of Icelandic souvenirs, products and design wares at tax and duty free prices. Everything you need to make the trip to Iceland an everlasting memory, at better price.



PROFILE

Janus & Tinna

BY ODDUR STURLUSON — PHOTO BY GAS

Janus Bragi Jakobsson and Tinna Ottesen are an Icelandic couple who have gained attention recently for the experimental underwater concerts they held during the four day warm-up preceding the Roskilde Music Festival. The idea first arose in 1999 when Tinna was a member of the concept-group NeoGeo. They held three underwater concerts in Sundhöllin in collaboration with Reykjavík city officials, and in 2007 Janus and Tinna decided to revive and evolve the idea. The concerts were held in a small lake near the festival grounds and were open to anyone who wanted to experience music in a new environment. People could either wade out into the cooling waters of the lake or sit back and relax on specially designed "listening benches" with only their ears submersed. DJs Rosa Lux, Mike Sheridan and El Grillo played on a stage shaped and painted to look like a sunken ship using underwater speakers designed for dolphin training.

Tinna and Janus both grew up in Iceland and met when they were students in the notoriously artsy high school Menntaskólinn við Hamrahlíð. Tinna moved to Denmark to go to art school and Janus followed shortly after. Janus is now a student at The National Film School of Denmark and Tinna is looking forward to her next cooperative project with the famous artistic group Halfmachine (<http://halfmachine.info>), which will mix her interest in aquatic exploration and the pioneer methods of experimentation associated with Halfmachine. They will also take part in next year's Roskilde Festival, this time with a bigger budget and more experience under their belt, with the goal of making an underwater concert truly comparable to the above-sea-level experience. "Water is a much better medium for sound than air but not all music can be heard underwater," Tinna tells me. "Low bass and high pitched sounds can't be heard but everything in between works fine. Kim Larsen for example sounds great! The goal though is to do it so well that the sound quality will be comparable to an above water concert." 

NAME:

Janus Bragi Jakobsson & Tinna Ottesen

PLACE OF BIRTH:

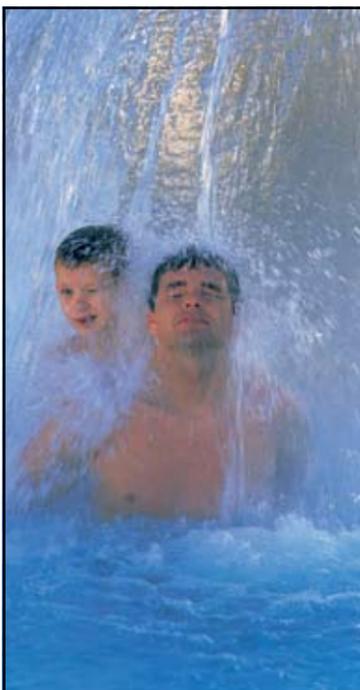
Reykjavík, Iceland

PROFESSION:

Student (Janus) and Artist (Tinna)

CURRENTLY:

Living in Denmark and looking forward to next year's underwater concert.

WEBSITE:www.myspace.com/underwaterconcert

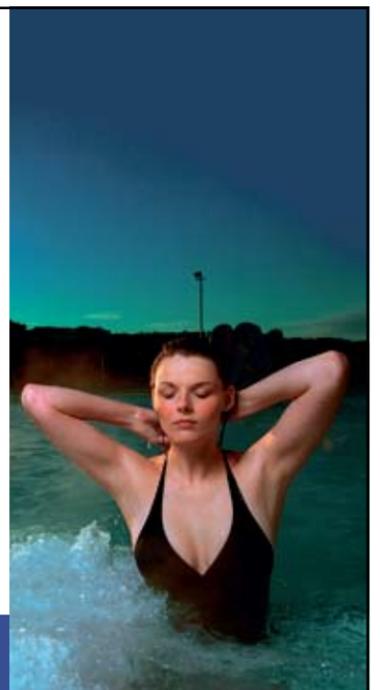
Tell us a story — Win an invitation to Iceland

The most popular spots for foreign tourists visiting Reykjavík are the Thermal Pools and Baths, which are amazing sources of wellness, good health and relaxation.

Send us an email at spa@reykjavik.is and briefly tell us about how you experienced Reykjavík's Thermal Pools and Baths. With a little luck, you could win a trip for two to Iceland with Icelandair in 2009. Ten other contestants will receive a beautiful gift from Reykjavík Spa City.

P.S. Tickets are valid from any Icelandair gateway in Europe and the USA. These tickets are not valid from 15 June to 15 August 2009. Reykjavík Spa City reserves the right to use any submitted material for promotional purposes.

www.spacity.is



» What to do and when:

*Your best source
for listings, info
and entertainment*

» www.grapevine.is



specialized **Restaurant** in Seafood

A great resaturant that specializes in excellent seafood dishes both for lunch and evening dining.
Be pleasantly surprised...!

www.galleryfiskur.is
Nethylur 2, 110 Rvk., Tel. 587 2882
100 m. from The Reykjavik City Museum Arbaejarsafn

Gallery
fiskur

Restaurant: Open mon.- fri. 11:30am - 03:00pm, Thu.- sat. 18:00pm - 10:00pm, sun. closed

Never Underestimate the Power of Play

Grapevine spends a day at CCP's Reykjavík headquarters to learn about their strategic plans for on-line and off-line world domination

Reykjavík based game developing company CCP was founded in June, 1997. In May 2003, the company launched its first Massively Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Game (MMO), EVE Online, which took the on-line world by storm. The founders, Creative Director Reynir Harðarson and Chief Financial Officer Ívar Kristjánsson spent years of hard work, together with a staff under 50 to make the virtual world of EVE a reality. In 2004, CEO Hilmar Veigar Pétursson joined the group and helped lead the company's explosive growth. Now, 11 years later, they reap the rewards – CCP now counts over 300 employees on three continents, 250,000 active players, and is undisputedly one of the world's largest independent game developers.

Set in a giant galaxy tens of thousands of years in the future, EVE Online offers the largest single-server virtual universe in the world. In 2006, CCP expanded its reach to China and now boast offices in Shanghai, Atlanta and London. However, the company's headquarters remain in Reykjavík, where it all started.

After a day at CCP's three-floor office down by the Reykjavík docks in Grandagarður, the Grapevine learned many intriguing things about the company and its history. The unique relationship between the players and developers is what keeps the game going, and dedicated fans run several websites that have become an integral part of the players' community. Every great success story has humble beginnings, and this is definitely true for CCP, who's first years were "a real struggle". In fact, the seed capital for EVE's development consisted of earnings from a surprise hit family board-game called 'Hættuspil' – this kept CCP afloat through crucial times. The company has grown rapidly since, and as their first virtual world is such a huge international success (last year's annual FanFest at Laugardalshöll attracted more than 1,000 people from around the world) the plan is to make more.

VIRTUAL WORLDS: THE NEW MONEY MACHINE

CCP policy insists that their employees go on vacation at the same time, so the office was rather quiet when I arrived for the visit. Luckily, my tour guides of the day, PR Director Valerie Massey and HR manager Helgi Már Þórðarson, were very nice and talkative. Þórðarson, sporting a T-shirt that read: "Impossible is what we pour on our cereal in the morning" tells me they have a lot of T-shirts and other merchandise, as those kinds of things boost the morale. "Unfortunately I'm not wearing my EVE socks today," he adds.

Our first stop is at the heart of the office (and every office): the coffee machine.

I learn it is a popular one, and even has its own Facebook fan-club (after tasting its brew, I asserted that the machine deserves every bit of praise it gets). As we walk along with our mugs in hand, the first thing to grab my attention is a game room with a huge flat screen TV and video games stacked up.

"This is where we lay off some steam and play Rock-Band. That's actually research," says Massey. The office features some more fun things for the staff. There are pool and ping-pong tables, an electronic drum-kit and the second largest privately owned aquarium in Iceland. The tour goes on.

EVE is a capitalist society and features a massive player-controlled economy, so the money business is just as complicated as in real life. Prices are decided by the play-

ers that comprise game's economy, and the world expands every second of the day. EVE has thus long reached the point where they need a full-time on-line economist to keep track of things. In 2007, CCP hired Dr. Eyjólfur Guðmundsson to handle the ever-increasing demand for economic information; he collects data created within the game world, analyses inflation, economic growth and price trends, and issues reports on the economy's development. Having a full-time position for a real-life economist is a first time ever in the history of MMO's.

ABOUT CCP GAMES

CCP is an award-winning privately held Icelandic game developing company, founded in 1997. CCP specializes in Massively Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Games (MMO's), and launched EVE Online in 2003. The company employs more than 300 people and has become a pioneer in the industry, with offices in Reykjavík, Atlanta, London and Shanghai. In November 2006, CCP and Atlanta-based role-playing company White Wolf Publishing announced the two company's merger, which took the business up to a whole new level. Today, CCP is recognised internationally as a pioneer of the single-server persistent universe architecture and can take pride in the fact that EVE Online is played in nearly every country in the world with more than 250,000 players. For more info on CCP see: www.ccpgames.com.

"We stole him from the University of Akureyri!" Massey says proudly, but Guðmundsson was the Dean of the Faculty of Business and Science at the University.

Do you like it better here at CCP? I ask him:

"Yeah, definitely, in the sense that this is just such an awesome phenomenon. From an economic standpoint, the depth of the society was much greater than I had ever expected. The complexity of it is just awesome."

Guðmundsson tells me about a recent conference on "innovation and governance in virtual worlds" that he lectured at in London. It was organised by the Virtual Policy Network and BERR, a unit within the UK government that helps businesses formulate regulations and communicate with the government. The conference looked at what should be done to make the UK a competitive environment and put the focus on virtual worlds. "We were basically giving policy advice to this committee to help them figure out what is happening with virtual worlds. It's quite interesting because it tells us virtual worlds are now catching the eye."

Has the Icelandic government shown any interest?

"No, I'm sad to say. They probably haven't realised the tremendous opportunities that lie in the field. Consider the fact that you can basically have a market of 2 to 3 billion people, steady subscribers, even

though you're firmly located in Iceland. Today, CCP is the biggest exporter of software in Iceland, and we don't even sell software, we sell subscriptions."

SO MUCH MORE THAN A WORKPLACE

As we continue our walk, Massey introduces me to more staff members, preoccupied with their computers. Some of them have been with the company since the very beginning, which I'm told is quite unusual for a gaming company. Everyone tries to distribute as much as they can to keep the company on the top, whether it's creating graphics for the website, producing videos or designing spaceships. One part of their job is also to play the game. "To be able to keep track on the market I have to be active on the market," explains





Freyr, an economics graduate.

Employees within the Reykjavík office come from more than 20 countries:

"We're like a small United Nations," says Massey and explains that the staff has a really diverse background. There are fashion designers, game designers, concept artists, art producers, programmers, archaeologists, animators, technical artists, product designers, 3d animators... the list goes on: "There is this misconception when people think of a gaming company, they think you've got programmers and game designers and that's it. They don't realise the spectrum of talent it requires."

"Right now we need more than 100 people before the end of this year. About 30 or 40 in Iceland, somewhere between 50 and 60 in Atlanta, and between 10 and 15 in China," Þórðarson adds.

And they've got plenty of incentive for their skilled staff to stay. There are golf tournaments, rafting tours and movie trips. They have a masseuse and a hair stylist, and recently opened a nail salon for the staff and its significant others. All the while, CCP's on-site chefs make sure there's enough food to keep everyone stuffed throughout the day. To say they take good care of their employees is to put it lightly. In fact, if it weren't for outdoor duties, they would never have to leave.

"I don't think many Icelandic companies invest as much in their 'Fun Divisions' as CCP. We're constantly doing something. We celebrate all our small victories with parties, and take a trip every 18 months. The last one we took was to Morocco. I think this way of treating the staff is catching on in other companies. It's not complicated. If you take good care of your employees they will produce good products and good products will almost always make a profit. The staff is the most valuable resource we have. Not the building or the computers."

Not everyone is as happy as the staff, though, and I learn that the game can sometimes be too much to handle for some players. "We get suicide threats. All we can do then is contact local authorities. Most of the times it is because someone has got upset with the game. About 98% of the times, the threats are just hoaxes, from people who're trying to get a rise out of us. It's a huge world so pretty much everything happens from time to time," Massey explains.

And the CCP staff has its ways to deal with the complaints and all the heated discussions on the EVE forums. "Instead of bashing the consumers we just bash some monsters. That makes us feel better", says a guy working in customer support department. "Did you ever play Diablo?", he asks Massey. "Diablo 3 is coming soon and I have to be ready," he adds, controlling his character into combat. "Sometimes they play our game too!", Massey replies.

GAMING IS SERIOUS BUSINESS

What makes EVE so unique and attractive to the players is that they are all logged on to the same server. Today there are around 250,000 active subscribers from all the corners of the world cruising around space in charge of their own destinies, and that's leaving out the massive number of Chinese gamers. More than 40,000 players regularly interact within one persistent universe, completing missions, fighting each other, communicating, trading and chatting. The record number of people all logged in at the same time is about 45,000, but their server could handle much more than that.

"We are the only game that is only run on one server," explains Associate Producer Arend Stührmann when I sit down in his office, decorated with books, game posters and action figures. He continues: "EVE Online is the only MMO where your reputation is really the most valuable commodity. People can make a name for themselves in EVE and even if they stop playing people will still be talking about them. That is one of the things that make EVE unique. The game doesn't restrict you in terms of what you want to achieve."

Gaming can also be educational. The biggest company in EVE has 2500 members and it has a guy acting as CEO. He communicates with all the people, gives orders and makes strategic plans. "Playing EVE has become a much bigger experience than plain 'gaming'," Stührmann says and continues: "When we opened our server in China there was actually a member from the ministry of education that said: 'This is a great game. We could use this to teach business!' People in Financial Times and Harvard Business Review are looking at us, saying that people can learn leadership skills and business management, all from playing our game."

EVE's most hardcore players spend many hours each day playing the game, citing the possibility to interact in real time with players from around the globe and the freedom to choose their own destiny as the biggest reason for why they get so hooked. Whether the dream is to be a spaceship pilot, pirate, corporate leader or a spy, everything is possible in the virtual world. With a good dose of patience, strategic think-

ing and a lot of free time, anyone can get rich and powerful on-line.

"What the game also does is that it helps groups of people who have a hard time socializing in the real world. One player, Jeremy, was quadriplegic. He had been injured in a car accident when he was 12 but his father, a master programmer, made it possible for him to play EVE and sail his ship around by using only his voice," explains Massey: "He passed away a couple of years ago but we made him a non-player character people can go and find to get missions and such. That was our way to remember Jeremy. The modifications his father made, he made them available to other people with physical disabilities as well."

THE FUTURE IS NOW

The future looks bright for a company Icelanders had a hard time wrapping their minds around a decade ago. To be able to survive in an industry growing as extremely fast as the gaming one it is important that CCP keeps up a constant lookout for new ways of improving. "We have other games we are working on, but haven't announced them yet. And we have plans for EVE for the next 10 years, too," says Massey.

Right now players can only fly in their spaceship but the next huge extension will make it possible to leave the ship and walk around inside the space-stations. A sneak peak of that new feature will be presented at the annual FanFest in November. A full mobile avatar will of course need cool outfits, so one of the important current projects involves fashion design.

Sruli Recht is one of three accredited fashion designers within the company. He has worked for CCP since December and tells me a little bit about his role within the company: "CCP is in the business of making virtual worlds and one of our roles here as fashion designers is to make a very accessible and functional set of clothing for online characters, so as to give it a more realistic garment based angle. In a sense, everyday clothing that could be the jeans and T-shirts of the future."

He goes on to explain that CCP is hiring fashion designers instead of concept artists because the more believable and realistic your look in the game the more believable and realistic it is for you to play. "The ability to totally immerse yourself in a virtual environment has a lot to do with realism. No matter how fantastic you would like to go it has to have the aspect of realism. I guess what our role is in this is to make sure the clothing is in a sense believable,"

he explains.

Being able to dress up is not the only imminent feature. CCP developers are also working on an environment where you can have player run facilities, open up shops, restaurant and bars, grab a drink with allies and go shopping with enemies.

"To have characters walk around inside the stations is huge. That's the next really big thing we are doing," says Lead Game Designer Noah Ward, who together with Stührmann is responsible for making sure EVE is constantly moving forward. "Everything will be player run. The goal is to have revolutionary social interaction because the stations are not places where people go to fight; it's more about social interaction. We're now looking at all sorts of ways to make the chatting and the way the avatars respond to one another realistic, so it actually feels like they are conversing in reality. We want to make it really immersive for the social side of things," he says and Stührmann continues:

"The details we're putting into it are far beyond what's currently on the market. The appearance of the characters, the way they react to conversations, will be as realistic as we can make them. I believe that this as a social function will be incredibly effective. By the time we'll get it out, it will be lightyears beyond anything other companies are planning on!" he adds, bursting with pride.

When the rest of CCP's staff returns from their summer holidays, their task will be to plan the winter and develop new technologies. As the game evolves every minute of every day, and the competition on the market gets harsher, they will constantly need to think ten steps ahead. Not willing to share any specific details of upcoming plans, (everything kept strictly confidential) one thing is for sure. For this diverse group of people, gaming is dead serious! 🐾

ABOUT EVE ONLINE

EVE Online is set tens of thousands of years in the future. It is the largest single-server virtual universe in the world, featuring its own currency, ISK, a player-controlled economy and a unique real-time interaction between EVE developers and the players. The game features stunning graphics and design and top-notch technology and even has its own radio station, EVE radio. The game is a journey through space where players cruise around in space ships and get into all sorts of adventures, dangers and on-line battles. In EVE, players can be whatever they can think of, from pirates or spies to business managers and industrial entrepreneurs. On-line, they have all the tools necessary to achieve their goals. For more info on EVE Online see: www.eve-online.com.

How to Survive Móðuharðindin

BY ODDUR STURLUSON

On June 8, 1783, a volcanic explosion began in volcano Lakagíggar in south Iceland, accompanied with earthquakes and noxious gases. The eruption continued until 1785 and is still considered one of the greatest volcanic eruptions in the world. The whole catastrophe that followed was named Móðuharðindin (The Mist Hardship). The ash and poisonous gases blocked out the sun, killed crops and suffocated both people and cattle, wiping out a fifth of the population and 75% of the country's livestock. It has even been speculated that Móðuharðindin may have indirectly sparked the French Revolution by causing crop failure on the continent.

If a natural disaster of this magnitude happened today it would make air-travel to and from the island impossible for the better part of a decade and escaping the country by sea would also be practically impossible. Suffice it to say if such a catastrophe were to occur again, you'd be a lot better off knowing how best to react.

FIRST

Be prepared. In the event of a natural disaster you might have to abandon your home at a moment's notice. Having some kind of "escape-kit" (containing food and supplies) ready can make the evacuation a lot less traumatizing.

SECOND

Waste not, want not. Keep in mind that if you're lucky enough to survive the initial eruption and quakes, the after effects of the disaster will last for more than a decade. Uncontaminated food and water will be hard to come by and will be more valuable than ever before.

THIRD

Try to find refuge near the ocean. Not only will the withering of crops and livestock make fish an invaluable food resource but if by luck a rescue possibility does present its self, you'll be more likely to see it on the horizon than hidden in a cave.

FOURTH

Beware of poisonous gases. Invisible and in many cases odourless, the danger may not always be obvious. Dead plants and animals are good indications that something is amiss.

FIFTH

Don't give up. Dying under these circumstances is very easy and becomes 10 times more so if you lose hope.

If a disaster comparable to Móðuharðindin were to repeat itself it would be necessary to keep these points in mind, although the key ingredient to survival however would be sheer luck. 🐼



ART SCHOOL STUDENTS USUALLY WEAR CRAZIER CLOTHES THAN THE CGI PEOPLE REPRESENTING THEM HERE

Grand Design for a Grand Institution

Debates rise as the Art Academy reveals its dream of a new home

Hjálmar Ragnarsson, Director of The Icelandic Academy of the Arts (LHÍ), has been in the news a lot lately. He recently introduced a proposal for the academy's new headquarters to be built by Reykjavík's main shopping-street, Laugavegur, by 2011. The proposal was the result of a competition set up by Ragnarsson and a school committee to determine LHÍ's long-awaited new building.

Out of twenty entrants, five were short-listed for the leading blueprint and received funding from the Academy to complete their designs. The winning proposal is currently showcased at the academy's future site, but the issue remains locked in political debate between those who wish to preserve Laugavegur's 19th century street-image (to which the proposed building does not adhere) and their adversaries. Ragnarsson told the Grapevine all about it.

At present, the academy is split into five locations. Ragnarsson believes these establishments would be better utilised in a unified entity that's

"[...] not only a teaching institution, but an art institution," and highlights "[...] the cross-disciplinary work and studies between art disciplines" as a reason to conjoin its departments. International awareness is also high on the agenda as Ragnarsson professes: "We believe that the standard of competition is very high and shows more than ever that architecture in Iceland is developing at a high level".

NOTHING TO DO WITH AESTHETICS

Recently, the debate has risen to the forefront of Icelandic discourse, as the main opposition to the school focuses primarily on the preservation of Laugavegur 43-45 – two houses that were built at the beginning of the 20th century. However, "[...] none of them have actually been declared off-limits," explains Ragnarsson. "It has nothing to do with aesthetics or value, and should be kept professional and not too emotional." He is philosophical about the three-to-six month wait for a verdict from city council's planning department. "We are very positive about the results", he explains, but concedes that, "[...] since it has become a matter of city politics, you never know what will happen".

The contentious issues at stake in the construction of the Academy involve both architectural and social space. "The feminine design that

was picked from the five finalists stood out against the more masculine runners-up," says Ragnarsson. The Director explains that the interior of the building employs different levelled ceilings to suit the different disciplines of dance, drama and music. Ragnarsson also stresses that in terms of exterior space the Academy building would free up a couple of feet on the pavement, creating more space for pedestrians to appreciate the grand design.

MAKING HISTORY

Ragnarsson champions the winning submission as "delicate" and this represents "[...] the feminine culture of Iceland, one that's not as connected to nature as one might anticipate. The winners took note of "[...] different spaces, different sizes and different heights," that were outlined in the design brief to determine that "[...] the building grows from inside out, like a living organism."

Ragnarsson has an upbeat view on the future of Reykjavík: "We believe that having the Art Academy here will be a major step towards renovating the city centre." He points to the architectural degeneration of the city as a reason to act with the spirit of the time: "I know the value of history. I also realize that history is not frozen, it has to be made. The academy is certainly part of the 21st century and we definitely want to make our mark on the city life." 🐼

Breakfast special



Cappuccino + bagel + joghurt = Kr. 690

roma

Rauðarárstígur 8



You heard it through the Grapevine...

Iceland from a different and more spectacular angle!

Charter – Photo – Aerial Filming – Helicopter Training & Special Occasion Flights

The Helicopter Service of Iceland has been in continuous operation since 1989.

We are the first helicopter company in Iceland to receive JAR OPS 3, passenger transport, certification from the Joint Aviation Authorities and the Icelandic Civil Aviation Administration.

We offer safe, quality helicopter service. Contact us to see what we can do for you; our friendly staff will gladly assist you.

See it for all it is



Helicopter Service of Iceland
Fluggarðar 23, 101 Reykjavík Iceland
helicopter@helicopter.is | www.helicopter.is
Tel: +354 561 6100 Fax: +354 561 6122

They survived a night at Paddy's... ...Can you?



GUINNESS
DRAGON



Paddy's Irish Pub * Hafnargata 38, Reykjanesbær * phone: 421-8900 * www.myspace.com/paddysforever



Prehistoric
cooking method
finally mastered at
Argentina's steakhouse!



