

Culture

Ready. Set. Airwaves.

+ Radio Plútó + The Art Thief

News & Life

Utopian Iceland

+ Tea>Coffee + Fixing UTL

Travel

We Live In A Lighthouse

+ Auroromantics + The Kópacabana

The Politics Issue

**WHAT
DO WE
WANT?**

Photo by Aiyele / Wikimedia Commons



Tea & Tea Houses

It's a well-known fact that Iceland has long run on coffee. From the writings of Laxness, in which farmers habitually gather for a cup of Jói, to the flat white-sipping, single estate bean-roasting culture of today's downtown coffee house scene, Iceland's love affair with the black stuff is long, deep and well-documented.

But in recent times, there's been a slow, quiet renaissance in the appreciation of the world's other most treasured drink: tea. Not long ago, ordering a cup of tea pretty much meant getting an expensive

cup of hot water with a dusty little bag of "English Breakfast." But lately, that sorry situation has improved.

One case in point is Kumiko: a new Japanese and Chinese tea house and cake shop that's opening this month on Grandi. We popped in recently and found the owner, Sara, to be passionate about the subtleties and flavours of fine Japanese and Chinese teas, with plans to import the leaves directly from farmers, and to incorporate powdered matcha tea into a variety of sweet treats.

We at Grapevine couldn't be happier about this evolution. Green tea is not only a world of flavours and brewing traditions to be explored, but it comes with health benefits that include lowering blood pressure and cholesterol, helping prevent cellular damage, and helping regulate blood sugar levels.

So next time you're in Te og Kaffi, you could try a cup of their thick green matcha or delicious, umami-rich sencha Fukujyu as an alternative to coffee. And if you should find yourself in Kex, Kaffi Vest or Kaffitár, there's an ever-increasing range of freshly brewed loose leaf tea on offer. Also, pick up a copy of our super-fresh autumn/winter Best Of Reykjavík magazine for a guide to the best tea in town. Our only warning: once on board, it can prove addictive. So just be careful not to get a (tea) drinking problem. **JR**

THE GRAPEVINE PLAYLIST



Ruxpin - Glimmer of Hope

The final track of IDM veteran Ruxpin's 8th album is called "Glimmer Of Hope," and it's a pretty literal name. With a fresh, uplifting chord sequence and a pretty soundscape, it's one of those tracks that you don't mind playing over and over. **SP**



aYia - Water Plant

The debut track from Reykjavík trio aYia is something quite special. "Water Plant" lurches along unpredictably, powered by jittery synths and a languid rhythm, punctuated by a catchy chorus and a mesmerising vocal. It's out now as part of Bedroom Community's HVALREKI singles series. **JR**



Aron Can - Lítur vel út

Of the five most-played Icelandic tracks in Iceland's Spotify top 50, four of them are by Aron Can. Although he just emerged this spring, the 16-year-old singer's moody, trap-infused sound has young Iceland on lock. This track is taken from Baltasar Kormákur's new thriller 'The Oath' ('Eiðurinn'), which premiered last month. **SP**



Viktor Birgiss - That Time When

Despite his young age, Viktor Birgiss has been releasing house tracks for a quite a few years. This deep 'n' slow burner of a track manifests the mastery he's built up through the years. It's a flawless soul-sampling keeper of a track, sure to stay fresh for weeks and months to come. **SP**



Skrattar - Never Gonna Slow Down

For all the Anglo-philos out there, this one's for you. The new track from Skrattar ("Devils," in English) features Joy Division-style bass, cheap 'n' nasty synths, a flat drum machine rhythm, and sneering, nihilistic vocals. You might recognise these two Devils' faces from their other projects: Muck and Fufanu. **JR**

Words **PARKER, SVEINBJÖRN & JOHN**

Listen & watch: **GPV.IS/PLAY**

In This Issue



LIFE

ELECTORAL DYSFUNCTION P: 6-23

The elections: absolutely everything you need to know + fixing immigration + utopian dreams



CULTURE

FRESH AIRWAVES P: 20

Our guide to the 2016 festival's first-timers + art theft! + Gunni Ewok + Alvia Íslandia



TRAVEL

NIGHT LIGHT P: 52

Dyrhólaey lighthouse is open for guests + a night of blazing aurora + golfing in the Westmans



Hafnarstræti 15,
101 Reykjavík
www.grapevine.is
grapevine@grapevine.is
Published by Fróken ehf.
Member of the Icelandic
Travel Industry Association
www.saf.is
Printed by Landsprent
ehf. in 25,000 copies.

PUBLISHER
Hilmar Steinn Grétarsson
hilmar@grapevine.is
+354 540 3601
publisher@grapevine.is

ISSUE EDITOR
Sveinbjörn Pálsson
editor@grapevine.is

PRODUCTION MANAGERS
Sveinbjörn Pálsson
editor@grapevine.is

John Rogers
john@grapevine.is

ART DIRECTOR
Sveinbjörn Pálsson
sveinbjorn@grapevine.is

NEWS EDITOR
Paul Fontaine
paul@grapevine.is

TRAVEL EDITOR
John Rogers
john@grapevine.is

CULTURE EDITOR
Parker Yamasaki
parker@grapevine.is

FOOD EDITOR
York Underwood
york@grapevine.is

PHOTO EDITOR
Art Bicnick
art@grapevine.is

COPY EDITOR
Mark Asch

ILLUSTRATIONS
Inga María Brynjarsdóttir
Lóa Hlín Hjálmtýsdóttir
Halli Civelek

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Sigríður Á. Andersen
Nanna Dís Árnadóttir
Mark Asch
Hannah Jane Cohen
Óli Dóri
Valur Gunnarsson
Hrefna Björg Gylfadóttir
Stigur Helgason
Alvia Íslandia
Davið Roach
York Underwood
Hafsteinn Viðar

EDITORIAL INTERNS

Arta Balode
arta@grapevine.is

Signe Smala
signe@grapevine.is

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Hrefna Björg Gylfadóttir
Nanna Rúnars

SALES DIRECTOR

Aðalsteinn Jörundsson
adalsteinn@grapevine.is

Helgi Þór Harðarson
helgi@grapevine.is

EDITORIAL
+354 540 3600
editor@grapevine.is

ADVERTISING
+354 540 3605
ads@grapevine.is

DISTRIBUTION
distribution@grapevine.is

PRESS RELEASES
listings@grapevine.is

SUBMISSION INQUIRIES
editor@grapevine.is

SUBSCRIPTION INQUIRIES
+354 540 3604
subscribe@grapevine.is

GENERAL INQUIRIES
grapevine@grapevine.is

FOUNDERS

Hilmar Steinn Grétarsson,
Hörður Kristbjörnsson,
Jón Trausti Sigurðarson,
Oddur Óskar Kjartansson,
Valur Gunnarsson

The Reykjavík Grapevine is published 18 times a year by Fróken Ltd. Monthly from November through April, and fortnightly from May till October. Nothing in this magazine may be reproduced in whole or in part without the written permission of the publishers. The Reykjavík Grapevine is distributed around Reykjavík, Akureyri, Egilsstaðir, Seyðisfjörður, Borgarnes, Keflavík, Ísafjörður and at key locations along road #1, and all major tourist attractions and tourist information centres in the country. 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').

Your activity tour operator in Iceland since 1983

DISCOVER

THE PEARLS OF THE SOUTH COAST

On our **2-day south coast tour** you'll travel through a magnificent variety of landscapes. Explore waterfalls, lava fields, Reynisfjara -black sand beach, Jökulsárlón -glacier lagoon, and hike on Skaftafell glacier!

©Norbert von Niman | @norborborbo



BOOK YOUR TOUR AT
www.adventures.is



RAMMAGERÐIN

Iceland Gift Store

Since 1940

*Icelandic handicraft & design
since 1940*

**Pottery by
Aldís Bára Einarsdóttir*



Have something to say?
Send us a letter to:
letters@grapevine.is

You.

READER LETTERS

Dear Reykjavik Grapevine,
Ég heiti Sabina. Ég er frá Tékklandi. I'm sorry, but I'm taking Icelandic course these days and I finally had the chance to use this phrases. YAY!

Anyway, I want to thank you for doing these papers. I'm in Iceland almost two months, and I already read four of your issues. It's nice to read news and stuff in English, when all you can hear all day is Icelandic. I mean Icelandic is a nice language and I really enjoy learning it, but still I'm just a beginner. So your issues make me really happy. And I already gave you like on Facebook, so I can be still in the picture.

I'm open to new music, and when you mentioned Sin Fang in your last issue, I immediately check him out. And I must say, I really like his music. So thank you for that too!

In the end, I want to wish you lots of satisfied readers (as I am, haha). And enjoy the autumn, even if it's the villain of the issue.

Best regards,
Sabina

Hey Sabina,

Thanks for the kind words! We always like to hear from satisfied readers. It makes a nice change from all the weird racists we get commenting on our Facebook posts, and the spammy emails asking us to order machine parts from China.

We're glad you like Sin Fang! We do too, so much so that his last record swept the board at our annual music awards. You've that to look forward to early next year if you're after some more interesting Icelandic music.

Also, we at Grapevine often have different opinions on things. For example, the person who nominated autumn as villain of our last issue clearly doesn't know the first thing about autumn, which is easily the best season. It's the season of scarves and soups, nice coats and swirling leaves, reading books in cafés, and that enjoyable French movie type of melancholy.

So some of us here will be enjoying the autumn, and we hope you do too. Perhaps wearing the Grapevine t-shirt you just won.

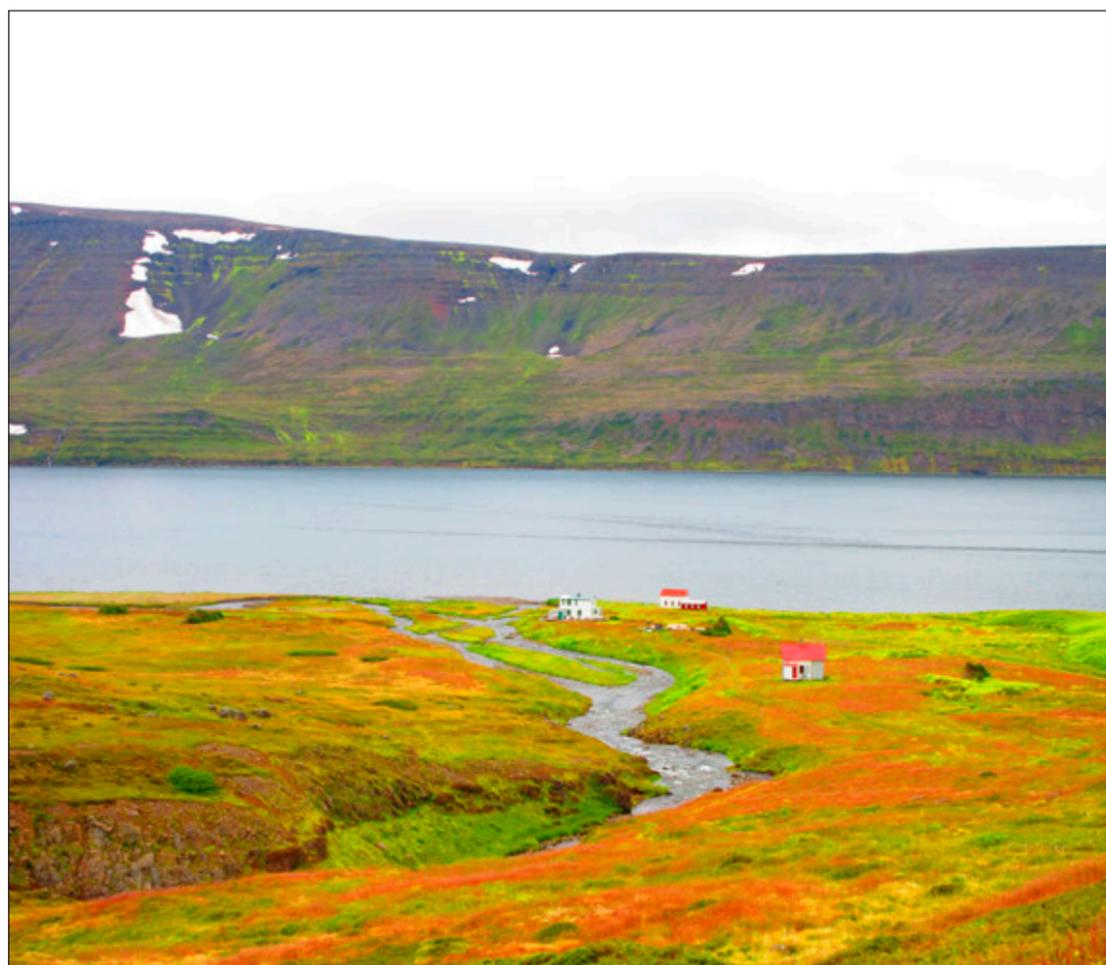
Bestu kveðjur,
Your friends at the Grapevine.



LOVELIEST LETTER: FREE T-SHIRT!

Whoever sent in this issue's LOVELIEST LETTER gets a free REYKJAVÍK GRAPEVINE Royal Crest Reykjavik Style T-shirt, designed by actual Grapevine humans! If you want one and you have nothing to send us, you can also just buy one at shop.grapevine.is

THE TIMELESS WARMTH OF ICELAND



#GVPICS INSTAGRAM COMPETITION

This Issue's Winner

Each week, we run an Instagram competition to win a Grapevine t-shirt. The winning pictures are posted to our account, @rvkgrapevine—and also right here in the magazine. Just tag your pictures with #Gvpics to enter. Here are the winning shot from the last two weeks by @ohheymjs. Congrats!

VARMA IS DEDICATED TO MAINTAINING ICELANDIC TRADITION IN DEVELOPING, DESIGNING AND MANUFACTURING QUALITY GARMENTS AND ACCESSORIES FROM THE BEST ICELANDIC WOOL AND SHEEPSKIN SHEARLING.

 VARMA IS AVAILABLE IN VARIOUS TOURIST SHOPS AROUND ICELAND

VARMA
The Warmth of Iceland
WWW.VARMA.IS

LEARN ICELANDIC AT MÍMIR Morning and evening classes

Register now

Registration: tel: 580 1800 or at www.mimir.is

Level 1-5, Conversation classes and On-line course level 4



Courses start September, October and November


MÍMIR
símenntun

Mímir-símenntun • Ofanleiti 2 • 103 Reykjavík • Sími / Tel. 580 1800 • www.mimir.is

BE WARM BE WELL

ICELANDIC DESIGN SINCE 1972

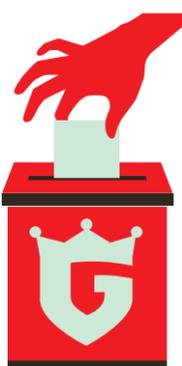
ICEWEAR offers an extensive collection of clothing for the outdoor enthusiast, ranging from high-tech down jackets to unique wool products made in Iceland. We strive to offer colors and cuts in line with the latest trends, quality materials and competitive prices.



ICEWEAR SHOPS

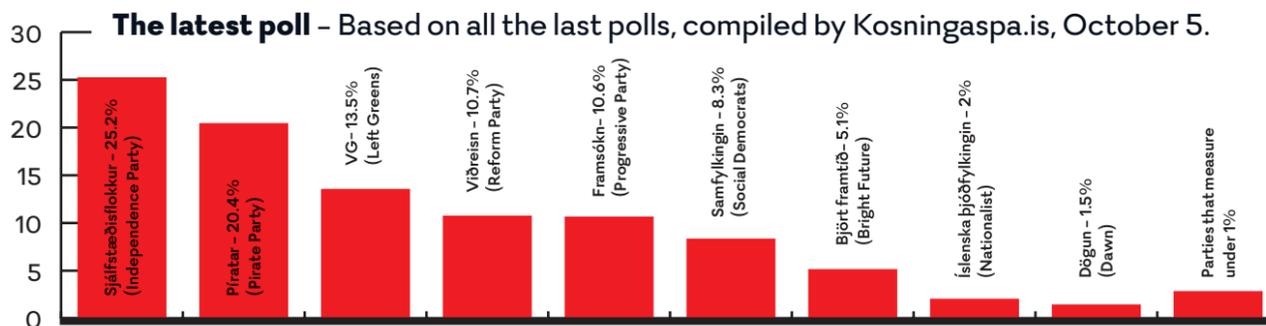
REYKJAVÍK AUSTURSTRÆTI 5 · VESTURGATA 4 · ÞINGHOLTSSTRÆTI 2-4 · LAUGAVEGUR 1 · LAUGAVEGUR 91 **OUTLET**
FÁKAFEN 9 **OUTLET** · GARÐABÆR MIÐHRAUN 4 · AKUREYRI HAFNARSTRÆTI 106 · VÍK Í MÝRDAL AUSTURVEGUR 20

Visit our webstore www.icewear.is
Enjoy the easy shopping and quick deliveries



The Politics Issue:

Iceland is heading into snap elections this month. After a tumultuous few years of austerity, protests, and the bombshell that was the Panama Papers leak, the government was forced to let early elections happen, months ahead of schedule. As such, we've hand-crafted this issue to help you navigate your way through the different parties running, what issues we're facing, and where Icelanders want to take their country.



Basic Election Facts

Date of elections: October 29

Originally Planned Date: May 2017

Eligible voters: ~245,000

Who can vote?

Icelandic citizens, or Danish nationals who lived in Iceland between March 6, 1936 and '46 (Why? Because law nr. 85/1946), who are 18 years old by Election Day, and who have been legally registered residents at least three weeks prior to Election Day. So if you're looking for voting info in an english-language magazine, your chances are pretty slim.

Estimated Voter Turnout:

Ranging from 61% for 20-24 year olds to 87% for the 65-74 age range.

Seats in parliament: 63

Number of districts: 6

Average number of voters behind each MP (2013): 3774

Best represented district (2013):

North-west Iceland, with 2665 voters behind each MP.

Best represented district (2013):

South-west aka Reykjavik suburbs, with 4856 voters crowding behind each MP.

Total number of candidates:

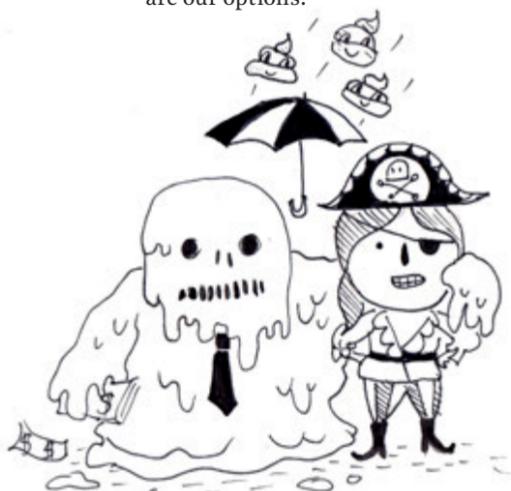
If all the 12 parties succeed filing their papers in every district, around 1500, or 0.6% of the voting-age population.

Choose Your Team!

What your next government might look like

Words PAUL FONTAINE Illustrations LÓA HLÍN HJÁLMTÝSDÓTTIR

One of the questions we asked every party currently polling high enough to win seats in Parliament this election year was who they could see themselves partnering with in a coalition. All of them answered, but some have a better shot at having a chance at forming a government than others. What are our options?



Coalition 1: Independence Party & Pirate Party

A.k.a. "Bitcoin Libertarian Shitstorm"
Why: They've been in the polls' upper levels for months, though they are starting to tumble.

Why not: The Independence Party might not be commenting on any party, but the Pirates consider this possible set-up "highly unlikely."
Estimated shelf life: As soon as anyone mentions the constitution.



Coalition 2: Pirates, Social Democrats & the Left-Greens

A.k.a. "Good Night Right Side"
Why: All of them show affinity for working together, would easily hold a majority.

Why not: Four years of endless conservative bragging transforms into four years of endless conservative whining. Plus people are allergic to three-party coalitions.

Estimated shelf life: One year, culminating in a massive conservative demonstration that ends badly; broken champagne bottles and lobster tails littering Austurvöllur. Or four years.



Coalition 3: Independence Party & Progressive Party

A.k.a. "Surprise Motherfuckers"

Why: Not like it's never happened before.

Why not: Highly unlikely to happen this time around in most possible universes.

Estimated shelf life: Over before it began.



Coalition 4: Everybody

A.k.a. "Thunderdome"

Why: It's 63 people. I mean come on.

Why not: Likely to form bar room coalitions anyway.

Estimated shelf life: One parliamentary session, followed by everyone going home and never coming back.

Northern Lights Bus



BusTravel Iceland

#northernlightsbus
#bustraveliceland

www.bustravel.is
info@bustravel.is
+354 511 2600

Availability: Every night

Pickup starts: 20:30
*October 1.-15.: 21:30

Duration: 3-5 hours

Price: 6.400 ISK

Warm clothing required

Refreshments included

Book online for a 10% discount
Promo code **NLB16**

**UNNUR**

An extra-durable, laminated parka made of 100% nylon, with a detachable PrimaLoft® padded vest.

59.990 ISK**UNNAR**

This stylish, longer length hooded parka will keep you warm all through the winter.

54.990 ISK**SÖLVI**

A padded, high-collared vest that is perfect for school or on the go.

24.990 ISK

WARM WELCOME

UNNUR ICELAND
69.990 ISK

CINTAMANI

DRESS CODE ICELAND



The Grapevine Readers Poll Results

How do your views line up with mainstream Iceland?

ANALYSIS

Well, we had to get in on the act, and set up our own online poll. As with all open-ended online polls, ours too was completely unscientific, only with the added bonus of being conducted over the course of just a few days. We sent out the call, and an astounding 235 of you answered. We are humbled.

Here's how our poll worked. Our poll was based on one conducted by Maskína (see www.gpv.is/maskina) for RÚV last month, whereby respondents were presented with a list of issues. Only RÚV respondents were asked to rate each one in terms of level of importance. We asked our readers to choose their personal top three. These results reflect which issues were the most to least likely to be in any given reader's top three. We also gave our readers the chance to offer their own written caveats to their responses, which you can read below.

With that in mind, here are the results:

Of the following issues, select three (3) that you believe the Icelandic government must pay the most attention to after elections:

Answer Choices	Responses
Health care	59.60%
Housing	57.58%
Environmentalism	40.40%
The use of natural resources	30.30%
Revising the Constitution	26.26%
Education	26.26%
Immigration, asylum seekers & refugees	24.24%
Job creation in rural Iceland	15.15%
Taxes, either raising or lowering them	11.11%
Disabled people and pensioners	7.07%
Joining the European Union	7.07%
The location of the domestic airport (i.e., to remain in Reykjavik or be moved elsewhere)	3.03%

Our readers were very eager to respond in writing, as well. As to be expected, a great many emphasised the need to protect Icelandic nature, and to improve the infrastructure of the tourism industry, while also emphasising that tourism itself should be contained to some degree. However, many readers also expressed hopes and dreams for Icelandic society. They stressed such concepts as Iceland becoming a whistleblower haven, revising its constitution, making the immigration process simpler, creating more affordable housing, sustainable energy to power fleets of electric cars - countless almost utopian ideas that our readers believe Iceland can and should take up.

Overall, this has been a very encouraging experience. Maybe sometime soon we'll even throw in for an actual scientific poll. Expect a call from us just as you sit down to dinner soon!

Party Platforms

Where Do They Want To Take Us?

ARTICLE

Words
PAUL
FONTAINE

Illustration
HALLI CIVELEK

Share this article:
GPV.IS/POLL16

Normally each election cycle, we ask each of the parties with a good chance of getting into Parliament what their platforms are. But since we're focusing on the future, Ideal Iceland here, we were more curious to know what any of these parties plan to do to change things for the better, if anything.

Here, then, dear readers, are the parties who look likely to get at least a couple seats in Parliament, and where they would like to steer the country.

Viðreisn (centre-right)

1. A liberal party which supports equality, economic freedom and Western cooperation.
2. We will lower interest rates by pegging the króna to another currency, such as the Euro, through so-called currency board. We want more European and international cooperation. The future of the EU accession talks should be decided in a national referendum. We will reform the national agricultural policy to give consumers more freedom of choice. We want to make it easier for foreigners to move to Iceland to work and study.
3. We will go by our agenda. Out of the parties currently in Parliament we are

probably closest to Bright Future, but we rule out no partners if they agree to our reforms.

Social Democratic Alliance (centre-left)

1. We strive for equal opportunities and social justice for all.
2. Our priorities are to rebuild the health service to become the world's best. We want to help repair the housing market. Samfylkingin (the Social Democratic Alliance) will reform the fisheries system by auctioning a share of the fishing quotas to the highest bidders. We will continue with the nationally owned constitutional process based on the constitutional council and referendum of 2012.
3. Our first option will be to form a government with the current opposition parties, a similar coalition as the one we lead in the Reykjavik city council.

The Pirate Party (rejects the left-right spectrum)

1. Civil rights, internet freedoms, lib-

eral, modern, direct and improved democracy.

2. First and foremost we aim to enact the new constitution approved by the people in the 2012 referendum. We aim to change the fisheries system so that all permitted quotas will be sold on an open market. We aim to substantially increase spending on our healthcare system so that it will be freely and fully available to all persons inhabiting Iceland, irrespective of where they live or their economic status. The Pirate Party is highly concerned about the protection and strengthening of civil rights both in Iceland and abroad. One of our many policies in this area is to fully realize the potential of the parliamentary resolution of the Icelandic Modern Media Initiative (IMMI). We

also reached out to the immigrant community in Iceland and asked them to take the lead in creating an immigration policy for the Pirates. The initiative was highly successful and we now have a great immigration policy, made for the most part by immigrants themselves.

3. The Pirate Party has not officially ruled out collaboration with any party currently likely to win seats in Parliament. Nevertheless, we consider it unlikely that we will find common ground with the current government parties, as both parties have indicated strongly that they oppose our main policy goal, the enactment of the new constitution.

The Independence Party (right-wing)

1. Right-of-centre (liberal-conservative); emphasising fiscal responsibility, free enterprise, and civil liberties.
2. We will provide strong national leadership and a clear economic plan to a better, more secure future, with plenty of opportunity for creative and enterprising people. Our plan for getting Iceland On the Right Track calls for consolidating our fiscal and economic recovery. This will foster the longest growth period in Iceland's history, ensuring that Iceland will remain one of the fastest growing developed economies in the world. Having restored the economy as well as the treasury, we will proceed in the next election term to rebuild and fortify infrastructure, national healthcare and social welfare. We will make sure that the recovery benefits every Icelander, regardless of gender or age, origin or residence, health or ability, means or education, faith or sexual orientation. We will lift the bulk of capital controls still in place and lower taxes on ordinary working families, building an economy that works for everyone.
3. The Independence Party will not commit to any preference for coalition parties prior to the election. Not only would that be premature and politically imprudent, but also an affront to the voters and their franchise. >>>>>

The Questions

1. Describe your party platform in 10 words or less (Editor's note: Only three parties managed to do this).

2. What ideas does your party have for changing Iceland for the better?

3. Of the other parties currently polling high enough to win seats in Parliament if elections were held today, who could you see yourselves partnering with in a coalition? Who could you see yourselves absolutely not partnering with in a coalition?



THIS IS IT WELCOME 2016

WHALE WATCHING • HÚSAVÍK • ICELAND

tripadvisor®



THE ORIGINALS

HÚSAVÍK
the
WHALE CAPITAL
of
ICELAND

Visit The Gentle Giants up north in Húsavík – The Whale Watching Capital of Iceland

“surpassed our expectations”



September 21st 2016

We decided to attend whale watching trip and it was for us one of the best experience in Iceland. We saw lot of big whales from short distance for more then one hour because captain, still moved boat and try to followed movements of whales.

Our guide Daniel González was perfect. He reacted really fast and show lot of whales, so we could see whales. He also predicted and knew when the whales is going to breathe to the surface, so we could see whole whale. Guide's (Daniel's) knowledge about nature is huge and scientific. He spoke about whales with passion and let us knew lot of interesting detailes. He also answered plenty of question from visitors. I think his work is huge additional value in whale watching trip.

We were satisfied with this trip and its surpassed our expectations.

“Whales cooperated today!”



September 20th 2016

Very efficiently handled requiring only 15 min arrival prior to sailing. On board we received flotation suits that were warm against the morning chill. Our wooden whale watch easily held the 30 or so watchers n took only about 40 min to reach area where whales were traditionally found in the bay. We saw plenty of Hump-back whales on r 2+ hour trip. The wooden ship though bigger allowed space to move around. Other boats like zodiacs could get a little closer to whales restricted passengers to their seats.

Attentive booking staff allowed us to move r booking then move it back when weather turned bad.



150 YEARS OF FAMILY HISTORY IN THE BAY

Tel. +354 464 1500 • www.gentlegiants.is • info@gentlegiants.is

MEMBER OF ICEWHALE – THE ICELANDIC WHALE WATCHING ASSOCIATION





**EXTREME
ICELAND**



★
**SPECIAL OFFER
IN OCTOBER!**

The South Coast and Jökulsárlón overnight tour

Book online at
xtr.is/offer
info@extremeiceland.is



Party Platforms

Where Do They Want To Take Us? (cont.)

Bright Future (centrist)

1. Optimistic, liberal, pro-EU, green party. We want better politics and radical reforms.

2. Björt framtíð (Bright Future) wants to change how we approach politics through the use of Servant Leadership. Through servant leadership we intend to insure that we take decisions based on what is best for the majority of society versus the elite. Björt framtíð is made up of people who in their daily lives and work have taken on servant leadership roles as teachers, policemen, children's social service counselors and even one of Iceland's leading servant leadership scholars. We want tax reforms that serve the ordinary citizen; in particular we want to simplify the VAT system. We want increased government transparency. One of our ideas there is to have regular National Assemblies to discuss matters of importance to the nation, in the same form as the National Assembly that was held in 2009 to discuss constitutional reforms.

3. We rule out partnering with the Icelandic National Front [a far-right anti-immigration party currently not polling high enough to win a seat in Parliament] and any other parties that promote hatred, fear or injustice.

The Left-Green Party (left-wing)

1. Left green politics, based on

equality, feminism, pacifism and sustainability.

2. Our focus is on strengthening the healthcare and education systems, and improving various parts of the infrastructure—in-

cluding those needed to properly accommodate the increased number of tourists visiting Iceland. To finance these reforms, we are not looking at increasing the tax burden of "ordinary" people—our focus is on the state securing a fair part of the profits made by big industry and those companies

that use our collective natural resources.

3. The parties that have been in opposition this term have often been working well together. Continuing this partnership after the elections would be the obvious first choice. We could absolutely not work with any party that has racism on its agenda.

The Questions

1. Describe your party platform in 10 words or less (Editor's note: Only three parties managed to do this).

2. What ideas does your party have for changing Iceland for the better?

3. Of the other parties currently polling high enough to win seats in Parliament if elections were held today, who could you see yourselves partnering with in a coalition? Who could you see yourselves absolutely not partnering with in a coalition?

The Progressive Party (centre-right)

1. The Progressive Party is a liberal social party that constantly strives for the betterment of society.

2. Working to increase equality by lowering taxes on low-income earners, and raising taxes on those who make more. By increasing budget allocations to the healthcare system, ensuring pensioners receive payments that are in harmony with the minimum wage, and taxing so-called "super bonuses" [for bankers and management] especially. Supporting the welfare system as a whole.

3. The Progressive Party could work with every party that has a seat in Parliament. That cooperation depends on whether we can agree on the issues. The one party that we could not work with is the Icelandic National Front.



ICELANDIC
MOUNTAIN GUIDES



GLACIER WALKS
THE ORIGINAL SINCE 1994

GLACIER WALKS - NORTHERN LIGHTS & OUTDOOR ADVENTURES



The Most Awarded
Adventure Tour Company
in Iceland

SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCES



MOUNTAINGUIDES.IS
info@mountainguides.is · Tel: +354 587 9999





One can't help but envy the two-party systems of the US and (more or less) UK while watching the televised debates leading up to next month's parliamentary elections. We Icelanders value our democracy so intensely that we'll let anyone join in on the fun without much hindrance; we now have twelve parties in the running, which is fewer than we had three years ago but still means that practically every fifteenth adult you meet is running for office. You're probably wondering "Who are all those people?" and even if you're not I'm still going to tell you. Let's go through them beginning

HUMOR

he got caught up in the Panama Papers scandal in April, which, again, is why the term was cut short and we're voting this fall instead of next spring. Oh, and then Sigurður Ingi stabbed him in the back to become party leader and it's all been good fun.



"High-income male lawyers"

The Progressives form their coalition with the Independence Party, Iceland's right-wing mainstay and the country's largest party for most of the past century. That might be changing, though, and they have no idea how to deal with it. As always come election time, this group of middle-aged, high-income male lawyers are now trying their hardest to put up a Scandinavian, social-democratic we-care-about-the-minnows guise, talking about the public healthcare and social security they otherwise pay no mind, but it's the easiest lie to see through. Everyone knows that once in power they'll just cut levies on the wealthy and the fisheries.

Indecision 2016: Iceland Edition

The pessimist's guide to Icelandic politics

Words
STÍGUR HELGASON

Illustration
LÓA HLÍN HJÁLMTÝS-DÓTTIR

Share this article:
GPV.IS/U-SUK

with the usual suspects—or I guess you could call them culprits by now. They're the parties currently represented in Alþingi.



"Source of mild amusement"

The party at the helm right now is called the Progressive Party, a misnomer that's been the source of mild amusement for so long that the name has lost all meaning. Put bluntly, the Progressive Party is anything but progressive. Founded and funded by farmers and their mafia-like organizations, its members are moderately skeptical of immigrants (especially Muslims), love Icelandic milk and hot dogs, and are known to make outrageous election promises, like actually handing out government money to people of their choosing just because they can. Until very recently the Progressives were led by our ex-Prime Minister Sigmundur Davíð Gunnlaugsson, who lost the PM reigns to his second-in-command, Sigurður Ingi Jóhannsson after



"Middle-aged middle-class twats"

On the other side of the spectrum we find the Left-Greens, led by Iceland's most popular politician by a mile, Katrín Jakobsdóttir. Young hipsters like them because they're feminist socialists, but young hipsters also hate them because they don't want to sell alcohol in supermarkets. The middle-aged middle-class twats like them because they're conservative as fuck but the middle-aged middle-class twats also hate them because they want to take all their money and give it to farmers and artists. Can't win 'em all. At least people semi-know what they stand for.



"The saddest sob story"

Just to the right of them are the Social Democrats, the saddest sob story of them all. Who knows what they're about anymore. A former powerhouse that was Iceland's largest party as recently as 2009, they now barely register in polls. They lost all relevance once EU membership, their only differentiator on the left wing, wasn't a hot topic anymore. Essentially, they want to do the same things as the urban arm of the Left-Greens, only halfheartedly. Surprisingly, that doesn't seem to appeal much to... well, anyone. Let's pour one out for the homies, but there's no reason to dwell on them.



"A lot less fun"

We shouldn't forget Bright Future. Led by charismatic, offbeat metal rocker Óttarr Proppé, this liberal, artsy left-leaning troop is a mutation of comedian and ex-mayor Jón Gnarr's Best Party, only a lot less fun. They want to make politics more friendly—change the culture—and even though they did score some arguably populist points with the general public for symbolically voting "no" on a highly controversial eight-year agricultural agreement Alþingi passed recently, their biggest win this term is probably that everyone seems to have forgotten how spine-tinglingly lame the name "Bright Future" is. Seriously though, that's about all they've done.



"Wear gimmicky T-shirts"

And then there arrrr (get it?) the Pi-

rates. They're huge nerds, they want to abolish copyright laws, grant Edward Snowden asylum in Iceland—you know the drill—and they've been the high-flyers in polls since forever. They might be losing momentum and probably won't end up as Iceland's largest political party. Fronted by the man behind the Icelandic Wikipedia and Birgitta Jónsdóttir of Wikileaks fame, they emphasize their "radicalism" and plans for "revolutionary systemic capsizing" and all that jazz almost to a scary point, while the most radical thing they've done to date is wear gimmicky T-shirts to Parliament.



"Erectile dysfunction"

The only newcomers of note are Viðreisn, which roughly translates as the Restoration Party, but in Icelandic sounds more like erectile dysfunction medication. Largely a band of disgruntled, EU sympathetic ex-members (and ex-leaders) of the Independence Party, they want systemic change and to do away with the endemic nepotism of Icelandic politics and government. Ironically, the party leader is a close relative of Bjarni Benediktsson, the leader of the Independence Party, and at a glance it's tough to see how the two parties differ, EU stance aside. But even though our halted EU application process is the least of anyone's worries right now, the members of Viðreisn still argue that they have more in common with the parties to the left of them (the Pirates, Bright Future, Social Democrats), than the two parties in power. If they continue to rise in polls, they might be in position to put their money where their mouths are come November.

The Rest

The rest of the parties are a mixed bag of degenerate racists, scattered power-to-the-people proponents still trying to ride the post-financial crisis wave and one, admittedly, pretty awesome old-school communist who we should probably all vote for even though none of us will.

Oh god, I hope I'm not forgetting anyone...

THE VIKINGSUSHI ADVENTURE TOUR

A bird & nature watching tour for the whole family all year round

Ever tasted fresh scallops straight from the sea? If not, "VikingSushi Adventure" is the right boat tour for you. Seafood doesn't come any fresher than this!



www.seatours.is
tel. +354 433 2254

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN ?



Where have you been in Iceland?

View places and pin memories.

Price 8.999 kr



Reykjavík capital in your pocket!

Soft city maps for urban jungles

Price 2.999 kr



Put the pieces together and review the places.

Price 2.569 kr

ISLANDIA

ISLANDIA | BANKASTRÆTI 2 | SHOPPING CENTER KRINGLAN
+ 354 540 2000 | islandia@eymundsson.is

NO CHANGE
OF BUS
REQUIRED



BOOK YOUR AIRPORT
TRANSFER NOW

www.AirportDirect.is
 497 8000
 Or at your hotel reception

tripadvisor "Very pleased with Airport Direct service"
 We took their Airport Direct service from our hotel back to the airport. Easy online booking, on-time pickup, and a new and comfortable minibus with Wifi. Overall, we liked this much better than the larger bus we took from the airport to the hotel.
Reviewed July 5, 2016

PRICE ONEWAY:
2.990 ISK

PRICE ROUNDTRIP:
5.890 ISK

BOOKING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE DAILY BETWEEN 07:30-20:00 • 497 8000 • INFO@AIRPORTDIRECT.IS



Where Your Iceland Starts!

- COMPLIMENTARY STAR MAP
- FREE USE OF ASTRONOMY BINOCULAR
- FREE USE OF CAMERA TRIPODS
- NORTHERN LIGHTS PHOTOGRAPHY TIPS

NORTHERN LIGHTS & STARGAZING



IN-BUS-AUDIO GUIDE

Northern Lights Guarantee - See the lights or come again for free!

PRICE FROM
5.990 ISK

TEENAGERS 12-15 YEARS OLD: **2.995 ISK**
KIDS 0-11 YEARS OLD: **FREE**

COMBINATION TOURS



GOLDEN CIRCLE & NORTHERN LIGHTS **ISK 15.880**



SOUTH COAST & NORTHERN LIGHTS **ISK 18.980**

AVAILABILITY: MON • TUE • WED • THU • FRI • SAT • SUN
 DURATION: APPROX. 3 hrs
 HOTEL PICK UP: 21:30 - 22:00 → 20:30 - 21:00
 DEPARTURES FROM REYKJAVIK: 22:00 (28 August - 15 October & 15 March - 15 April) / 21:00 (16 October - 14 March)

PARLIAMO ITALIANO! • PUHUMME SUOMEA! • 我們提供中文服務
NOUS PARLONS FRANÇAIS! • WIR SPRECHEN DEUTSCH!
¡HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL! • 日本語を喋れますよ! • WIJ SPREKEN
NEDERLANDS! • WE SPEAK ENGLISH! • 한국어 가능합니다



- USB CHARGING IN EVERY SEAT
- FREE WI-FI
- PERSONAL HOST
- IN BUS AUDIO GUIDE

WWW.RSS.IS • +354 497 5000 • INFO@RSS.IS



REYKJAVIK
SIGHTSEEING

Where Your Iceland Starts!

GOLDEN CIRCLE EXPRESS

PRICE FROM

8.990 ISK

TEENAGERS 12-15 YEARS OLD: KIDS 0-11 YEARS OLD:

4.495 ISK FREE



HOTEL PICK UP 09:30 - 10:00 → 10:00 (every day, all year)

AVAILABILITY MON • TUE • WED • THU • FRI • SAT • SUN

DURATION APPROX: 6 hrs

GUIDING LANGUAGE English

IN-BUS-AUDIO GUIDE

PARLIAMO ITALIANO! • PUHUMME SUOMEA! • 我們提供中文服務
NOUS PARLONS FRANÇAIS! • WIR SPRECHEN DEUTSCH!
¡HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL! • 日本語を喋れますよ! • WIJ SPREKEN
NEDERLANDS! • WE SPEAK ENGLISH! • 한국어 가능합니다

Wikipedia

Reviewed September, 2016

"We took several tours in our visit but nothing compare with Reykjavik Sightseeing"

SOUTH COAST CLASSIC

PRICE FROM

12.990 ISK

TEENAGERS 12-15 YEARS OLD: KIDS 0-11 YEARS OLD:

6.495 ISK FREE



HOTEL PICK UP 08:30 - 09:00 → 09:00 (every day, all year)

AVAILABILITY MON • TUE • WED • THU • FRI • SAT • SUN

DURATION APPROX: 11 hrs

GUIDING LANGUAGE English

IN-BUS-AUDIO GUIDE

PARLIAMO ITALIANO! • PUHUMME SUOMEA! • 我們提供中文服務
NOUS PARLONS FRANÇAIS! • WIR SPRECHEN DEUTSCH!
¡HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL! • 日本語を喋れますよ! • WIJ SPREKEN
NEDERLANDS! • WE SPEAK ENGLISH! • 한국어 가능합니다



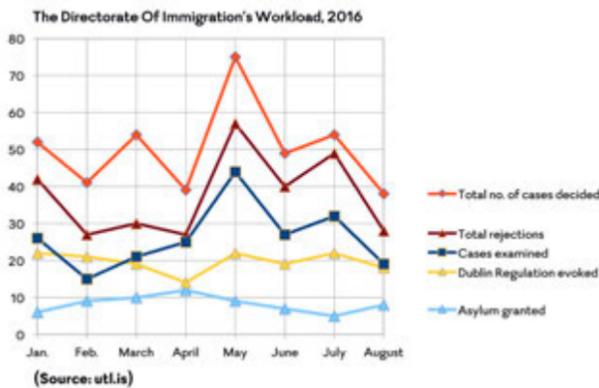
USB CHARGING IN EVERY SEAT

FREE WI-FI

PERSONAL HOST

IN BUS AUDIO GUIDE

WWW.RSS.IS • +354 497 5000 • INFO@RSS.IS



ANALYSIS

Why Does This Keep Happening?