Barónsstíg 11a • 101 Reykjavík,
Tel. +354 551 9555 • www.argentina.is



Photo: Steingóla Einarsson



Photo: Laveia G. Aðjalmadóttir

SURTSEY

The island of Surtsey has been added to the UNESCO World Heritage List of natural sites that are unique in the world.

Surtsey is unique in that it has been protected from any human impact on its natural evolution right from its genesis. The exhibition SURTSEY - GENESIS at the Culture House, produced by the Icelandic Institute of Natural History, traces the emergence and evolution of the island Surtsey up to the present day and predicts its geographical and ecological development over the next 120 years.

Other exhibitions: MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS – Eddas and Sagas. THE LATE VIEW – the photographs of Halldór Laxness. REYKJAVÍK – the photographs of Ari Sigvaldason. THE NATION AND NATURE – the films of Páll Steingrímsson.



EXHIBITIONS - GUIDED TOURS
CAFETERIA - CULTURE SHOP

The Culture House – Þjóðmenningarhúsið
National Centre for Cultural Heritage
Hverfisgata 15 • 101 Reykjavík (City Centre)
Tel: +354 545 1400 • www.thjodmenning.is

Open daily between 11 am and 5 pm
Free guided tour of THE MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS
exhibition Mon and Fri at 3:30 pm, also Tue and
Thur, June through August.



The Finest Sandwiches in
downtown of Reykjavík



SANDHOLT
REYKJAVÍK



www.sandholt.is

✦ Laugavegi 36 *Tel: 551 3524 * Open Mon. - Fri 7.30 - 18.15. Saturday 7.30 -17.30. Sunday 8.30-17.00. ✦

CD REVIEWS



THE VERDICT

Trashy idea from producer best thrown out with the trash.

LISTEN & BUY

www.myspace.com/merzedesclub

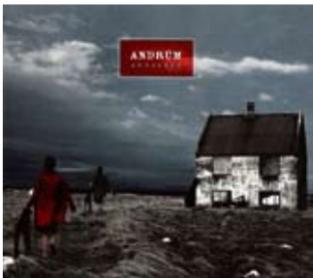
MERZEDES CLUB

I Wanna Touch You



REVIEWED BY MARCUS WALSH

With DJ Sammy and Basshunter as their top friends on Myspace, it wouldn't be a surprise if Mercedes Club aspire to play sun drenched parties in the Balearic Islands. Barði Jóhannson, the producer behind the project, failed to score the Icelandic Eurovision entry for 'Ho, Ho, Ho, We say Hey, Hey, Hey' so it's a failure on all counts. The act has sparked controversy for some scandalously vain stage performances, but unfortunately on record it's not even half as interesting. Even taken as a joke, the irony won't flip the frown upside down after you've listened to this. It's unfortunately all tackiness without the wackiness – think Lasgo and not Junior Senior. Alternatively, think a big steaming pile of Europop shit. They can't even be a one hit wonder.



THE VERDICT

Despite the isolation on the cover, new Andrúm album glows right through.

LISTEN & BUY

www.myspace.com/andrummy

ANDRÚM

Andvakar



REVIEWED BY MARCUS WALSH

The opening bars of the new Andrúm LP suggest impending doom but when Jóna Palla's vocals envelope the minor key, the listener is ushered into comfort. Eventually this title track builds into a rock-out, which you wouldn't always expect from a post rock crescendo but it's a poppy little touch that's more than welcome. The second track 'Nozinan' can be dubbed aquatic rock with the drip drops at the end, while 'Hugurinn Reikar' is a beautiful late gaze out the window over Reykjavík. The lyrics in 'Pictures' are largely irrelevant – "An empty chair, I feel the raindrops falling down on me" – evokes loneliness like the album cover. However Palla's tongue, whether in English or Icelandic, pollinates with the guitars to create blissful company for the listener.

CONCERT REVIEW BY SIGURDUR KJARTAN KRISTINSSON — PHOTO BY GAS



ENJOYING TRENTEMÖLLER IS SERIOUS BUSINESS

A Midsummer Night's Boogie



I have to note that going to a Trentemøller concert is a special event for me. Arriving at Tunglið, I pondered if it would be a challenge to remain completely unbiased in my review. The night before I had witnessed a bulletproof performance by the Danish DJ at Kaffibarinn, something which undoubtedly increased my admiration for the disc-jogging prodigy substantially. To my surprise, I soon found out that the night would prove more of an ordeal than a treat. The doormen at Tunglið started off by giving me and my companion the finger when we said we were with the Grapevine. To our luck, one of the promoters glimpsed at us and immediately rectified that mistake. Once I entered the crowded and immensely sweaty dance-floor, packed with e-popping, pink-tank-top-wearing hooligans stuck in '92, the additional sound system brought in for the event blew me away and made a genuine club atmosphere.

Trentemøller is not hard to describe but his jogging structure is dazzling, and his enigmatic shifts between tunes are top-notch and offer a unique chance to lose yourself on the dance-floor. His

mind-blowing dynamic had all my attention until I found a gooey dash of liquid drip down my shoulder. I gave the unwanted visitor a sniff assuming it was only beer, a common companion to Reykjavík night life, but the smell was heinous and not a bit beer-like.

My head went spinning in the astronomical fright that someone's special liquid had bombarded me and I decided to have some fresh air. When my thoughts had cooled down the aforementioned doormen wouldn't under any circumstances let me in again. They told me Grapevine was already in so I had to call up the promoters yet again. Kudos to the doormen at Tunglið, real gentlemen. In a rather bad mood I followed Trentemøller's last tunes and when I walked home the thought about his fine music being destroyed by the lousy atmosphere and tedious behaviour of the venue's staff couldn't escape my mind – a newly laid egg in a bowl of shit. ☹

WHO

Trentemøller

WHERE

Tunglið

WHEN

Friday, July 18

THE VERDICT

Outstanding performance by Trentemøller obscured by lousy ambience.

Licensing and registration of travel-related services

The Icelandic Tourist Board issues licences to tour operators and travel agents, as well as issuing registration to booking services and information centres.

Tour operators and travel agents are required to use a special logo approved by the Icelandic Tourist Board on all their advertisements and on their Internet website.

Booking services and information centres are entitled to use a Tourist Board logo on all their material. The logos below are recognised by the Icelandic Tourist Board.



List of licenced Tour Operators and Travel Agencies on: visiticeland.com



Iceland's favourite places

» Interactive DVD
 » Narrated in 7 languages
 » Shot in high-definition
 » All region DVD

No. 1 DVD Bestseller!
 Eymundsson - your bookstore in Iceland



A.C. BANANAS SHOWS OFF IS CRAZY NU-RAVE HAIRCUT

Forgive Us Our Trespasses



Steed Lord are about to embark on a month long trip of the States, which will see them supporting Chromeo. In Reykjavík tonight, they raise the roof as the home crowd loves them. However, to break through the American electro scene, Steed Lord will require a lot more than a live show and being well groomed. They may look incredible, but hardly sound revitalizing.

The atmosphere is sticky and the bass throbs like a hummingbird's ass. The electro of 'Take My Hand' recalls Princess Superstar whereas the groove in 'Feel The Heat' rips off the funk of Parliament. So, how one hipster manages to pigeon-foot his dancing around the glasses on the narrow bar is anyone's guess. Their following, laudable and similar to the band, think of themselves as dope.

It's a good thing that M.E.G.A and Kali split the front duties because their self-indulgence grates after a while. Both of them need each other in the band, so never go solo, guys! 'Its What U Do 2 Me' gets people really moving and despite being their last – and best – song, it's a disorientating

closure. The end of the cut is mixed into the DJ Set as no doubt will happen when Armand Van Helten plays it out in Miami. This feels like an exclusive party, but rock and roll in a lounge setting jars a little.

Steed Lord know how to kick up the jams and mix with the right people. Their show doesn't contain an ounce of insecurity and the artifice could smell like burnt plastic if the tunes stay only skin-deep. The bands approach to vocoder's is no better than say Cut Copy and the bass lines tonight don't pack the dynamite of Felix Da Housecat. While you can shake your hips initially, the shifting of tempo tangles up the elasticity in your waistline. You can truly tell when they're finished as the crowd moves onto the next party as if foreseeing that the Lord may have the longevity of a Pot Noodle. 🍜

WHO

Steed Lord

WHERE

Q-Bar

WHEN

Saturday, July 19

THE VERDICT

Band launch their tour in style, but lack true depth

CD REVIEWS



THE VERDICT

Impressive album from the boys from Gøta, with just the right balance of new vs. old.

LISTEN & BUY

www.myspace.com/boysinaband

BOYS IN A BAND

Black Diamond Train



REVIEWED BY BEN H. MURRAY

With production from Sigur Rós / Cocteau Twins album maestro Ken Thomas, you might expect Boys In A Band's first record to sound a little slushy – not a bit of it. The Faroese five-piece's debut is bubbling over with energy, a refreshing lack of trend-watching and some very decent song writing, all slightly reminiscent of a more modest album by The Killers. The second and third tracks, the excellent 'Beyond Communication' and 'Secrets to Conceal', are fairly representative of Black Diamond Train. Both blend speedy guitar rhythms with nicely-elasticised organ and synth backing and frenetic (but perfectly precise) vocals to make music with just the right balance between fidelity and emotion that really does bring to mind the 'Cowboy Rock' sound they claim as their own. 'Before The Flood' and the title track are also highly enjoyable and compelling in their use of lyrics and fast-paced instrumental work. All in all, a very assured début.



THE VERDICT

Understated but purposeful, once the multitude of tracks and styles become familiar.

LISTEN & BUY

www.chingchingblingbling.com/

PETER AND WOLF

Peter and Wolf



REVIEWED BY BEN H. MURRAY

Peter And Wolf may not be well-known but their ambiguity (the album has been sitting on someone's shelf for four years before a release date was set – their live shows are just as chaotically scheduled) and underground popularity have bred a certain mystique that's wholly justified by this dense record. Recorded in 2002 and 2003, its format is predictably left-field with no title obvious and a rag-tag mix of styles and methods apparent on most tracks. The result is, at first, a little too odd to get to grips with. Listen to 'Simmi' and 'Amma' for perfect examples of this quandary. Given time, however, individual pieces and sounds start to jump out at you, such as the psychedelic elegance of 'Bed Head' and the gentle folk of 'Late Night Lover'. It's like finding something you've been looking for just before you give up searching – what a nice feeling that is.

we bring the O to sushi

SUSHI
THE TRAIN

Osushi Lækjargata 2a Og Borgartún 29 | Sími : 5610562

Akureyri, Egilsstaðir, Selfoss, Hveragerði, Reykjavík, Akranes, Hafnarfjörður, Njarðvík, Sandgerði, Kópavogur, Neskaupstaður, Grundarfjörður, Stykkishólmur, Súdavík, Ísafjörður, Vík í Mýrdal and Hreðavatnsskáli **have more than just stunning nature and beautiful people in common!**

You save at the pink stations



The Orkan network is growing steadily, offering more savings throughout Iceland. Keep an eye out for the Orkan petrol stations and take advantage of our lower prices.

www.orkan.is



CHECK OUT THE SAVINGS!

INTERVIEW BY BEN H. MURRAY — PHOTO BY GAS

"You haven't been in Iceland if you haven't been to us"
Don't miss it!

Viking feasts every night
 - live entertainment

For booking and further information:
 Tel.: +354 565-1213
 www.vikingvillage.is
 vikings@vikingvillage.is
 Strandgata 55 Hafnarfjörður

VIKING
 village
 Fjörukráin




BICYCLE RENTALS AND REPAIRS
 open: mon - fri 8-18 / sat 10-14
 all week at Laugardalur Camping site
BORGARHUÓL ehf
 Hverfisgata 50 ~ phone: 5515653



"KRISTJÁNSSON AND ÓSKARSDÓTTIR: THE MOVIE BUSINESS IS REALLY EXCITING"

Marriage of Mystery

A new Icelandic film about weddings has more substance than most. And no funerals!

PREMIERE

Country Wedding is released on 28 August with English subtitles. For more info see: www.countryweddingmovie.com

Country Wedding, a new film directed by BAFTA award-winning Icelander Valdis Óskarsdóttir, is set to be released later this summer, but the seemingly straightforward title hides a few twists that make it one of the most interesting movies of the year.

The Grapevine met up with Valdis and Víkingur Kristjánsson, one of the film's lead actors, to find out why the project is so unique and what dark secrets are hidden within its seemingly complex ad-hoc filming and production process.

The plot concerns, unsurprisingly, an out-of-town wedding and the catastrophes and problems that beset such events when depicted on the big screen. In the words of Valdis: "It's a film about two families that are forced to spend time together. They can stand each other for one hour but they get lost and instead of one hour, they are together for five hours. Then things start to pop up." However, Four Weddings and a Funeral this is not – it may share a subject matter with many big name films but everything else about the project sets it apart from the usual Hollywood blockbusters.

Further details on the film itself, for reasons that will become apparent, are a bit of a mystery so I started by asking Víkingur Kristjánsson, who plays a mysterious wedding guest, about the key to the storyline and describe the filming process from an actor's perspective. "It's quite experimental – something that's never been done, not here at least. There was the thing with the cameras – you would be surrounded by cameras all the time so you never knew if you were in the shot or not – and you had to be the character you were playing all along and that is, of course, quite exciting. We also had a secret, which was quite fun to work with. Everyone had their own little secret."

This blurring between reality and acting seems to have worked in a uniquely personal way, stirring up emotions and intrigue amongst cast members and director to produce a performance and camaraderie that even extend into the interview. The pair, laughing in unison, adamantly refuse to reveal any of the film's key moments (as though it's a family secret handed down the generations) apart from Víkingur's comment that "some secrets were quite big and others not so big, but I think the audience will realise quite soon what my secret is".

They go on to reveal that before filming took place each actor was called into a room and told about their character (secrets and all), a process that reflects the unique way in which Valdis has approached her directorial debut. After winning numerous awards for her editing work on the global

hit *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* she could, arguably, be sitting in a studio in LA working out how to make millionaire actors look good in a final edit. So to hear tantalising details about an Icelandic film that's so experimental in nature is both surprising and refreshing.

A willingness to do things differently extended to the script, or lack thereof, with the actors again being given free rein to lead the plot development through their own reactions and interactions. This is something the director was quite firm about. "I didn't want to have a script. I wanted situations and then I wanted the actors to make their own characters. I thought that would be quite interesting. Doing it this way, you get much more depth in the characters. They came with their own background, with everything from themselves and they used their own way of speaking, their own words. If I was the writer I think everyone would talk similar."

Explaining the reasons for the unscripted shoot, Valdis explains, somewhat tongue-in-cheek: "First of all, I'm really lazy so I thought it was great to get actors to do all the stuff so I didn't have to do anything myself." But speaking a bit more candidly she later reveals a deeper reason for making *Country Wedding* using such methods. "I'm a film editor and because of that I'm often sitting for a very long time working on a film. It can be from four months up to nine months. So I wanted to do something now. Not next year. Not two years from now, but now."

This impatience also extended to the filming process: "I wanted to do it in one day, like real time. But the producers said we would never make it as we'd need about 20 cameras." Valdis, who seems assured in her new directorial role, is the only person who knows details of the film's climax, as Víkingur confesses: "I really don't know how this movie is going to end but we are very much looking forward to finding out!" Just like the actors, so are we. 🇮🇸

"I'M A FILM EDITOR AND BECAUSE OF THAT I'M OFTEN SITTING FOR A VERY LONG TIME WORKING ON A FILM. IT CAN BE FROM FOUR MONTHS UP TO NINE MONTHS. SO I WANTED TO DO SOMETHING NOW. NOT NEXT YEAR. NOT TWO YEARS FROM NOW, BUT NOW."

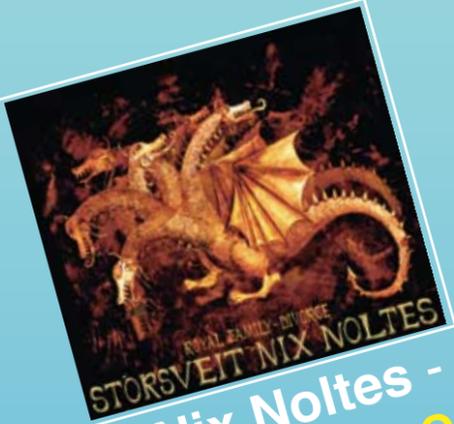


REYKJAVÍK GAY PRIDE PARADE

Starts at Hlemmur Bus Station
 Saturday 9 August at 2 p.m.



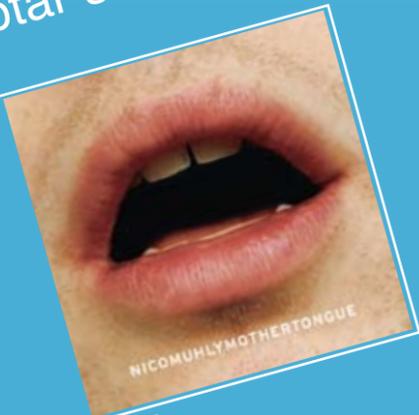
We also...
Distribute
...great albums!



Stórsveit Nix Noltes -
Royal Family-Divorce **Out now!**



Múgsefjun -
Skiptar skoðanir **Out now!**



Nico Muhli -
Mothertounge **Out now!**



Klive -
Sweaty Psalms **Out now!**

Check out our Webstore...
www.kimirecords.net



Woolens factory store, located in Vik

Genuine woolen goods, made in Iceland

Also wide selection of souvenirs

Vikurprjón ehf
Phone: 487-1250
www.vikwool.is

Join the party !!

DJ's playing every
thursdays, fridays and saturdays.

Kitchen open from 17:00-22:00
Come by and try our famous
icelandic "plokkfiskur" (fish stew)
for only 990 kr.

Opening hours
Weekdays 11:30-01:00.
Fridays and saturdays from 11:30-05:00

22

Laugavegur 22



Whale Watching from Reykjavík

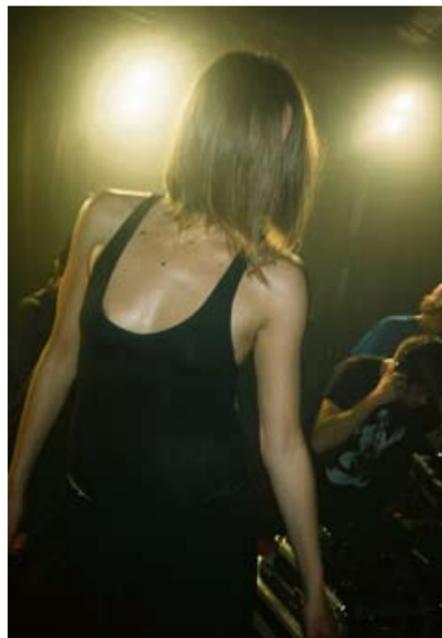
Take part in an adventure at sea with an unforgettable trip into the world of whales and sea birds. Conveniently located in Reykjavík's Old harbour, a three hour tour can bring you up close to whales in their natural habitat.

Puffin season							
April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	
9:00	9:00	9:00	9:00	9:00	9:00	9:00	13:00
13:00	13:00	13:00	13:00	13:00	13:00	13:00	13:00
			17:00	17:00	17:00		

Free entry to the Information Centre for our passengers.

Call us on **555 3565**
or visit **www.elding.is**





DESTINATION BY JÓI KJARTANS

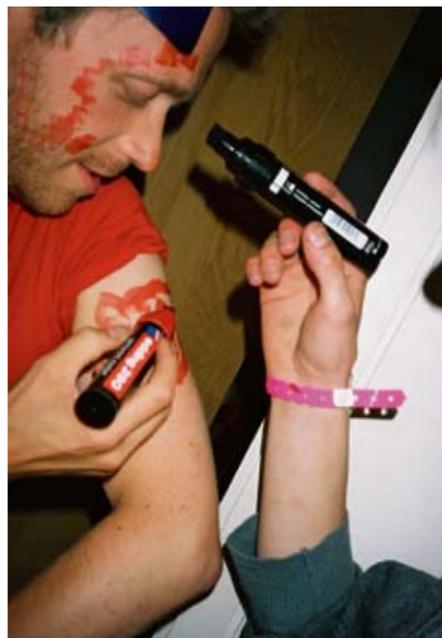
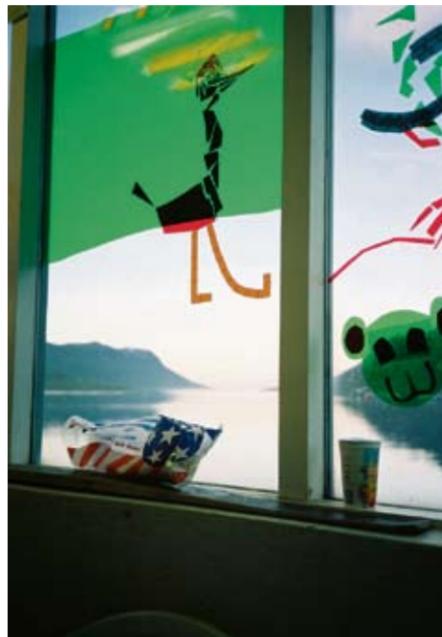
The Art of Having Fun

A photographer's quest to depict Seyðisfjörður in 12 hours

LungA is a weeklong art festival for youngsters, held in the small but picturesque town of Seyðisfjörður in the East Fjords. I arrived for the final party with not much more than a handful of films and a toothbrush in my pocket. The highlights for me were the electronic bands FM Belfast, Kasper Bjørke and Trentemøller. FM Belfast are releasing their first album this fall and their set was extremely enjoyable.

After FM Belfast I was taken to my friends' headquarters, Hafsfild, which is an abandoned herring factory far away from any real valuables and sleeping children. When I arrived the group had somehow managed to make it decent and cover the walls and windows with freshly made artwork. Every now and then you could also experience happenings that oddly enough all contained nudity.

Around midnight it was time to see Kasper Bjørke and Trentemøller play in the town's sports hall. The crowd mainly consisted of youngsters attending the festival and then a handful of 101 Reykjavík rats who were maybe looking for a nice change from Kaffibarinn, myself included. Kasper Bjørke's set was very good but Trentemøller stole the show and left virtually no one untouched, let alone dry. After the party some brave guests went for a swim in the freezing fjord but at that point my luck and films had run out. 🇮🇸



ARTICLE BY STEVIE WARD — PHOTO BY GAS



HELL YEAH WE LIKE THE TIVOLI!

Fairground in the Family

Taylor made for your fun

Taylor's Funfairs are run by the sixth generation of British Fairground folk. Now in their 18th year in Iceland, their Tivoli in Hafnarfjörður is currently in full swing. David Taylor has been running the fair for 33 years and it has been passed down from generation to generation for over a century.

Members of The Showmen's Guild of Great Britain, the new blood of the fair is David Taylors' brood, 23 year old Cumbrian, Elleray Taylor, and her little brother Kane along with 10-15 other fairground staff.

"It's good fun and different", Elleray smiles. "At school kids would say, 'we've been skiing on holiday' and I'd say, 'We've been to the Caribbean!' It's never boring."

The nomadic lifestyle creates many opportunities and Elleray travels with Taylors all around the world; she recounts that she's been with the Tivoli to Africa, The Caribbean, Dubai, Norway and Gibraltar. Obviously, it's not all fun and games; people don't always know their limits, and whoever is working on the rides has to clean up any mess that is made by the Tivoli's queasy visitors. Despite these less glamorous chores, working the fairground is like joining the circus, and most are family run, and well managed. Based on morals of freedom and hard work, it is obvious these fairground workers take pride in their craft.

I asked if Elleray was given a choice of joining the family business. "We had a choice, but we were also told this is what the family does, and we enjoy doing it, so there it is." I then asked if she would consider going corporate and working for The Disney Franchise. "I would, but just to learn what they do. They're the best in the world, but me and Dad work quite closely together." It's clear she is where she wants to be, and that Taylors constantly strives to improve itself.

It seems these more humble fairs can be run far better than their more grotesquely sized competitors. For the customer, less time is spent trying to navigate vast, themed terrains with cartoon-style maps, and instead is focused on enjoying the rides and being together. Also, the local fair is

generally less than a bus ride away, making the hardest part of the day deciding what to go on and how much food you can stomach.

Defying the conventional stereotypes of faded and dangerous carnivals and their grizzly staff, Taylors Funfair is a wonderful example of the opportunities available to good people working very hard in Iceland. "People think we're from Mars, but we're normal people, here to work. The year the Beer Prohibition (1989) ended was the first year we came and there was nothing here – a cinema and a bowling alley". They are a part of Iceland's history and continue to be an entertaining and out-of-the-ordinary diversion.

Taylor's is with the times. Their new ride the "Star Flier" is the hottest thing in Europe, and it arrives later in the year (the details of which involve a 45 meter pole and twelve chairs). They themselves are the nicest bunch of people you could hope to meet, honest and friendly.

As for the Tivoli itself, it's an awesome experience and the rides are tremendous. I highly recommend The Ghosthouse, which had two Grapevine reporters paralyzed with fear, as well as the Waltzers, where we were truly given our money's worth. It is a brilliant, family run enterprise that should be received with welcoming, open arms and as a treat for Reykjavík when it arrives at Áltævegur in a few weeks' time. 

BASED ON MORALS OF FREEDOM AND HARD WORK, IT IS OBVIOUS THESE FAIRGROUND WORKERS TAKE PRIDE IN THEIR CRAFT.

Taylor's Funfairs will be in Akureyri from July 31 to August 4, in Reykjavík from August 9 to 31 and finally in Keflavík from September 5 to 7.



Department of Welfare
Borgartúni 10-12
105 Reykjavík
www.velferdarsvid.is

The department of welfare gives information and advice about social entitlements and provides support in cases of social or personal problems for registered residents in Reykjavík. For general information about operations in the City of Reykjavík and additional information on e.g. specific housing benefits, pre-school applications or financial aid, you should contact service centers in your own neighbourhood:

- Vesturgarður, service centre for the residents of Vesturbær district, Hjardarhagi 45-47, tel. 411-1700
- Miðborg and Hlíðar, service centre for the residents of the city centre and the district of Hlíðar, Skulagata 21, tel. 411-1600
- Laugardalur and Háaleiti, service centre for the residents of the districts of Laugardalur and Háaleiti, Sidumuli 39, tel. 411-1500
- Breiðholt, service centre for the residents of Breiðholt, Alfabakki 12, tel. 411-1300
- Ábær and Grafarholt, service centre for the residents of the districts of Ábær and Grafarholt, Bæjarhals 1, tel. 411-1200
- Miðgarður, service centre for the residents of Grafarvogur and Kjalarnes, Langarími 21, tel. 411-1400



Borgartún 10-12
105 Reykjavík
Tel: 411 9000
www.reykjavik.is

Making of a Nation

Heritage and History in Iceland

Iceland's extraordinary history from settlement to present day

Guided tours in English daily 11:00



Opening hours:
Summer (May 1st - Sept. 15th): Daily 10-17.
Winter (Sept. 16th - Apr. 30th):
Daily 11-17 except Mondays.



ÞJÓÐMINJASAFN ÍSLANDS
National Museum of Iceland

National Museum of Iceland • Suðurgata 41 • 101 Reykjavík • Tel. 530 2200 • www.natmus.is



T-bone, baccalo, kangaroo, salmon, lamblegs, risottli, flounder, chocolate cake, dolphin, crepes, porkloin, curry, red fish, beef fillet, smörrebröd, grilled chicken, tuna, monk fish, shepards ple, cheese salad, prawns, American breakfast, fish soup, oysters, ommelets, cheese cake, cod, trout, apple ple, sandwich, con fit, compot, tarte tatln, or maybe just a drink. the evening menu is whatever we can think of that day. Find us next to Bonus Laugavegi.



LEFT: SMELLS LIKE TEAM SPIRIT! RIGHT: BORKO POSES WITH A GHOST IN STOKKSEYRI

Rock 'n' Responsibilities

Some of Kimi Records' Roster Travelled the Country in Style

GROUND COVERED

Reykjavík – Stokkseyri – Reykjavík: 118 km
 Reykjavík – Ísafjörður: 456 km
 Ísafjörður – Akureyri: 567 km
 Akureyri – Húsavík: 91 km

Húsavík – Seyðisfjörður: 248 km
 Seyðisfjörður – Höfn: 274 km
 Höfn – Reykjavík: 458 km
 Total distance travelled: 2212 Km

Four left-field bands – Benni Hemm Hemm, Reykjavík!, Morðingjarnir and Borko – circled the whole of Iceland in a rickety bus along with their work-laden label manager, playing a bunch of shows in the process. The Grapevine was represented in the form of staff journalist-slash-Reykjavík! guitarist Haukur S Magnússon, who relates some of the journey's many peaks and valleys below.

Two weeks after the fact, I still have problems determining whether the "Kimi Records Summer Fun Tour!" of 2008 was the decidedly most rock 'n' roll venture embarked upon by a twenty-strong group of young men in a sweaty bus – or the least rock 'n' roll one ever. The enduring presence of children and pregnant women on the tour bus, doubled with the trip's complete lack of illegal substances and pre-marital fornication (and, all things considered, a rather responsible level of alcohol consumption), would seem to make the latter an obvious option. The fact that the tour's first show was at a Reykjavík kindergarten supports that.

Then again, that whole Mötley Crüe shtick of snorting and fucking everything in sight in between bouts of breaking shit is such a clichéd part of rock mythology that it's become an established and boring, part of rock's rules. Since true rock 'n' roll is reportedly all about "breaking rules" and "stretching boundaries", it could be argued that soberly playing cards with pregnant women and children on a tour bus is the most rock 'n' roll thing imaginable. You decide: The following is a real-time diary of that entire tour, interspersed with bracketed, after the fact wisdoms that only hindsight can provide.

MONDAY – REYKJAVÍK & STOKKSEYRI

Arriving at the BSÍ bus terminal this afternoon, we had expected a crazy party bus, suitable for all our rockin' needs. Instead we were faced with an ultra-normal, perversely clean coach. We soon learned that the "rockin' bus" we expected had been ransacked that weekend, and was missing parts vital for the rocking of buses.

Whatever. We got comfortable. The first stop of our journey was a mere 300 metres away, at the Hlíðaborg kindergarten, whence [Reykjavík! drummer] Kristján's son Stefán was graduating that very day. Most kids bring cake or ice cream when they graduate Kindergarten – Stefán invited rock bands. And thus it was that the tour's first show was performed in front of several dozen five-year olds.

Stokkseyri's "Draugabarninn" hosted the first official show of the tour. Its barroom is not a suitable concert venue, with horrible acoustics and an awkward stage set up. The staff was nice, however, and the turnout was surprisingly good. We also had awesome lobster soup. A good start.

TUESDAY – ÍSAFJÖRDUR

Two hours into our trip to Ísafjörður, just outside of Borgarnes, the group has already started intermingling quite nicely. There is however a division to be found. I can at present identify three "cliques" and have given them appropriate monikers: The Classical dept., mostly populated by members of Borko and Benni Hemm Hemm, the Pop & Funk dept., comprised mostly of Reykjavík! and Morðingjarnir members, and the Chillout Zone, headed by pregnant guitarwife (of Borko's Örvar) Birgitta Birgisdóttir, where various free-agents of the aforementioned groups drop by.

Arriving in Ísafjörður five hours later, we immediately started sound-checking the luxurious venue. We then enjoyed some very luxurious food, courtesy of my parents. Lucky for us, the show was luxurious too! The packed house gave a great response to every act but I am worried about our tour manager, Baldvin Esra, however. He has some kind of translating job that he has to finish ASAP and wants to stay up all night working on. He sounds nervous.

WEDNESDAY – AKUREYRI

So, our tour manager did not finish his translating chores, and has grown increasingly frustrated. He growled earlier, when asked if we could hurry dinner. Akureyri is beautiful as always, and the show's attendance so far sucks, as always. It has long since been determined that Akureyri people aren't big on the idea of concerts, and they seem determined on proving it this evening. As I write this, Borko is finishing an awesome set. I look forward to seeing all the bands play four more times.

[Noteworthy is the fact that we were joined by BHH/Borko guitarist Róbert's daughter Júlía Agla, and her mother Judith. They spent the rest of the tour with us and greatly enhanced the general atmosphere with their smiles. We also finally got our rockin' tour bus that morning, swapping vehicles at legendary rest stop Staðarskáli. While the new bus was indeed more rockin' in appearance (it's faux booths made for better conversation), there was clearly something wrong with its shock absorbers. I inferred this from the way it sporadically swung from side to side, making several of us seasick].

THURSDAY – HÚSAVÍK

"Soup is good food," sang the Dead Kennedys. That is a blatant lie, and the "dinner" we just "ate" in "Húsavík" is proof. Tasty as that mushroom soup was, there is a whole range of musicians'

The "Alvar A" dining room is open
Mon - Fri 10:00 to 17:00
Saturday - Sunday, 12:00 to 17:00
Special events/occasions - open until 22:00 hours (check website for details)

Norræna húsið / The Nordic House
 Saemundargata (in the Iceland University quarters of the city)
 Tel: +354 551 7030
www.nordice.is

NORDIC HOUSE - KNOWLEDGE AND DESIGN



RIGHT: THERE WAS GUITAR SOLO! LEFT: REYKJAVÍK! DO THEIR THING IN AKUREYRI

union literature devoted to asserting that it isn't really dinner.

All the bands turned in great performances at the Akureyri show, and while attendance was limited, the small crowd did include three clergymen. The team that made it to Akureyri's swimming pool this morning related a funny story involving an over-enthusiastic pool-worker that came at them yelling; "May not! Can not! Bannað! Nakinn! Sundlaug!" for reasons they've yet to fathom [those cries were later incorporated in a Borko song]. Tonight, we are sleeping in boats. This is as worrying as it is exciting.

FRIDAY – SEYÐISFJÖRÐUR

Last night's show was the best one yet. We packed the house and all the bands performed triumphant sets in front of an enthusiastic audience. Borko did a sweet cover of Morðingjarnir tune Eiturlyfjafíklar, and I made an accidental vocal cameo during the latter band's set.

The touring machine was well lubricated when we arrived in Seyðisfjörður earlier today. We had acquired a bullhorn via special delivery, and made a grand entrance to the town, jogging around town in our suits, calling out the group slogans ["There will be joke!" "There will be guitar-solo!"]. Now, post-soundcheck, we are taking in the beautiful surroundings and basking in the artsy atmosphere surrounding the Lunga festival.

Later: This is hilarious! The show went great. Reykjavík! played second, in front of a drunken audience of screaming teenagers. Playing music is awesome and you should do it. Also, a funny thing happened while I was manning the merch booth during Benni Hemm Hemm's impeccable set. A blond, longhaired dude stepped up and shoved his debit card in my face, wordlessly indicating that he would like to purchase a ticket. He then grabbed MY beer and downed it, slapped me an unsolicited five and strode into the venue, like a sneering Mad Max. I bemusedly scratched my head and wondered. Now, we sleep.

Oh, and Baldvin Esra still hasn't finished his translation. He made us calculate prices yesterday morning. Slave-driver.

SATURDAY – HÖFN

Höfn is a ridiculously beautiful town, doubly so in this weather. We tried doing our little run around town gimmick to little avail, as there simply wasn't anyone around. This was disconcerting, and made us worry about attendance. After dining on The Worst Lobster Soup Ever, we made it alive to the venue – the local maritime museum – to discover we had managed to draw a small crowd of Höfn music lovers (the tourists present were too cheap to pay the 1.000 ISK admission fee, opting to enjoy our concert from the hallway).

Legend has it that Icelandic bands are at risk of being severely beaten in Höfn, and there are several verified stories that back it (a recent one involves the member of a pop act getting his throat slit). As I write this, just before bed at three a.m., the group has yet to encounter any seriously hostile locals. There was a confrontation, however, that I will list for the record:

As bearded punkers Atli and Haukur from Morðingjarnir shared a cigarette with Reykjavík's Bóas, a sports car drove by at a leisurely pace. All seemed normal, until someone angrily yelled out the window: "Have you ever heard of an invention called a razor?!" The car then sped away. 🐾

WE HAD ACQUIRED A BULLHORN VIA SPECIAL DELIVERY, AND MADE A GRAND ENTRANCE TO THE TOWN, JOGGING AROUND TOWN IN OUR SUITS, CALLING OUT THE GROUP SLOGANS ["THERE WILL BE JOKE!" "THERE WILL BE GUITAR-SOLO!"].

DESTINATION

White-water Fun!

BY STEINUNN JAKOBSDÓTTIR — PHOTO BY ELLI

The boathouse was crowded with people putting on wetsuits when a group of friends and I arrived at Arctic Rafting's countryside headquarters, Drumbó Basecamp, for our rafting-trip down Hvítá. Excitement filled the air as we rounded up inside an old-school bus and drove to the glacier river. Most of us had never been rafting before, which is quite embarrassing as Hvítá is only a one-and-a-half hour drive from Reykjavík. In regards to difficulty, it is well suited for newcomers to the sport and guides who know the river like the back of their hands make sure you have nothing to worry about.

After learning the basics, like how to use the oar, we jumped into one of the inflatable boats. We soon found out that paddling was not as easy as our guide made it look and none of us was a natural in the art of finding our rowing rhythm. After some clumsy attempts, we finally got our shit together and managed to carry out his orders. "Left!" he yelled seconds before we dropped into the first rapid. Our boat took a nice rollercoaster jump but floated easily down the river, with everyone on board. A quick stop was made at the "jumping rock", a six-metre high cliff overlooking the ice-cold river. To say that hitting the water was refreshing would be an understatement.

As the river got wider the water became calmer. What could have been a relaxing time to enjoy the scenery soon turned into a war. With newfound taste for the cold, people jumped from one boat to the other trying to get as many overboard as possible, so most of the remaining time was spent fishing us up again.

Completely soaked it was nice to finally relax in the sauna and afterwards, feast on the amazing meal the Drumbó BBQ-masters grilled for us. Dry and stuffed, with a cold beer in my hand (there is a bar!), I couldn't help thinking why on earth I spend my weekends in the city. Rafting down Hvítá might be bit dull for those seeking hard-core white-water excitement, but with a group of friends and a guide set to make the experience as entertaining as possible, it's great fun and a perfect start for beginners. 🇮🇸

TOUR INFO

Arctic Adventures
www.adventures.is
 Tel.: 562-7000



Air Iceland destinations



/ tel. 570 3030

DESTINATION

Icelandic Ponies

BY STEVIE WARD — PHOTO BY JAMES WYLD

Peering out the window on route to the Snorrastaðir farm, I quip that English horses must be photo shopped, as the ones I spot outside all look rather small. “Shh”, my friend whispers. “The Icelanders are sensitive about their horses”. They have a right to be; ponies in Iceland are extremely beautiful (if a little short). With heights from 1.20 to 1.45 metres, they perform five distinct gaits including the ‘tölt’ and ‘flying pace’.

The Icelandic horse originates from Scandinavian and European breeds during original and subsequent settlements and has been bred purely for centuries. Often called ponies they are considered a “horse” and to call them “ponies” is likely to offend many breeders.

Snorrastaðir’s Cottages are open all year and when my companions and I arrived we were immediately focused on which horses would be chosen for us. Like buying a car, they were scrutinised for their beauty, steadiness and reliability, and how they suit their respective riders. My friend, mounted on a beautiful Palomino, quipped he would be riding a hot Icelandic blonde all day. Mine was swapped for my companion’s much more active number, ‘Fantasy’, who had been slightly adamant about not leaving the paddock.

Going horse riding is a lot about your co-riders – office types in riding hats, kids begging parents to let them come, and the trusty sheepdog constantly threading in and out of the paddock, eyes on the horizon, occasionally trying to herd cars. We rode in and out of rivers, with Snæfellsjökull Mountain in the distance. Our small city-slicker group ended up on the beach: the tide out, a huge expanse of wet sand and sunlight to one side of us. Our horses resting, I fixed Fantasy’s saddle which had come loose from a heavy trot and it seemed that she, much like her rider, was only stubborn when hungry. Stuffing her face with grass, she calmed as we watched another group gallop out like lightning across the wet sand, like some romantic motion picture – ‘pure freedom’. I asked our tour guide ‘when we ride better, will we do that?’ ‘Maybe next time’ she said. 🐾

Snorrastaðir Farm Holidays
www.snorrastadir.is
 Tel: 435 6628



AIR ICELAND

www.airiceland.is

Fly and discover

Get your action-packed day tour brochure at hotels, airports or any travel agent.





**SNORKELING
FROM 7.990 ISK**

NATURE IS THE ADVENTURE!



Caving



Canoeing



Kayaking



Snorkeling



ATV/Quad



Horse Riding



Climbing



Snowmobile



Rafting



Glacial Hike



Diving



Ice Climbing



Super-Jeep



Hiking



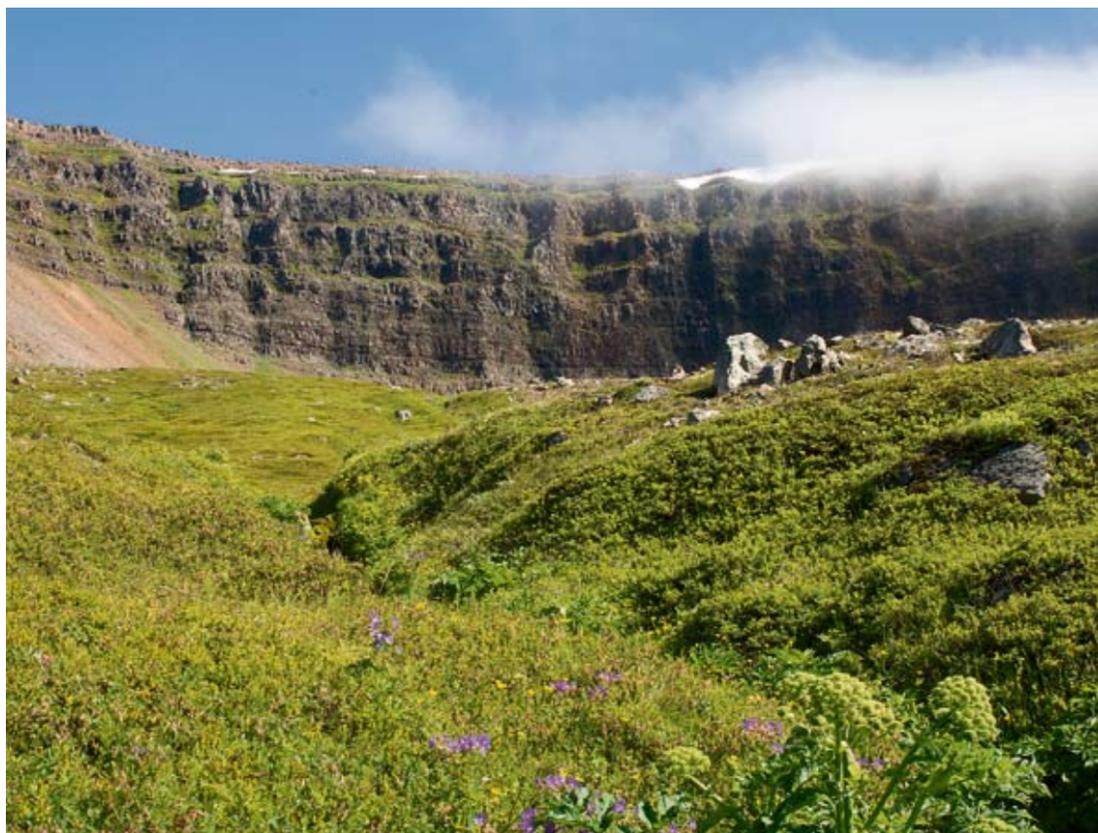
Sightseeing



Whale Watching

www.adventures.is | info@adventures.is
Meet us at Laugarvegi 11

Booking hot-line: +354-562-7000



GO THERE.

Mountains, Fjords and Gods

Maybe this is what life was supposed to be

As a day's hike reveals, the Hornstrandir nature reserve leaves little to be desired, and a lot to be discovered.

The Hornstrandir Nature reserve – “Strandir”, for short – is unique in every sense, and it is no wonder that the area is a favourite amongst international tourists as well as domestic ones. The Grapevine confirmed this during a short visit last month, and is already planning an extended hike through the area, for while our daytrip was jaw-dropping in its own right, it only served to whet our appetite for Hornstrandir.

Fabled for its scenic views and serene atmosphere as well as its flora and fauna, the Strandir reserve has for long been regarded a hiker's paradise. This is for good reason, as the reserve has a plethora of paths and trails that can be mapped out and planned to suit even the most discerning hiker's tastes.

As an out of shape part-time journalist, I believed the Hornstrandir hiking experience way over my head in terms of sheer difficulty. A brief visit to the Ísafjörður tourist office convinced me otherwise, as I learned that one of their most popular trips was a day hike through the nature reserve area deemed suitable for persons of most shapes and sizes, or as the brochure describes it: “A moderate hike for people in good shape. 14 kilometres, elevation of about 400 metres on rough ground.” Figuring that “[...] a moderate hike for people in good shape” could translate to a good hike for people in moderate shape, I signed up.

SO FUCKING PEACEFUL

“What an awesome place,” I thought as our small group disembarked the rubber dingy that had brought us the final metres to the abandoned hamlet of Sæból in Aðalvík, the starting point for our hike. We commenced our journey, hiking our way into Staðardalur Valley whilst taking in the history of Sæból and its former inhabitants as told by our apt guide, Íris. Stopping by the valley's church, beautifully positioned by a calm lake, we learned that it is currently undergoing renovations (impressive for a building that's been abandoned for over half a century) and that the lake is believed to be a nesting place for Nykur (more on those fearsome creatures elsewhere in this issue).

The clouds parted just as we continued our trip, and I started sweating. Removing several items of clothing, I hobbled after the group, relishing every breath of fresh air the day brought. We slowly ascended a mountain pass, our sweaty heads greedily eyeing the preceding winter's last left-over snow heap. Every stream we passed an opportunity to fill our flasks with chilled mountain water; we greedily replenished every drop of perspiration lost.

On the middle of Sléttuheiði moor, a burning sun loomed over; we took in the vast ensemble of peaks and valleys, fjords and gods surrounding us. The group fell silent for a minute.

WORDS WON'T DESCRIBE IT

Our group of twelve was a mix of Americans, Icelanders and Europeans, ages ranging from eleven to sixty four, with severely differing hiking abilities. A Colorado couple had obviously far surpassed the group's collective abilities, but they

seemed happy to trail along our amateur pace, perhaps lavishing more attention on the surroundings than the rest of us could spare. But I doubt it.

We had been told that the 14 km hike should take around five hours at best, but our scheduled pickup time left a couple of hours to spare, so no one was in hurry. We thus opted for a prolonged lunch break after crossing a cold stream barefoot, lying in the grass wondering why life shouldn't always be like this (a quick examination of any philosophical system will reveal that it simply can not. In fact the Hornstrandir reserve is extremely inhospitable for ten out of every twelve months).

One liberating aspect of undertaking tasks like this hike is that past a certain point you are forced to cede any bit of control over the circumstances. You are past the point of no return, no matter how tired or beat-up you get, you simply must finish. This is good.