A closer look at the Directorate of Immigration

Words
PAUL FONTAINE

Illustration
LÓA HJÁLMTÝSDÓTTIR

Share:
GPV.IS/UTL16

The Grapevine has reported on many asylum seeker deportation stories over the years. We've reported on how their treatment at the hands of the Directorate of Immigration (UTL) has often been in violation of international and domestic law, and how the Directorate has at times made decisions that went against the opinions of the authorities that are supposed to be supervising them. Time and again, the question our readers most often ask in response is, "How do they get away with it?"

What we found is an institution that all involved—whether in the courts, in Parliament, or within UTL's partner offices themselves—agree is at the very least in need of some serious reform.

So what exactly is wrong with UTL, and how can it be fixed?

It all starts with Dublin

To understand how UTL can deport someone without even opening their case for asylum, we need to start with the Dublin Regulation. As a person's asylum application follows its path through UTL, the Immigration Appeals Board and then the courts, it is not uncommon to see this regulation evoked. The Dublin Regulation can be employed, and very frequently is, to reject cases and deport people without even examining if their cases have merit (see graph).

Helgi Hrafn Gunnarsson, a member of Parliament for the Pirate Party, has been one of the few MPs vocally in favour of reforming UTL. He believes the tendency of UTL to lean more towards keeping people out, rather than trying to help people come in, can be attributed to a number of factors.

"It appears to me that different elements of the system have radically different views on how it actually works," he told us. "Being in Parliament in particular, we often hear things in committee meetings which fit our understanding of the law, but then don't seem to match the reality."

Adding to this, Helgi says, UTL is "not only underfunded but also understaffed, undertrained and undermanaged, which is a systemic problem."

The system eats itself

The increasing workload of UTL is something the institution has been diligent in reporting. For those working inside the system, this can mean taking on tasks they were never meant to perform.

"We were originally supposed to help [asylum seekers] out with filling out various forms, making CVs, applying for jobs, checking out classes, using the bus, applying for a kennitala, opening up bank accounts and helping them with their Icelandic," Icelandic Red Cross volunteer and former Grapevine staffer Hrefna Björg Gylfadóttir told us. "Everything that's a bit harder for people living in Iceland who don't speak Icelandic."

Indeed, the Icelandic Red Cross has their plates full when it comes to the work they do with UTL, and Helga Vala Helgadóttir, a lawyer who worked on asylum seeker cases for five years, underlines a number of problems with this partnership.

"Two years ago, the Interior Minister decided to put all the legal assistance on the Red Cross," she says. "That was a huge issue at the time, because it is very strange that an asylum seeker cannot have an independent lawyer. Red Cross branches in other countries actually forbid their employees from taking up individual cases, but they do it here."

"I'm not saying the lawyers aren't qualified," Helga emphasised. "It has nothing to do with that. But from August 2014 to December 2015 we didn't hear a word from the Red Cross about how bad the situation was."

Helga also points out that attempting to appeal your case after the Directorate and the Appeals Board have rejected you can be very expensive, seriously curtailing an asylum seeker's legal right to counsel—as outlined in Iceland's agreement with the United Nations, and in immigration law.

Conflict of interest

Helga also points out that conflict of interest is a significant part of the process.

"First, asylum seekers don't get a per-



"We import workers who don't have any rights in Iceland, don't pay taxes, and don't stay in this country..."

mit to stay in Iceland while their case is being taken to court," she said. "Rather, we lawyers have to ask the Immigration Appeals Board [if the asylum seeker can stay in Iceland while the case is being heard]. That's the same office that made the decision to deport the asylum seeker in the first place. It's like if you wanted to sue me, but you had to ask my permission to sue me."

Out of step with the Icelandic public

One could be forgiven for thinking that UTL is just acting in accordance with what the Icelandic public wants. This, however, is not the case.

According to a survey conducted by Maskína on behalf of Amnesty International in Iceland last month, 85.5% of Icelanders said they welcomed more refugees coming here, with 74% saying they believe Icelandic authorities should do more to help those who are fleeing war and persecution.

Most striking of all, however, was how Icelanders felt about living near or even with refugees.

According to the results, 12.7% said they were ready to let refugees live in their homes; 52.2% said they approved of the idea of refugees living in their neighbourhoods.

So what kind of change do we need in UTL?

It might be relatively easy to point out the problems within the UTL and the system that surrounds it. But what

kind of changes for the better does Iceland need?

Based on her experience working within the system, Helga put forward an idea echoed by countless asylum seekers: the right to work.

"We should allow more asylum applicants to work while we wait," she says. "Why? Because it's good for us. They would pay taxes. They wouldn't have to get financial support from us. Their quality of life would be better. It would be easier for everyone, for the whole system, if they were just allowed to work. Instead of doing that, we import workers who don't have any rights in Iceland, don't pay taxes, and don't stay in this country. It's absurd."

When asked what kind of policy towards asylum seekers he would like to see in his "Ideal Iceland," Helgi was candid.

"One that fundamentally recognizes human beings as valuable to society, with restrictions intended to prevent specific problems, as opposed to restrictions for the sake of restrictions," he told us. "A system that recognizes human freedom as an inherently good thing."

Until such time as any of these changes come into play, the Grapevine and other media in Iceland will have to continue reporting on deportations. And the real human lives behind the decisions of bureaucrats will continue to be stripped of all hope; unfortunate victims of a system that is overworked, underdeveloped, and lacking in any form of effective oversight.



NORTHERN LIGHTS BUS
Hot cocoa & a twisted doughnut
PRICE: 6.400 ISK

NORTHERN LIGHTS DELUXE
Minibus max 16 persons
Hot cocoa & a twisted doughnut
Warm blankets & a tripod
PRICE: 9.900 ISK



For more information & bookings visit:
www.sternatravel.com or visit our sales desk at Harpa Concert Hall, downtown Reykjavík

Riding with **Eldhestar**



Would you like to experience something different?



HORSES & HOT SPRINGS
Experience a variety of scenery and excellent riding trails.
Tour 3C



SOFT RIVER BANKS
This is a tour for the experienced rider! Who would not like to ride in an extraordinary environment?
Tour 3B



ICELANDIC DIVERSITY
Get in touch with Icelandic nature on horseback and taste the treasures of the nearby sea.
Tour 2G



tripadvisor



We offer a great variety of horse riding tours just outside Reykjavik.

**WINTER PROGRAM
2016 – 2017**

Get further information at www.eldhestar.is



Eldhestar, Vellir, 816 Ölfus • Email: info@eldhestar.is • Tel: +354 480 4800

sushi
samba

Amazing
7 course menu

A unique
Icelandic
Feast



Starts with a shot of the Icelandic national spirit “Brennivín”

Puffin

Smoked puffin with blueberries, croutons, goats cheese, beetroot

Minke whale

Date purée, wakame, teriaky

“Torched” Arctic charr

Cucumber, truffle ponzu vinaigrette and yuzu mayo

Icelandic roll - 4 pcs

Gravlax roll with Brennivín (Icelandic traditional Snaps) and dill. Avokado, mango, cucumber, dill mayo, rye bread crumble

Market fresh Ling

Miso and yuzu marinated spotted ling with zucchini, chorizo, apples and Beurre Monté sauce

Rack of Icelandic lamb

Onion purée, slow cooked leeks, chimichurri, baked carrot

And to end on a high note ...

Icelandic Skyr

Skyr infused with birch, berries, white chocolate crumble, and sorrel granite

7.990 kr.



Our kitchen is open
17.00–23.00 sun.–thu.
17.00–24.00 fri.–sat.

Sushi Samba
Þinghóltsstræti 5 • 101 Reykjavík
Tel 568 6600 • sushisamba.is



OPINION

Wetlands And Taxpayers Drained

“The drained wetlands of Iceland emit 20 times more CO₂ than the country's car fleet”

By SIGRÍÐUR Á. ANDERSEN

Editors note: this is a response to Ari Trausti Guðmundsson's opinion article from Issue 14.

Wetlands are the biggest store of carbon on land. During 1950 – 1990 the Icelandic government encouraged and fully subsidized draining of half of the country's wetlands. The drainage ditches and canals are estimated to be 33,000 km (20,500 miles) long, equal to 25 times around the North Atlantic island. Iceland is the same size as the state of Kentucky. The draining was believed to be necessary to meet the country's growing demand for agricultural goods, meat and dairy products. Iceland has never allowed any substantial import of these products.

Around only 15% of the drained wetlands has been turned into useful cropland. So, is 85% of this huge investment in mud digging access is given to atmospheric oxygen. The carbons accumulated in the soil for centuries are therefore oxidized. The oxidation leads to formation of vast amounts of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases. Draining and degradation of wetlands turns them into a net source of greenhouse gas emissions.

In the case of Iceland, the annual emissions from the wetlands alone are 72% of the annual anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions, leaving the country's automobiles with less than 4% and the big fishing fleet with only 3%. This fact finally became pub-



lic last October in the Minister of Environment's written answer to a reiterated request I put forward at the Parliament of Iceland, Althingi. However, the government has for many years been fixated on reducing CO₂, emissions from cars. To serve that purpose it has used taxes on fuels and cars to favor diesel oil over gasoline, a policy that is now considered an utter failure leading to more emissions of soot and NO_x. It has also mandated and subsidized imports and blending of ethanol and other biofuels (agricultural products!) to gasoline and diesel fuel with dubious environmental results. Even if we believed the 5% blending of expensive biofuels reduced CO₂ emission by 5%, the overall reductions for Iceland would only be 0,2%.

At the same time efforts to close the draining canals and restore the wetlands to stop the emissions have mostly been private enterprises, either by landowners themselves or industries interested in offsetting their CO₂ emissions.

The Kyoto protocol has up until 2013 been somewhat indifferent on the emission figures for drained wetlands. According to the protocol, emissions from wetlands drained before 1990 are not included in national emission figures. This is a huge flaw in the protocol as the emissions from drained wetlands keep on for decades and centuries. It would be similar to excluding annual emissions from an automobile of a model older than 1990. This flaw in the protocol became more apparent after the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) agreed in 2013, upon Iceland's initiative, to take into account restoration of wetlands when estimating reduction in submission of greenhouse gases. Restoring wetlands can now rightly be counted as an offset to meet national targets even if emissions from drained wetlands are still not included in emission numbers.

The lesson to learn from this is that when deciding on a policy, especially when it entails relocation of resources by taxation, it is imperative to take into account all the relevant facts and not let the end justify the means. Those who are really serious about reducing greenhouse gas emission should be looking into the predominant causes of emission and tackle the problem at its roots. War on car owners has highly distorted the task at hand. *Sigríður is an MP for the Independence Party.*

SHARE:
gpv.is/wet16



GEYSIR

- Visit our stores: Skólavörðustígur & Kringlan, Reykjavík. Hafnarstræti, Akureyri. Geysir, Haukadalur. geysir.com -



"Maybe someone will read this quote and think it's a stupid idea, and that's fine, but we need to talk about. Say why it's stupid"

"I also think we're not just experiencing an economic rift, but a moral one"

LOOKING BEYOND THE ELECTIONS

CHARTING THE COURSE TO UTOPIA



Words
PAUL FONTAINE

Photos
ART BICNICK

Share:
GPV.IS/UTOPIA

We regularly see articles published in the international press about Iceland, touting it as some kind of ultra-feminist, anti-banker paradise of clean living and social welfare. While we admittedly have it really good, there's still a great deal that could stand to be improved. What needs changing? What would a Utopian Iceland look like, and how can we get there?

To try and answer these questions, we invited four Icelanders over to our offices for a conversation on the subject. These four Icelanders are musician and journalist **Unnsteinn Manúel Stefánsson** (U); poet and

strategist **Bergur Ebby Benediktsson** (B); artist and library director **Sara Stef. Hildardóttir** (SS); and entrepreneur and filmmaker **Vala Halldórsdóttir** (V). Jumping in from time to time is our acting editor, **Sveinbjörn Pálsson** (SP). What follows is our attempt at a greater understanding of what Future Iceland could be.

Paul: Now that elections are coming up in just a few weeks, what do you think are the big issues the next government is going to have to tackle right after the elections?

V: First of all, I think they should focus on young people. We see continuous evidence that millennials have it a lot worse than older generations; more and more millennials are going to university, but they're not getting higher salaries. They will also need to focus on the housing issue when it comes to young people. I don't have a solution to that, but there are a lot of smart people trying to get into the government, so they must find a solution for it.

U: I think it basically comes down to two things. Capitalism is the system we have chosen, and we just have to

see how we will work with it. A lot of problems follow capitalism in politics, as the biggest problems we have in this country revolve around money. The most pressing issues not just here but in elections all over the world concern money and how we handle it. That's why I agree housing is a huge issue. This society encourages you to buy property. Another big issue is anything regarding cyber technology—privacy, how we use technology, security, copyright law. In many ways, technology has been evolving a lot faster than we've been able to deal with.

Frakkastígur 16 **BRAUD & CO** Reykjavík

ORGANIC BAKERY

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

A sight not to be missed!

Everyone experiences the aurora borealis differently.

We are proud to offer a great selection of northern lights tours and other day tours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

On our tours and services please consult our brochure or visit our website www.RE.is

BOOK NOW! ON WWW.RE.IS AT YOUR RECEPTION

flybus

AIRPORT TRANSFERS

GUARANTEED SEATS FREE WIFI

Scan me!
For our flexible schedule
www.flybus.is



flybus ^{SOUTH} NEW
STARTS 16 OCTOBER



WE ARE SOCIAL #REYEX



FREE WiFi



Reykjavik Excursions
KYNNISFERÐIR

V: I agree that technology is evolving fast, but it's like the government isn't evolving with it. You could be talking to a doctor over Skype, or chatting with someone at the student loan office over Slack. That's maybe not something the next government should be focusing on, but maybe more something we'd talk about when talking about the Utopian Iceland.

SS: I agree. I think a lot of our problems stem from the way we distribute wealth. I think we're actually seeing the first steps of the death of capitalism, and that's what the younger generation is going to have to deal with. What this country needs is to get a grip on how we distribute the wealth. We also need to re-structure our health system and education system. Everything else follows after that. If you don't have your health, and people can't educate themselves equally across the country and all age groups, then you have nothing. We also haven't been doing enough for the elderly, and this is a problem we're all going to have to face. We have a very serious situation before us.

B: I think a reform of the constitution is due. Maybe it's not the most pressing issue, but we can't run from it. I think it was unfair how all the work that was done [on the constitution] after the financial collapse was not put to use. I think the most pressing part of the constitution that needs reform concerns the distribution of power. You can see this in the wake of the Wintris affair [the scandal that unseated former Prime Minister Sigmundur Davíð Gunnlaugsson]. We needed a scholar to explain to people and he ended up becoming President. I think we're playing with democracy as we go along, which is alright; it should be in a constant state of development, but a lot of the proposed changes to the constitution would have prevented Wintris and made it a much clearer issue. We're not so far from a dictatorship sometimes. What we have right now is not democratic. We have a Prime Minister who's the deputy of a disgraced former Prime Minister. I think it's no coincidence that the parties that gain the most from the current distribution of the vote are the most against reforming it.

But I also think we're not just experiencing an economic rift, but a moral one. Like what's going on with the fisheries; there are ideas being floated about putting a tax increase on the fishing giants, or maybe every Icelandic gets a portion of the profits. But this involves looking into how we feel about who owns the wealth of these fisheries. It's a moral issue, because people feel it's unfair as it is. I think it's more than just capitalism versus socialism. For example, I support the idea of tax reform, but for me it's not confined to lowering taxes; I think the tax system also needs to be simplified.

V: The creative industries are getting so much more impactful every year. The McKinsey report of 2012 pointed out that we will need to double our exports over the next 20 years just to maintain our growth. Right now, our exports are based basically on four things: fish, tourism, heavy industry and the creative industries. Fishing and heavy industry are probably just going to be stable. Tourism will probably continue to grow for a while, but we can't put all of our eggs in one basket. So I think the creative industry is key here.

B: Absolutely. And I feel a lot of young people want to be able to work independently, and go from gig to gig. And they should be able to, because I think it would stimulate the economy. I don't think taxes need to be cut, but they

can certainly be simplified a whole lot. And where education goes, I would say: less Danish, more coding.

SP: There needs to be a push for honesty. For the past four years we've been living in a concurrent mental state of abundance and austerity. The financial crisis is over, so we can cut the taxes on the fisheries, but we still have austerity when it comes to hospitals and schools. I saw a recent interview with our Prime Minister where he said that we didn't need this income as our fiscal health had become better, but at the same time they were still making painful cuts to education and health.

spiritual. A lot of our problems stem from shame. The materialism that's breaking this society down needs to be off the table. I think a lot of these issues—gender, racism, the beauty myth, religion—they all stem from this flawed system that's about to enter its death throes. It's not just religious shame; there's also a lot of gender-based shame, shame amongst minorities because this society has a "default type" of a human being—the financially stable man. Everyone who isn't one has problems. Someone once said that to change society, you need to start by changing ways of thinking, and by that you change the culture of

question is, "What can the government do to create a utopian society? And what could it do right away?" If you look at Iceland from abroad, it's a perfect country in many ways, and I'm very grateful to live in Iceland. But then there are deep issues that we won't show to other nations. But in terms of what the government can do right now, I sometimes look at Parliament and think that an ethics expert and an engineer should just get together and redesign it. Parliament is currently designed for 19th century guys on horses getting drunk. It's not designed for women, or people with children. Regarding the gender ques-



What's frustrating is that what's missing in the electorate is a strong, angry demand for clarity.

SS: What has to happen after these elections is the first steps towards changing our way of thinking, and the market system that needed to rise from the ashes of the crash needs to embrace a new way of thinking. Fishing and heavy industry represent the old ways, and the creative industry will be the future, which underlines the importance of education.

Paul: So this brings us to the big question: what does your Utopian Iceland look like? How do we get there?

V: I don't understand why, in 2016, we still have a gender wage gap. In a Utopian Iceland, this would be fixed. I've been in touch with a lot of people abroad, especially Americans, who are fascinated with gender issues in Iceland. They look to Iceland, but we still haven't solved this problem. It's in a better place than elsewhere, but we still haven't fixed it. We did legislate that there should be gender ratios in boards in Iceland, and I think that's working. So maybe something huge like that would work.

SS: I think we need to be a lot more

the society, and the final stage is where you're able to change society itself. That probably takes a few generations, I would think.

B: I think most of these are truly universal issues. But to approach this from an Icelandic perspective: I think it's interesting that Iceland lies on this overlap between American and European culture. I think that's the global appeal of our culture. I think we should embrace it more. We need to appreciate how we've been influenced by foreign cultures. I mean, taking in foreign cultures is our thing. We're hybrids. We have this romantic notion of being a secluded island, but I think we're slowly starting to understand that we've always been global, and that that's our strength. I think we need a total reform of immigration in keeping with that. Every Icelander needs to have literacy in more than one culture. We're not that far from being the open nation that we should be; we just need that extra nudge.

U: I think another way to look at the

"We need to appreciate how we've been influenced by foreign cultures. Taking in foreign cultures is our thing."

tion, I think in pop culture, you don't always have the best role models for young men. But it's young men who need to speak up about gender issues more. As it is, we're more interested in playing Counterstrike and latest pizza offer at Domino's. If we can't change men's self-image, then we can't move forward as a society. People committing acts of terror and violence, these are all young guys my age.

Paul: Now we get to an issue close to a lot of our readers' hearts: tourism.



It's a growing industry, and will likely continue to grow in the near future, but there has been plenty of criticism from within the industry that we're not doing enough to make it sustainable. And it's certainly been having an impact on our society, whether economically, in regards to housing, infrastructure or urban planning. How can we do tourism better?

B: I think it's basically a trial and error process. We've done a lot of things right, but I think it's a shame that so many things have been reactive, maybe to a fault, and we need to climb out of that. The way to do that is to have

it's about supply and demand. Right now, we've got a lot of demand, but Iceland isn't a very big country. My vision is that we just cordon off a significant part of the country, and forbid cameras there. It feels like a step back, but really it would be quite an accomplishment. Maybe someone will read this quote and think it's a stupid idea, and that's fine, but we need to talk about. Say why it's stupid. Let's start a debate on it. I'm really asking for more ideas out there.

SS: I definitely agree with Bergur, and I've been seeing this idea of "quiet spaces" being floated around. A place where people can pay to be not dis-

much. I've seen countries do it very well and countries do it very badly. Some places are getting gradually more plastic, and Iceland is getting so close to becoming plastic itself.

V: We should also watch out, because with our currency, it's becoming more expensive to come here. At the same time, there's this gold-digging attitude going on, where the prices of things are going up. There must be a turning point where this doesn't go hand-in-hand; it'll start decreasing again. I think we also must distribute tourists to other parts of the country, whether that's by improving the Ring Road or

here. We're talking about a lot of people, maybe thirty or forty years down the road, maybe even a third of the country. I think the outcome of such a discussion would be that the majority of young Icelanders are ready for some significant changes in Icelandic society. Once we have this major discussion, then I think issues over the smaller details will be no-brainers.

SS: Well, I have to ask: where would that discussion take place? Would it be some kind of National Assembly [referring to the nationwide citizen's conference that was the prelude to the constitutional draft]? Because a lot of schools around the country are already trying to implement that kind of discussion.

B: Certainly, and I think that the political parties that we have should also be able to lead that discussion. I haven't completely lost faith in political parties. I think that some of them are putting some ideas forward and are leading debates like this. Why not start a discussion with the question, could we be twice the population we are now? There'd be a lot of challenges, certainly, but also a lot of examples we could learn from.

U: Since I work for RÚV, I don't express my political views publicly, but I do talk about human rights issues. Where asylum seekers are concerned, it's often a political debate, but to me it's a human rights question. On one occasion, I tagged all the youth leaders of the political parties in a status about asylum seekers, and they were all very passionate about their parties not becoming a racist party. So I think we have a very bright future ahead of us in that area.

B: What I think many people in Iceland don't understand is that the future is going to be layered. It's going to be a multinational, multicultural society. Some people will maybe look at themselves as "just" Icelandic, but there will be other cultures mixed in. Multiculturalism isn't about erasing other cultures. It's about having layers of many cultures. This is where all cultures are going.

V: This is one of the biggest issues we're facing, along with global warming. I think immigration is a huge opportunity for Iceland to grow and diversify. I think we need to be more open about it and do it right. In addition, the birth rate in Iceland is falling, and the average Icelander is getting older. If we're going to sustain the country, we need to do something, otherwise we're just going extinct.

U: It's going to take effort to work on this. And a lot of people don't want to put the work into it, and so nothing will change. Look at the parliaments in Canada or South Africa. You have MPs using earpieces, listening to translators while talking to and working with one another in different languages. It's amazing to see it. Meanwhile, a big issue we're not talking about here in Iceland is about asylum seekers. We need to move that discussion forward.

U: One of the big issues that we're going to have to face about refugees and asylum seekers is how we treat people that we give asylum. I'm not even talking about the people who don't make it through the system; I'm talking about the people we accept. It's like we say, "Okay, your case is so serious that you can live in Iceland, so go ahead." And then we don't do anything else. They're left completely on their own. When we hear about immigrants isolating themselves and dangerous situations arising, that's because of this kind of neglect.



appreciate how influenced by cultures. I mean, "We're hybrids"

a vision, looking maybe twenty or thirty years into the future. It's already been laid out, by [author] Andri Snær [Magnason] and many others, which is sanctioning off all the land that isn't being used for agriculture right now. Making all the rest of it a national park, and making it a very special place. So instead of responding to mundane problems, we need to put forward a vision. Obviously, that will cost something, whether that means raising our taxes or putting taxes on the tourists themselves. In the end,

turbed: no internet, no cameras, nothing. A digital detox. I also believe we need to re-think the national park, because everything so far has just been trial and error. We're laughing at the experts who are telling us we need to stop mass tourism, but that's what we need to do. I think the current situation is mirroring our pre-crash situation.

V: I think we do need a grand vision, and that Iceland needs to be forward-thinking for the first time, instead of just reacting. Like the Nature Pass [a parliamentary proposal that ultimately failed, suggesting that tourists should pay a flat fee to visit Iceland's sites of natural wonder]. What happened to that? We were discussing this for three years and then nothing. Why haven't we put something in place that gives us the financial resources to create the grand vision and then execute it? We need to create this foundation so we can do this well, and welcome all these people who want to come here.

U: We have a lot of tourists, but compared to other places, it's not that

increasing domestic flights. There are parts of the country that tourists just don't visit, because there's no rooms available.

U: If you brought up this national park idea to people living abroad, they'd respond, "Of course." It's a non-issue to people all over the world, but in Iceland it becomes a huge issue created by politicians.

Paul: Lastly, we get to immigration. And by that I don't just mean "regular" immigrants to Iceland, but also so-called quota refugees and asylum seekers. What can we and ought we be doing better?

B: I think we need to have a more general discussion about the kind of immigration policy we should have. In many ways, Canada is analogous to our situation—they had this discussion decades ago, when they were, like us, a very homogenous society. I feel like we haven't really had this discussion here, and frankly, I think it's a discussion that only the younger generation should be taking part in, because we're looking towards the future here. And the question here is: do we want Iceland to be a truly multicultural society? This doesn't mean just a few people from other countries living

THE HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA FRIENDS OF THE ARTS SOCIETY 34TH SEASON

SCHOLA CANTORUM

Chamber Choir of Hallgrímskirkja

Conductor Hörður Áskelsson



CHOIR CONCERT IN HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA ON ALL SAINT'S DAY
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 6TH AT 5 PM

REQUIEM

by Sigurður Sævarsson and Kjell Mørk Karlsen

All Saints' day is celebrated on the first Sunday of November. It is a day of remembrance for the faithful - to reflect on and express gratitude for their loved ones who have died. Many beautiful sacred compositions - requiems, motets and hymns - are connected to this day. It has been a tradition for many years at Hallgrímskirkja to celebrate All Saints' day with a concert.

In this year's concert, Schola Cantorum, The Chamber Choir of Hallgrímskirkja, presents sacred compositions by contemporary composers known for their beautiful musical language, that connects the past and the present.

The concert's leitmotif is Requiem, which will be performed in two different compositions by Sigurður Sævarsson (Première) and the Norwegian composer Kjell Mørk Karlsen. Sigurður Sævarsson wrote his Requiem in remembrance of his father and Kjell Mørk Karlsen's Requiem is in memorial of his wife who passed away two years ago.

Both these compositions fit particularly well to the magnificent sound space of Hallgrímskirkja. Conductor is Hörður Áskelsson.



Effigiem Christi, Forgerður Sigurðardóttir, 2000.

ADMISSION: ISK 3500

Ticket sale in Hallgrímskirkja tel. 510 1000
and online www.midi.is

LISTVINAFELAG.IS • SCHOLACANTORUM.IS



Find today's events in Iceland!

Download our free listings app - APPENING on the Apple and Android stores



MUSIC NEWS Flashback: 1982, the dark synth-punk outfit **Q4U** releases their first and only album, 'Q1'.

Shortly after they are featured in the seminal scene film of the time, 'Rökk í Reykjavík'. Flash forward: October 2016, Q4U is back on the scene with a new ten album featuring all-new material, their first release in twenty years. The band originally began as an archetypal four-piece punk band, but by the time 'Q1' was originally released, their spirited furor had been honed into a "sharpened synth-punk machine" (Aquarius Records). On October 8, Q4U will play a release show at Húrra, performing all of their new material along with a selection of songs from their 2013 re-release of 'Q1'.



Almost exactly one year ago one of our music journalists, Davíð Roach, sat down for an interview with Auðunn Lúthersson, aka **Auður**—an electronic music artist with no stage presence, no media presence, not even a single released song. It was what we'd call a faith-based maneuver. They hype was real. It was recently announced that Auður has signed with independent publisher Igem Music, a group responsible for names like Daft Punk, M.I.A. and Ludacris to name a few. During the month of October, Auður will attend Red Bull Music Academy in Montreal (the first Icelander to do so) and has promised new material before coming back to Reykjavík for his second appearance on the Iceland Airwaves roster.

In January of this year, Karl Torsten Stállborn (Muck/Fufanu) and Guðlaugur Halldór Einarsson (Fufanu/russian.girls) joined forces as **Skrattar** and released four tracks of rockish popish lo-fi. In June their second four-tracker, 'Hellraiser II', came out and carried us through the psychedelic surf season of summer. At the end of September a compilation album assembled by the record label Hið Myrka Man featured a previously unreleased Skrattar track called "Never Gonna Slow Down." We hope you don't, Skrattar, keep it coming. ▶



Happening

CULTURE NEWS



Two Fingers In The Air (No, Not Those Two...)

Höfði Reykjavík Peace Centre Opens

Words
PARKER YAMASAKI

Photo
KRISTINN INGVARSSON

As a society, we are driven toward balance. Take the axioms "first as tragedy, then as farce" or "illness is the doorway to health" for example. Chinese philosophy calls it yin and yang. Here in Reykjavík we are witness to one of the most magnificent natural displays of the dance between darkness and light. For every winter of darkness is a summer of 24-hour sun. Similarly, the more we hear about war and crisis, the harder we strive for peace.

This month The University of Iceland and the City of Reykjavík launch the Höfði Reykjavík Peace Centre. The centre is named after the historic Höfði House on Borgartún, where in 1986 Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev famously met and shook hands, helping to bring about the end of the Cold War. The new peace cen-

tre, to be opened at the University of Iceland, will help support Reykjavík to become a "city of peace," and to advise on how Reykjavík can promote peace and abroad. It will be host to regular conferences, panel discussions, and act as a research and education facility for the promotion of peace.

Ambitious is an understatement, but the Centre has already shown its dedication to concrete involvement and community engagement with its opening ceremony program. Opening remarks will be made by the president of Iceland, Mr. Guðni Th. Jóhannesson, followed by addresses by key members of the University, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the mayor of Reykjavík, Dagur B. Eggertsson.

A panel discussion will be held in conjunction with the Reykjavík Inter-

national Film Festival, which asks: "Can films, non-state actors and dialogue contribute to peace in the 21st century?" Panel guests include American director Darren Aronofsky, producer Kristín Ólafsdóttir, director Hrunn Gunnsteinsdóttir and Daniel Shapiro, the Director of Harvard International Negotiation Program. The ceremony takes place October 7 at 13:00 in the Ceremony Hall at the University of Iceland.

As Yoda once eloquently spoke it: "In a dark place we find ourselves, and a little more knowledge lights our way." The Höfði Centre is an attempt at light. It's an opportunity to maintain the balance, and a push for peace. Because that yin-yang symbol is more than just a lame back tattoo. And throwing V-fingers in the air is more than just a signature for Japanese tourists.

STRAUMUR

Drifting Through The House

Words
DAVÍÐ ROACH & ÓLI DÓRI

Photo
MAGNUS ANDERSON

Straumur, Iceland's premier indie music radio show, airs on X977, Mon. at 23:00. Daily music news in Icelandic at straum.is

The electro-pop trio aYía have been honing their craft for the past year, playing their first shows at Secret Solstice and LungA this summer. They have finally released their first song into the world (meaning: internet), a thick slice of trip-hop with a twist, titled "Water Plant." This gem starts with a sultry female voice that's halfway between a whisper and a hiss over string-like synth chords, before a massive beat hits you in the head. The track ebbs and flows with epic drops and marvellous rises across its 2:20 running time, with sonic bravado that's rarely heard in a band's first release. The soundscape is liquid, like the title, and the song has a sense of drifting—but drifting with an elegant confidence in the clear direction of a pre-planned goal. "Water Plant" was mixed and mastered by Valgeir Sig-

urðsson and is being released by Hvalreki, a new sub label of Bedroom Community. Having heard the band's material at their live shows, we are thoroughly psyched about future releases. aYía will be playing at the upcoming Iceland Airwaves festival, November 2-6.

Reykjavík musicians/artists Halldór Ragnarsson and Sindri Már Sigfússon (Sin Fang), previously together in the band Seabear, have a brand new song out with their new musical project Spítali ("Hospital") called "Schaffhausen." The pair released their first song "You" under that name in March, and like that song "Schaffhausen" was mastered by electronic producer Oculus, and mixed by him and the band. Both songs will be on a four-track vinyl record that is scheduled to come out next year. "Schaffhausen" is an

upbeat indie rock-influenced house song built around a voice sample (that sounds like Sindri repeating the letter E?) with a little guitar work from Halldór in the mix. Spítali also released a video for the song, directed by Máni M. Sigfússon. Head over to YouTube for a highly recommended viewing.

Terrordisco has been a staple in Icelandic dance music culture for well over a decade as a DJ and a remixer, but recently released his first EP of music that is entirely his own, appropriately titled 'Fyrst' ("First"). The album covers a lot of ground in its five songs, from afro to techno to ambient, but always with a thumping bass drum on every beat. Now there is a video out for the opening song, "Terragon Sunset," a mechanical Berghain-esque techno banger that is sure to make your feet move and heart beat faster.

DJ OF THE ISSUE



Charting New Territory

Gunni Ewok

Words
**PARKER
YAMASAKI**

Photo
ART BICNICK

Forging your own way doesn't always take you down the most comfortable path, but it's always a scenic one. DJ Gunni Ewok has seen a lot. In 2002 he stood out at the forefront of drum & bass music in Iceland as one part of Breakbeat.is, a crew that ran a popular website and forum, a radio show and scene-defining club nights. Through breakbeat.is, Gunni was among the first to introduce dubstep in its earlier forms, and the first to put grime on Iceland's radio stations. In 2013 he called it quits and formed a subsequent and current project, Plútó. We've caught up with Ewok at this point along the path to ask him about what he's seen on the scene so far, and where he hopes to go from here.

How (or when, or where, or with who) did techno begin for you?

Hard to say, there was no "eureka moment." I have two brothers, nine and ten years older than me, so I got exposed to a lot of music through them.

Things started really to click with me when my brothers let me hear stuff like M|A|R|R|S – "Pump Up The Volume," Yello – "Oh Yeah," KLF – "The White Room," Technotronic – "Pump Up The Jam" and Snap! – "World Power". From there I started to discover things from friends and radio and got into the UK hardcore sound via The Prodigy, 4hero, 2 Bad Mice and so on. That morphed into jungle which is still my biggest influence in music.

Describe your style.

I like to try and introduce people to something a little bit different from what they are used to, but I try to do it in a context they know and understand. Context is everything when you are DJing. The right context can make a good song great and vice versa. Always try to push the boundaries while still keeping the party going.

How does your music fuel your lifestyle, and vice versa?

Music has been such a big part of my life for so long it's just melded into one really. It mostly affects my wallet since I still try to buy most of my music on vinyl which has become really expensive here in Iceland.

What words would you use to describe Iceland's techno scene—when you began DJing?

When I first started DJing it was mostly with Breakbeat.is which was at that time a drum & bass crew that had a weekly radio show and a monthly club night. At that time, back in 2002, techno and dance music was at an all-time low here in Iceland. Most places didn't want to have anything to do with house music, and especially not techno and drum & bass.

And now?

You can jump much more between genres than you could back in the day

just as long as you know how to keep a good context. Now I can play a set in a dance club that spans music from the last 40 years and no one questions it. The radio show I have now with my Plútó crew on FM Xtra is a good example of this. It's so many different styles of music—old and new—but still I feel people can tell almost right away that they are listening to Plútó.

What is one of your proudest moments as a DJ/musician in Reykjavík?

It's kind of hard to pick just one moment. I would say I'm most proud to have been able to contribute and influence the scene as much as I think and hope I have.

What are some of the biggest changes you have been witness to, for better or worse?

Well since I started to DJ at a time when dance music was looked down upon I'll have to say they are much better now. But things could always be better and they can always get worse. When you live in such a small place like Iceland you can't really expect too much. I think it's a miracle what has been done here and is still being done when you understand just how small Iceland is.

SHARE AND LISTEN:
gpv.is/dj16

MUSIC NEWS

The album that track was released on, 'Myrkramakt II', is a follow-up to 'Myrkramakt I', released in June 2015. It is a genre-spanning compilation featuring sounds from Icelandic artists such as **Kaðlín**, **ROHR**, **Lord Pusswhip**, and **IDK/IDA**, amongst a darkly themed cast of others.



Iceland is known for its dynamism. You've heard the one about "if you don't like the weather..." by now. Seems the same principles apply to the nation's biggest music festival, **Iceland Airwaves**, which just announced that British grime headliner **Stormzy** won't be turning up after all. But before we had a chance to moan too much, the London winds blew in **Dizzee Rascal** to replace him. Stormzy is one of the biggest names in the game right now in grime and rap, and his absence "due to reasons out of [his] control" will be felt. I'm not crying, I think it's just raining out...

But while we're on the topic of bringing in the greats,

THIS JUST IN: Björk announces an exclusive show at Harpa during Airwaves this year!

THIS JUST IN: Björk show sells out less than 24 hours after pre-sale tickets are made available.

THIS JUST IN: Björk announces SECOND ALSO VERY EXCLUSIVE show at Harpa during Airwaves this year! Like we said, it's all about dynamism.

ICELANDER'S FAVORITE SUBS
WE USE ONLY THE BEST ICELANDIC INGREDIENTS
INGÓLFSTORG, DOWN TOWN REYKJAVÍK

REYKJAVÍKUR ART MUSEUM LISTASAFN HAFNARHÚS

One museum Three locations

Hafnarhús
Kjarvalsstaðir
Ásmundarsafn

Open daily
More information at artmuseum.is



Can't catch the Northern Lights?
Don't worry, we have already done it for you!



MULTIMEDIA EXHIBITION

360° VIRTUAL REALITY

TIME-LAPSE MOVIE THEATER



Grandagarður 2 | 101 Reykjavík
Tel: +354 780 4500
Bus 14 | Free Parking
www.aurorareykjavik.is

Open daily 09:00 - 21:00



Your Airport Transfer



Book now at
airportexpress.is



Your Iceland Tour Expert

Departures from Keflavík Int. Airport are in connection with all arriving passengers flights.

Contact information:

Tel. +354 540 1313 | iceland@grayline.is | airportexpress.is





The Short Friendship

Of An Icelandic Artist With The Woman Stealing Her Art

Words
YORK UNDERWOOD
Additional Research
And Transcribing
SIGNE SMALA
Art
INGA MARÍA BRYNJARS-DÓTTIR

Share this article
GPV.IS/TSF

It could have been awkward, but instead, Inga María's stay at a summer house in Þingvellir became a weekend of bonding and sharing, like-minded women connecting as artists and, more deeply, as friends. Inga was invited by a friend, but didn't know the host or the other two women there. Everyone was agreeable—even the weather was cooperating, a miraculous occurrence in Iceland. The five women spent most of the weekend in and out of the hot pot on the deck. Inga María felt a connection with the host, Caroline Vitelli. They seemed to fit together, in personality, in values, in aspirations—one of those rare moments where you find someone so similar to you that you can become close friends after a weekend. As soon as Inga María returned home that Sunday evening, she started researching Caroline on Facebook, Instagram, the usual avenues. That's when Inga María discov-

ered that her art, Inga María's art, had been exhibited and sold as prints in Switzerland by Caroline—before either of them had ever met.

Inga María's full name is Inga María Brynjarsdóttir. She's a visual artist here in Iceland. The first thing you notice about her when you meet her are her eyes. She has this look about her like she wants to tell you the best story you've ever heard. She started telling me this story over a year ago. This story about stolen art, attempted reconciliation, fake Facebook accounts, hospitalization and, finally, her choice to move on.

Moving back and forth between Iceland and abroad, I never got a chance to sit down and write this story. Last winter I met Inga María in a tiki bar downtown called Bar Ananas. She had a dead rat in her purse, a piece of her new art project. We decided then and there, over mojitos and a rodent car-

cass, that this story was too interesting not to tell.

Googling Caroline / Confronting Caroline

"While I was looking Caroline up online, I bumped into a drawing of mine," says Inga María, elbows on the table and leaning forward with enthusiasm. "At first I thought it was a Google mistake. You know when your search results get mixed together or whatever, but no. It wasn't." Inga María found a series of images by Caroline Vitelli that had been exhibited in Switzerland in 2011. Inga María had originally exhibited her work in 2008. Caroline and Inga María did not meet until March 2015.

"It was basically my work," laughs Inga María. "Except it wasn't done in charcoal, like I did, it was done in pen and pencil with some grey tone smeared in. I found it hilarious at

first." It was surreal. The art Caroline had supposedly copied was from the first exhibition Inga María had ever done. The originals were in the homes of friends, family and her ex-boyfriend. Inga María confronted Caroline. It was awkward.

"She was selling prints of my drawings on her website. It was not good," says Inga María. "I decided to confront my friend Harpa Einarsdóttir, the one who invited me to the summer house in the first place. Her and Caroline were living together here in Iceland. They had become really close, like soulmates. They had gotten matching tattoos." Caroline had moved to Iceland and was trying to find ways of staying here. She was applying for artist residencies and looking for work. Her boyfriend was Icelandic.