“I can't believe this fucking place,” I thought as we descended down Hesteyr-

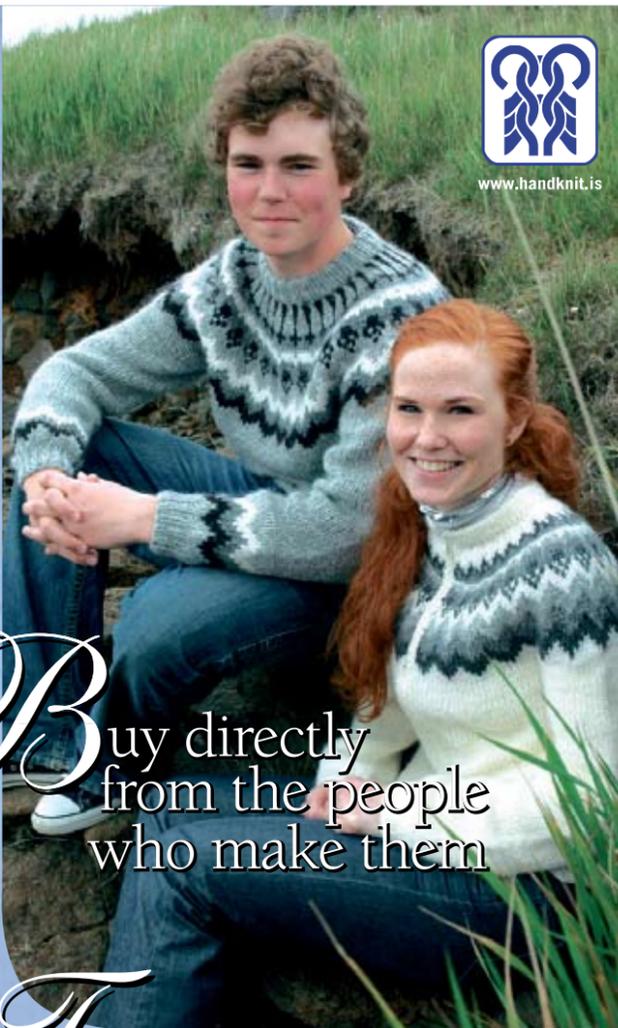
rarfjörður, our final destination and place of pick up. We walked a shiny beach towards the Hesteyri summer settlement, counting stranded jellyfish and picking up seashells along the way. “Eight hours is nowhere near enough,” I concluded as we finally boarded an hour later.

ONE LIBERATING ASPECT OF UNDERTAKING TASKS LIKE THIS HIKE IS THAT PAST A CERTAIN POINT YOU ARE FORCED TO CEDE ANY BIT OF CONTROL OVER THE CIRCUMSTANCES. YOU ARE PAST THE POINT OF NO RETURN, NO MATTER HOW TIRED OR BEAT-UP YOU GET, YOU SIMPLY MUST FINISH. THIS IS GOOD.





www.handknit.is



Buy directly from the people who make them

The Handknitting Association of Iceland



• Skólavörðustígur 19 tel.: 552 1890

• Radisson SAS, Hótel SAGA tel.: 562 4788

• Laugavegur 64 tel.: 562 1890



Taste the best of Iceland

...with a little bit of spanish thrown in!

There are over 70 courses on our Tapas menu so drop by and indulge in our excellent food in the greatest of atmosphere.

KITCHEN OPEN:
TO 23:30 ON WEEKDAYS
01.00 ON WEEKENDS

GREAT TAPAS
FROM KR. 550.-

10%
OF MENU PRICES
SUNDAYS-THURSDAYS
WITH THIS COUPON



TEL: 551-2344
TAPAS@TAPAS.IS
ADDRESS:
VESTURGATA 3B
101 REYKJAVÍK

ICELAND'S VERY FIRST TAPAS-BAR



THE WILD ICELAND

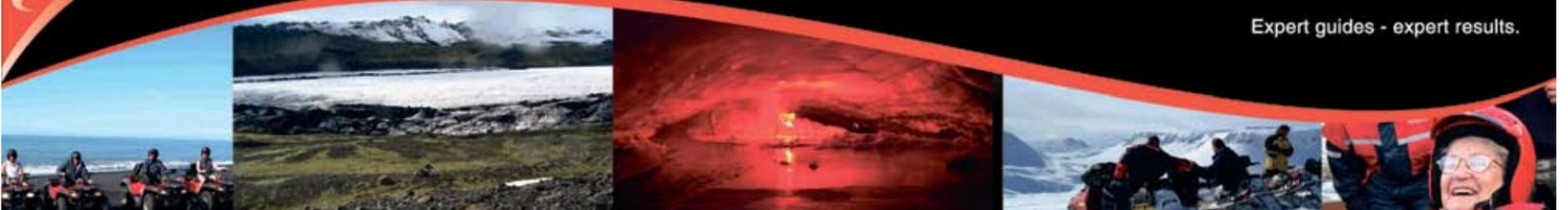
through the eyes of experts

For prices and information about tours visit
www.snow.is or call us.
Tel: (+354) 487-1500

Myrdalsjökull glacier snowmobile tour- do not miss this.

See the Sólheimajökull from above the larger glacier, and learn about Katta, the volcano under Myrdalsjökull glacier.

Expert guides - expert results.



[RUB 23]

U M I R E S T A U R A N T
A K U R E Y R I

www.rub.is
Phone: 461 2756





 DESTINATION BY STEINUNN JAKOBSDÓTTIR

Sky's the Limit

Iceland's whitewater kayak culture might be small, but the paddlers have huge missions

Iceland's rivers aren't only perfect for fishing or picturesque to watch. Many times a month, a small group of adventurous whitewater kayakers paddle down the most ruthless ones and crisscross the country with the goal set to find new creeks and waterfalls to run down. Grapevine tracked some of them down and learned that a river is so much more than a river.

"This is probably the smallest sports match in Iceland," says Garðar as he carries his kayak to his car, parked outside the countryside boathouse Drumbó Basecamp. Drumbó, located on the banks of Hvítá glacier river, is the meeting-place for rafters and kayakers, only minutes away from the Tunguflljót river, where the annual Tunguflljót-race in whitewater kayaking was about to take place. The group gathered outside furthermore explained that the event was more about friends having fun than a formal competition and I got the feeling the paddlers packing their gear were surprised to see a journalist taking interest in their hobby. When hearing that a group of adrenaline junkies were about to race down one of Iceland's roughest rivers in a small plastic boat Grapevine just had to watch.

HARD-CORE RIVER ACTION

When we got to Tunguflljót, I understood Garðar's comment. The group dressed in the wetsuits was small, only 10 competitors, (nine guys and one girl). This was a laid-back get-together of clearly long-time friends. Many of them even work together and spend their working hours rafting, snorkelling, caving and hiking and their free time playing around the extremes Iceland's nature can offer.

I was told that the turn-up was actually not that bad as the ten competitors racing this time make up about half of the active whitewater kayakers in Iceland. Although the group gathered was tiny the competitive spirit was raised high and to watch them paddle down the stream and ruthlessly push each other with the oar was just awesome. After an exciting race, Jón Heiðar stood up as the ultimate winner. After the match was over, soaking wet, exhausted but mostly high on the adrenaline rush, the group drove off.

"We meet there to do something fun together", says Jón Heiðar when I catch up with him in his more relaxed office on Laugavegur. He's one of the legends in the sport. One of the more experienced paddlers he and his buddies aren't afraid to drop down dangerously high waterfalls and paddle huge waves and rough rapids. (Just look at the photos. They are crazy!)

"I started kayaking in 1998. At that time, there were about five guys active in the sport. Nothing was really happening as whitewater kayaking was still new in Iceland," he explains. "Around the year 2000, a couple of Americans visited the country and opened a totally new world to us", he

We want you out of here – alive!

www.safetravel.is can save your life.



ICE-SAR
ICELANDIC ASSOCIATION
FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE



THOSE CRAZY KAYAKERS SURE ARE EXTREME!

continues. The sport got a big boost, new kayakers flocked to the rivers and heaps of river action events organised. He tells me that around 2004 the sport experienced a decline and hasn't really seen any real renewal since, so it's left to the group of the hard-core ones to keep the sport alive.

PARADISE ISLAND FOR PADDLERS

Kayaking is not a sport you jump into and become an expert in no time. It takes time, stamina and a lot of swimming in the ice-cold water to get a grip on it. But for those willing to put in some effort, Iceland's nature is a true heaven. You only need to imagine the country's landscape for a second to see the endless possibilities.

"Iceland has an enormous amount of waterfalls and of course plenty of rivers. If all conditions are in top, which they always are in May and June, Iceland is a paradise for kayakers," Jón Heiðar says but adds that the season can last much longer, from around Easter and just about as long in the winter the kayakers can stand the cold.

For the past ten years, Jón Heiðar and his friends have toured the country, searching for new rivers and chances to run the first descent. "There still is heaps left to explore," he says and continues: "A big part of the fun is the actual trip and the search for the undiscovered. To take a road-trip for two weeks in good company, hike up a mountain and suddenly find a crazy waterfall is the biggest thrill. We found one of the most powerful rivers in Iceland by incidence for example. On Holtavörðuheidi of all places."

Jón Heiðar and his fellow kayakers have also used their spare time escaping Iceland to tackle rivers in foreign countries, mostly in Nepal. "Kayaking is a brilliant sport if you want to see the world. You get to experience countries and cultures in a totally different way. When we are in Nepal for example, we go to places the normal traveller will probably never visit. You paddle maybe a 100 km path through tiny villages off the beaten track where tourists have maybe never been before."

He was once a struggling beginner who had to "eat a lot of shit" so to say and looking back he recalls many critical moments. "The most dangerous thing about being new to the sport is that often you don't know any better and there is little instructions to be found. A couple of years back, a friend of ours was dropping down a waterfall and ended behind it. He disappeared for like fifteen minutes. Everyone thought he was dead. He was stuck in a cave behind the waterfall and as he tried to get out the stream kept pushing him back. Suddenly he washed up on the right side, lucky to be alive. This happened because we didn't know any better."

Whitewater kayaking is sport anyone can enjoy and everyone can find a river of taste. It's up to you to decide how far you want to push your limit. Jón Heiðar says he would love to see more kayakers come in to the sport. His advice to newcomers is to contact Kayakklúbburinn but they host practices for beginner and can rent out all the gear. As there obviously is no lack of water and the country's endless creeks will continue to make it a playground for kayakers there's nothing stopping. So quit reading, borrow some gear and discover your paddling potential. For more info see: www.kayakklubburinn.com and www.adventures.is.

A BIG PART OF THE FUN IS THE ACTUAL TRIP AND THE SEARCH FOR THE UNDISCOVERED. TO TAKE A ROAD-TRIP FOR TWO WEEKS IN GOOD COMPANY, HIKE UP A MOUNTAIN AND SUDDENLY FIND A CRAZY WATERFALL IS THE BIGGEST THRILL.



TRADITIONAL ICELANDIC FOOD and International Dishes

Our Weekly Menu:

<p>MONDAYS: Minced steak w. onions Lamb cutlets Fishballs</p> <p>TUESDAYS: Gratinated fish Lamb cutlets Meatballs</p>	<p>WEDNESDAYS: Salted lamb & pea soup Lamb cutlets</p> <p>THURSDAYS: Lamb meat & broth Lamb cutlets</p> <p>FRIDAYS: Lamb chops Lamb cutlets</p>	<p>SATURDAYS: Fried fish fillets Lamb cutlets Roast pork</p> <p>SUNDAYS: Roast pork Lamb cutlets</p>
---	--	--

Homelike food
International buffet
Grilled chicken
Sheep's head and Coke
Fish dishes
Hamburgers
Salat bar
Sandwich bar
Coffee and cakes

FLJÓTT OG GOTT

BSI BUS TERMINAL
HRINGBRAUT, REYKJAVÍK
RESTAURANT OPEN 7-23.30 AND TAKE AWAY
ROUND THE CLOCK

Living Museum by the Sea

VÍKIN

Reykjavik Maritime Museum

Open daily from 11am to 5pm
Closed Mondays

Víkin
Grandagarði 8 - 101 Reykjavík
Tel: 517 9400

www.sjominjasafn.is

Vegdrasil

lífrænt
biodynamískt

BIO

Austurvöllur

free internet connection

www.visitreykjavik.is

TOP 5 ICELANDIC FILMS



Bryndís Jakobsdóttir

Bryndís was born in Reykjavík in 1987, and lived in Vesturbær, Akureyri and London until she was 12. Her interest in music awoke at a young age and she now studies at The Icelandic Musicians Union (FÍH). She recently did an album with a London based Anglo/American named Sam Frank as well as Barði Jóhannsson, Marteinn Örn and her mother, Ragnhildur Gísladóttir. She appreciates writing songs as a great way of expressing yourself, ridding oneself of whatever goes on between the ears. She also makes hand-painted necklaces and other stuff which she finds calming and a good alternative, creatively, to writing music. After her first tour of Iceland is over she'll be off to Denmark where she's got a few gigs booked for the early autumn.

- 1 ENGLAR ALHEIMSINS**
I haven't seen many films let alone Icelandic ones but if I had to choose I'd have to include Englar Alheimsins because the acting is good and the script as well.
- 2 VEÐRAMÓT**
This movie by Guðný Halldórsdóttir is a touching film, very well directed and based on a true story.
- 3 MEÐ ALLT Á HREINU**
Undeniably good and makes me laugh every time. It's also unique in its own way as it was mainly improvised.
- 4 NÓI ALBÍNÓI**
Nói came to mind quickly as I like the script and the locations and the actors and everything.
- 5 FUGLASTRÍÐ**
Oh wait I must be mixed up, anywhere close to the sea is good place to get away from it all.

TOP 5 RESTAURANTS IN ICELAND



Ásgrímur Már Friðriksson

Ási is a 25-year-old fashion designer and stylist, born and raised in Siglufjörður. Since graduating from the Iceland Academy of the Arts he has designed clothes for The Naked Ape, supervised Silvía Nótt's wardrobe when she competed in Eurovision and has most recently been working on the 2009 spring collection for E-Label. Last year he worked in Copenhagen as an Assistant Fashion Manager for the magazine Cover. He has also worked as an illustrator and done pieces for foreign magazines, a CD cover and has been invited to take part in exhibitions abroad, most notably the Arnhem Fashion Biennale which featured such artists as John Galliano, Gareth Pugh, ThreeAsFour, Lanvin and Cassette Playa. The reason he does what he does is to make an imaginary world real.

- 1 SÆGREIFINN**
Great if you want to be a little politically incorrect and eat some whale meat.
- 2 HÓTEL ALDAN**
Situated in Seyðisfjörður, dining on sea-food soup after a good drinking binge in the countryside is perfect.
- 3 TAPAS BARINN**
I think it's absolutely splendid to pay one price and get an array of meals. I recommend ordering the surprise dish; I tasted puffin for the first time and when I did I didn't regret it.
- 4 OSTABÚÐIN**
The Cheese Store on Skólavörðustígur is fantastic for grabbing a healthy and tasty meal with your coffee. The Chicken Salad with Berry Sauce is extraordinary.
- 5 SUSHIBARINN**
Sushi at the end of the day is exquisite, the only problem is that you can't order wine or sake with the sushi.

TOP 5 PLACES OUTSIDE REYKJAVÍK



Jón Atli Helgason

Jón Atli Helgason A.K.A. DJ Sexy Lazer is a 28-year-old hairdresser, DJ, promoter and musician. He was born and raised in Hvolsvöllur and currently cuts hair at Gallerí Gel as well as working on the upcoming Hairdoctor album. Jón Atli is also one of the three men who make up the event company and record label Jón Jónsson which are currently organizing a GusGus concert at NASA (scheduled August 16) and a Sebastien Tellier gig at Rúbin (scheduled August 28). For more information see www.myspace.com/alltafistudi or www.myspace.com/hairdoctormusic.

- 1 HRAFNTUNNUSKER**
One of the most amazing places I've ever been. The rocks are completely black and have a special shine to them, it's beautiful.
- 2 FIMMVÖRÐUHÁLS**
Right by Þórsmörk, Fimmvörðuháls has one of the most beautiful views in Iceland.
- 3 TINDAFJALLAJÖKULL**
I have a lot of childhood memories from Tindafjallajökull, sledding and skiing with the family and stuff like that. It's also just a really scenic place.
- 4 SEYÐISFJÖRÐUR**
A really good vibe surrounds this little town, a kind of forgotten European atmosphere which I really like.
- 5 HVALEFJÖRÐUR**
A really cosy, nice place, just outside the city, good for quick escapes.

Have it your way!

Waiter: _____

Name: _____

Table nr. _____ Starter nr. _____ Main course nr. _____

How would you like your steak:

- Bleu
- Rare
- Medium rare
- Medium
- Medium well
- Well done

Your choice of potato:

- French fries
- Baked potato with butter
- Baked potato, sour cream & chives

Your choice of butter:

- Garlic butter

Your choice of sauce:

- Bernaise sauce
- Pepper sauce

Extra:

- Hereford salad
- Ceasar salad



HEREFORD
STEIKHÚS
Laugavegur 53b tel. 5 11 33 50

ÍÐA

Books
Music

Souvenirs & lots more



Open every day
from 9.00 to 22.00

Lækjargata 2a 101 Reykjavík

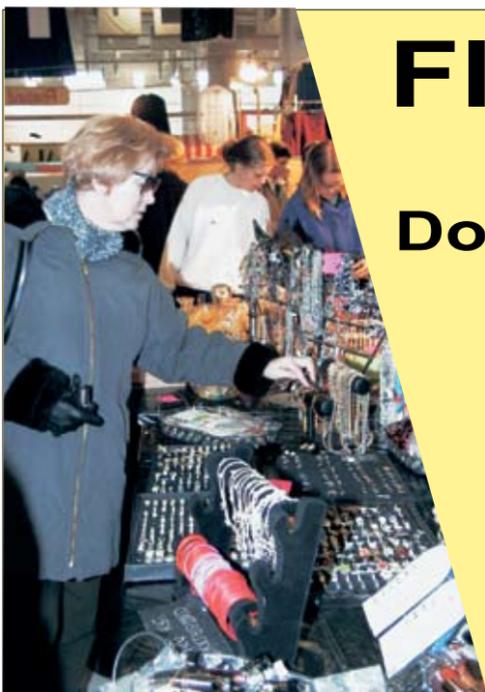


www.visitakureyri.is



Fleamarket
KOLAPORTIÐ
Down by the harbour

WELCOME
Open all weekends
11am - 5pm





Stuffed with stuff

"Its actions are merely civilian, not war related at all. Some crisis response units are inclusive in a military setup, but of course we don't possess an army of our own so that's not the case here."

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ingibjörg Sólrún Gísladóttir, on the Iceland Crisis Response Unit.

PAGE 6

"Unfortunately, we have not reached the same peak as Norway. What Iceland has done is allowing for churches to marry if the priest will agree; Norway has said, 'Everyone can get married, deal with it.'

While Iceland has come a long way, there is still a way to go to ensure greater equality for the LGBT community.

PAGE 8

"It has nothing to do with aesthetics or value, and should be kept professional and not too emotional."

The debate on the Icelandic Art Academy's new premises has risen to the forefront of Icelandic discourse.

PAGE 22

"I still have problems determining whether the 'Kimi Records Summer Fun Tour!' of 2008 was the decidedly most rock 'n' roll venture embarked upon by a twenty-strong group of young men in a sweaty bus - or the least rock 'n' roll one ever."

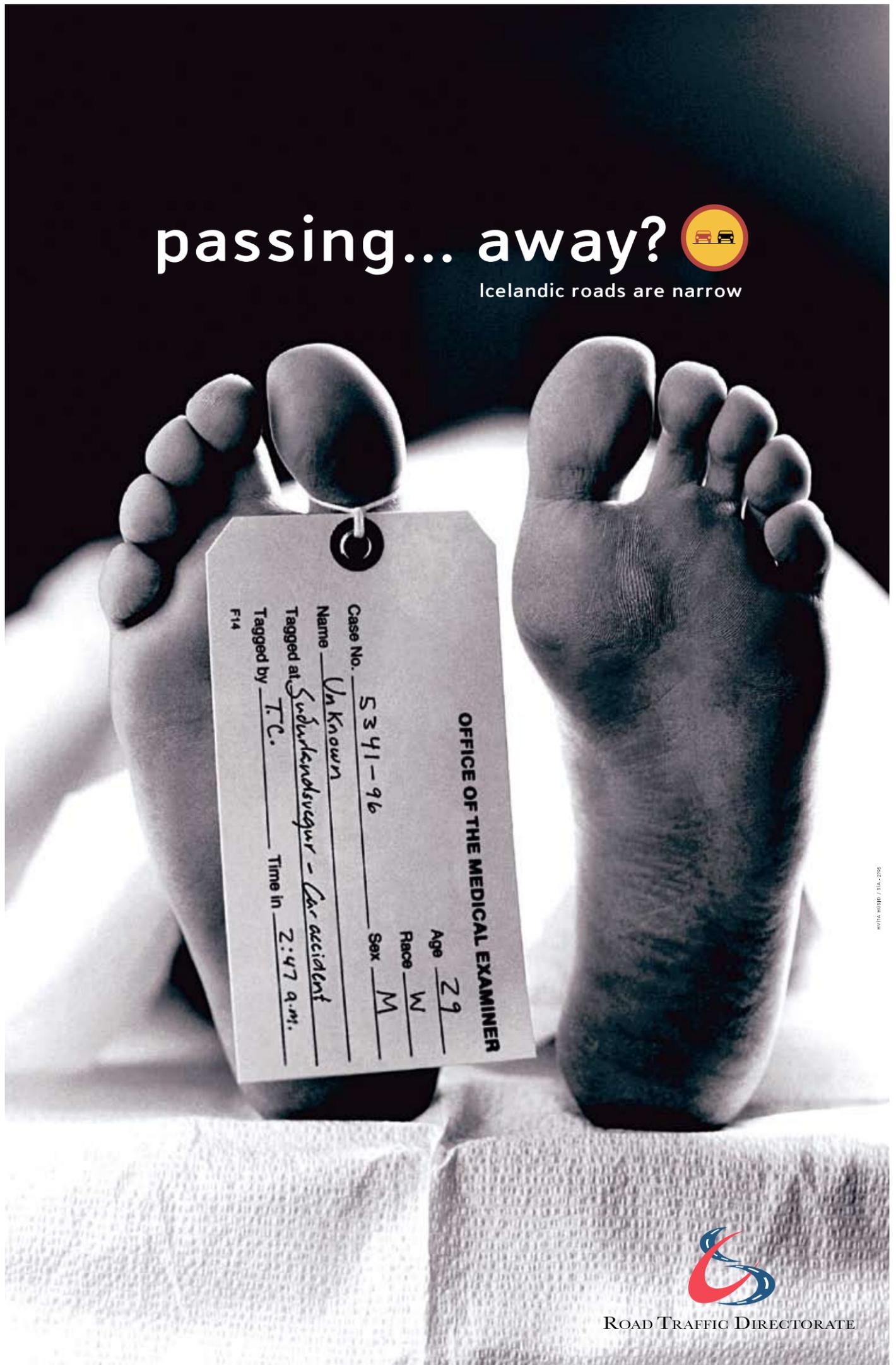
Grapevine's representative allows readers to decide.

PAGE 30

A quick stop was made at the "jumping rock", a six-metre high cliff overlooking the ice-cold river. To say that hitting the water was refreshing would be an understatement.

Grapevine goes river rafting.

PAGE 32



ROAD TRAFFIC DIRECTORATE

RIVER RAFTING

GLACIER TOURS

WHALE WATCHING

SIGHTSEEING

HORSE RIDING

ACCOMMODATION

JEEP SAFARIS

DAY TOURS

Book your Adventure with us

www.citycentre.is

Simply the most comprehensive Booking Services in the City specialized in customizing and developing travel packages to suit your interests and needs. We can arrange your accommodation, transfers, tours, flights and car hire based on your requirements.