Harpa confronted Caroline and showed Inga María the Facebook messages they had sent each other. At first,

THE NEW LEGEND
NEW VERSIONS OF THE ICELANDIC HOT DOG

INGÓLFSTORG

Traveling the south coast or Golden Circle?

Hafid Blaa
restaurant & viewpoint
The Blue Sea

483-1000 • hafidblaa.is
5 minutes from Eyrarbakki at the Ölfusá bridge
open daily 11:00-21:00

rauða húsið
restaurant Eyrarbakka

483-3330 • raudahusid.is
10 minutes from Selfoss Búðarstígur 4, 820 Eyrarbakki
open daily 11:30-22:00

HORNIÐ
Restaurant - Pizzeria

Hornið opened in 1979 was the first restaurant of its kind in Iceland, a restaurant with a true Italian atmosphere. Hornið is known for good food made out of fresh raw materials, good pizzas baked in front of the guests, good coffee and comfortable service.

Lunch offers every day.
Open every day from 11.00 to 23.30
For reservations call 551-3340

it looked like Caroline was going to apologize, but it quickly became clear Caroline wanted to say this was all a big coincidence. “Instead of just coming forward and saying ‘oh, I’m sorry’ or ‘I just found these images interesting and in my style so I copied them,’ she just claimed online that I had stolen them from her,” says Inga María.

With nothing else to do, Inga María made a post about the situation on Facebook. The comments section blew up. People for Caroline. People for Inga María. Caroline called Inga María “a witch” and claimed Inga María had stolen the art from her.

That’s when the emails started.

The Emails

On Thursday, March 26, 2015

To: Caroline Vitelli <info@carolinevitelli.com> (The website has been taken down)

Really? What the fuck are you doing?

You don’t know how I can look myself in the mirror?

Those drawings are mine and I know you know it.

Can you please stop posting bad things about Harpa and me on the internet. I have only talked great about you, but I dislike this stealing of yours. This was my first piece...

And what the fuck is this about making me out to be a witch, stealing your work? What is wrong with you?

I hope you get your shit together. This is just crazy.

Inga

To: Inga María Brynjarsdóttir, <ingaxxx@xxxxx.com>

Never said you were a witch. Oh no.

And i did just defend myself. You are making my life a living hell. Ingimar and other friends showed me what you did post on fb. and no, it wasn’t kind at all and very offensive.

We could have arranged that, i thought it was ok after our first exchange. But you did put my name + pictures and call me a thief. And wtf ? they are MY drawings, ffs!!!! and no need to contact my friends about it. They know the truth. Old Hag Darby told me immediately. Having my dear Harpa and all icelandic folks on your side isn’t enough?

Destroying all my hopes and dream to move there isn’t enough? having me deleted them for you isn’t enough? this is just going to far. stop it.

Keep those drawing, don’t mention me again nevermore. I am gonna send mine to you as i said before, even if you don’t want them, so you can do whatever you want with them. stop making a drama and ruining my life, please. I beg you

I did actually try my best to arrange everything on your behalf until today.

I wish i could have known you before. i wish you did not went so far.

I am so hurted

The next morning Caroline sent Inga María an email stating she was thinking about killing herself. Inga María decided to respond and

sent her emails a few times with this being the final email:

To: Caroline Vitelli, <info@carolinevitelli.com> Caroline

This is crazy, everything is dramatised to the extremes.

We share similar stories, but apparently we work through them in a different way I smile through my troubles, you do not...

It’s fucked up that you would want to kill yourself because of this, why would you do that? You claim that my drawings are yours... why would you kill yourself? it’s just stupid...

I have no bad feeling towards you, get yourself together, feel free to contact me in a good way and stop feeling so bad about yourself.

I feel what you have been through, but it matters how you work it out.

I went through the same shit but i am not making people feel sorry for me because of it - why should you do that? - I feel your pain, but I do not want to put that pain on other people....

and i dislike this shit we are making...

love to you...

Inga María

Caroline Vitelli’s Sister

Soon after the email exchange, Caroline took down her email and website. Nothing really got settled. Inga María talked to a few organizations in Iceland that help artists with copyright, but hiring a lawyer was too far out of her budget. Then she got a friend request on Facebook, from a person claiming to be Stephanie Vitelli.

“At first I didn’t answer, you know? Because her last name was Vitelli,” says Inga María. “Her cover photo on her account said something like ‘Those who steal... lalala,’ basically directed right at me. Stephanie started messaging me and telling me that Caroline was in the hospital, that she was dying because of what I was doing to her. I was confused. I hadn’t done anything. I made a Facebook post and inquired to a few places about copyright. I didn’t even say anything bad about her.”

Confused, but still compassionate, Inga María asked Stephanie how she could help. What hospital was Caroline staying in and should Inga María contact Caroline’s friends in Seyðisfjörður? They should be there to support her.

“I offered to contact Caroline’s friends. I told Stephanie I have no grudge against Caroline and really hope she feels better,” says Inga María. “Stephanie just said, ‘No! Don’t contact anyone! She needs her peace and quiet. She’s dying.’”

“I saw some holes in this story, so I asked Stephanie what hospital Caroline was in, but she wouldn’t tell me. She was afraid I would hack into the computers at the hospital. Apparently, according to Stephanie, all of Caroline’s computers had been hacked. I told Stephanie if Caroline was at a hospital that information was public and I could just look it up. Stephanie told me Caroline was in a private psychiatric hospital, closed to the public, and she was dying.”

The End? Reconciliation And Moving On

Things died down for a couple weeks. Inga María received an email from one of Caroline’s friends, someone who had bought one of Caroline’s prints, and asked Inga María who the authentic artist was.

“I told her the truth. It’s my work,” says Inga María. “This friend of Caroline’s had bought a piece at an exhibition and wanted to know the truth, so I told her. Apparently, Caroline had told her I had already apologized for falsely claiming that she stole from me.”

Inga María doesn’t hold a grudge against Caroline—even though nothing has been settled between them. During the entire interview, Inga María kept reminding me she didn’t want Caroline to be insulted or ridiculed. “I don’t want to hurt her,” says Inga María for the countless time. “I just wish we could have gotten past it and worked on something together.”

“In art school, they taught us we could grab inspiration from anywhere, from anyone. You just had to make it your own. You don’t copy something and then print it and sell it to make money. When I sell a piece or a select number of prints, that’s it. I don’t keep reprinting. That’s disrespecting the buyer. I mean, sure, I could get desperate and want to do this, but people can buy my stuff online off someone else already,” says Inga María with a laugh that signals the end of the story.

We’re out of beer anyway. ■



FISH & MORE
SALKA VALKA
STEAMED FRESH FISH. TRADITIONAL ICELANDIC FISH STEW. FISH & VEGAN SOUPS. SMOKED SALMON & VEGAN TOPPINGS ON SOURDOUGH BREAD. BEER, WINE, COFFEE & MORE
SKÓLAVÖRDUSTÍGUR 23 • 101 REYKJAVÍK

“The Icelandic Museum of Rock ‘n’ Roll is as eccentric in its telling as the tale it celebrates.”
David Fricke, Rolling Stone.

THE ICELANDIC MUSEUM OF ROCK ‘N’ ROLL

Visit Iceland’s largest **music museum** and enjoy our history of Icelandic rock and pop music. Browse through the **timeline** of Icelandic pop and rock music with the Rock ‘n’ Roll app on I pads, spend time in our **soundlab, cinema, karaoke booth, gift store, exhibitions** or simply grab a cup of coffee at our café (**free wifi!**).



Open daily

The museum is located in Keflavík only 5 minutes away from Keflavík International Airport.

Open daily from 11am - 6pm

For more go to rokksafn.is

Rokksafn
Íslands

The Icelandic Museum of Rock ‘n’ Roll

Music

Teni EXPRESS

Ethiopian
restaurant



Opening hours:
mon-fri 11:30-14:00
fri-sat 18:00-21:00

Ármúli 21
teni@teni.is
tel: 533-1230

TRACK BY TRACK



“Draumleysa”

by Martröð

Words **HAFSTEINN VIDAR** and **HANNAH JANE COHEN**

Image **MARTRÖÐ**

There’s only one track for this issue’s track by track: Martröð’s “Draumleysa,” from their upcoming EP ‘Transmutation of Wounds’. Martröð is a black metal supergroup featuring members of Icelandic black metal bands Wormlust and Misþyrming. If you’ve never heard black metal before, this track would definitely not be a bad place to start. It’s raw. It’s haunting. It’s nightmarish. But it’s beautiful. To get deeper into Martröð—Icelandic for “nightmare”—we asked member Hafsteinn Viðar to tell us about “Draumleysa” in his own words.



There are moments in life when events reserved for fiction decide to dress themselves up in a skin suit and crawl into reality. For us, that hideous creature was assembling what we considered to be the perfect band of musicians.

However, after the lineup had been established, then came the “How the fuck are we going to do this?” stage. We didn’t want this project to sound like a mess of our own styles, we didn’t want someone to be like, “Oh, this is a Wormlust riff and there’s the Skáphe over-effected vacuum cleaner

riff.” We aimed to keep Martröð its own beast. Then began the seemingly endless experiments, with not only the boundaries of songwriting, but with us also trying to see how far we could wander astray from expectations. For a while, we even tried having outside musicians from other bands take our riffs and try to structure something new. That was quickly abandoned, although for those five minutes, we were I guess toying with the idea of Martröð being more of a Dada-esque collective of musicians than the old band dynamic. Essentially a million theoreticals were floating around before we just put a lid on it, knuckled down and started writing. We wrote hours of material ranging from violently awful to, finally, goddamn wonderful. From the latter, “Draumleysa,” our first illegitimate child, came to be.

This child survived several stages of growth: oblique cards, musical gurus, and the now trademarked deep overthinking we do, a practice which remained intact. In any case, we started with something aggressive and ended with something hypnotic, the marriage of heaven and hell in way. The riffs, however, under-

went the knife several times. The opening riff to the song was initially a straightforward 4/4 post-punk thing, but ended up into whatever the fuck it is now. We pulled the middle section from a jangly mess of a song that had been written for a project that never went anywhere. We pitch-shifted things, we added ridiculous amounts of guitar layers, we made a big fucking mess. It came together somehow, by accident or cunning; we rolled this vehicle down a mountain and ended up in a parking spot by the front door without injury. I don’t know how the audio engineer didn’t shoot himself in the head.

Accident or not, “Draumleysa” functions as a representation of things that we were experiencing. It wasn’t difficult to write, but it was definitely challenging to complete. It’s a dynamic song, going from one extreme to another, much like our personal lives and, as we would discover, the existence of this band. Collaborators went missing, health issues arose, personal struggles happened. The best and worst of times. We managed and now here we are.

👉 LISTEN & SHARE:
gpv.is/tbt16



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



The REYKJAVÍK GRAPEVINE

IN YOUR POCKET

Reykjavík Map | Happy Hour Guide | Places We Like | Best Of Reykjavík | Practical Info

October 7 - November 11

Four Weeks

The Grapevine picks the events, places and things to check out in the next four weeks.

October 7 - October 9



RIFF Finale

The final days of the Reykjavík International Film Festival are upon us. We've been served some tasty slices of cinema since September 29, but some of the best bites remain: check out the Icelandic film 'InnSæi' on Friday, or Deepa Mehta's 'Anatomy of Violence' on Sunday.
Bíó Paradís, Tjarnarbíó. Háskólabíó. Admission: Varies.

October 9



Lighting the Imagine Peace Tower

On John Lennon's 76th birthday, Yoko Ono will light the Imagine Peace Tower in memory of her late husband. The monument is a bright beam of light shining into the sky, situated on the island of Viðey. As its creator explains, the light is a path through which wishes for world peace can be lifted up into the universe. Boats will shuttle people to the island from 17:00, and the ceremony starts at 20:00.
Viðey at 20:00. Admission: Free!

November 3-7

Design and Craft Fair

If you're looking to engage with some culture during your Airwaves trip but trying to save your beer money, the Design and Craft Fair might be for you. Over the course of this five-day festival, more than 50 Icelandic designers and craftsmen will display their wares, ranging from ceramics to fish skins, offering a glimpse into their design process and into Icelandic craft culture.
Reykjavík City Hall. Admission: Free!

08 OCT

RELEASE PARTY
Q4U



Q4U, 'Qþrjú'

Húrra at 20:00 | Admission: 2,000 ISK

Three and a half decades ago, Q4U unleashed their first and only album on Reykjavík. Inspired by the British punk scene of the time, but determined to sing only in Icelandic (lead singer Elinborg Halldorsdóttir insisted on speaking out on local political issues in Icelandic only), the group earned their place on the synth-punk podium. Then, thirty-odd years passed. Now, Q4U release their ten-song second album, 'Qþrjú', celebrating with a release party at Húrra.

10 OCT

LISTENING PARTY
AVÓKA



'KOK' Listening Party

Stofan at 20:00 | Admission: Free!

Fancy going to a dreamy doom-pop listening party? Stofan has you covered. For the first time, AVÓKA's debut release 'Kok' will be played for everyone. It promises to be a melancholic and hopeful concoction, with free beverages for early birds. There's no better way to start your week! Except, idk, a lottery win or something.

Great collection,
good prices

SOUVENIR SHOP
SHOP OF THE YEAR 2012



THE VIKING
FAMILY BUSINESS FOR 50 YEARS

The viking:info

Skólavörðustíg 3 • Reykjavík
Skólavörðustíg 25 • Reykjavík
Hafnarstræti 104 • Akureyri

e: info@theviking.is
www.theviking.is



SUPER JEEP
DAY TOURS
FROM REYKJAVÍK

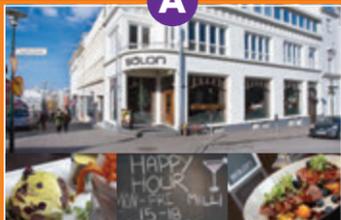


ICELANDROVERS.IS
info@icelandrovers.is • Tel: +354 587 9999

The Map

Get the bigger, more detailed version of The Reykjavik Grapevine City Map at your nearest hotel or guesthouse, with selections from our Best-Of awards, vital info, downtown bus stops and a wider view of the city.

A



ELEGANT PREMISES
IN THE HEART OF
REYKJAVIK

BRUNCH
LUNCH AND DINNER MENU
LOCAL AND FOREIGN DISHES
BAR

SOLON
BISTRO • BAR
BANKASTRÆTI 7A • 101 REYKJAVIK • TEL. 562 3232

B

In Kraum you will find carefully selected products from over 100 Icelandic designers

Welcome to our new location in Bankastræti 7!



Bankastræti 7 - kraum.is

C



KORMÁKS & SKJALDAR
Laugavegi 59



KORMÁKUR & SKJÖLDUR
SKÓLAVÖRDUSTÍGUR 28

Eating

1 Búllan

Geirsgata 1

Búllan serves the best burger at the best price. It's fast, reliable, and does exactly what it's supposed to. In the past year there have been a lot of burger places popping up, but Búllan has consistently proved itself to be Reykjavik's burger joint—it's perfect for lunch, on-the-go dinner, or a late evening pick-me-up. For a fancier gourmet burger, check out Kex Hostel or Grill Market, but if you want a classic burger and fries, Búllan always has you covered.

2 Hverfisgata 12

Hverfisgata 12

Hverfisgata 12 is not only the best pizza, but has topping combinations that'll leave you scratching your head at first, but rubbing your belly later. It's located, conveniently, at Hverfisgata 12, sharing a building with other fancy places like Dill and Mikkeller & Friends. Their comfort food-style potato-topped pizza, as well as the beetroot pizza with walnuts and arugula are crowd-pleasers that manage to be rich, light, sweet and savoury.

3 Austur-Indíafélagið

Hverfisgata 56

Austur-Indíafélagið is an institution in Reykjavik. It's an authentic fine-dining Indian restaurant with all the high-quality spices, recipes and techniques you'd expect to find in a much larger European capital. The menu takes many of the classic recipes of Indian cuisine, and serves them with a creative twist and consistently sky-high quality. Not only is this the best Indian food in Reykjavik, but it's amongst the very best restaurants in Iceland—and priced as such. Make sure to call ahead and make a reservation, because it's very popular.

4 Bergsson Mathús

Templarasund 3

Bergsson Mathús makes a great lunch with wonderful accompanying salads. All of their breads are baked fresh and they keep dishes of peanut-butter, jam, and smjör on tempting display for the most gourmet PB&J you've ever had. Jamie Oliver stopped by there when he visited Reykjavik with his family. With two locations—one downtown and the other in the Grandi harbour area—it's never too far away.

Drinking

5 Prikið

Bankastræti 12

Prikið was voted Grapevine's "Best All-Around Bar" 2016, for (as the award suggests) many reasons. A respected restaurant by day, Prikið turns up at night and has become a haven for Reykjavik's rap and hip-hop scene.

6 Bar Ananas

Klapparstígur 38

Melting the country's often frosty surface, Bar Ananas is a tropically-themed bar filled with delicious cocktails, friendly bartenders and sultry tunes. It's divided into separate spaces so it's easy to find the perfect spot.

7 Slippbarinn

Mýrargata 2

Slippbarinn has for quite a while been the go-to-place for drinking cocktails. The restaurant is stylish and offers a weekly jazz concert as well as regular DJs. They have the classics, something new and something with a twist.

8 Kaffihús Vesturbæjar

Melhagi 20

Kaffihús Vesturbæjar, also known as Kaffi Vest, has become a hip spot for Reykjavik's west-side movers and shakers. A coffeehouse by name and feel, Kaffi Vest also offers a nice selection of craft beers and wines and is open until 23:00.

The absolute basics

Useful Numbers

Emergency number: 112
Medical help: 1770
Dental emergency: 575 0505
Information: 1818
Taxi: Hreyfill: 588 5522 - BSR: 561 0000

Tax-Free Refund

TAX FREE Keflavik Airport - before check-in
Seyðisfjörður - Smyril Line Terminal

Pharmacies

Lyf og heilsa, Egilsgata 3, tel: 563 1020
Lyfja, Laugavegur 16, tel: 552 4045
and Lágmúla 5, tel: 533 2300

Tourist Information

Arctic Adventures, Laugavegur 11, tel: 562 7000
Tourist Info Centre, Aðalstræti 20, tel: 590 1550
Iceland Excursions-Grayline, Hafnarst. 20, tel: 540 1300
Icelandic Travel Market, Bankastræti 2, tel: 522 4979
Trip, Laugavegur 54, tel: 433 8747

Long Distance Coach Terminal

BSÍ, Vatnsmýrarvegur 10,
tel: 562 1011, www.bsi.is

Domestic Airlines

Air Iceland, Reykjavíkflugvöllur,
tel: 570 3030, www.flugfelag.is
Eagle Air, Hótel Loftleiðir, tel: 562 4200

Public Transport

The only public transport available in Reykjavik is the bus. Most buses run every 20-30 min (the wait may be longer on weekends), price per fare is 420 ISK adults, 210 ISK children. Multiday passes are available at select locations and through their app. Route map at: www.bus.is. Tel: 540 2700. Buses run from 07-24:00 on weekdays and 10-24:00 on weekends. Main terminals are: Hlemmur and Lækjartorg.

Opening Hours - Bars & Clubs

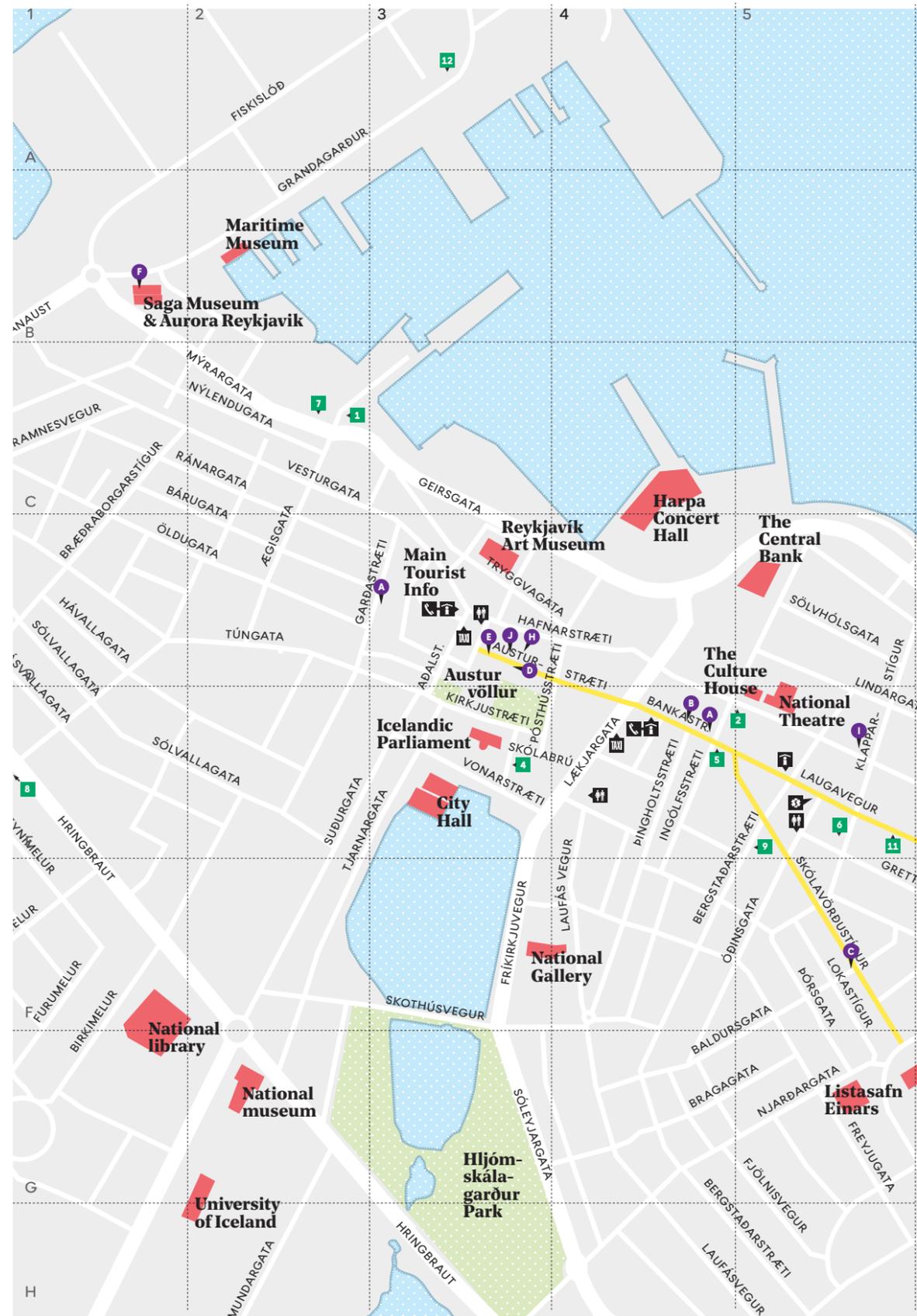
According to regulations, bars can stay open until 01:00 on weekdays and 04:30 on weekends.