CITY CENTRE BOOKING SERVICE · LOCATED INSIDE THE TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE · ADALSTRAETI 2 · 101 REYKJAVÍK · TEL +354 581 1717 · info@citycentre.is

City Centre
BOOKING SERVICE

FREE
BOOKING SERVICE

The REYKJAVÍK GRAPEVINE **iNFO**



Music, Art, Films and Events Listings + Eating, Drinking and Shopping + Map

+ *Gay Pride* · *Back Soon Premieres* · *Jack Live Fest*

YOUR ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO LIFE, TRAVEL AND
ENTERTAINMENT IN ICELAND.

Issue 11 2008

www.grapevine.is

What:

Organ's anniversary (B2)





GEIMSTOFAN



THE VIKING

ICELAND'S LARGEST SOUVENIR SHOP

THE VIKING : INFO

Hafnarstræti 3 101 Reykjavík tel: 551 1250
 Hafnarstræti 104 600 Akureyri tel: 461 5551

email: theviking@simnet.is



HAMBORGARA Bullan

990

Special Offer

Strandgata 11 • Akureyri Central
 Tel. +354 462 1800 • www.bullan.is

TUBORG

GAMLI BAUKUR
 RESTAURANT • BAR • LIVE MUSIC

Experience:
 Fresh local fish!
 Great Hamburgers!
 Homemade icecream!
 ... and so much more!

HÚSAVÍK

www.gamlibaukur.is

Music

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ORGAN!

Reykjavík's premiere music spot Organ celebrates its one-year anniversary with a three-day music festival starting on August 1. Organ formally opened on August 3, 2007, at Hafnarstræti 1-3 and the opening weekend was massive to say the least. Less than a month after the opening Eldar Ástþórsson (former Iceland Airwaves festival manager) brought in musical heavyweights Franz Ferdinand, and Organ truly felt the wind in the sails. A year on, Organ's birthday party is upon us and will be celebrated with a diverse group of musical talents, including Jeff Who? Mínus, Dikta and Skátar,

As a staple of the Icelandic music scene, Organ has seen a steady flow of guests and the organisers, Gylfi Blöndal and Inga Sólveig, pride themselves on their calendar, featuring 4-5 shows a week. "The first concert was with Pornopop and The Way Down. It served as

a nice test to find out how everything worked, technically speaking. The next day Innipúkinn festival went underway and we floated around in a blizz for the rest of the weekend," explains Gylfi. "What I've noticed in the last year is a great build-up of professionalism that wasn't so visible before. The bands are more organised and prepared for their shows, resulting in better quality of the music and the overall framework."

With the three-day anniversary celebration, Organ wants to thank all the great bands and musicians that have helped make the venue what it is today and asked their favourites from the last year to take the stage. "We want to celebrate the variety in the music scene around Organ. We are touched by the response from the bands, and my phone hasn't stopped ringing after we announced it. Everyone is in for the ride.

The spirit is to celebrate the music in the relaxed atmosphere Organ provides." The party starts on Friday and tickets per night cost 1,000 ISK.

What: Jeff Who?, Mínus, Dikta, Skátar, Jan Mayen, BB&BLAKE, DLX ATX, Æla, Evil Madness, Bjartmar Guðlaugsson, My Summer as a Salvation Soldier, Elín Ey, Diversion Sessions, Spacevestides, Kid Twist and many more.

When: August 1-3

Where: Organ, Hafnarstræti 1-3

1 E5



Music

JACK LIVE FEST AT DILLON

The roasters at Dillon have decided to pay tribute to the encumbering recession by throwing a low-cost festival inside the city walls this weekend, August 1-3. The assortment of bands is excellent, as renowned acts such as Brain Police, Mammút and Dikta will honour those present. Jack Daniels will pay a visit and sell himself at an extremely low rate and nearly pro bono during the infamous happy hour. Patrons may also use Dillon's BBQ area for all their grilling pleasures, while listening do DJ Andrea Jóns play some great rock-tunes, so this seems like a sweet party, all in all.

When: August 1 - 3

Who: Jeff Who?, Atómstöðin, Johnny & The Rest, Dikta, Múgsefjun, Jan Mayen, Mammút, Shadow Parade, Tab 22, Brain Police, Boys in a Band, Momentum, Severed Crotch and Morðingjarnir.

Where: Dillon, Laugavegur 30

2 G7



Art

CAPTURING THE MOMENT

People, foreign countries, architecture and forms are the themes of the exhibition 'Formstaklingar' by photographer Klængur Gunnarsson that will open in the Reykjavík Museum of Photography on July 31. He studied photography in a small junior college in the northern part of Sweden but in the next years he will study in the Iceland Academy of the Arts. "Photography is a big part of my life and has been for the last four years. I don't see myself without a camera. Without my camera I take pictures using my eye and save them in a good place in my mind where I can enjoy them anytime I want to. For me, photography is about looking and seeing how the daylight falls on the subject and try to capture a beautiful grey scale or take a picture at the exact right moment, either way with my camera or my eye," Gunnarsson explains.

When: July 31 - September 23

Where: Reykjavík Museum of Photography, Tryggvagata 16

3 D5

If you would like to be included in the Grapevine listings, free of charge, contact the Grapevine by email at listings@grapevine.is.

Music & Entertainment

FRIDAY AUGUST 1

- **Nasa**
Innipúkinn Festival featuring Dr. Spock, Hjálmar and more. For more information see: www.midi.is.
When: 7 PM
- **Vegamót**
Mr. Gorilla Funk (DJ set)
When: Midnight
- **Hressó**
Performance by Ímynd followed by DJ Maggi.
When: 10 PM
- **Sjallinn (Akureyri)**
Trevor Loveys, Ghozt and Trix. (DJ set)
When: 11 PM
- **Organ**
Organ 1 Year Anniversary: Performances by DLX ATX, Jan Mayen, Mínus and more.
When: 10 PM
- **Café Cultura**
DJ Alfons X. (DJ set)
When: Midnight
- **Q-Bar**
Ási & Ýr (No Requests DJ Crew). White Trash theme party.
When: Midnight
- **Prikið**
Performance by Köttur followed by DJ Danni Deluxe
When: 9 PM
- **B5**
Funky Fleivur. (DJ set)
When: Midnight

SATURDAY AUGUST 2

- **Hressó**
Performance by Napoleon followed by DJ Maggi.
When: 10 PM
- **Kaffibarinn**
Már & Nielsen (DJ Set)
When: Midnight
- **Organ**
Organ 1 Year Anniversary: Performances by Thundercats,

- JeffWho? and more.
When: 10 PM
- **Prikið**
DJ Moonshine. (DJ set)
When: Midnight
- **Café Cultura**
Nuno Lx. (DJ set)
When: Midnight
- **Nasa**
Innipúkinn continues.
When: 8 PM
- **Tunglið**
Trevor Loveys, Mr. Cuellar, Ghozt and Trix. (DJ set)
When: 11 PM
- **Q-Bar**
DJ Manny. (DJ set)
When: Midnight

SUNDAY AUGUST 3

- **Q-Bar**
DJ Anna Brown (DJ set)
When: 10 PM
- **Hressó**
Troubadour Performance followed by DJ Bjarni.
When: 10 PM
- **B5**
DJ Jónas Oh!
When: 10 PM
- **Organ**
Organ 1 Year Anniversary: Performances by My Summer as a Summer Salvation, Kid Twist and more.
When: 10 PM
- **Prikið**
Performance by XXX Rottweiler and Intro. (Hip-Hop)
When: Midnight
- **Kaffibarinn**
DJ Magic & Alfons X
When: 10 PM
- **Café Cultura**
Performance by the blues-band Kettir, followed by DJs Ellen and Erna.
When: 9 PM
- **Nasa**
Techno.is presents Dash Berlin. Tickets available at www.skor.is.
When: Midnight

MONDAY AUGUST 4

Verslunarmannadagurinn
Holiday - Most stores will be closed.

TUESDAY AUGUST 5

- **Q-Bar**

- Open-Mic night
When: 10 PM
 - **Prikið**
Performance by the houseband.
When: 10 PM
- ### WEDNESDAY AUGUST 6
- **Q-Bar**
DJ Glimmer - Drag Show Party.
When: 10 PM
 - **Organ**
Shake it Baby - Belly Dancers of Kramhúsið Dance studio.
When: 8 PM
 - **Prikið**
Ladies night. Special offers for wine.
When: 9 PM
 - **Kaffibarinn**
Bedroom Community Presents Kangding Ray (fr) (DJ Set)
When: 10 PM

THURSDAY AUGUST 7

- **Hressó**
DJ Sykur.
When: 10 PM
- **B5**
Funky Fleivur
When: 10 PM
- **Kaffibarinn**
Benni B Ruff (DJ Set)
When: 10 PM
- **Organ**
Esja release concert.
When: 11 PM
- **Prikið**
DJ Natalie. (DJ set)
When: 10 PM
- **Café Cultura**
Biggi Maus. (DJ set)
When: 10 PM

FRIDAY AUGUST 8

- **Hressó**
Performance by Dalton.
When: 11 PM
- **B5**
DJ A'n'R
When: Midnight
- **12 Tónar**
Concert featuring Dirac, a Vienna based experimental music group.
When: 5 PM
- **Kaffibarinn**
DJ CasaNova
- **Organ**
Carol Pope Concert.
When: 9 PM

Kayak tour in Stokkseyri

Amazing experience

Robinson Crusoe

Appr. 1-3 hour without guide. Particularly interesting possibility for families and individuals, where participants can explore by themselves the amazing labyrinth of the swamp. Map of the area is in the reception. Notice that the area is absolutely safe.



Tours begin at the Stokkseyri swimming pool.



Adult: 3500 ISK
Children age 6-14: 1000 ISK
Under age 6 for free

kajak@kajak.is
www.kajak.is
tel. +354 896-5716



Gjúfrasteinn
LAXNESS MUSEUM
Laxnes

- Audio tours in English, German, Swedish, Danish and Icelandic
- Multimedia presentation
- Museum Shop
- Walking paths in the vicinity

20 min from Reykjavik city centre
On the way to Thingvellir National Park

Opening hours
Summer: Every day 9.00-17.00
Winter: Tuesday - Sunday 10.00-17.00
Last tour begins at 17.00

Gjúfrasteinn
P.O. Box 250
270 Mosfellsbær
Tel. + 354 686 8066
gljufrasteinn@gljufrasteinn.is
www.gljufrasteinn.is

Music & Entertainment | Venue finder

22 Laugavegur 22 | **G7**
A popular place among the city's party scenesters, this three storied bar makes for a great night out with chatting upstairs and dancing downstairs with regular DJs.

Amsterdam Hafnarstræti 5 | **E6**
Kaffi Amsterdam seems to have been around forever, though recently it's been reinvented as a live venue. Good music, cheap beer, and colorful characters to be found.

Apótek Austurstræti 16 | **E5**
Sporting a chic and pristine interior with a blend of modern minimalism and ornate baroque, a decent spot with eager service and an international menu.

B5 Bankastræti 5 | **F6**
By day a chic little bistro with good food and a prime location for Laugavegur people watching | by night a stylish bar with a "whiskey room" and manhattanesque clientele.

Bar 11 Laugavegur 11 | **G6**
A happening Rock hangout right on Laugavegur, brings in the Iceland rock scene whether on the jukebox or in person mainly on Tuesdays but throughout the week.

Belly's Hafnarstræti 18a | **E5**
Belly's deserves praise for having the cheapest bar prices around. Good for anyone looking for a deal, there are enough tables for everyone and TVs for sport | watching.

Boston Laugavegur 28b | **H6**
A fresh addition to the Reykjavik bar scene. Roomy bar floor, nice sofas and stylish interior make this a comfy café as well as a tavern with good, unintrusive music.

Café Cultura Hverfisgata 18 | **G6**
Situating in the intercultural centre, Cultura is a café/bar with a cosmopolitan feel. The menu features all sorts of international dishes, alongside the staple salad and sandwich.

Café Paris Austurstræti 14 | **E5**
With an outdoor terrace, this café gets busy on sunny days. With a cosy interior, fine menu and attentive service, it makes a fine spot for evening dining as well.

Café Victor Hafnarstræti 1-3 | **D4**
A hangout for older foreigners, Victor attracts a diverse crowd, both in age and origin, a rule that extends to the musicians that play there.

Celtic Cross Hverfisgata 26 | **H6**

Arguably the most authentic Irish pub in town, a very lively space with live music every night, sometimes two bands playing at once.

Dillon Laugavegur 30 | **H7**
The quintessential rock pub Dillon serves moderately priced drinks, and has pretty good music, too. The mix of students and tattooed tough guys always creates a fun atmosphere.

Domo bingholtstræti 5 | **F6**
The elegantly decorated Domo serves delicious French-Asian cuisine, excellent sushi and has a great wine list. A sure choice.

Dubliner Hafnarstræti 4 | **E5**
The city's main Irish pub attracts quite a lot of foreigners, though there's an influx of locals on weekends. Good if you're looking for the darker stuff on tap.

Glaumbar Tryggvagata 20 | **E4**
The premier sports bar in town, though after the final whistle, DJs take the floor and begin a night of feverish dancing.

Grand Rokk Smiðjustígur | **G6**
As its Viking theme accurately displays, this hardcore chess hangout is no place for the lily | livered. Take the

pub quiz on Fridays at 17.30, the winner gets a free case of beer!

Hressó Austurstræti 20 | **E5**
With a spacious neutral interior, pleasant courtyard and a varied lunch menu, Hressó attracts no specific type of crowd. Tap beer and music makes a fair hangout on weekends.

Hverfisbarinn Hverfisgata 20 | **G6**
After a long line, you'll get in and wonder what all the fuss was about. You may end up here if you're still going at 4 on a Sunday morning, in which case it's just as good as any.

Kaffi Hjómáland Laugavegur 21 | **G6**
This organic, free-trade café prides itself not only on great food and coffee but being a strong cultural center, hosting live music as well as lectures and poetry nights.

Kaffibarinn Bergstraðastræti 1 | **F6**
A popular place to grab a drink after work, this daytime coffee joint roils with nighttime activity on weekends with live DJs. Parties often pound until dawn.

NASA Þorvaldsenstræti 2 |
The cornerstone of Reykjavik nightlife, NASA has multiple bars and hosts some

of Reykjavik's best bands. Shows go on all night long on weekends.

Næsti Bar Ingólfstræti 1A | **F6**
On nights where queues snake down Laugavegur, Næsti Bar can be great place to sneak off to and chat with friends over a beer. Frequentated also by the literary and acting elite.

Óliver Laugavegur 20A | **H7**
This stylish nightclub attracts a glamorous crowd of crazy dancers that may not be for everyone. In which case, air | conditioning and fine food make Oliver a good lunch spot.

Ólstofan Vegamótastígur | **G6**
No tricks here. You'll want just simple beer in this simple pub. Also the hangout for Reykjavik intellectual circles.

Organ Hafnarstræti 1-3 | **E4**
This trendy bar and concert venue presents a wide range of international and local musicians from all levels of renown. Shows 4 times a week, lasting late on weekends.

Prikið Bankastræti | **F5**
Part of the Reykjavik bar scene for decades, this café/bar has a fairly cheap menu and attracts a mix of students and old regulars.

R&B and Hip-Hop plays on weekends.

Q-Bar Ingólfstræti 3 | **F6**
A roomy gay/straight bar and a welcome addition to downtown nightlife. Some of the best DJs in town play regularly, making it an especially lively space on weekends.

Rex Austurstræti | **E5**
Rex is quite fancy and you may feel out of place if you don't dress up a bit. Definitely one of the more posh spots in town.

Sólón Bankastræti 7A | **F5**
Truly a jack | of | all trades establishment. By night a decent restaurant, by day a café/bistro and on Friday and Saturday nights a nightclub. Art exhibitions on the walls to top it off.

Thorvaldsen Austurstræti 8 | **E5**
Dress formally for this fancy spot, and come before 12 to avoid a long line. DJs play Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

Vegamót Vegamótastígur 4 | **G6**
Vegamót's kitchen is open until 22.00 daily and sports an appealing lunch menu. Come for a tasty brunch on weekends. If you like Óliver, try Vegamót and vice versa.

Looking for something delicious?
You'll find it downtown. Tasty subs, sandwiches, burgers -and probably the most popular sauce in Iceland

Lunchtime OFFER

NONNABITI

The tasty one

Hafnarstræti 9 • S: 5512312

GREAT SELECTION OF NEW AND USED ARMY SURPLUS AND COLLECTABLE MILITARIA
OPEN 11 TO 5 WEEKENDS

ARMY.IS WANTS YOU!
THE ICELANDIC ARMY SHOP AT KOLAPORTIÐ FLEAMARKET

Listings

- **Prikið**
Performance by Búsbandið followed by DJ Danni Deluxe.
When: 10 PM
- **Q-Bar**
Gay Pride Weekend.
- **Café Cultura**
Natalie. (DJ set)
When: Midnight

SATURDAY AUGUST 9

- **Q-Bar**
Gay Pride Weekend.
- **Hressó**
Performance by Napoleon followed by DJ Bjarni.
When: 11 PM
- **B5**
Funky Fleivur (DJ Set)
When: Midnight
- **Kaffibarinn**
Dr. Spock (DJ Set)
Terrordisco (DJ Set)
When: Midnight
- **Prikið**
Gay Pride night: DJ Kári.
When: Midnight
- **Organ**
Stereo Total and Swivel Concert.
When: 9 PM
- **Café Cultura**
DJ Árni Sveins. (DJ set)
When: Midnight
- **Nasa**
Annual Gay-Pride Dance featuring Páll Óskar. Admission is 2.000 ISK.
When: 11 PM

SUNDAY AUGUST 10

- **Prikið**
Hangover-Cinema.
When: 10 PM
- **Q-Bar**
DJ Marathon from 11 in the morning to 1 at night.
When: 11 AM

MONDAY AUGUST 11

- **Prikið**
Open decks night. Come and show your stuff.
When: 10 PM

TUESDAY AUGUST 12

- **Q-Bar**
Open-Mic night.
When: 10 PM
- **Prikið**
Performance by the house-band.
When: 10 PM

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 13

- **Prikið**
Ladies night with DJ Rósa.
When: 10 PM
- **Kaffibarinn**
Andrea Jónsdóttir (DJ Set)
When: 10pm
- **Organ**
Performance by Swords of Chaos.
When: 9 PM

THURSDAY AUGUST 14

- **Q-Bar**
DJ Manny. (DJ set)
When: 10 PM
- **Hressó**
Performance by Bristol.
When: 11 PM
- **B5**
Billy Jean (DJ Set)
When: Midnight
- **Prikið**
DJ Natalie.
When: 10 PM
- **Organ**
Performance by Sudden Weather Change
When: 9 PM
- **Kaffibarinn**
Árni Sveinsson (DJ Set)
When: 10 PM
- **Café Cultura**
Einar Sonic. (DJ set)
When: 10 PM

Art

- **101 Gallery**
July 4 – August 15
Aðlögun (Adaptation): Exhibition by Jóna Hlíf Halldórsdóttir

○ **ASÍ Art Museum**

June 21 – August 24
Currents: Masterpieces from the ASÍ Art Museum Collection

○ **The Culture House**

Permanent exhibitions:
–Medieval Manuscripts; The Library Room.

Current exhibitions:
–Surtsey – Genesis

The exhibition traces the emergence and evolution of the island Surtsey until the present day and predicts its geographical and ecological development over the next 120 years.

–From Beyond the Oceans – Translations and original writings by Helgi Hálfdanarson

The thematic exhibition currently on view in the Library Room is dedicated to Helgi Hálfdanarson's translations and original writings. –The Late View – Halldór Laxness' Photographs

Nobel Laureate and cosmopolitan Halldór Laxness was better known for his writing but proved to be also a good photographer. This is an exhibition of his works. Exhibition Series –Ásta Ólafsdóttir displays her artwork at the Culture Shop.

○ **The Einar Jónsson Museum**

Permanent exhibition:
The work of sculptor Einar Jónsson.

○ **Fotografi**

July 5 – August 2
Mist: Photographic exhibition by Berglind Björnsdóttir

○ **Gallery StartArt**

Exhibitions:
–Black Art – Magdalena Margrét Kjartansdóttir
–Flutter – Ingunn Fjóra Ingþórsdóttir and Þórdís Jóhannesdóttir

○ **Gallery Ágúst**

August 16 – September 27
Exhibition by Katrín Elvarsdóttir

○ **Gallery Fold**

Current exhibition: Gallery Fold's summer exhibition. Paintings by Ásgrímur Jónsson, Jón Stefánsson, Jóhannes S. Kjarval, Finnur Jónsson, Þorvaldur Skúlason, Jóhann Briem and Nína



Grand Rokk

Reykjavík

Open every day from 11:00

Smiðjustigur 6, downtown Reykjavík

Numismatic Museum



The Central Bank and National Museum of Iceland jointly operate a numismatic collection that consists of Icelandic notes and coins, foreign money from earlier times, especially if mentioned in Icelandic sources, and more recent currency from Iceland's main trading partner countries. A selection from the numismatic collection is on display in showcases on the ground floor of the Central Bank's main building.

Situated in the Central Bank's main building in Kalkofnsvegur 1, Reykjavík. Open Mon.-Fri. 13:30-15:30. Free admittance.

The Forget-Me-Not Burger – Simply Magical!



VITABAR

Bergþórugata 21 – 101 Reykjavík – Tel.: 5517200

Bio-Bú

Organic yogurt!

Fresh organic yogurt with exotic flavors



BioBú ehf • www.biobu.is

Art | Venue finder

101 Gallery
Hverfisgata 18A | **F6**
Thu-Sat 14-17 and by appointment
www.101hotel.is/101hotel/101gallery/
Located in the 101 Hotel, features a broad selection of international and local contemporary art.

Artótek
Tryggvagata 15 | **D5**
Mon 10-21, Tue-Thu 10-19, Fri 11-19, Sat and Sun 13-17
www.sim.is/Index/Isenska/Artotek
An Icelandic art exhibition space and art dealer. Pieces are available for purchase or lease.

ASÍ Art Museum
Freyrugata 41 | **G10**
Tue-Sun 13-17
Run by the ASÍ labour union, features mostly contemporary Icelandic art. Free entry.

Árbæjarsafn
Kistuhylur 4
An open-air museum featuring arts-and-crafts fairs and exhibitions in the summer.

The Culture House
Hverfisgata 15 | **F6**
Open daily 11-17
www.thjodmenning.is
A Museum of Icelandic cultural history, with an ongoing exhibition of the original manuscripts of the sagas and eddas.

Dwarf Gallery
Grundarstigur 21 | **H8**
Opening Hours: Fri and Sat 18-20
www.this.is/birta
An independently run basement Gallery. Gallery Dwarf hosts exhibitions which speak straight to the

hearts of the "cute" generation.

The Einar Jónsson Museum
Eiríksgata | **G9**
Tue-Sun 14-17
www.skulptur.is
Features a permanent exhibition on the sculptor Einar Jónsson as well as temporary exhibits.

Fotógrafi
Skólavörðustígur 4a | **F7**
www.fotografi.is
Features photographic exhibitions by local photographers.

Gallery 100°
Bæjarháls 1
www.or.is/Forsida/Gallery100/
Open weekdays from 08:30-16:00
An art museum run by the Orkuveita Reykjavíkur energy corporation. Features contemporary art by Icelandic and foreign artists.

Gallery Auga fyrir Auga
Hverfisgata 35 | **G7**
Independently run art museum featuring Icelandic art.

Gallery StartArt
Laugavegur 12B | **G7**
Tue-Sat 1-17
www.startart.is
Contemporary Icelandic and foreign art. Admission is free and the gallery is run without any government funding.

Gallery Ágúst
Baldursgata 12 | **F9**
Wed-Sat 12-17
www.galleriagust.is
Galleri Ágúst is a contemporary art gallery in the centre of Reykjavík. With an

ambitious programme of exhibitions, it also presents and sells artwork of Icelandic and international artists.