Opening Hours - Shops & Banks

Shops: Mon-Fri 10:00-18:00, Sat 10:00-16:00, Sun closed. Kringlan and Smáralind malls and most supermarkets and tourist shops have longer opening hours.
Banks in the centre are open Mon-Fri 09:00-16:00

Post Offices

Post offices are located around the city. The downtown post office is at Pósthússtræti 3-5, open Mon-Fri 09:00-18:00. Stamps are also sold at bookstores, gas stations, tourist shops and some grocery stores.



D

Party Every Night.
Cocktails! Bottle Service!
Live Music Every Night!
50 different kinds of beer.
Live Sports Coverage
Kitchen open from 11.00.
Ribs - Burgers
Chicken Wings!

AMERICAN BAR
REYKJAVÍK

AUSTURSTRÆTI 8 • REYKJAVÍK





OKTÓBER

- 7. **DJ SIMON FKNHNSM.** FREE ENTRY
- 8. **Q4U ALBUM RELEASE SHOW.** 2.000 ISK 9 PM.
- 10. **MÁNUDJASS // MONJAZZ** FREE ENTRY 9 PM.
- 11. **AKAN & RYTMATÍK.** 1.500 ISK 8 PM.
- 12. **KIRYAMA FAMILY & HIMBRIMI.** TICKETS TBA 8 PM. **DJ EYFJÖRÐ.**
- 13. **PUB QUIZ: DJAMM ER SCHILLD.** FREE ENTRY 8 PM.
- 14. **JEFF THE BROTHERHOOD. (US)** 2.000 ISK 9 PM. **DJ DAVÍÐ ROACH**
- 15. **FM BELFAST & KÖTT GRÁ PJÉ.** 2.500 ISK **DJ KGB**
- 16. **MYNDBANDAKERFI FJÖLBÝLISHÚSA #4.** FREE ENTRY 8 PM.
MY SO CALLED LIFE BINGE WATCH. FREE POPCORN
- 17. **MÁNUDJASS // MONJAZZ** FREE ENTRY 9 PM.
- 18. **ICLETRALIA LIVE PODCAST.** FREE ENTRY 8 PM.
- 19. **DANCEOKE.** FREE ENTRY 9 PM.
- 20. **SAGE FRANCIS (US)** 2.500 ISK 9 PM.
- 23. **LJÓÐAKVÖL // POETRY NIGHT.** FREE ENTRY 9 PM.
- 24. **MÁNUDJASS // MONJAZZ** FREE ENTRY 9 PM.
- 25. **HEFNENDABÍÓ // CULT MOVIE NIGHT.** FREE ENTRY 8 PM.
- 26. **MILKHOUSE.** TICKETS TBA 8 PM.
- 28. **DJ KATLA**
- 29. **SDJ REAGAN AND GORBACHEV**
- 31. **MÁNUDJASS // MONJAZZ** FREE ENTRY 9 PM.

NOV. 2ND. - 6TH. ICELAND AIRWAVES MUSIC FESTIVAL



Music

Concerts & Nightlife Listings
October 7 - November 11

How to use the listings:

Events listed are all live performances and DJs. Venues are listed by day. For complete listings and detailed information on venues visit grapevine.is/happening. Send your listings to: listings@grapevine.is.

Friday October 7

Concerts:

Iceland Symphony: Disney's Fantasia
19:30 Harpa
Óskar Guðjónsson (Saxophone) and Skúli Sverrisson (Bass) ★
21:00 Mengi
Grúska Babúska
21:00 Gaukurinn
Verkfall
22:00 Tivoli
Áskell b2b Intr0beatz + Frímann
22:00 Paloma

DJs:

22:00 DJ Maggi	Austur
22:00 DJ Krystal Karma	Bravó
22:00 DJ Simon FKNHDSM	Húrra
21:00 DJ Mokki	Hverfisgata 12
22:00 Sir Dancelot / Ravenator	Kaffi Vinyl
21:00 Fames / Logi Pedro	Prikið

Saturday October 8

Concerts:

Hubris, Nexion and Wistaria
21:00 Gaukurinn
Iceland Symphony: Disney's Fantasia
19:30 Harpa
The Iceland Symphony Orchestra: Concert
14:00 Harpa
Q4U Album Release Show
21:00 Húrra
Ólöf Arnalds and Skúli Sverrisson ★
21:00 Mengi
FALK X Plútó Present: PERC ★
21:30 Paloma
Arni Humi
22:00 Tivoli
RVK Soundsystem - Reggae, Dub & Dancehall
23:45 Paloma

DJs:

22:00 DJ André	Austur
22:00 DJ Ísar Logi	Bravó
21:00 DJ Einar Sonic	Hverfisgata 12
21:00 Fusion-Groove / Emmsjé Gauti	Prikið

Sunday October 9

Concerts:

Arctic Art in Iceland
20:00 Harpa
Kex Krakkabíó
13:00 KEX Hostel
Gyða Valtýsdóttir
21:00 Mengi
Children movies
12:00 Slippbarinn

DJs:

22:00 DJ Lamp Vader	Bravó
22:00 Lowercase	Prikið

Monday October 10



★ **Picker Of The Issue**

Kocoon

We met Árni—DJ name: Kocoon—on the patio at Prikið to get his picks for this week and snap a photo. “I can’t take his photo here,” the photographer said, motioning to the black, grey, and red on the walls, “he has a bright aura, we need somewhere bright.” It may sound corny but it’s true. Kocoon knows how to light a place up. He started out as a “bedroom DJ” back in 1996, honing and refining his craft for years before taking to the downtown scene. These days he hosts a radio show with the DJ collective Plútó and his name rings familiar at most of Reykjavík’s major dance and hip-hop establishments—Paloma, Kaffibarinn, Prikið, to name a few. If waiting for the sun to set and the clubs to open isn’t your vibe check out Kocoon’s SoundCloud page, an eclectic trip that leads listeners from Chicago’s juke to London’s grime, all while remaining rooted here in Reykjavík. We’ve got his top picks this month to brighten up that descent into darker days. **PY**

Kocoon's picks are marked with ★

Concerts:

Golden Gang Standup
20:00 Gaukurinn
Mánudjass/Monjazz
21:00 Húrra
AVÓKA: “KOK” Listening Party
20:00 Stofan Café

Tuesday October 11

Concerts:

Karaoke Night
21:00 Gaukurinn
Akan & Rytmatík
20:00 Húrra
KexJazz – Snorri Sigurðarson Quartet
20:30 KEX Hostel
Hjörleifur Valsson and Ourania Menelaou
20:00 Sigurjón Ólafsson Museum

DJs:

22:00 DJ Silja Glömmi	Bravó
22:00 Beatmachinearon	Prikið

Wednesday October 12

Concerts:

Múlinn Jazz Club: Sigurður Flosason Quartet
21:00 Harpa
Kiryama Family & Himbrimi
20:00 Húrra
Knife Fights with Talison Crosby, Kaleikur (Chalice) and Julian Civilian
21:00 Gaukurinn
Don Lockwood Band
20:00 Slippbarinn

DJs:

22:00 DJ Áskell	Bravó
20:00 DJ Eyfjörð	Húrra
22:00 Pan (Extreme Chill)	Prikið

Music



Hverfisgata 12

Restaurant & Bar

437 0203

www.hverfisgata12.is



We move quickly. Rúnar is behind schedule picking up Haukur and Siggí. There's no time to get beers. We swoop Haukur's music from his house, swing by Siggí's house in Hlíðar, and pull into the parking lot of FM Xtra just as the hosts of the previous radio show drive off. Charging in, Haukur hooks his MacBook into a stand, Rúnar runs his fingers through wisps of cords, and Siggí slides in behind a microphone. They pace and plug and talk and then: a beat. A song by Exos comes on through the room's speakers, and the three bodies are still for ten seconds while Siggí goes on the mic and addresses his radio audience: "yo." Then the Exos beat comes back into the room, and the pacing and the chatter begin where they left off.

On air Rúnar is known as Nærvera, Haukur as Tandri, and Siggí as Skurður. The three are part of an eleven-member DJ collective called Plútó. Born out of the remnants of the legendary drum and bass club night breakbeat.is, along with the Fótafimi (juke/footwork) and Lagtiðni (bass, grime) DJ groups, the minds behind Plútó comprise the most comprehensive knowledge tank of dance and electronic music in Iceland. "We're like an art collective, without the pretentiousness," Rúnar explains. No artist's statement.

Every Saturday from 19:00-21:00, Plútó hosts a radio show by the same name on FM Xtra. Their studio, lodged in the somewhere-streets of Garðarbær, pulses with fluorescent green lights and has a massive Beck's logo smeared across the back wall. There is comfortable seating and plenty of Beck's to go around. It is clear from the second we enter, though, that the beer is not for drinking, and the couch is

Higher Frequencies

In the studio with Plútó

Words **PARKER YAMASAKI**
Photos **ART BICNICK & PARKER YAMASAKI**

not for sitting.

"I get bored easily with popular music," Rúnar says, pacing and nodding to Tandri's pulse. "Techno is kind of a 'last stop' for me in a way. I was always looking for something more intense, for the bigger party (but not in the like EDM sense of party). I just love to move." It's obvious. He hasn't sat down since we got there nearly an hour ago. "I love to go downtown and dance. Ninety percent of us here are professionals at going downtown for the past billion years."

The continuity of change

What keeps Rúnar interested in this genre is that the music itself is so open to evolution, while remaining rooted. "In my sets I can play something from 1994 right before something that was released last month. It's completely open to evolution—Mortiz von Oswald

pretty much invented two entire subgenres by himself—but it stays stable at the same time."

Rúnar, like everyone else involved in the show, is a regular presence as a DJ downtown, but behind the guise of the radio show "we can really play whatever the fuck we want," he says eagerly. "I like difficult music. When I play a gig, I have to decide whether I will play house that's easy for people to dance to, or if I will play what I am really excited about. When I started DJing I was okay playing Justice and Daft Punk and the things I thought the crowd wanted, but I realised that takes more energy. It's better for everyone involved if I play what is really interesting to me. That way, too, I know that everyone who is there dancing really wants to be there dancing."

It's hard to get gigs a lot of the time, Rúnar says, but that's inherent to being ahead of the curve. On the radio show they are free from the confines of crowd (dis)approval and booking another gig. They are free to push the envelope. Doing so is what this show has built its reputation on.

"We were really the first to play a lot of genres and sub-genres: hip-hop, dubstep, grime... Siggí has one of the largest inventories of grime in Iceland," Rúnar assures me. "Siggí, when did you start playing grime?" he asks. "When grime started," Siggí answers.

Nærvera, Tandri, and Skurður churn out two hours of techno like a well-oiled machine. They rotate around the studio, bob to each other's sets, chat, laugh, smoke, dance. And just like the music that they love, they never really sit still.

☞ **LISTEN AND SHARE:**
gpv.is/pluto





Find today's events in Iceland!
Download our free listings app
- APPENING on the Apple and
Android stores

Concerts & Nightlife Listings October 7 - November 11

Thursday October 13

Concerts:

- Iceland Symphony: Open Rehearsal**
9:30 Harpa
- Iceland Symphony: Beethoven's Eroica**
19:30 Harpa
- The Iceland Symphony Orchestra: Concert**
19:30 Harpa
- Estrogen tónleikar: Rebekka Sif, Árný Árnadóttir, Tinna Gunnlaugs, Bergmál**
20:00 Gaukurinn
- How To Become Icelandic In 60 Minutes**
19:00 Harpa
- Dos Manzanaz Jazz Duo**
21:00 Hlemmur Square
- Pub quiz: Djamm er schilld**
20:00 Húrra
- Ís í Brauðformi Extravaganza ★**
22:00 Prikið
- KrBear**
22:00 Tivoli

DJs:

- 22:00 DJ ThaDarkStranger Bravó
- 21:00 DJ AnDre Hverfisgata 12

Friday October 14

Concerts:

- Wotever Iceland**
21:00 Gaukurinn
- JEFF the brotherhood (US)**
21:00 Húrra
- Fearless Warriors of Roseland**
20:00 The Nordic House
- T.B.R.**
22:00 Tivoli

DJs:

- 22:00 DJ Maggi Austur
- 22:00 DJ Einar Sonic Bravó
- 21:00 DJ Davíð Roach Húrra
- 21:00 DJ Dorrit Hverfisgata 12
- 21:00 Sonur Sæll / Sunsura Prikið

Saturday October 15

Concerts:

- Mortillery (Canada) and Blood Feud**
21:00 Dillon
 - Skálmöld**
21:00 Gaukurinn
 - Fm Belfast & Kött Grá Pje**
21:00 Húrra
- DJs:
- 22:00 DJ André Austur
 - 22:00 DJ Elvar Bravó
 - 21:00 DJ KGB Húrra
 - 21:00 DJ Ívar Pétur Hverfisgata 12
 - 21:00 Original Melody Release Bash / Kocoon X Ewok ★ Prikið
 - 22:00 Sura! Tivoli

Sunday October 16

Concerts:

- Poetry Night with Ægir Þór**
20:00 Gaukurinn
- Keeping Time on Broadway**



Mind Your Step

FALK/Plútó Present Perc

October 8 | 21:30 | Paloma | Admission: 2,000 - 2,500 ISK

Ali Wells—aka DJ Perc—is one of the most forward-thinking producers and label owners in the UK. After releasing a series of 12"s and EPs, Perc started up his own label in 2004, Perc Trax. As both a label owner and producer, he's known for pushing things to the edge of the techno tundra, then pushing them off and admiring the beautiful way they fall. It's part of being ahead of the game. As a DJ he's brought his charismatic and overtly intense dance sets to major clubs around the world—Berghain, Fabric, Ministry of Sound, Cocoliche, Fuse, Space Ibiza... and Húrra. On October 8, the Icelandic music and art label FALK (Fuck Art Let's Kill) and RVK-based DJ collective Plútó host Perc for a two-hour DJ set, along with local DJs Frank Honest, Tandri and Nærvera.

17:00 Harpa

My So Called Life

20:00 Húrra

Rúnar Góði + Friðrik Dór + Jón

Jónsson

14:00 KEX Hostel

"Autumn Plays" Concert Series

15:15 The Nordic House

Hangover Cinema

20:00 Prikið

Children Movies

12:00 Slippbarinn

DJs:

- 22:00 DJ Alexjean Vinyl Sunday Bravó

Monday October 17

Concerts:

Golden Gang Standup

21:00 Gaukurinn

Mánudjass//Monjazz

21:00 Húrra

Tuesday October 18

Concerts:

Karaoke Night

21:00 Gaukurinn

Icletralia LIVE podcast

20:00 Húrra

Böðvar Reynisson/Hjörtur

Stephensen Quartet

20:00 KEX Hostel

DJs:

- 22:00 DJ Microwave Landing System Bravó
- 22:00 Fames Prikið

Wednesday October 19

Concerts:

Lip Sync Competition 21:00 Gaukurinn

Múlinn Jazz Club: Chuck Israels

Quartet

21:00 Harpa

Danceoke

21:00 Húrra

KEX + KÍTÓN # 6

20:00 KEX Hostel

Don Lockwood Band

20:00 Slippbarinn

DJs:

- 22:00 DJ Bigital Bravó
- 22:00 Formaðurinn ★ Prikið

16-1440 - HVITA HÖBID / SIA

GET YOUR DESIGNER BRANDS
TAX FREE AT KEFLAVIK AIRPORT

— WITH AT LEAST —
19.35 %
OFF



**ARTISAN BAKERY
& COFFEE HOUSE**

OPEN EVERYDAY 6.30 - 21.00

SANDHOLT
REYKJAVÍK

LAUGAVEGUR 36 · 101 REYKJAVIK

Music

NAM

Fresh, original and modern cuisine with East Asian influence. Take your taste buds on an adventurous journey.



Laugavegi 18
Nýbýlavegi 6
Bíldshöfða 2
namreykjavik.is



Alvia Islandia's Favorite Five

Words **ALVIA ISLANDIA** and **PARKER YAMASAKI**
Photo **NANNA RÚNARS**

She was born in the summer but she loves the winter. This makes perfect sense. Alvia Islandia has a way of exhibiting darkness and lightness not as opposites, but as complements. She's a total tomboy and rosy-pink pretty girl in one picture perfect package. In June of this year she released the six-track album 'Bubblegum Bitch', a little bit trap, a little electronic, a lot rap, and a lot don't-bother-classifying, it's Alvia Islandia—just go listen to it.

Alvia's spent the past year based in Copenhagen, jumping around Europe performing, filming videos, and creating new music. From November on, though, she'll be back in RVK proper. As if playing Saturday night at Airwaves isn't a good enough homecoming celebration, we wanted to send her some love too by including her top five albums in this issue. Welcome home, lady Islandia.

Tanya & Marlon - 'Quillock'

This one just has to be named, not just because of how unique and nice it is—it goes deep—but also cuz it has sentimental value to me. This sound connects me to my roots. When I started making music I recorded over dreamy mystical beats from Marlon Pollock. Tanya and Marlon are one of a kind and amazing musicians. one love.

Skrattar - 'Hellraiser II'

Ow mjaaw, listened to these fucks all summer while sipping on rosé wine in my garden feeling Sally. Skrattar are like a black hubba-bubba bubble. raw stunt <3 i love it.

Killer Sounding Frequencies - 'KSF'

It has not been released yet but oh my tiny infant jesus! I got a copy

and it is the B to my booty on the dance floor. U have to check them out and stay tuned for their upcoming album. Fire!

Björk - 'Debut'

This album is! mad creation BZZZ.

Gísli Pálmi - 'Gísli Pálmi'

The game popped onto the next level when this album was released. All the way through—banger beats, mean flow, attitude on lock! BAM!

Also MEOW's my mind
Shades Of Reykjavík
- 'Shades Of Reykjavík'
Lord Pusswhip
- 'Lord Pusswhip Is Wack'
Bubbi Morthens
- 'Sögur 1980-1990'

👉 LISTEN AND SHARE:
gpv.is/five16

SMURBRAUÐ - SMÖRREBRÖÐ
Jómfrúin
- SCANDINAVIAN KITCHEN -
EST. 1996



Open 11-22 every day
Lækjargata 4 | 101 Reykjavík | Sími 55 10 100 | jomfruin.is



WE TAKE OUR WATERPROOF TESTING VERY SERIOUSLY

J&S Watch co.
REYKJAVÍK

MADE IN ICELAND www.jswatch.com

With his legendary concentration and 45 years of experience our Master Watchmaker ensures that we take our waterproofing rather seriously. Gilbert O. Gudjonsson, our Master Watchmaker and renowned craftsman, inspects every single timepiece before it leaves our workshop.