Gallery Fold
Rauðarárstígur 14-16 | **J9**
Mon-Fri 10-18 / Sat 11-16 / Sun 14-16
www.myndlist.is
More of an art auction than just a gallery, Fold also evaluates and exhibits art.

Gallery Ibiza Bunker
Þingholtsstræti 31 | **F7**
Open Fridays 17-20
www.myspace.com/ibizabunker
This gallery is actually a project by one of Hitt Húsió's creative summer groups. Art by the young folks, for the young folks.

Gallery Kling & Bang
Laugavegur 23 | **G7**
Thurs-Sun from 14-18
this.is/klingogbang/
Exhibits upcoming and established contemporary artists as well as hosting screenings, lectures and performances.

Gallery Turpentine
Ingólfrstræti 5 | **F7**
Tue-Fri 12-18 / Sat 11-16
www.turpentine.is
Houses a collection of Icelandic contemporary artwork as well as works from old Icelandic masters both for display and sale.

Gel Gallery
Hverfisgata 37 | **H7**
Mon-Fri 13-18 / Sat 11-16 / Sun 14-16
www.myspace.com/gallerigel
Both an art gallery and a barber shop. Way cool.

Gerðuberg Cultural Centre
Gerðuberg 3-5
Mon-Thu 11-17 / Wed 11-21 / Thu-Fri 11-17 / Sat-Sun 13-16
www.gerduberg.is
Located in Breiðholt, the Gerðuberg cultural centre hosts both exhibitions and events.

Hitt Húsió
– **Gallery Tukt**
Pósthússtræti 3-5 | **E6**
www.hittusid.is
Initially thought of as a hobby centre to keep the youth from drinking, Hitt húsió is still operational and organises events as well as hosting art exhibitions in their Gallery – Gallery Tukt.

i8 Gallery
Klapparstígur 33 | **G7**
Tue-Fri 11-17 / Sat 13-17 and by appointment. www.i8.is
Represents work by an eclectic mix of Icelandic and international contemporary artists.

Living Art Museum
Vatnsstígur 3 – **G7**
Wed, Fri-Sun 13-17 / Thu 13-22. www.nylo.is
A non-profit gallery that organises 8-10 larger exhibitions every year as well as other cultural events.

Lost Horse Gallery
Skólalátræti 1 | **F6**
Weekends from 13-19 and by appointment on weekdays. Located in a renovated stable off Laugavegur, features work by local artists.

The National Film Archive
Hvaleyjarbraut 13
www.kvikmyndasafn.is
The National Film

Archive of Iceland screens old movie classics and masterpieces twice a week for 500 ISK per ticket.

The National Gallery of Iceland
Frikirkjuvegur 7 | **E8**
Tue-Sun 11-17
www listasafn.is
Houses the national art collection and is the centre of research and documentation of Icelandic art.

The National Museum
Suðurgata 41 | **C9**
Open daily 10-17
natmus.is/
Established in 1863, this museum features exhibits on Icelandic cultural heritage.

The Nordic House
Sturlugata 5 | **C11**
Tue-Sun 12-17
www.nordice.is/
Explores and promotes Scandinavian culture with regular lectures, films and exhibitions.

The Numismatic Museum
Einholt 4 | **K9**
Open Mon-Fri 13:30-15:30.
Presents a cultural history of Iceland through analysis of collected coins, medals and books.

Reykjavík 871+/-2
Aðalstræti 17 | **D6**
Open daily 10-17
www.ljosmyndasafn-reykjavikur.is
Features work by local and international photographers, as well as an archive on the history of photography.

Reykjavík Museum of Photography
Tryggvagata 16 | **D5**
Weekdays 12-19 / Sat-Sun 13-17
www.ljosmyndasafn-reykjavikur.is
Features work by local and international photographers, as well as an archive on the history of photography.

Reykjavík Maritime Museum
Grandagarður 8 | **C3**
With a fishing trawler-turned-exhibit space, educates on the maritime and fishing traditions of Iceland.

gallery features works by Icelandic artists.

Reykjavík Art Museum
Open daily 10-16
www listasafn-reykjavikur.is

Ásmundur Sveinsson Sculpture Museum
Sigtún Hafnarhús
Tryggvagata 17 | **E5**

Kjarvalsstaðir
Flókagata | **K11**
Specialising in contemporary art by local and international artists. Free entrance.

Reykjavík City Theatre
Listabraut 3
Presenting Icelandic music and dance performances as well as dramatic theatre, produces six new shows each year.

Reykjavík Maritime Museum
Grandagarður 8 | **C3**
With a fishing trawler-turned-exhibit space, educates on the maritime and fishing traditions of Iceland.

Sigurjón Ólafsson Museum
Laugarnestangi 70
Features a permanent exhibition of sculptor Sigurjón Ólafsson's works.

Reykjavík Museum of Photography
Tryggvagata 16 | **D5**
Weekdays 12-19 / Sat-Sun 13-17
www.ljosmyndasafn-reykjavikur.is
Features work by local and international photographers, as well as an archive on the history of photography.

The city's public art

Event GAY PRIDE FESTIVAL

The Gay Pride festivities in Reykjavík are a not-to-be-missed experience. This incredibly popular festival includes an opening ceremony at Háskólabíó Theatre on August 7 followed by the famous Gay Pride Beerburst Party at the theatre and the opening of The Pride Club at Q-Bar. The five day festival will also contain a photo exhibition from Reykjavík City Library, a seminar with Svyatoslav

Sementsov about queer life in Belarus in the old Eastern bloc, and a Carole Pope concert at Organ. The festival's highlight is though undoubtedly the Gay Pride Parade on Saturday, August 9, which heads down Laugavegur and ends with a grand outdoor concert at Arnarhóll. Everyone is welcome to celebrate. More info and full schedule at www.gaypride.is

When:
August 6 – 10
Where:
Around Reykjavík



We don't serve foreigners...

because to us - nobody is foreign.

Only 45 min. drive from Reykjavík is Eyrarbakki, a beautiful village by the south coast, where foreigners have been feeling at home since the 9th century AD. So welcome to **Rauða húsið**, a restaurant that makes you feel at home.

Tel: (+354) 483-3330,
Eyrarbakki - South coast

rauða húsið
restaurant Eyrarbakka



31 May - 31 August 2008



LJÓSMYNDASAFN REYKJAVÍKUR
Reykjavík Museum of Photography



Tryggvagata 15, 6th floor · 101 Reykjavík · Tel. 563 1790 · photomuseum@reykjavik.is · www.photomuseum.is
Opening hours 12-19 mon-fri, 13-17 weekends · ADMISSION FREE

Movies BACK SOON IN THEATRES

Expect devoted film buffs to flock to the cinemas on August 8, for the premiere of successful Icelandic director Sólveig Anspach's latest film. Entitled 'Skrapp út' ("Back soon"), the film follows a middle-aged marijuana dealer for an incredibly adventurous 24 hours. The film's protagonist, Anna, is based upon the portraying actress Didda, and her children star in the movie as Anna's children. Several well known Icelandic faces appear throughout the film, although it is not especially noted if they do so as themselves. The hilarious script is written in cooperation with French screenwriter Jean-Luc Gaget, which probably explains the major character of Julien

Cotteraeu, the Frenchman who is flabbergasted with the Icelandic hullabaloo he gets drawn into. Overall, it is a bulletproof amusement that ought to leave no one disappointed. The film will be screened in Smárabíó and Háskólabíó.

When:
August 8
Where:
Smárabíó in Smáraind and Háskólabíó at Hagatorg

4 A10



Music THE DIVERSION SESSIONS

On August 2, Gallery Lost Horse will premiere a solo project with songs written and composed by Markús Bjarnason (from band Skátar). After his solo work began demanding more attention, the aptly named 'Diversion Sessions' is a warm-up for new songs he plans to record in few months. His music, based on rock and alternative folk, tries not to be 'out there' but is still original. Markús sings and plays acoustic and semi acoustic guitars and writes songs with an American spirit, but with an Icelandic twist but the true originality lies in his lyrics and performance. "I like to make people laugh, and when I write a sad song, it ends up with a happy ending. I can't bear to leave the song so sad." Set in a former barn on Skólastræti 1, Markús hopes the free water and full set from The Sessions will create a fun Diversion not only for him, but for his audience. Tickets cost 800 ISK, cash only.

When:
August 2 at 17:00
Where:
Gallery Lost Horse, Skólastræti 1

5 F6

Ó restaurant -as good as it gets!

Located in the old charming area of Reykjavík
Ó restaurant offers you an unforgettable culinary experience.

Our emphasis is on seasonal and natural ingredients and our menu includes the famous **Icelandic fish and lamb**.

Iceland's modern cuisine at its best

FILED 2008



Ó restaurant Þórsgata 1 Tel. +354 511 66 77 orestaurant.is
Hótel Óðinsvé 101 Reykjavík Tel. +354 511 62 00 o@orestaurant.is



Listings

Icelandic Art

... The Essence of a Nation



Art Gallery Fold
offers the country's largest selection of contemporary Icelandic art

LISTMUNASALA **fold**

Rauðarárstígur 14, near Hlemmur bus station, tel. 551 0400
Kringlan Shopping Mall, tel. 568 0400 · www.myndlist.is

Step into the Viking Age

Reykjavík 871 ±2 Landnámssýningin The Settlement Exhibition

The exhibition and museum shop are open daily 10-17

Aðalstræti 16
101 Reykjavík / Iceland
Phone +(354) 411 6370
www.reykjavikmuseum.is

Reykjavík City Museum

Experience Viking-Age Reykjavík at the new Settlement Exhibition. The focus of the exhibition is an excavated longhouse site which dates from the 10th century AD. It includes relics of human habitation from about 871, the oldest such site found in Iceland.

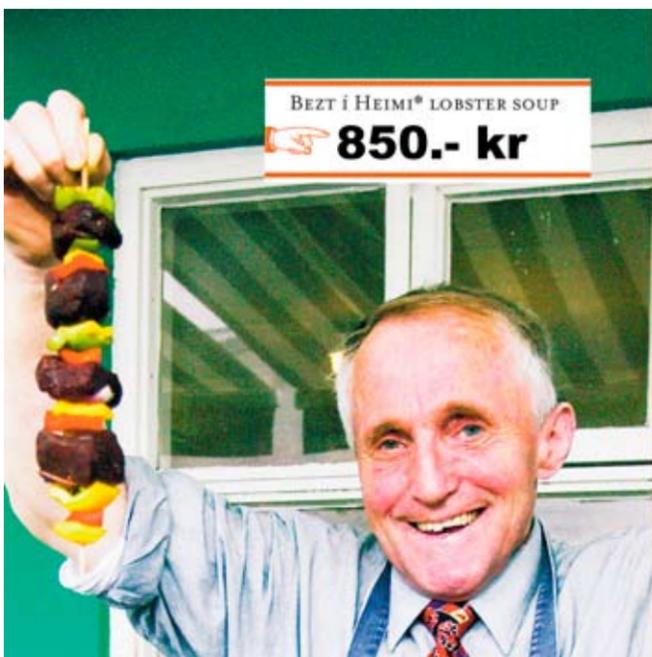
Multimedia techniques bring Reykjavík's past to life, providing visitors with insights into how people lived in the Viking Age, and what the Reykjavík environment looked like to the first settlers.

BOSTON

BAR - LAUGAVEGUR 28B-2ND FLOOR
TEL. 517 7816
OPEN 17-01 WEEKDAYS 17-03 WEEKENDS



BEZT Í HEIMI* LOBSTER SOUP
850.- kr



MOBY DICK ON A STICK

PURTRIFED SHARK
marinated in Icelandic schnapps
HARD FISH



SÆGREIFINN
Verubúð 8 / tel.553 1500 / Geirsgata
OPENING HOURS : 12 - 22

- Tryggvadótti
- **Gallery Ibiza Bunker**
August 1
Ibiza Breeze in the Bunker: Ragnheiður Káradóttir and Sigríður T. Túliníus exhibition
- **Gallery Kling & Bang**
July 4 - August 8
Artist on the Verge of Something II
- **Gallery Turpentine**
Current Exhibition: Paintings by Stórvall
- **Gerðuberg Cultural Centre**
May 3 - Sep 7
Between Mountain and Shore: Exhibition of landscape paintings from popular-artist couple Michael Guðvarðarson and Ósk Guðmundsdóttir
May 3 - Sep 7
Magical Beings From the Folk Tales of Iceland: Drawings from Jón Baldur Hlíðberg
4 March - 7 September
A Date with Collectors III: All of the exhibition pieces are connected with music in one way or another!
- **i8 Gallery**
July 10 - August 9
Exhibition by Hamish Fulton
- **Living Art Museum**
May 26 - August 2
Dieter Roth's Bookwork Exhibition
- **The National Film Archive of Iceland**
The National Film Archive of Iceland screens old movie classics and masterpieces twice a week for 500 ISK per ticket.
- **The National Gallery of Iceland**
July 10 - September 28
Exhibition: Highlight of Icelandic Art
- **The National Museum**
Permanent exhibition: The Making of a Nation
June 6 - January 21
Over the Ocean and Home: Icelandic artefacts from Sweden.
May 16 - Sept 14
Endurkast (Reflection): Cooperative photography exhibition between eight Icelandic photographers.
May 16 - Sept 14
In the Mist: Exhibition by French photographer Thomas Humery.
May 15 - Sept 1
Lífshlaup: Cooperative project between The University of Iceland and the National Museum.
- **The Nordic House**
June 14 - August 31
An exhibition celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Nordic House.
- **The Numismatic Museum**
Permanent exhibition: The Central Bank of Iceland and the National Museum of Iceland jointly operate a numismatic collection consisting of Icelandic notes and coins.
- **Reykjavík 871 +/- 2**
Permanent exhibition: The Settlement Exhibition
- **Reykjavík Art Gallery**
Current exhibition: Magnús Tómasson, Pétur Már Pétursson and Tólli
- **Reykjavík Art Museum - Ásmundur Sveinsson Sculpture Museum**
May 20 - August 10
The Shape of Line
A new retrospective of works by Ásmundur Sveinsson. The exhibition focuses on abstract works from 1945 onwards.
- **Reykjavík Art Museum - Hafnarhús**
May 15 - August 24
Hafnarhús - Experimental Marathon Reykjavík: Hafnarhús turns into a major laboratory where leading artists, architects, film-makers, and scientists will create an environment of invention through various experiments and performances (in English). Curated by Hans Ulrich Obrist and Ólafur Elíasson.
- **Reykjavík Art Museum - Kjarvalsstaðir**
18 May - 31 August
Dreams of the Sublime and Nowhere in Contemporary Icelandic Art:
This exhibition includes many new works of photography and video art by Iceland's most outstanding artists, building on

- their disparate ideas about nature as a phenomenon.
18 May - 31 August
Where Am I?: An exhibition in which children and adults can contemplate their planet, their country, and the landmarks of their environment.
18 May - 31 December
Jóhannes S. Kjarval - Key Works: The current exhibition in Kjarvalsstaðir's east gallery features key works from the museum's collection along with works on loan from the Labor Unions' Art Gallery and from the collection of Ingibjörg Guðmundsdóttir and Þorvaldur Guðmundsson.
- **Reykjavík Maritime Museum**
Current Exhibitions: Living Museum by the Sea; Arterial for Country and City; From Poverty to Abundance; The Shark - Light and Life Energy; Hidden Craftsman.
- **Reykjavík Museum (Árbæjarsafn)**
Current exhibitions: Building Techniques in Reykjavík 1840-1940; Disco and Punk - Different cultures?; Christmas is Coming; History of Reykjavík - from farm to city; Memories of a House; Living and Playing
- **The Reykjavík Museum of Photography**
May 31 - Aug 31
Skovbo: Exhibition by Viggo Mortensen
- **Sigurjón Ólafsson Museum**
Permanent exhibition: Works of sculptor Sigurjón Ólafsson.

OUTSIDE REYKJAVÍK

- **Hafnarborg**
July 26 - August 25
Wavelengths: Exhibition by Creighton Michael.
July 26 - August 25
Exhibition: Nicaraguan Ceramics.
- **The Icelandic Settlement Centre**
Permanent exhibitions: The Settlement of Iceland; The Saga of Egill Skalla-Grímsson
Current theatre productions: Brák - a monologue by Brynhildur Guðjónsdóttir
Mr. Skallagrímsson - a monologue by Benedikt Erlingsson
- **Vatnasafn / Library of Water**
Permanent exhibition: Roni Horn installation. She has replaced stacks of books with glass columns containing water gathered from Iceland's glaciers and glacial rivers.
- **Akureyri Art Museum**
July 5 - August 24
Summer Exhibition: Guðmundar Ármann Sigurjónsson retrospective exhibition
- **GalleriBOX**
July 26 - August 16
Alexander Steig exhibition
- **Veggverk**
Current exhibition: Painting by Bridget Kennedy
- **Kunstraum Wohnraum (Home gallery)**
July 5 - 20 September
Huginn Þór Arason exhibition
- **Skafffell**
June 7 - September 14
Audiovision: Various artists exhibit at the west-wall. In this series of exhibitions the curators choose together visual artist and sound artists as a pair. Curators are Ingólfur Arnarsson and Elísabet Indra Ragnarsdóttir. On July 19, Ólöf Helga Helgadóttir and Kira Kira open their exhibition.
June 28 - August 3
Summer Exhibition: Curating this year is Guðmundur Oddur Magnússon.
- **LÁ Art Museum**
Current Exhibition: Exhibition on the works of visual artist Magnús Kjartansson.

Movies

- **Deception**
Sambíóin Álfabakki, Sambíóin Kringlan, Sambíóin Akureyri

Event GET YOUR DRAG ON

On August 6, be prepared for a night of glitter and glam as the Icelandic Drag Competition will be held at the Icelandic Opera. The competition is held for the eleventh time, and the theme this year is ghosts, so get prepared for some spooky stuff. Doors open at 8pm and the main event starts at 9pm. The opening-act will be the biggest event in the competition's history, featuring the drag kings and queens and the Icelandic Circus. Pre-sale tickets are being sold at Q-Bar for 1800 ISK, but get your tickets early, as there are only 200 presale available and you really don't wanna miss out on this! Last year, 400 people attended the event and five contestants competed. This year

the ante will be upped to eight competitors. The host of the night is singer Haffi Haff, the Opera's bar will serve drinks all throughout the festivities and following the drag competition, there will be an after-party at Q-Bar.

When:
August 6 at 20:00
Where:
**The Icelandic Opera,
Ingólfsstræti 2a**

6 F6



- **Hellboy 2: The Golden Army**
Smárabíó, Háskólabíó, Regnboginn, Sambíóin Selfossi
- **Kung Fu Panda**
Sambíóin Álfabakki, Sambíóin Kringlan
- **Love Guru**
Smárabíó, Sambíóin Kringlunni, Laugarásbíó, Borgarbíó, Sambíóin Keflavík
- **Mamma Mia!**
Smárabíó, Háskólabíó, Sambíóin Álfabakki, Borgarbíó, Regnboginn, Sambíóin Keflavík, Sambíóin Selfossi
- **Meet Dave**
Regnboginn
- **Sex and the City**
Háskólabíó
- **The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian**
Sambíóin Álfabakki
- **The Dark Knight**
Sambíóin Álfabakki, Háskólabíó, Sambíóin Kringlan, Sambíóin Keflavík, Sambíóin Akureyri, Sambíóin Selfoss
- **The Incredible Hulk**
Regnboginn
- **The Strangers**
Smárabíó, Regnboginn, Borgarbíó
- **WALL-E**
Smárabíó, Sambíóin Álfabakki, Sambíóin Kringlan, Laugarásbíó, Sambíóin Keflavík, Sambíóin Akureyri, Sambíóin Selfossi
- **Wanted**
Sambíóin Álfabakki
- **Get Smart**
August 6
- **The Mummy:Tomp of the Dragon Emperor**
August 6
- **Skrapp Út**
August 8
- **Redbelt**
13 August
- **The Amazing Truth About Queen Raquela**
13 August

to Angela Stokes, author of 'Raw Emotions' talk about the raw food eating movement. By adopting a healthy lifestyle and embracing natural healthcare, she experienced a full recovery from obesity, losing 70kg of weight in the process. Alongside partner Matt Monarch, Stokes is now focusing on helping others embrace her passion. As well as the benefits of eating raw, the couple will comment on the emotional and spiritual shifts they have experienced. Hear all about it at on August 7 at Organic Kaffi Hjómáland, Laugavegur 23, from 18:00 to 22:00. The price is 1500 ISK, with food and drinks sold separately.

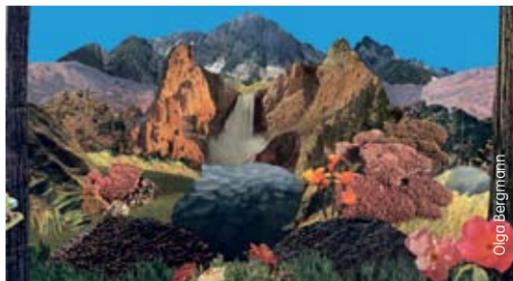
- **Verslunarmannahelgin**
Fri, August 1 – Sun, August 3
The. Big. One. While the weekend sees outdoor festivals all around the countryside during this largest travel weekend in Iceland, just about every bar in the city will be getting in on the public holiday act. Innipúkinn, Jack Live and Organ's 1st Birthday Festival are the big three concert festivals in Reykjavík this weekend. If you don't fancy heading to just one event though, a good bet will to simply wander / stagger around and absorb the carnival atmosphere that will be cranked up even more than your average night on the tiles. Check out our listings section for further information, or roll up at www.grapevine.is

- **Ormsteiti (Carnival)**
Fri, August 15 – Sun, August 24
Fljótsdálhérað's cultural centre in the East Fjords, in cooperation with the Irish Performing Art group Nanu-Nanu, has organized a week long carnival, complete with workshops on all aspects of carnival organization. The goal of this project is to create a tradition for carnival in the eastern part of Iceland, so that the carnival can become a dynamic annual event. Managing the event is Jónas Steinsson who was formerly the head of Circus Atlantis. For more information see www.ormsteiti.is.

Events

- **Raw Food Talk**
Thursday, August 7
Recently, over 100 people packed the Rope Yoga Studio to listen

Listasafn Reykjavíkur
Reykjavik Art Museum



Kjarvalsstaðir

May 18 – August 31

**Dreams of the Sublime and
Nowhere In Contemporary
Icelandic Art**

Curated by Aesa Sigurjónsdóttir

May 18 – August 31

Where am I?

May 18 – August 31

**Martha Schwartz –
I Hate Nature – 'Aluminati'**

May 18 – December 31

Jóhannes S. Kjarval

Reykjavik Art Museum



Hafnarhús

May 15 – September 7

**Experiment Marathon
Reykjavik**

Curated by Hans Ulrich Obrist
and Olafur Eliasson

Ásmundarsafn

March 31, 2007 – August 31, 2008

The Shape of the Line

Kjarvalsstaðir, by Flókagata

Open daily 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Hafnarhús, Tryggvagata 17

Open daily 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Thursdays to 10 p.m.

Ásmundarsafn, by Sigtún

Open daily 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Free admission.



Serpentine Gallery



Landsbankinn

KAUPPING

VÍPILFELL

3:1 HÉLAGIÐSKRIFA
LANDSLAGSÁRNEFTA

www.artmuseum.is

artmuseum@reykjavik.is

T +354 590 1200

F +354 590 1201

**EXPECT
HANG
OVERS...**

NASA

THE BIGGEST CLUB IN
DOWNTOWN REYKJAVIK.
LIVE MUSIC EVERY WEEKEND.
WWW.NASA.IS

An outstanding collection
of Icelandic design

A new design shop in the oldest house in Reykjavik

Kraum
Icelandic design

- Clothes, jewellery and applied art
- Located in the center of the city
- More than 70 designers

Opening hours
Monday-Friday 9:00 - 18:00
Saturday-Sunday 12:00 - 17:00
Thursday evenings until 22:00

INDIAN MANGO

RESTAURANT
Press reviews:
.. Probably the best addition to Icelandic restaurant landscape
.. Great food, something new in Iceland, like never seen before
Fine dining Indian cuisine, hard to beat anywhere!!