GILBERT
ÚRSMÍÐUR
Laugavegi 62 - sími: 551-4100

**Concerts & Nightlife Listings
October 7 - November 11**



**Stars Don't
Wait To Shine**

Sage Francis

October 20 | 20:00 | Húrra | Admission: 2,500 ISK

When Gisele Bundchen was fourteen years old, she was approached by the Elite modeling agency while eating McDonald's at a shopping mall in São Paulo. Gisele went on to become one of the most recognized and highest-paid models in the world. Some people are lucky like that. Sage Francis is not a mall model. In 1996 he decided to stop waiting around for someone to "discover" him and started up his own record company, Strange Famous Records, as a way to produce and disperse his massive inventory of lyrical talent. His style blurs rap and spoken word; his subjects do the same. In 2000 Francis won the Scribble Jam emcee battle and a year later he released the internet hit "Makeshift Patriot," a hard-hitting critique of the American media landscape. Since then he's released four full-length albums and is on tour around the North Atlantic. Catch his quick quips at Húrra on October 20. He's not America's Next Top Model, but he's definitely something to set your eyes (and ears) on. **PY**

Thursday October 20

Concerts:

- Puffin Island**
21:00 Gaukurinn
- Gulla Briem**
20:30 Gamla Bíó
- Sage Francis**
20:00 Húrra
- Jara + Just Another Snake Cult**
21:00 Hlemmur Square
- Sigtryggur Berg Sigmarsson and Sick Llama**
21:00 Mengi

DJs:

- 21:00 DJ Mokki Hverfisgata 12
- 22:00 Mogesen Bræður Prikið
- 22:00 Pilsner Tivoli

Friday October 21

Concerts:

- Vetrnætur Black Metal Festival**
22:00 Gaukurinn
- DJs:
- 22:00 DJ André Austur
 - 22:00 DJ Ísar Logi Bravó
 - 21:00 DJ Styrmir Dansson Hverfisgata 12
 - 21:00 Vrong / Karítas ★ Prikið
 - 22:00 Verkfall Tivoli

Saturday October 22

Concerts:

- Reykjavík Guitarama 2016**
20:00 Háskólabíó
- Vetrnætur Black Metal Festival**
22:00 Gaukurinn
- Icelandic Opera - Évgení Onegin**
20:00 Harpa
- How To Become Icelandic In 60 Minutes**
19:00 Harpa
- Halloween Lindy Rave**
21:00 Hlemmur Square
- Iceland Airwaves Warm Up**
18:00 KEX Hostel
- Balcony Boyz**
22:00 Tivoli
- Hausar // Drum & Bass**
23:30 Paloma

DJs:

- 22:00 DJ Maggi Austur
- 22:00 DJ Símon FKNHNSM Bravó
- 21:00 DJ Extreme Chill Hverfisgata 12
- 21:00 Beatmachinearon / Spegill X Nazareth ★ Prikið
- 23:30 Balatron, Croax, Junglitz, Untitled, Nightshock Paloma

Sunday October 23

Concerts:

- Children movies**
12:00 Slippbarinn
- The Chamber Music Society #2**
17:00 Harpa
- Icelandic Sagas: The Greatest Hits**
20:15 Harpa
- Pearls of Icelandic Song**
12:30 Harpa
- Poetry Night**
21:00 Húrra
- Krakkajóga**
13:00 KEX Hostel
- Moji & the Midnight Sons**
21:00 KEX Hostel
- Hangover Cinema ★**
20:00 Prikið

DJs:

- 22:00 DJ Krummi Bravó

Monday October 24

Concerts:

- Golden Gang Standup**
21:00 Gaukurinn
- Mánudjass//Monjazz**
20:00 Húrra

Tuesday October 25

Concerts:

- Karaoke Night**
21:00 Gaukurinn
- Cult Movie Night**
20:00 Húrra
- Sigurður Flosason Quartet kl.**
20:30 KEX Hostel
- Classics In The Moorland**
20:00 The Nordic House

CLASSICS

SUNDAY CLASSICS

**Classical
chamber
music**

Sundays
at 5 pm in Harpa

New recital series presenting quality classical chamber music and songs. Also look for our free **Welcome Home** series, featuring young and upcoming Icelandic artists — included in the Sunday Classics programme.



**TASTE THE BEST
OF ICELAND ...**



... IN ONE AMAZING MEAL

ICELANDIC GOURMET FEAST

Starts with a shot of the infamous Icelandic spirit Brennivín

Followed by 7 delicious tapas

- Smoked puffin with blueberry "brennivín" sauce
- Icelandic Arctic Charr with peppers-salsa
- Lobster tails baked in garlic
- Pan-fried line caught blue ling with lobster-sauce
- Grilled Icelandic lamb Samfaina
- Minke Whale with cranberry-sauce

And for dessert

- White chocolate "Skr" mousse with passion fruit coulis

7.990 KR.

LATE NIGHT DINING

Our kitchen is open until 23:30 on weekdays and 01:00 on weekends



RESTAURANT- BAR

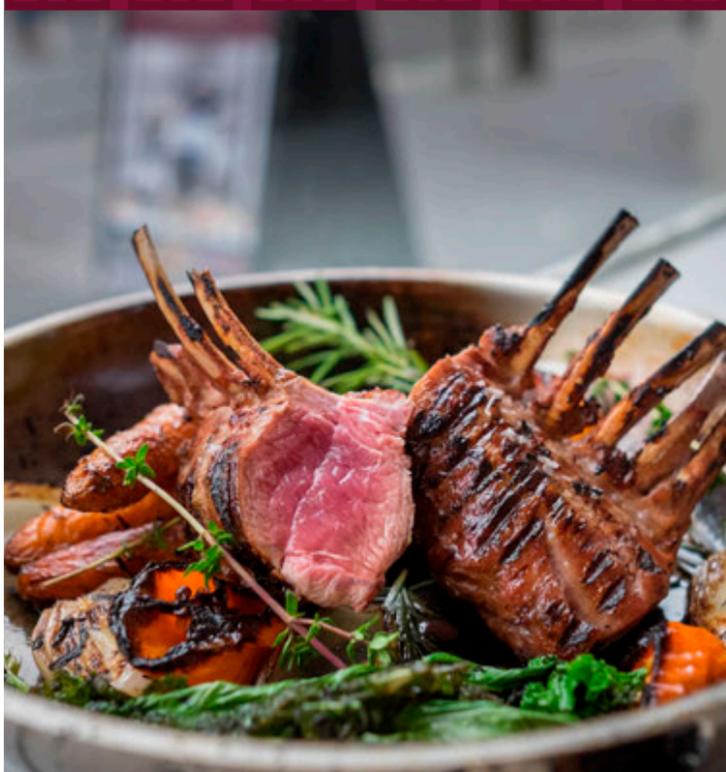
Vesturgata 3B | 101 Reykjavík | Tel: 551 2344 | www.tapas.is

Music

APOTEK
KITCHEN+BAR

ICELANDIC GOURMET MENU

Freshly caught seafood and free range lamb
— with a modern twist



6 COURSE DINNER MENU

STARTS WITH A “REFRESHING” SHOT
OF THE NATIONAL SNAPS BRENNIVÍN

FOLLOWED BY A BITE-SIZED TASTE OF PUFFIN

OCEAN PERCH

Slow cooked ocean perch, beetroot purée, spicy butter, serrano ham, beetroot

MINKE WHALE

Shallot vinaigrette, crispy Jerusalem artichokes

SEA TROUT

Yuzu mayo, truffle mayo, crispy quinoa, apple

PLAICE

Samphire, green asparagus, blood orange, lime beurre blanc

RACK OF FREE RANGE ICELANDIC LAMB

Lamb fillet, leeks, pickled onions, browned celeriac, baked carrots, spinach and dill cream

Dessert

SKYR FANTASIA

Skyr fromage, Skyr mousse, strawberry & lime gel, lime sponge cake

8.900 kr.

Airwaves Debutantes

Who's who and
what's new at
Iceland Airwaves

Words PARKER YAMASAKI
Photo ART BICNICK

It's tough enough to set your schedule up for Iceland Airwaves. Five days and 150 bands in the “official” program alone. What makes it all the more difficult and exciting is an ever-expanding list of new names on the scene. It's like facing a finger-shaking life insurance salesman asking, “How willing are you to take risks?”

This year, 49 Icelandic bands are making their Iceland Airwaves debut. Some have been on the scene for decades, others just formed last month. In the remaining weeks before the festival we are sifting through them in small handfuls and will post small introductions on our Airwaves subsite.

Aron Can

Yeah, he can. Have you ever chewed spearmint gum in the middle of winter and inhaled super deeply? That's how fresh this kid is. Cool on the scene at only sixteen, Aron's contributions to Reykjavík rap are getting attention around the world. A good place to get to know the guy is through the purple-hazed lens of his double-feature video for “Enginn Mórall”/“Grundaður.” Breathe in/breathe out...

Bára Gísladóttir

Bára isn't here to make things easy, she's here to make them interesting. We were first captivated by her at a February performance in the experimental arts and music space Mengi, where she hid behind her double-bass growling, howling, wrestling with, and of course, playing her instrument. With a Master's in Composition from the University of Copenhagen, Bára pushes music to new heights—literally. Her debut album, released earlier this year, is titled ‘Different Rooftops’ and is a compilation of city-inspired tracks, from “Rooftops of Prague” to the “Rooftops of Marrakech.”

Gangly

Two years ago the Grapevine contributors from Straumur received an anonymous email with a video and song titled “Fuck With Someone Else.” A joke? A threat? A press ploy? A disgustingly captivating liquid-metal alterworld where Jófríður's haunting voice rings out over a dark-black-deep-bass void? The latter. This year the secretive supergroup released another song and video in the same style, titled “Holy Grounds,” and which has received praise from music-mongers across the globe, from Billboard to i-D to your dear RVK Grapevine.

IamHelgi

In contrast to the new and elusive Gangly, IamHelgi is an experienced and straightforward producer in 101. He has been working in Reykjavík's hip-hop and pop scene for the past ten years, both as an independent beatmaker and as one half of the hip-hop duo Úlfur Úlfur. He really needs no “welcome to the scene” as he's been in it for a while now, nonetheless we are excited to see him play his first solo set at Iceland Airwaves this year. Also, we forgive you, Helgi, for recently remixing a Justin Bieber song.

Krakk & Spaghetti

Six years ago some kids called Earl Sweatshirt, Tyler the Creator, Domo Genesis and the likes took to the streets of Los Angeles, donning bucket hats and rapping about hating Barbra Streisand. At first it was hard to take them seriously, but by virtue of their really not giving a fuck, people did. It was a huge come-up for bucket hats. Krakk og Spaghetti have a similar aesthetic (minus the extreme crime). The project began when Þorgerður, one third of the group, wanted to use her Christmas vacation to write raps, “mostly to be funny on Twitter.” “We discovered you don't ac-

tually have to be cool to rap,” says Margrét, another third. As Odd Future and the bucket hat phenomenon has shown us, it might even be better if you're not.

One Week Wonder

You know this trio has something spacey to say when they cite musical influences such as Pink Floyd, Air and movie composer Ennio Morricone. The group met in 2014 and went to Berlin to study sound engineering the following year (“we landed on the other side,” lead singer Magnús Benedikt Sigurðsson sings on their debut track, “Mars”). During their year in Germany the group churned out track after track using vintage instruments and a 24-track tape recorder. Their finished product speaks (or sings) to the timeless (and spaceless) nature of their creative process. “Mars” brings listeners somewhere high and ephemeral where “silence is the only sound...” Well, not literally.

Puffin Island

Whether you love or loathe the Beatles, there has been some point in your life where you've caught yourself singing along to one of their songs. “I wanna hold your haaand...” you wait at someone drunkenly. The Beatles had their formula down. Because of them the iconic pop sounds of the 1960s have been carried into decade after decade, on the backs of an ever-evolving crowd of pop-rock-and-indie lovers. Puffin Island bears their beautiful burden into 2016. The group released their first single “Harrison” (yes, as in George Harrison) in 2015, quickly finding regular radio play. Their debut album ‘Another Day’ was just released earlier this summer.

**Concerts & Nightlife Listings
October 7 - November 11**



Bringing Back the 90s

Suede

October 22 | 21:00 | Laugardalshöll | 7,900 - 11,900 ISK

With a Clinton back in the White House (pending) and a Pokémon craze sweeping the globe, what better way to spend an evening than diving full tilt into 90s nostalgia, aided by 1992's Best New Band in Britain, Suede. The band became one of the Brit-pop "Big Four," along with Oasis, Pulp and sometime Reykjavík residents Blur. They last played Iceland in the year 2000, and this is their first visit since they reformed in 2016. Their latest album, this year's 'Night Thoughts', has received much acclaim, so we can look forward to the new songs as much as the old. **VG**

DJs:

22:00 DJ Eyfjörð Bravó
22:00 Orang Volante Prikið

Wednesday October 26

Concerts:

Status with Bylgja Babýlóns
20:00 Gaukurinn
Florian Rago Niccolò Paganini The 24 Caprices
19:30 Harpa
Milk house
20:00 Húrri
Zhrine + VAR
21:00 KEX Hostel
Don Lockwood Band
20:00 Slippbarinn

DJs:

22:00 DJ Agnes Bravó
22:00 DJ KGB Prikið

Thursday October 27

Concerts:

Iceland Symphony: Open Rehearsal
9:30 Harpa
Risa Tónleikar Pírata
19:00 Gaukurinn
The Iceland Symphony Orchestra: Concert
19:30 Harpa
Arnljótur
21:00 Hlemmur Square
Valdi House
22:00 Tivoli bar

DJs:

22:00 DJ Asmus Odsat & Tine Valentin Bravó
21:00 DJ Óli Dóri Hverfisgata 12
22:00 Marteinn ★ Prikið

Friday October 28

Concerts:

Dragsúgur
20:00 Gaukurinn
Piano Man
20:00 Harpa
DJ Katla
20:00 Húrri
T.B.R.
22:00 Tivoli

DJs:

22:00 DJ Maggi Austur
22:00 DJ Óli Dóri Bravó
21:00 DJ Doodlepops Hverfisgata 12
21:00 DJ Big Gee / Kocoon ★ Prikið

Saturday October 29

Concerts:

Halloween Iceland
20:00 Gaukurinn
Motet Choir
17:00 Hallgrímskirkja
Icelandic Sagas: The Greatest Hits
20:15 Harpa
Icelandic Opera - Évgení Onegin
20:00 Harpa
How To Become Icelandic In 60 Minutes
19:00 Harpa
SDJ Reagan and Gorbachev
20:00 Húrri
SXSXSX
22:00 Tivoli

DJs:

22:00 DJ André Austur
22:00 DJ Styrmir Dansson Bravó
21:00 DJ Dorrit Hverfisgata 12
21:00 Auður / Logi Pedro Prikið

Sunday October 30

Concerts:

Modest Cowboys
22:00 Gaukurinn
Motet Choir
17:00 Hallgrímskirkja
Icelandic Sagas: The Greatest Hits
20:15 Harpa
Joss Stone
20:00 Harpa
Song Cycles-Rannveig Fríða Bragadóttir
17:00 Harpa

Pearls of Icelandic Song

12:30 Harpa
Cozy Sunday
13:00 KEX Hostel

15:15 Concerts

15:15 The Nordic House
Hangover Cinema
20:00 Prikið
Children's Movies
12:00 Slippbarinn

DJs:

22:00 DJ Einar Sonic Bravó

Monday October 31

Concerts:

Golden Gang Standup
20:00 Gaukurinn
Mánudjass//Monjazz
21:00 Húrri
Feel Good Lost Showcase
20:00 KEX Hostel



ICELAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

WEEKLY CONCERTS IN HARPA



BOX OFFICE SINFONIA.IS

Harpa Conert Hall (+354) 258 5050



Iceland's 1st Microbrewery & Bistro

MICRO BREWERY & BISTRO ON THE HARBOUR



Taste our brew
lager
PaleAle
IPA
SessionIPA
RedAle
DoubleIPA



Movie

CENTURY OF THE CHILD

NORDIC DESIGN FOR CHILDREN FROM 1900 TO TODAY



'The Oath'

Words MARK ASCH

'The Oath' is something of a palette-cleanser for director and star Baltasar Kormákur, back in his own backyard after a couple years helping far-flung blockbusters. It also reflects the practical outlook of RVK Studios, his production company: following 'Trapped', a reverse-engineered Nordic Noir presold to most major European broadcasts markets, 'The Oath', written by Baltasar and 'Trapped' cowriter Ólafur Egill Egilsson, gives another supple thriller premise a workout across Unique Iceland locations. This new film "could easily lend itself to remake sales," said trade publication Variety.

Baltasar has described 'The Oath' in interviews as "the realistic version of 'Taken,'" as it concerns a straightforward middle-aged man with a Very Particular Set of Skills (here, Baltasar's Finner is a brilliant heart surgeon, and his skillset involves cutting people open and sewing them up again), willing to Go to Any Length to rescue his daughter. But there are also echoes of Baltasar's own 'Jar City' (2006) in the setup, as upright Finner, like Inspector Erlendur, is unable to keep his daughter from sliding into drug addiction. Anna (Hera Hilmar of 'Vonarstræti', Icelandic cinema's current go-to good girl gone bad) is in love with her supplier Ottar (Gísli Örn Garðars-son), who comes complete with

Gísli Pálmi shades, bull mastiff and underworld connections; to sever their bond, Finner is willing to meet felonies with felonies.

Baltasar, who first came to prominence as an actor, is in front of the camera for the first time since 2008's 'Reykjavík-Rotterdam', and directing himself in a prominent role for the first time ever; he's said that it wasn't a challenge to switch between jobs, as the film's point-of-view is so closely aligned with Finner's. Indeed, Finner—warned in the opening-credits epigraph against "playing God"—sets out to be the author of the film's actions, manipulating family members, colleagues and police and carrying out his plans with the precision of a storyboard artist. Baltasar is a director who's always seemed more interested in the filmmaking process itself than in any recurrent set of themes; you can maybe see why he was drawn to the high-achieving protagonist.

The film, whose two-month shoot was the longest in Icelandic cinema history, is a tribute to its workaholic cowriter-director-producer-star's professionalism and standards-raising attention to detail. As Godard turned 60s Paris into an effects-free sci-fi dystopia by shooting 'Alphaville' in the city's most futuristic-looking locations, 'The Oath' is set entirely within the capital region's most Scandi-modern locations,

with nary a scruffy intrusion into the production design. Finner trains for triathlons by biking through desolate snow-dusted lava fields under a steel-gray sky, while Ottar works out with all the other tribally tattooed at the World Class in Seltjarnarnes, with its floor-to-ceiling glass windows. All the clothes look straight out of the Jör winter collection; Ottar lives in a new luxury flat in Grandi and Finner lives at Bakkaflöt 1, in Garðabær, a marvelous turf house by way of Frank Lloyd Wright designed by Högná Sigurðardóttir, Iceland's first major female architect (and the mother of the late French-Icelandic filmmaker Sólveig Anspach, whose final film, 'The Aquatic Effect', just opened RIFF—see our previous issue).

The raw material of Icelandic geography and society, is in 'The Oath' sufficiently heavily distilled to make a credible backdrop for tightly plotted genre storytelling. (This was true of 'Trapped', too, though that was in world-weary, phlegmatic police-procedural vein that felt less overtly stylized.) Yet for all its high-gloss proficiency, the payoff 'The Oath' delivers is a bleak one, an emotionally draining summation of the film's take on fathers and daughters, love and control.

Now playing with English subtitles at Háskólabíó every day at 18:10. ■

OPEN EVERY DAY
FROM 11AM-17PM

 Norræna húsið
The Nordic House

Sturlugata 5, 101 Reykjavík
www.nordichouse.is

BERGSSON

MATHÚS



BREAKFAST,
LUNCH & DINNER

OPEN 7-21



TEMPLARASUND 3, 101 REYKJAVÍK, TEL: 5711822, WWW.BERGSSON.IS

Movie Listings



Appetite Killer

Child Eater

October 28 | 20:00 | Bíó Paradís (E5) | Admission: 1,800 ISK

Are you ready to get the chills? Set the Halloween mood with 'Child Eater'. The movie is based on a short film of the same name, made by born-and-raised Reykjavíkingur and film student Erlingur Thoroddsen. Its path to success began when it was chosen as a Staff Pick by Vimeo; it went on to screen at festivals all over the world. Recently, it won an award at the Brooklyn Horror Film Festival. Now it's time for a hometown showing for the film—so grab some popcorn, and get ready to say farewell to sound sleep! **SS**

Bíó Paradís

For exact dates and times of film screenings, visit www.bioparadis.is. Icelandic films are usually screened with english subtitles

'Autumn Lights'	October 11 at 20:00
November 4 at 18:00	October 12 at 18:00
November 5 at 18:00	October 13 at 18:00
November 6 at 18:00	October 14 at 22:00
'Captain Fantastic'	'Rams'
October 14 at 20:15, 22:45	October 12 at 22:00
October 15 at 17:30, 22:00	October 18 at 18:00
October 16 at 17:30, 22:30	'The Rocky Horror Picture Show'
October 17 at 17:30, 20:00, 22:30	October 29 at 20:00
October 18 at 17:30, 20:00, 22:30	'Romeo and Juliet'
'Child Eater'	October 21 at 20:00
October 28 at 20:00	October 22 at 18:00
'The Deep Blue Sea' National Theatre Live	October 28 at 20:00
October 15 at 20:00	October 29 at 18:00
October 16 at 20:00	'The Room'
'Embrace of the Serpent'	October 21 at 22:00
October 21	October 22 at 22:00
' Fargo'	'Slack Bay'
October 16 at 20:00	November 11 at
'Fire at Sea'	'The Sleeping Beauty' Ballet
October 10 at 20:00, 22:30	November 4 at 20:00
October 11 at 17:30, 22:00	November 5 at 20:00
October 12 at 20:00, 22:30	'Sparrows'
October 13 at 20:00	October 10 at 22:00
October 14 at 20:00	October 13 at 22:00
'Halloween' (1978)	October 19 at 18:00
October 30 at 20:00	'The Neon Demon'
'Innsæi - The Sea Within'	October 10 at 20:00, 22:30
October 10 at 18:00	October 11 at 17:30, 22:00
October 11 at 20:00	October 12 at 20:00, 22:30
October 12 at 18:00	October 13 at 17:30, 22:00
October 13 at 22:30	October 14 at 22:30
October 14 at 18:00	'The Together Project'
'Pale Star'	October 10 at 18:00
October 10 at 20:00	October 11 at 20:00
October 11 at 18:00	October 12 at 18:00
October 12 at 20:00	October 13 at 20:00
October 13 at 20:00	October 15 at 20:00
October 14 at 20:00	'Virgin Mountain'
'Ransacked'	October 11 at 22:00
October 10 at 18:00	October 17 at 18:00

Experience real Icelandic cuisine

Laekjarbrekka
Restaurant

Bankastræti 2, 101 Reykjavík
Tel: (+354) 551 4430
info@laekjarbrekka.is
www.laekjarbrekka.is

Let's be friends!
f /laekjarbrekka vurl.is/f

Saeta svinið
ICELANDIC GASTROPUB

LOCAL FOOD AND BEER

Tasty and fun food made with fresh and local Icelandic ingredients.