Frakkastigur 12,
tel: 551-7722
open 17 til late
www.indianmango.is

The best STEAK HOUSE in town!

Grillhúsið
Tryggvagata
Gott steikha

Tryggvagata 20 - Tel: 562-3456
www.grillhusid.is

Cozy atmosphere and delicious food in a beautiful environment

GEYSIR
Bistro & Bar

Aðalstræti 2 - Tel: 517 4300
www.geysirbistrobar.is

CINTAMANI
CENTER
LAUGAVEGI 11

JETBOIL
SCARPA
TEVA
Black Diamond

Sími: 517 8088
WWW.CINTAMANI.IS

Useful Numbers

Emergency number: 112
Police: 444 1000
Medical help: 1770
Dental emergency: 575 0505
AA: 551 2010
Information: 118
Telegrams: 146

Tax Free Refund

Iceland Refund,
Aðalstræti 2, Tel: 564 6400
www.icelandrefund.com

Opening Hours

Bars and clubs: According to regulations bars may be open until 01:00 on weekdays and 05:30 on weekends.

Shops: Mon-Fri 10-18, Sat 10-16, Sun closed. The shopping centres Kringlan and Smáralind as well as most supermarkets and tourist shops have longer opening hours.

Swimming pools:
weekdays 06:30-22:30, weekends 08:00-20:30 although some may be open an hour longer.

The State owned ÁTVR liquor stores:
Mon-Thu 11-18, Fri 11-19, Sat 11-18. Banks in the centre are open Mon-Fri 09-16.

Tourist Information

Icelandic Travel Market
Bankastræti 2, Tel: 510 5700,
www.kleif.is
Information on day tours, accommodations, car rental and everything else you need to know when travelling in Iceland.

Tourist Information Centre
Aðalstræti 2, Tel: 590 1550,
www.visitreykjavik.is
Offers information for tourists as well as providing internet access, booking service, a phone centre, money exchange service, tax refund and selling the Reykjavík Tourist Card. The Reykjavík Tourist Card gives admission to city busses, various museums, Reykjavík swimming pools, The Family Park and Reykjavík Zoo, The Culture House and the National and University Library.

Getting Around

Public Transport
The only public transport system in Reykjavík is the bus. Most busses run every 20 minutes and price per fare is 280 ISK for adults and 100 ISK for children. Complete route map at: www.bus.is. Tel: 540 2700
Busses run from 07:00-24:00 on weekdays and 10:00-24:00 on weekends

Taxi
Hreyfill-Bæjarleiðir,
Tel: 553 3500 or 588 5522
BSR, Tel: 561 0000

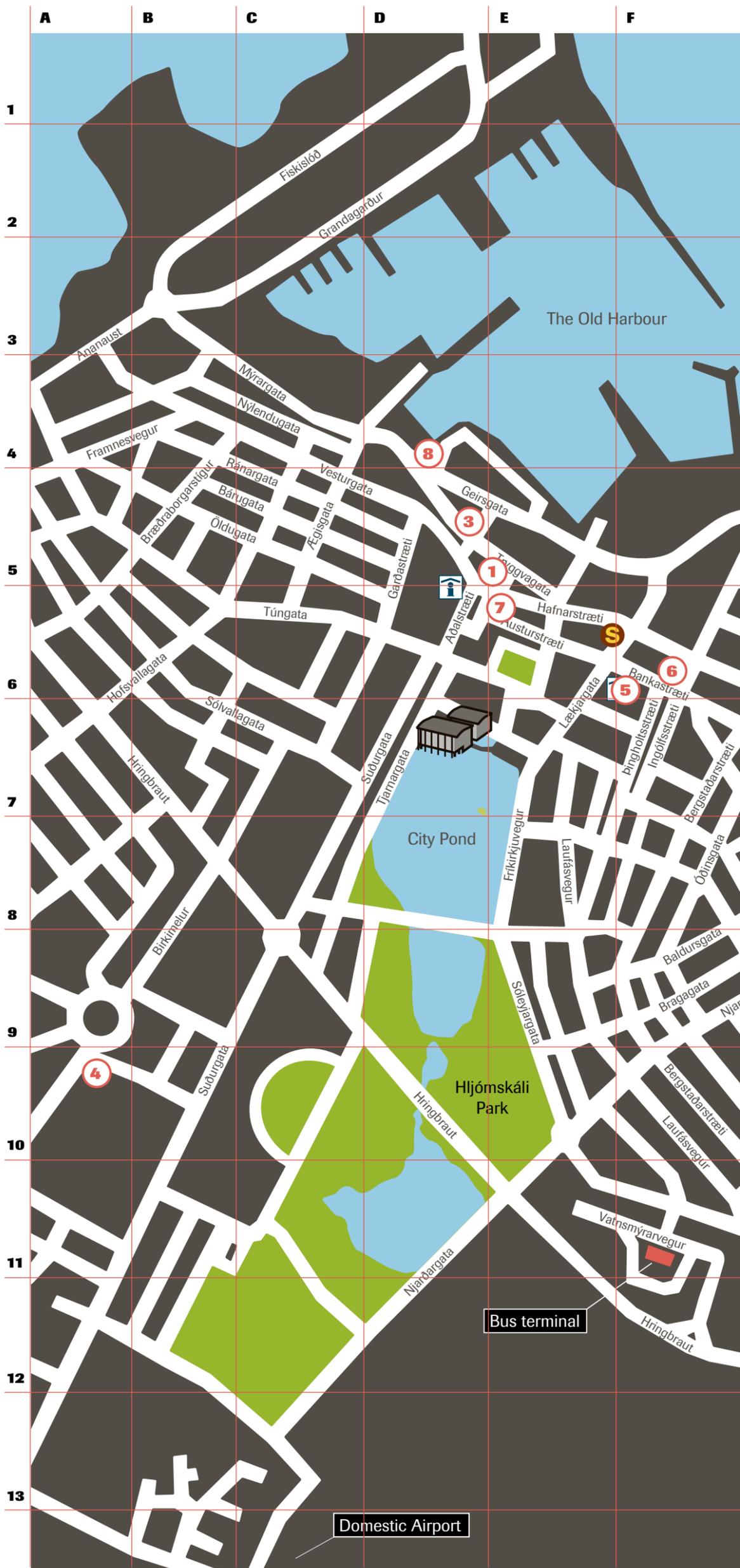
For disabled travellers:
Reykjavík Group Travel Service,
Brunastaðir 3, Tel: 587 8030,
www.randburg.com/is/reykjavik_group_travel_service/

Airlines
Air Iceland, Reykjavíkflugvöllur,
Tel: 570 3030, www.flugfelag.is
Air Vestmannaeyjar,
Tel: 481 3255, www.eyjaflug.is

Bus Terminal
BSÍ, Vatnsmýrarvegur 10,
Tel: 562 1011, www.bsi.is

Flybus
Busses run daily from the BSÍ Bus Terminal to Keflavík International Airport in connection with all departing flights. Departures daily from 04:45 to 15:00/16:30 (every 15 - 60 minutes). For Flybus time schedule see: www.flybus.is

Samferda.net
A reasonable choice for the budget traveller. You log on to the website www.samferda.net, choose your destination and hopefully find a travel buddy to share the cost.



Lunch menu 11:30 - 14:00 mon.-fri.

ORANGE

FUN & FINE DINING BY THE HARBOUR

GEIRSGATA 9 101 REYKJAVIK 561 1111 ORANGE.IS

RESTAURANT
COCKTAIL LOUNGE

**Reykjavík
Center
City Map**

**What's this
thing?**



These things are pretty useful, check it out: Every venue that's mentioned in our info section gets a little marker like this, which will help you locate it on our map. Say you want to try out "Orange" after reading our review - no problem, sir, just look up the corresponding icon on the map!



Ask for a Tax Free form & save up to 15%



G-STAR RAW
REYKJAVIK STORE
LAUGAVEGI 86-94



www.farmersmarket.is

LIBORIUS



LAUGAVEGUR 7

affur

Laugavegur 23

**INDIAN
LUNCH
1090.-**

From 11:30-15:00

Tel. 5510292
AUSTURSTRÆTI 4
www.shalimar.is



SHALIMAR

INDIAN - PAKISTANI CUISINE

**INDIAN
DINNER
1290.-**

From 15:00-22:00
Order food online
to get it delivered
at



Food THE KEBAB HOUSE

Reviewed by **Oddur Sturluson**

I had received both positive and negative comments about the food at The Kebab House before I visited and had therefore no idea exactly what to expect. I took a look at the menu (which includes the western equivalents of the kebab, the cheeseburger and the pizza slice) and settled on a reasonably priced Shish-kebab. After the first bite I was in love.

It actually tasted like something I would make at home. The meat and vegetables were fresh and I could actually taste them, unlike most other fast food restaurants in Reykjavík where the sauce is so heavily applied that the meal is really just a side course for your sauce. That said, the reason some people dislike the Kebab House is exactly because of the absence of the traditional hearty, hang-over curing sauce. Personally, I know of nothing better than a healthy

dose of cholesterol doused over some amalgamation of fried meat and bread, but The Kebab House is good for a completely different reason. It all comes down to a matter of taste. While the clean, hygienic restaurant may not reek of authenticity to some people, others will appreciate being able to get a quick bite without having their intestines and immune systems put to the test.

The idea of duality has followed mankind since the dawn of time. Every day has its night, every yin has its yang, and the pleasure of over sauced and greasy fast food is inevitably followed by guilt and the risk of nausea. Some places, such as Pizza Hut, try unsuccessfully to blend the two genres of traditional restaurant and fast food joint but wind up making a compilation of the faults inherent in both – bad food, bad

service and long waiting times. The Kebab House, however, is a perfect balance – quick service, great tasting meals and a clear conscience. The Kebab House is a blatant attempt to tip the scales in our favour. **👍**

Where:
Austurstræti 3
101 Reykjavík
Tel.: 534 5720

7 G6

How much:
800–1.500 ISK

What we think:



Food ORANGE

Reviewed by **Sigurður Kjartan Kristinsson**

The tremendous hype around the opening of the hip and stylish restaurant Orange had aroused my attention ever since its forthcoming existence was merely gossip. Its reputation was engrossing for a few reasons, mainly because of the operators' statements about the presently stiff atmosphere in all the fancy restaurants available in Reykjavík and their plan to do different at their premises. When you spend the bulk of your monthly salary on a single meal you should have fun while you're at it. And when I walked into their cutting-edge decorated lair down by the port and was immediately served with a "Sex on a Glacier" from a slush machine I knew they meant business. They allowed me and my companion to glance at their menu upon arrival, which included dishes and cocktails such as "Chicken Tits" and "PartyPussy", so we as-

sumed we were in for a treat.

When we arrived at our table it was announced to us that we'd be having the "Let's Go Crazy" menu, which is a 5-course meal, comprising of the Orange Lab finest cuisine. The breadbasket was served in a casual paper bag and the first dish, which was a taste-bud-lifting seafood soup with delicious lobster and other prime sea gourmet, was served in a milk carton. Later on we had various breathtaking dishes such as "Got Milk" veal. Finally we had a duple dessert which included chestnut brownies which basically flew to our table in a helium balloon, and white chocolate and mango ice-cream fabricated by the waiter himself by our table in a bowl of condensed carbon dioxide.

Beside the excellent food served, and the professional but bohemian waiters at Orange, it is their charming concept that

made this night not only a feast of the taste buds, but a unique experience. Usually when average Icelanders go out and dine in a fancy place they put on a social mask, play a fancy character and pretend to be much more sophisticated than they are. Orange, finally, manages to defy that dull and stereotypical dining image. Instead of putting on a lousy charade, simply have fun! **👍**

Where:
Geirsgata 9
101 Reykjavík
Tel.: 561 1111

8 D4

How much:
2.000–7.000 ISK

What we think:



Food & Drink | Venue finder

Aktu Taktu

Skúlagata 15 | **K8**
This drive-in destination in 101 Reykjavík is busy day and night and the burgers are especially tasty. The caramel shakes are a local favorite.

American Style

Tryggvagata 26 | **E5**
With a soft bun and lots of veggies, you can settle into a booth and eat for hours. Big portions for authentic American dining.

Argentina Steakhouse

Barónstígur | **I8**
True to its name with tender steaks and flamingly vibrant South American décor. Generous portions, fine wine, liqueurs and cigars make an excellent choice in fine dining.

Austurlandahraðlestin

Hverfisgata 64A | **H7**
Though a bit expensive for take-away, it is well worth it for a spicy bite of this Indian cuisine. A few tables to the side for those who choose to dine in.

Á Næstu Grösum

Laugavegur 20B | **G7**
Regarded by many to be the best vegetarian place in town, "First Vegetarian" offers a healthy and tasty menu of vegetarian and vegan dishes. Indian theme on Fridays a hit.

B5

Bankastræti 5 | **F6**
By day a chic little bistro with good food and a prime location for Laugavegur people watching | by night a stylish bar with a "whiskey room" and manhattanesque clientele.

Babalú

Skólavörðustígur 22A | **G8**
It's tough to miss café Babalú walking up Skólavörðustígur. A cozy place for coffee and cake, the well-worn, homey ambience makes it difficult to leave.

Bæjarins Beztu

Tryggvagata | **E6**
The oldest fast-food in Iceland, it is feasibly the best hot dog stand in Europe. Don't be

intimidated by the perpetual line in front – an absolute must and worth the wait.

Café Cultura

Hverfisgata 18 | **G6**
Situated in the intercultural centre, Cultura is a café/bar with a cosmopolitan feel. The menu features all sorts of international dishes, alongside the staple salad and sandwich.

Café Paris

Austurstræti 14 | **E6**
With an outdoor terrace, this café gets busy on sunny days. With a cosy interior, fine menu and attentive service, it makes a fine spot for evening dining as well.

Café Roma

Rauðarárstígur 8 | **J9**
Roma, an Italian deli and café offers a variety of breads, soups as well as tempting desserts. For a good bargain, come at lunchtime for the specials.

Café Victor

Hafnarstræti 1-3 | **D6/E6**
A hangout for older foreigners, Victor attracts a diverse crowd, both in age and origin, a rule that extends to the musicians that play there.

Domo

Pinghóltsstræti 5 | **F7**
The elegantly decorated Domo serves delicious French-Asian cuisine, excellent sushi and has a great wine list. A sure choice.

Eldsmíðjan

Bragagata 38A | **G9**
Totally satisfying oven-baked pizza with a wide choice of toppings | snails an unusual speciality. Well worth the cost. Order, take away or eat comfortably among the paintings.

Fiskmarkaðurinn

Aðalstræti 12 | **D6**
Run and co-owned by the national team of chefs, this establishment specializing in Japanese cuisine has everything planned to the last detail, ensuring a relaxing evening.

3 Frakkar

Baldursgata 14 | **F9**
A seriously Icelandic atmosphere and traditional Icelandic dishes prepared in the good old-fashioned way. RSVP and keep your ears pricked for wild whaling tales!

Geysir Bar/Bistro

Aðalstræti 2 | **D6**
Situated in the dignified Geysir Building at the corner of Vesturgata and Aðalstræti, this stylish bistro is always a good place to grab a tasty bite for a reasonable price.

Gardurinn

Klappastígur 37 | **G7**
"Ecstasy's Heart" is a simple, friendly, family-run vegetarian restaurant on Klappastígur. Offers an ever-changing menu of specials and soup du jours, alongside a basic menu.

Grái Kötturinn

Hverfisgata 16A | **G7**
Legendary for its early opening ours, the Gray Cat serves amazing breakfasts and coffee that packs a wallop. A splendid way to start you off on your day.

Great Wall Restaurant

Vesturgata 6-8 | **D5**
This Chinese restaurant features a staggering 100+ dishes in traditional Szechuan, Peking and Cantonese styles. Great service and good food make this one a fine choice.

Grillhúsið

Tryggvagata 20 | **E5/E6**
With a menu of reasonably priced homestyle food, Grillhúsið has satiated hungry regulars since 1994 with juicy burgers, sandwiches, steaks and fish dishes.

Hamborgarabúlla Tómasar

("Bullán")
Geirsgata 1 | **D5**
Considered by some to be the best real hamburger in Reykjavík, "Bullán" does serve some mysteriously delicious burgers, guaranteed to take the edge off any hangover.

Hlíolla Bátar

Ingólfstorg | **D6**
The first sub sandwich shop in Iceland, Hlíolla Batar has a large selection of creatively named sandwiches with equally imaginative contents. Good for an adventurous bite.

Hornið

Hafnarstræti 15 | **E6**
Since 1979, this Italian restaurant has been a longtime Reykjavík staple. Famous for its pizza and stuffed calzons, it proudly offers an affordable menu of high-quality dishes.

Hótel Holt

Bergstaðarstræti 37 | **F7**
Housing Iceland's most renowned restaurant, The Gallery, an evening here is an unforgettable experience. Delicious French-inspired cuisine and fine wines await.

Humarshúsið

Ammtmanstígur 1 | **E7**
One of the oldest restaurants in the country, the lobster house is known of course for its lobster and also its impressive cognac lounge. Fine intimate dining.

Hressó

Austurstræti 20 | **E6**
With a spacious neutral interior and a varied lunch menu, Hressó attracts no specific type of crowd. Tap beer and music makes a fair hangout on weekends.

Icelandic Fish & Chips

Tryggvagata 8 | **E5**
Not your average fish'n'chips joint, but a healthy restaurant using only organic vegetables and quality fish products. The spiced skyr side a special treat.

Indian Mango

Frakkarstígur 12 | **H8**
Specializing in delicious dishes from the Goa region of India, honed to perfection in the owner's period as head chef at the Four Seasons. Incredible service as well as food.

Jómfrúin

Lækjargata 4 | **E6**
These days, good Smör-

rebröd can be an elusive delicacy. Lucky for us out in the colonies, it's alive and well at Jómfrúin with fresh eel imported specially from Denmark.

Kaffi Hljómaland

Laugavegur 21 | **G7**
This organic, free-trade café prides itself not only on great lunches and food but being a strong cultural center, hosting live music as well as lectures and poetry nights.

Kaffitár

Bankastræti 8 | **F6**
Kaffitár celebrates good coffee, and serves it in abundance, along with sweet treats and tasty if pricy special blends. Eat in or to go, a great way to enjoy your morning boost.

Kaffivagninn

Grandagarður 10 | **D1**
By the harbor, this lunch and coffee place is a gathering place for all sorts of tough folks. If you want traditional Icelandic food, a great place to see another side of Reykjavík.

Kofi Tómasar Frændu

Laugavegur 2 | **F7**
Nestled in a basement location, Uncle Tom's Cabin has the feeling of a back-alley London Café. On weekends it becomes a happening and diverse bar.

Krua Thai

Tryggvagata 14 | **D5**
We dare you to find a better meal for the same price anywhere else. Every dish is delicious. Just eat what looks best to you on their colorful menu.

La Primavera

Austurstræti 9 | **E6**
Though it sounds strange, La Primavera serves delicious traditional North Italian cuisine using only local produce. A startlingly tasty combination and a local favorite.

Mokka

Skólavörðustígur 3A | **F7**
Operating since 1958, Mokka is the city center's oldest cof-

fee joint and founder of Icelandic coffee culture. Regular art exhibits are always worth a look.

Nonnabiti

Hafnarstræti 9 | **E6**
"Nonna" is one of the more popular junk-food places in town, renowned for its greasy sandwiches and its unique Nonni-sauce. Open late for a midnight cravings.

O Sushi

Lækjargata 2A | **E6**
Also called "The Train", O Sushi's most intriguing feature is a conveyor belt that runs around the entire restaurant delivering a buffet of authentic sushi straight to your table.

Pizza King

Hafnarstræti 18 | **E6**
This little place serves not only the cheapest but largest slices downtown. A local favorite, and open until 6 on Friday and Saturday nights.

Pizza Pronto

Vallarstræti 4 | **D6**
With a convenient location and late hours, a good place to snack in between bars. Three sizes of pizza with a good selection of toppings. A cheap, if unhealthy, choice.

Prikið

Bankastræti 12 | **F6**
Part of the Reykjavík bar scene for decades, this café/bar has a fairly cheap menu and attracts a mix of students and old regulars. Mostly R&B and Hip-Hop on weekends.

Raðhúskaffi | D7

Tjarnargata 11
Located in the City Hall with a great view of the pond, this café has a good selection of pastries and a good place to relax. Regular art exhibits add to the aesthetic.

Sægreifinn

Verubúð 8, Geirsgata | **D5**
Right next to the harbor, Sægreifinn fish shop is like none other in the country. With a diverse fish selection, exquisite lobster soup and good service, an absolute must-try.

Segafredo

Lækjartorg | **E6**
The Italian coffee chain makes its way to Lækjartorg Square, bringing strong espresso and Italian lunch snacks to grab on the way to work or just to enjoy on the spot.

Shalimar

Austurstræti 4 | **E6**
Shalimar sports the conceit of being the northernmost Indian restaurant in the world and has fine daily specials. We recommend the quite addictive chicken tikka masala.

Sjávarkjallarinn

Aðalstræti 2 | **D6**
Elegant Seafood Cellar focuses on gourmet seafood and tantalizing asian-fusion dishes. Share the exotic menu, courses selected by the chef, with a friend for the most fun.

Sólón

Bankastræti 7a | **F6**
Truly a jack-of-all trades establishment. By night a decent restaurant, by day a café/bistro and on Friday and Saturday nights a nightclub. Art exhibitions on the walls to top it off.

Sushibarinn

Laugavegur 2 | **F7**
Deceptively ordinary Sushibarinn has recently become the talk of the town among Reykjavík sushi lovers, serving, in our opinion, the very best rolls in city.

Svarta Kaffi

Laugavegur 54 | **H8**
A cosy second floor café, their fame lies partly in their tasty Súpa í Braud (Soup in Bread) and also in their romantic atmosphere. Good for a few early evening drinks.

Tapas

Vesturgata 3B | **D5**
For those with a bit of money and time to spare, Tapas serves course after course of delightful miniature dishes. Also serves tasty and unusually affordable lobster.

Thorvaldsen

Austurstræti 8 | **E6**
Dress formally for this fancy spot, and come before 12 to avoid a long line. DJs play Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

Tíu Dropar

Laugavegur 27 | **G7**
An old-fashioned café with warm atmosphere and generous coffee refills. A thoroughly pleasant establishment.

Tjarnarbakkinn

Vonarstræti 3 | **D7**
Right above the líón theater, an ideal place to go before shows. Nice views of the pond and outdoor dining in the summertime. The lamb comes especially recommended.

Vegamót

Vegamótastígur 4 | **G7**
Vegamót's kitchen is open until 22.00 daily and sports an appealing lunch menu. Come for a tasty brunch on weekends. If you like Óliver, try Vegamót and vice versa.

Við Tjómína

Templarasund 3 | **E7**
A Reykjavík classic with menu exclusively of traditional cuisine, as frequented by tourists as it is by locals. A perfect opportunity to try Icelandic delicacies.

Vitabar

Bergþórugata 21 | **H9**
Really a bar, but best known for its hamburgers. Burger and fries for 500 one of the best deals in town, but Forget-Me-Not blue cheese and Garlic Extravaganza are also winners.

Vor

Laugavegur 24 | **G7**
Though perhaps a typical off-lobby restaurant/bar/café, don't let it fool you! It's run by an award-winning chef and has a tip-top menu | a wonderful culinary experience.

Now open
on Sundays!

sushibarinn

laugavegur 2 101 reykjavík ☎ 552 4444

Open:
Mondays-Saturdays 11:30-22:30
Sundays 16:00-22:30



THE LOBSTER HOUSE HUMARHÚSIÐ

The Lobster house takes pride in giving you the best, with top-class cuisine and highly praised service.

Our menu consists of a variety of meat and fish dishes, and lobster is our speciality.



HUMARHÚSIÐ
Amtmannsstíg 1 / 101 Reykjavík / Tel: +354 561 3303
www.humarhusid@humarhusid.is

PIZZUVERKSMÍÐJAN
57 88 555

Lækjargata 8, 101 Reykjavík www.pizzuverksmidjan.com

Monday - Thursday 11:30 - 22:00 Friday - Saturday 11:30 - 06:00 Sundays 17:00 - 22:00

Always WoodBrick
Oven Baked Pizza
Just The Way You
Want It...

TRY OUR SEAFOOD PIZZA



20 % DISCOUNT
OF ALL MENU PRICES
WITH THIS COUPON



Carpe Diem

Restaurant Carpe Diem
- a nice and comfortable place at
Raudarárstigur 18

Carpe Diem offers a good variety of Icelandic and international dishes with a main emphasis on fresh fish and lamb. At Carpe Diem you can also have dishes like smoked Puffin or Guillemot. We have a good selection of wine at reasonable prices. All members of the staff are professionals who guaranty you a good food and excellent service. At lunchtime we serve a soup, salad bar and freshly baked bread and a choice of meat or fish course for only ISK 1250. At Carpe Diem there is a conference room that seats up to 80 persons; we offer group menus at good prices.

Carpe Diem
Raudarárstigur 18
Tel: 5524555
Fax: 5514560
Email carpediem@carpediem.is
www.carpediem.is



SHOPPING

Stylist: Erna Bergmann — Models: Eva & Geiri — Photographer: GAS

Eva wears:
Parasol: Kisan
Cap: Marios, Liborious
Top: Vivienne Westwood, Kronkron
Socks: Sonia Rykiel, Kisan
Shoes: Chloe Sevigny for Opening Ceremony, Kronkron
Jeans: Cheap Monday, Kronkron
Sunglasses: Vintage, Einvera



Geiri wears:
Sweater: Bernhard Wilhelm, Belleville
Shirt: Vintage, Spútnik
Scarf: Number Nine, Liborious
Jeans: All Saints, All Saints
Shoes: Peter Jensen, Kronkron
Tank top: JBS, Guðsteinn
Sunglasses: Ray Ban, Augað
Bag: Fred Perry, Kronkron

Shopping | Venue finder

- 12 Tónar**
 Skólavörðustígur 15 | **G8**
 A record label as well as a store, all the best new Icelandic music on CDs or live on Fridays at 5 PM.
- Aftur**
 Laugavegur 23 | **G7**
 Aftur's internationally acclaimed label is proudly displayed here in their shop/studio.
- Álafoss**
 Laugavegur 1 | **F7**
 The downtown outlet for famous makers of traditional Icelandic woolens.
- Belleville**
 Laugavegur 25 | **G7**
 Stuffed with trendy streetwear designs as well as funky magazines and media.
- Blue Lagoon Store**
 Laugavegur 15 | **G7**
 All the natural skincare products from the famous geothermal spa at their outlet here.
- Brim**
 Laugavegur 71 | **H7**
 Enormous surf wear, skate wear, and snowboard shop.
- Börn Náttúrunnar**
 Skólavörðustígur 17a | **G8**
 The basement children's toy store sells clothes and toys only made of organic products as well as books about childcare and parenthood.
- Cintamani**
 Laugavegur 11 | **F7**
 Featuring quality Icelandic outdoor gear, you can even book an excursion on the spot.
- Dead**
 Laugavegur 29 | **G7**
 Artist Jón Sæmundur Auðarson's own hand-printed Rock and Roll label, Dead, plus others.
- Dogma**
 Laugavegur 32 | **H7**
 Dogma offers street clothing with interesting prints. Hooded sweaters and T-shirts made by both Icelandic and foreign designers can be found.
- Fígúra**
 Skólavörðustígur | **G8**
 This shop features Icelandic designer wear, everything from street clothes to party dresses.
- Friða Frænka**
 Vesturgata 3 | **D5**
 A real treasure chest of antique furniture and vintage accoutrements to perk up your apartment.
- G-Star Raw**
 Laugavegur 86 | **I8**
 A store for the Dutch jeans brand, an edgy collection with innovative details and washes.
- Galleri Sautjón**
 Laugavegur 91 | **I8**
 Stocking many hip labels, a unisex store offering casual business wear to evening dress wear.
- Gilbert**
 Laugavegur 62 | **H8**
 Watchmaker Gilbert Guðjónsson has sold watches and clocks on Laugavegur for over 40 years. Recently, Gilbert designed his own line of wristwatches.
- Glamúr**
 Laugavegur 41 | **H7**
 A flashy vintage clothing shop with everything from necklaces to fur coats to kimonos.
- Green Apple**
 Laugavegur 20 | **G7**
 The tiny shop combines massage and other relaxation products with organic products.
- Gyllti Kötturrinn**
 Austurstræti 8 | **E6**
 One of a few second hand shops that have popped up in recent year, Gyllti Kötturrinn also offers some pieces by locals.
- Handþrjóna-sambandið**
 Lækjargata 2A | **E6**
 All sorts of hand knit woollen clothing as well as fine yarns and knitting supplies.
- Iða**
 Lækjargata 2A | **E6**
 A great source for all kinds of reading material, with restaurants on the second floor.
- Kisan**
 Laugavegur 7 | **F7**
 An interesting mix of items from all around the world you won't find anywhere else.
- Kisuberjatréð**
 Vesturgata 4 | **D5**
 A lovely gallery/gift shop run by ten artists and designers where they sell their products.
- Kolaportíð**
 Tryggvagata 19 | **E5**
 Open on weekends, you can get a bargain on almost anything at this indoor flea market.
- Kraum**
 Aðalstræti 10 | **D6**
 Featuring the best in contemporary Icelandic design of everyday items of any kind.
- Kronkron**
 Laugavegi 63B | **I8**
 This hip new shop stocks the latest trends in everything from socks to sweaters.
- KVK**
 Laugavegur 27 | **G7**
 Small yet stuffed designer shop KVK, which stocks a nice selection of local designs.
- Liborius**
 Laugavegur 7 | **F7**
 One of a kind, very high-end shop featuring the latest, crispest designs for both sexes.
- Marimekko**
 Laugavegur 56 | **H8**
 Finnish designer brand Marimekko has found its spot on Laugavegur. The Marimekko concept store stocks a wide selection of the colourfully printed designer products.
- Mál og Menning**
 Laugavegur 18 | **G7**
 A multi-level store with games, books, souvenirs and a bustling café on the top floor.
- Nakti Apinn**
 Bankastræti 14 | **F7**
 Offers an amazing array of colourful designer wear as well as contemporary media.
- Nexus**
 Hverfisgata 103 | **I8**
 The biggest comic book and gaming store in Reykjavík has something for everyone.
- Noland**
 Laugavegur 32 | **H7**
 A new skate shop offering fresh tees and sneakers from Krew, Supra and more.
- Rokk og Rósir**
 Laugavegur 17 | **G7**
 Second-hand clothing for the fairer sex at a reasonable price.
- Skarhúsið**
 Laugavegur 12 | **F7**
 Glittery accessory shop stuffed with cheap jewellery, bags or other small items.
- Skifan**
 Laugavegur 26 | **G7**
 Selection of CDs, DVDs and computer games as well as some Icelandic films with English subtitles.
- Spútnik**
 Laugavegur 32 | **G7**
 One of the best second-hand shops in the country, with recycled clothes at a range of prices.
- Systur**
 Laugavegur 70 | **H7**
 For whatever women's lingerie needs you might have, this is the store to satisfy them.
- Trilogia**
 Laugavegur 7 | **F7**
 A collection of trendy designer wear fills the shop, summery dresses, sweaters and skirts.
- The Viking**
 Hafnarstræti 3 | **E5**
 This large tourist shop sells all sorts of smart souvenirs to bring back home.
- Þorsteinn Bergmann**
 Skólavörðustígur 36 | **G8**
 Since the 1940s this small store has offered a huge selections of household supplies for a laughable low price.

REYKJUNIK DESIGN DISTRICT

ICELANDIC & INTERNATIONAL DESIGN
FOOD & DRINK
MUSEUMS, GALLERIES & HERITAGE

Simple guide with a map
to ease your search for
the most interesting sites
downtown Reykjavik

Grab a free copy at your hotel
or nearest tourist info
www.designdistrict.is



visit
north east
ICELAND

Visit north east Iceland
For the Arctic Experience
and Diamond Circle

www.visitnortheasticeland.is



Norræna félagið

Foreningen Norden i Island

ICELANDIC COURSES IN AUGUST

The Nordic Association arranges two intensive courses in Icelandic for foreigners in August. The language courses will be designed with the group's needs and interests in mind – varied and inspiring teaching methods.

Beginner's level

Mondays and Wednesdays
at 17.45-20.00 from 11th of
August to 1st of September,
plus Saturday the 30th of
August.

Advanced level

Tuesdays and Thursdays at
17.45-20.00 from 12th of
August to 2nd of
September, plus Saturday
the 30th of August.

Information and registration:

tel: 5510165 or email, norden@norden.is

Average group size: 8 persons.

Price: ISK 9.000 incl. all, coffee, etc.

Place: Norræna félagið, Óðinsgata 7, 101 Reykjavík

www.norden.is | tel: 551-0165 | norden@norden.is

PAST Culture in Garðabær

HOFSTAÐIR ARCHEOLOGY SITE

Hofstaðir archeology site in Garðabær municipality is a dwelling from the period of settlement in Iceland.

Interactive multimedia technique is used to show the way of living during that time.

Hofstaðir archeology site is open 24 hours a day. **No entrance fee.**



PAST Culture in Garðabær

KRÓKUR GARÐHOLTI 19TH CENTURY FARMHOUSE

Opening hours are from 13-17 every sunday. **No entrance fee.**



Practical Info

Services

Post Office

Post offices are located around the city as well as in the countryside. The downtown post office is at Pósthússtræti 3-5. For a full list and info on opening hours visit www.posturinn.is. Stamps are also sold in bookstores, gas stations, some grocery stores and tourist shops.

Embassies and Consulates

United States,

Laufásvegur 21,
Tel: 562 9100

United Kingdom,

Laufásvegur 31,
Tel: 550 5100

Russia,

Garðastræti 33,
Tel: 551 5156

China,

Víðimelur 29,
Tel: 552 6751

For a full list visit Ministry for Foreign Affairs: www.mfa.is/diplomatic-missions/icelandic-missions/

Internet Access

Most coffeehouses have wireless Internet access.

Computers with Internet connections are available at:

Ráðhúskaffi City Hall,
Tjarnargata 11

BSÍ Bus Terminal,
Vatnsmýrarvegur 10

Ground Zero,
Vallarstræti 10

The Reykjavík City Library,
Tryggvagata 15

The National and University Library,
Arngrímshöfða 3

Tourist Information Centre,
Aðalstræti 2

Icelandic Travel Market,
Bankastræti 2

Laundry Service

HI Hostel,
Sundlaugarvegur 34,
Tel: 553 8110, www.hostel.is

Úðafoss,

Vitastígur 13,
Tel: 551 2301, www.udafoss.is

Cultural Centres and Tourist Offices

The Intercultural Centre

The Intercultural Centre throws occasional cultural events and conferences but its main purpose is to be an information and counselling centre and serve as an advocate for the rights of immigrants in Iceland. Hverfisgata 18, Tel: 530 9300 www.ahus.is

The Icelandic Tourist Board

Lækjargata 3, Tel: 535 5500,
www.visiticeland.com
All information needed before travelling in Iceland.

Nordic House

Sturlugata 5, Tel: 551 7030,
www.nordice.is
The Nordic cultural centre organises various cultural events, conferences and exhibitions. All major tourist spots in Reykjavík also offer brochures, maps and information for travellers.

Transportation

Rent a Bike

Borgarhjól,

Hverfisgata 50,
Tel: 551 5653, www.borgarhjol.net

HI Hostel,

Sundlaugarvegur 34,
Tel: 553 8110, www.hostel.is

Tourist Information Centre,

Aðalstræti 2, Tel: 590 1550,
www.visitreykjavik.is

Car Rentals

Átak Car Rental,

Smiðjuvegur 1,
Tel: 554 6040

ALP,

Dugguvogur 10, Tel: 562 6060

Avis,

Knarravogi 2, Tel: 591 4000

Eurocar,

Hjallahraun 9,
Tel: 565 3800

A.G Car Rental,

Tangarhófi 8-12,
Tel: 587 5544

Atlas Car Rental,

Dalshraun 9,
Tel: 565 3800

Berg Car Rental,

Tangarhófi 8,
Tel: 577 6050

Hertz,

Flugvallavegur, Tel: 522 4400

Useful Information

Where to Learn Icelandic as a Foreign Language

Icelandic on the Internet,
www.vefskoli.is

Mímír Continuing Education,

Skeifán 8, Tel: 580 1800, www.mimir.is

Námsflokkar Reykjavíkur,

Fríkirkjuvegur 1, Tel: 551 2992

Fjölmenning,

Laugavegur 59, Tel: 511 1319, www.fjolmenning.is

The Icelandic College of Engineering and Technology,

Höfðabakki 9, Tel: 577 1400, www.thi.is

Iönskólinn í Reykjavík,

Skólavörðuholti, Tel: 552 6240,
www.ir.is

The University of Iceland –

Department of Continuing Education, Dunhagi 7, Tel: 525 4924,
www.endurmenntun.is

Language School Lingva,

The University of Iceland, at Sturlugata. Tel: 561 0351, www.lingva.is

Religious Movements

The national church in Iceland is the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Masses are generally held on Sundays at 11:00. Service in English is at Hallgrímskirkja every last Saturday each month, starting at 14:00. The Roman Catholic Church also has masses in English and Polish.

Other religious movements in Reykjavík are for example:

The Muslim Association of Iceland,
Ármúli 38

Ásatrú Association,

Grandagarði 8

Bahá'í,

Álfabakka 12

The Church of Evangelism,

Hlíðasmári 9

The Icelandic Buddhist Movement,

Víghólastígur 21

Reykjavík Free Lutheran Church,

Fríkirkjuvegur 5

Pentecostal Assembly,

Hátún 2

Roman Catholic Church,

Hávallagata 14

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Ásbraut 2

Jehovah's Witnesses,

Sogavegur 71

Seventh-Day Adventists,

Suðurlíð 36

Zen Buddhism in Iceland,

Reykjavíkurvegur 31

Independent Church,

Háteigsvegur 101

The Russian Orthodox Church in Iceland,

Sólvallagata 10

The Cross,

Hlíðasmári 5-7

Trade Unions

The Icelandic Federation of Labour,

Sættún 1, Tel: 535 5600,
www.asi.is

The Federation of State and Municipal employees,

Grettsigata 89,
Tel: 525 8300, www.bsrb.is

The Association of Academics,

Borgartún 6, Tel: 581 2090,
www.bhm.is

Efling,

Sættún 1, Tel: 510 7500,
www.efling.is

The Commercial Workers' Union,

Kringlan 7, Tel: 510 1700, www.vr.is

Union of Public Servants,

Grettsigata 89, Tel: 525 8340, www.sfr.is

Useful Websites

www.visitreykjavik.is

The official tourist website of Reykjavík

www.gayice.is

Information about the gay scene in Iceland

www.fjolmenningarsetur.is

The Multicultural Centre

www.hostel.is

Hostel International in Iceland

www.vinnumalastofnun.is

Public employment services

www.gulalinan.is

The yellow pages

www.leigulistinn.is

Rent a flat

www.ja.is

Icelandic telephone directory

Where to Get ...

Work and residence permit: The Directorate of Immigration, Skógarhlíð 6, Tel: 510 5400, www.utl.is.

Insurance and benefits: The State Social Security Institute, Laugavegur 114-116, Tel: 560 4400, www.tr.is

Icelandic citizenship: Unless you come from a Nordic country, foreign citizens have to have had an unrestricted residence permit in Iceland for at least seven years in order to get an Icelandic citizenship although some exceptions exist to that general rule. Applications are at the Ministry of Justice and Ecclesiastical Affairs, Skuggasund, Tel: 545 9000, www.domsmlaraduneyti.is

Unemployment benefits: Directorate of Labour, Public Employment Service, Tryggvagata 17, Tel: 515 4800, www.vinnumalastofnun.is

Icelandic social security number (kennitala): National Register, Borgartún 24, Tel: 569 2900, www.thjodskra.is

Driver's license: Applications at police stations. (Those who have a foreign license don't need an Icelandic one for the first six months.)

Tax card: Tax office, Laugavegur 166, Tel: 563 1100, www.rsk.is

Social Service: Information and service is provided by district service centres in Reykjavík. To locate the service centre in your neighbourhood see: www.reykjavik.is

Classifieds

Classified ads are free for individuals! If you want to place a classified ad, email class@grapevine.is

LÁ ART MUSEUM
Hveragerði
Open daily 12-18
Admission free
www listasafnarnesinga.is

Accommodation

Hótel Vík

Tel: 588-5588
Email: lobby@hotelvik.is
www.hotelvik.is

One of the best 3 star hotels in Reykjavík.

Dimmuborgir Guesthouse

Geitayarströnd 1, 660 Mývatn
4644210
dimmuborgir@emax.is / www.dimmuborgir.is

Located right next to the peaceful lake Mývatn, surrounded by Iceland's most popular wonders of nature, the Dimmuborgir Guesthouse offers room and nice cottages for a reasonable price.

Gesthús Dúna

Suðurlíð 35,
105 Reykjavík
Tel: 5882100 / Fax: 5882102
Duna@islandia.is, ghduna@simnet.is
www.islandia.is/duna
B&B ROOMS FROM 5.000.- SLEEPING BAG ACCOMMODATION

For sale:

We are moving abroad and are selling lots of good stuff for cheap prices: Ikea kitchen table with cabinet and shelves, sofa, TV-table on wheels, 4 x black folding chairs, kitchen appliances and more. Please call 8439126

We will be selling our car in the end of August, as we are moving to Denmark

Your affordable Quality bed in the city!
Private en-suites and shared dorm rooms for 4-6 pers.
Prices from 1850ISK | Open 24hrs
In Laugardalur, next to the pool and campsite, 10mins from downtown/BSI with bus 14
Free WiFi | Kitchen | Laundry | Flybus pick up
(+354)553 8110
reykjavikcity@hostel.is
www.hostel.is

GULA VILLAN GUESTHOUSE
GULA VILLAN
Þingvallastræti 14 / Brekkugata 8
600 Akureyri, Sími: 896 8464
gulavillan@net.is
www.gulavillan.is

then. As foreigners living in Iceland, we have really enjoyed having a car, and thereby getting the opportunity to get out and see this beautiful country for ourselves. The car is a dark blue, 5-door Mazda 323 from 1997, driven 193.000 km. Recently checked, next check is September 2009. 200.000 ISK. We hope others will enjoy our wonderful car after we have left. Call 8645823 or e-mail: kasualty1403@hotmail.com

The monastic shop "Klausturvörur" is a store specializing in cosmetics, delicatessen and artifacts made by nuns and monks in monasteries across Europe. Herb teas, honeys, jams, chocolate, creams, perfumes, shampoo, soaps - unique in

Your home on holiday
HOTEL Jannet
Tel: 4386893 Grundarfjörður

single, double, triple, family room, studio, apartment, sleeping bag in dormitory
Guesthouse Aurora
Fréyjúgata 24
103 Reykjavík-Iceland
Tel: (00354) 899-1773 / (00354) 552-5515
book@aurorahouse.is / www.aurorahouse.is

Guesthouse Aurora
Fréyjúgata 24
103 Reykjavík-Iceland
Tel: (00354) 899-1773 / (00354) 552-5515
book@aurorahouse.is / www.aurorahouse.is

Iceland! Garðastræti 17 101 Reykjavík tel. 551 5445 Opening hours: monday-friday 12-7, saturday 12-6

Job needed:

Photographer with experience. Family pictures, individual photo shoots, children photography, weddings, other memorial moments and low price. Please check my pictures on <http://picasaweb.google.pl/lukaszalata>. Contact at chrummy@interia.pl or by phone: 6174321

Do you need to keep your memory intact in a professional way and format? Your wedding, party, business speech or meeting can be professionally recorded on DVD.

HÚSID Á EYRARÝKKA
The Southeast Museum
Tel: +354-4831504 | www.husid.com
Opening hours: 11.00 - 18.00
May 15th - September 15th
or by arrangement.

Hótel Djúpavík, Árneshreppi
The east fjords of the Westfjords
tel: 451 4037
djupavik@enerpa.is | www.djupavik.is
Historic Exhibition (of Djúpavík), sleeping bag acc., kayak rental, hiking, tranquility.

Cameraman with 7 years experience in European television I offer my services for companies or individual who want movies on high standards. With friendly prices. Contact at profytv@yahoo.com.

Education:

PRIVATE ITALIAN LANGUAGE LESSONS
Do you want to learn quickly Italian before you go to your summer vacation? My teaching method is based on everyday conversation with add of grammar. I am free to meet at your preferred place - home, work, cafe - any time! Just register on bellaItalia@visir.is or call Paola 857 4143!

Qualified English teacher (native British speaker) available for private lessons. Masters Degree Applied Linguistics and TESOL qualified (University of Cambridge). Call Russell 849 7337 or e mail: russellaldersson@hotmail.com for further details

Accommodation wanted:

My name is Karolina, I'm 20 years old and I'm a student.
I was coming on the Iceland for two months and I looking for a job. Last holiday I was working in the room service and I was a babysitter. I speak English well. e-mail: karolin_a4@wp.pl

Married couple, early 30's visiting from Toronto seek accommodation for Fri August 22 + Sat 23 of August in Reykjavík. compensation \$\$\$, Pls. email 5deadlyrecords@gmail.com for discussion.

Other:

I am a native British speaker and qualified PA with more than 10 years experience across a variety of business sectors, working at senior manager and director level. I am currently learning Icelandic and would be willing to consider working in exchange for help building my verbal and written skills. Please contact Linda Barton at email: reykjavik@btinternet.com

Inside Reykjavík

The Grapevine Guide



The only guide that tells you the talk of the swimming pools, how to find the best cafes, how to recover from all night parties, an A to Z of Icelandic music and what "Viltu kaffi?" can really mean.

Travel Guides Can Be Honest. Really

Available at your nearest bookstore



ORGAN

1 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

★ ★ **AUGUST 1.-3. 2008** ★ ★

**A THREE DAY FEAST OF THE MOST
INNOVATIVE MUSIC IN ICELAND**



Including:



FRIDAY 1.8. 10:00 DLX ATX * 10:45 JAN MAYEN *
11:30 ÆLA * 12:30 DIKTA
* 01:30 SKÁ TAR * 02:30 MINUS

SATURDAY 2.8.

10,00 THUNDERCATS * 10,45 EVIL MADNESS * 11:30 BJARTMAR
* 12:30 JEFF WHO? * 01:30 BB&BLAKE GUDLAUGSSON

SUNDAY 3.8. 17:00 BIRTHDAY BBQ IN THE YARD **
* 10:00 MY SUMMER AS A SALVATION SOLDIER * 10:45 ELIN EY
* 11:30 DIVERSION SESSIONS * 12:30 SPACEVESTIDES
* 01:30 KID TWIST

**1000 KR.
ADMITTANCE
FOR EACH NIGHT**

**BIRTHDAY BBQ
IN THE YARD ON SUNDAY
AUGUST 3RD at 5PM**

TUBORG
THE FUN STARTS HERE

ORGAN

Event info: www.myspace.com/organreykjavik
Hafnarstræti 1-3, 101 Reykjavik. Tel.551-0022