We offer a unique selection of Icelandic beer – 20 bottled, 10 on draft, and artisan cocktails to enjoy alongside the food.

Drop by for lunch, late lunch, dinner or drinks in a casual and fun atmosphere.

Open 11:30–23:30
Hafnarstræti 1–3 / Tel. 555 2900 / saetasvinid.is

4 Parts Divided

6 October - 25 November 2016

Part 1 | **SIGURÐUR GUÐMUNDSSON**
6 October - 15 October

Nordic Design Tells More

'Century Of the Child: Nordic Design for Children 1900 to Today'

Words **ARTA BALODE** Photo **ART BICNICK**

Over the past century, the Nordic region has become synonymous with simplicity and functionality in design. From now until February 2017, The Nordic House is hosting the exhibition 'Century of the Child: Nordic Design for Children 1900 to Today'. The exhibition displays almost 200 items that reflect both social and design changes within the 20th century, all revolving around children. It's the first time this travelling exhibit will be shown in Iceland.

I met with project manager Kristín Ingvarsdóttir for an inspiring tour around the showroom. Though the exhibit focuses on children's design, it is not designed for children only. Kristín highlights the fact that it is meant for people of all ages; it is a childhood flashback for the elderly and a time machine for the youngest visitors.

The story of a century

"One of the key factors of the exhibition is the underlying story of how the role of children and ideas about children have developed throughout the 20th cen-

ture," Kristín says. She explains that nowadays kids grow up with unlimited ability to express themselves using modern technologies. "You only need to go few generations back to find children working in factories and so forth," she continues. "Even though the 20th century is not such a long period, within it the Nordic region became a pioneer when it comes to children's rights and children's culture."

The exhibition gives historical background on how we see children, how this has changed through the years, and how this can be seen in improved goods for the youngest ones. On display are advertising campaigns aimed at children who lost their parents during wartime. Another focus is on the improvement of educational tools—books and illustrations, toys, and environments—that have evolved to pay more heed to children's sensitive nature, creativity and development.

Something for everyone

Step by step, I'm led further into the exhibition of toys, literature,

furniture, fashion, as well as architectural plans for schools and playgrounds. The amplitude of the work on show is wide and, as is particularly common to Nordic design, iconic.

Several characters evoke my interest. "Maximus Musicus is the most famous musical mouse in Iceland," Kristín smiles. Maximus is easy to fall love with, but there are a number of equally endearing displays, like the Finnish "Dance Shoes for Father and Daughter" and the Icelandic Krumma-Flow play sculptures, located outside of the Nordic House.

Towards the end of my tour of the exhibition, Kristín introduces me to its curator, Guja Dögg Hauksdóttir. She is collaborating with the Nordic House to produce educational materials designed both for the exhibition site, and to provide schools with online exercises in the future. It's a fascinating look at how design can illustrate the history of children, and how it will evolve in future.

SHARE:
gvp.is/kid16

★ ★ ★
**LET'S
TACO**

★ 'BOUT IT ★



Mexican food that is a true fiesta for your taste buds!

We are located at:
Höfðatorg, Smáralind, Spöngin, N1 Hringbraut,
Kringlan, N1 Bíldshöfði, Dalshraun,
Nýbýlavegur and Akureyri.

serrano
FRESH ★ HAPPY ★ MEX

An absolute must-try!

Sægreifinn restaurant (Sea Baron) is like none other in Iceland; a world famous lobster soup and a diverse fish selection. **Open 11:30-22:00**

Sægreifinn
saegreifinn.is

Geirsgata 8 • 101 Reykjavík • Tel. 553 1500 • seabaron8@gmail.com

Art Listings



Before The Curtain Falls

Johanna-Maria Fritz - 'Sirkus Íslands'

October 6 - November 29 | Reykjavík Museum of Photography | Admission: Free!

The hidden world of Iceland's first and only circus is laid bare before your eyes. Following the Sirkus Íslands troupe for two years, German photographer Johanna-Maria Fritz has captured a sense of excitement, expectation and relief, both on and off the stage. The resulting exhibition is a collection of beautiful and sometimes surreal photos, taken with a film camera. Johanna states: "Since there's no circus tradition here in Iceland, I wanted to explore and show the artists' community, as well as exploring public reception." So roll up, roll up, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls... prepare to see the hidden world of Sirkus Íslands. **SS**

How to use the listings:

Events are listed alphabetically by venue. For complete listings and detailed information on venues visit grapevine.is/happening. Send your listings to: listings@grapevine.is

Opening

Árbær Culture House

'The Power of Colors'
Opens October 6 2016
Runs until January 31, 2017

Gerðarsafn

Children's Sculpture Course
Sculpture course for children 9-12 years old led by Guðný Rúnarsdóttir.
October 8 13:00

Gerðarsafn

'This Time // CYCLE'
This exhibition revolves around the musical structure of time, loops, rehearsals and refrains, and an insistence on the potentiality of other worlds.
October 27 - December 18

Harpa

Arctic Circle Conference
A gathering of the largest network for international dialogue and cooperation regarding the future of the Arctic.
October 6-9

i8 Gallery

'4 Parts Divided'
A four-piece art exhibit, presented by Gallery i8 and featuring work by Sigurður Guðmundsson, Birgir Andrússon, Ignacio Uriarte, and Ragna Róbertsdóttir.
Part 1 October 6 17:00
Runs until October 15
Part 2 October 18
Runs until October 29
Part 3 November 1

Runs until November 12
Part 4 November 15
Runs until November 25

Kaktus (Akureyri)

"Órói"
Pop-up art exhibit by Þórgunnar Þórsdóttir and Sara Sigurðardóttir.
October 27 14:00-22:00
October 28 14:00-22:00

Kringlan Culture House

Mamma and Malli II - Marlon Pollock
This is the "son" part of the exhibition "Mamma and Malli", which will exhibit drawings created by Marlon Pollock. Previous exhibition featured works created by his mother. Live music will be performed at the opening of this exhibition.
Opens October 13
Runs until November 3

The Nordic House

"Fate and Karma" Conference
A reading of the Icelandic Grail and lecture (in English) on the topic of fate and free will.
October 12 20:00

The Nordic House

Danish Autumn
Four days of visits and lectures by Danish artists, authors, poets, and researchers.
Opens October 12
Runs until October 16

The Nordic House

Meet the Author: John Ajvide Lindqvist
Swedish author John Lindqvist made his debut in 2004 with the vampire novel, *Let The Right One In*. A chance to meet the author. Program held in Scandinavian languages.
November 1 19:30

Reykjavík Museum of Photography
Sirkus Íslands: Johanna-Maria Fritz

Following the troupe for two years, the German photographer Johanna-Maria Fritz has captured a sense of excitement, relief and expectations which take place off and on stage.

Opens October 6
Runs until November 29

Reykjavík Art Museum - Hafnarhús

"One More Story"
A collection of works by Yoko Ono expressing feminism, peace, and collective activism.
Opens October 7
Runs until February 5, 2017

Reykjavík Art Museum - Hafnarhús

'Arising - A Call'
A call to women to submit an anonymous photograph of their eyes along with a narrative of how they have been harmed in some way.
Opens October 7
Runs until February 5, 2017

Reykjavík Art Museum - Hafnarhús

"War and Peace"
Provocative new exhibition of Icelandic pop-political artist Erró.
Opens October 7
Runs until January 22, 2017

Reykjavik City Library

Dogs who listen
Children are welcome to visit the library and read for dogs, who are specially trained to listen. Parents must register their children in advance.
October 9 13:20
October 23 13:20

Safnahúsið

Icelandic Design Awards 2016
Annual presentation of the award for Best Design and Best Investment in Design, presented by the Icelandic Design Centre (Hönnunarmiðstöð).
October 6 18:00

Viðey island

The lighting of Imagine Peace Tower
On John Lennon's 76th birthday, Yoko Ono once again will light the IMAGINE PEACE TOWER in memory of her late husband.
October 9 20:00

Ongoing

ART67 - Oil Paintings by Linda Óla

A contemplation of flower forms on raw linen.
Runs until October 31

Árbær Open Air Museum

Daily guided tours from 13:00 to 14:00 through its open air exhibits.
On permanent view.

BERG Contemporary - Sigurður Guðjónsson

Runs until October 22

Einar Jónsson Museum

The museum contains close to 300 artworks including a beautiful garden with 26 bronze casts of the artist's sculptures.
On permanent view

Gallery Sign - 'Given (It Will Come To Light)'

A solo exhibition by American photographer Nina Zurier.
Runs until December 15

Gerðarsafn - 'SCULPTURE/SCULPTURE'

Part of a recurring exhibit which explores the place of sculpture in contemporary art. This cycle displays the works of Eva Ísleifsdóttir and Sindri Leifsson.
Runs until October 16

Hafnarborg - 'Experiment/Clay and More'

A multi-artist exhibition which explores the conversation between visual arts and clay.
Runs until October 23

Harpa - 'How To Become Icelandic In 60 Minutes'

A comedy show that teaches you everything you need to know about being Icelandic.
Runs until December 31

Hverfisgallerí - Einar Thorkláksson Tribute

Route 40 takes you to

Experience Icelandic Art and Design

on your way to the Blue Lagoon

Route 40

GARÐABÆR'S TOWN CREST

An Exhibition on Competition Submissions (3.9. - 16.10.2016)

KEEPERS

Icelandic design highlights, from the Collection

Experiment - Clay and more

August 26th - October 23rd
A conversation between visual culture and clay.

Hope

October 8th - November 20th
Portraits by painter Birgir Snæbjörn Birgisson.

SCULPTURE / SCULPTURE

Eva Ísleifsdóttir / Sindri Leifsson
What is the place of sculpture in Icelandic contemporary art?

+ THE COLLECTION

A space for research on the Gerðarsafn collection and a peek behind the scenes of a museum.

Hönnunarsafn Íslands / Museum of Design and Applied Art

Garðatorg 1, Garðabær
Open 12-17 / Closed on Mondays
www.honnunarsafn.is

Hafnarborg / The Hafnarfjörður Centre of Culture and Fine Art

Strandgata 34, Hafnarfjörður
Open 12-17 / Thursdays 12-21
Closed on Tuesdays
www.hafnarborg.is

Gerðarsafn - Kópavogur Art Museum

Hamraborg 4, Kópavogur
Open 11-17
Closed on Mondays
www.gerdarsafn.is

National Museum of Iceland & The Culture House



sjónarhorn
Points of view



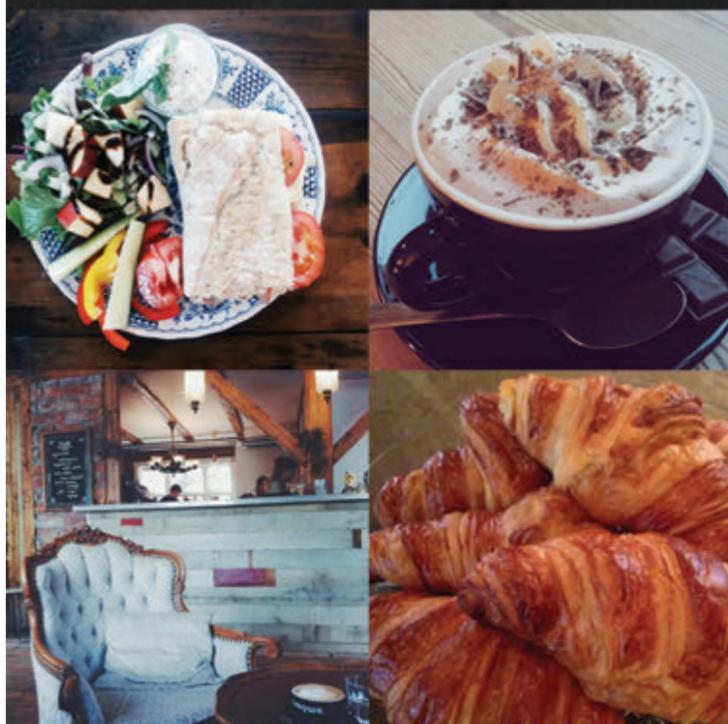
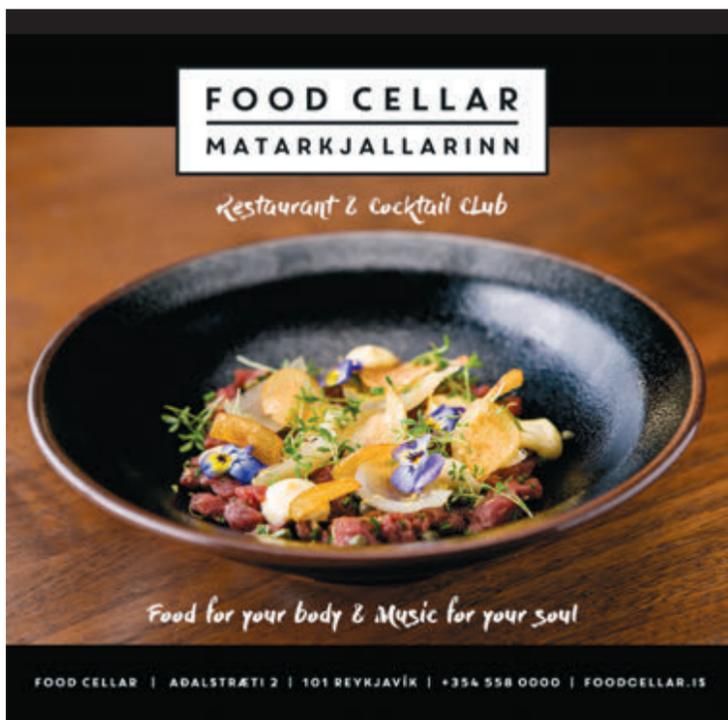
National Museum of Iceland
The country's largest museum of cultural history from settlement to present day.

Suðurgata 41
101 Reykjavík
www.thjodminjasafn.is
tel +354 530 22 00



The Culture House
Manuscripts, fine art, natural specimens, curiosities and archaeological findings form the exhibition Points of View.

Hverfisgata 15
101 Reykjavík
www.safnahusid.is
tel +354 530 22 10



EMERGING

Artist Talk with Úlfur Karlsson

Words & Photo HREFNA BJÖRG GYLFADÓTTIR

Since his graduation from Valand School of Fine Arts in Sweden, Icelandic painter Úlfur Karlsson has been busy with exhibitions and film projects including the ongoing exhibition “By Proxy” in Galerie Ernst Hilger in Vienna, and “We Are Not Afraid” in the Reykjavik Art Museum. He is political in his works and says art pieces should be remembered in people’s hearts long after they’ve seen them, like a good film.

What is your creative process?
Sometimes when I don’t feel like creating anything, I find it very hard to work. I even need to force myself to work in order to keep track sometimes and those periods can be tough. I have a very creative mind though, I dream weird dreams and sometimes I feel like I have thoughts that no one else has. In my opinion being creative means painting the things around you that you see something special in. Sometimes I feel more creative when I have been away from painting for awhile, like now for example, I have been in Germany

and Austria for almost a month and haven’t been able to paint. I miss the feeling a lot.

What inspires you?
American culture, sports and politics are what inspire me most. I think Icelanders are a very Americanized nation, and I am a perfect example. I grew up watching “The Simpsons”, collected NBA cards and watched all Chicago Bulls games. As I got older I became interested in other things and therefore started following sports less, but Muhamed Ali has kept on as one of my biggest inspirations.

What is your favorite work by you or by other artists?
At the moment, I would have to say Erró. I have seen his work from a close distance and I can honestly say that he has mastered his amazing style. Ragnar Kjartansson is also a huge inspiration to me, his recent work in New York is probably my favorite artwork by an Icelandic artist. My favorite international artist however, is Jean-Michel Basquiat.

It’s a bit easier for me to pick which one of my own works is my favorite, because there is only one painting I feel fits the entire galaxy of my brain, the main painting of my newest show, “By Proxy,” in Vienna.

How is being an artist in Iceland?
The art scene in Iceland is very small, which is why most artists try to work outside of Iceland as well. Despite that, we have some of the world’s most famous artists like Ragnar Kjartansson and Ólafur Eliásson as well as great musicians like Björk and Sigur rós. However, there are many people in Iceland that don’t seem to like us artists, and want the funding towards artists to be taken away. I’m not sure how to answer this question but I like being in Iceland, mostly because I prefer cold weather and like going to the swimming pools.

Future Plans?
That’s an easy question, become rich, famous, and respected.
✂ SHARE: gpv.is/kid16





Find today's events in Iceland!
Download our free listings app
- APPENING on the Apple and
Android stores°



Women Of The World

Yoko Ono - 'Arising'

October 7 | 18:00 | Reykjavík Art Museum - Hafnarhús | Admission: 820 - 1,500 ISK

Over the past months, Yoko Ono asked her audience to join voices and send a powerful message. In September, women received an open invitation from Yoko asking them to share anonymous testaments of harm done to them as a consequence of their gender, and to send it to her accompanied by a photo of their eyes. The art installation 'Arising' is a compilation of these powerful stories and images, reminding people of the world we live in, and our responsibility to improve it. 'Arising' is an ongoing project, so check it out, get inspired and maybe even participate. SS

Celebrating the late artist with a collection of his works.
Runs until October 8

The Icelandic Printmakers Association - 'In The Canyon'

A collection of oil paintings nestled in nature by Ruth Rebecca.
Runs until October 16

Listhúsi Ófeigs - 'Time In Water'

A collection by Guðlaugur Bjarnason
Runs until October 19

Listasafn Akureyri - 'Formsins'

An exhibit by Gunnar Kr.
Runs until October 23

Listasal - 'Kjólagjörningur'

Photography and performance exhibit by Thora Karlsdóttir
Runs until November 13

Listastofan - 'Under the Skin'

An exhibition of graphic works by Sofya Dushkina, inspired by Native Central American and Mayans.
Runs until October 19

Living Art Museum - 'A dissipated body'

An exhibit by Páll Hauk Björnsson
Runs until October 10

Living Art Museum - 'Reasons to Perform: Always, Always, Always: Look for the Answer'

Runs until December 10

Museum of Design and Applied Art - 'KEEPERS'

This exhibition focuses on the question of how we decide which objects are worth keeping.
Runs until June 4, 2017.

Nordic House - 'Century of the Child'

An exhibition of Nordic design for children from 1900 to the present day.
Runs until February 27, 2017.

Pósthússtræti 13 - Studio Kleina

A collection of handcrafted typefaces by Björn Loki and Elsa Jónsdóttir
Runs until October 8

Reykjavík Art Museum - Ásmundarsafn - 'Disruption'

Works by Ásmundur Sveinsson and Elín Hansdóttir.
Runs until October 9

Reykjavík Art Museum - Hafnarhús - 'This is our first and last work'

Exhibition of sculptures by Ingibjörg Sigurjónsdóttir focuses on beauty and truth.
Runs until October 13

Reykjavík Art Museum - Hafnarhús - 'The Enclave'

An immersive 40-minute video installation by Richard Mosse, channelling a psychedelic landscape of human tragedy in the Congo.
Runs until January 1, 2017

Reykjavík City Museum - 'Settlement Sagas: Accounts from Manuscripts'

This exhibition has rarely seen manuscripts that tell the history of the settlement of Reykjavík.
On permanent view

Reykjavík Maritime Museum - 'The Coast Guard Vessel Óðinn'

This vessel sailed through all three Cod Wars and has also served as a rescue ship to more than 200 ships.
On permanent view

Reykjavík Maritime Museum - 'From Poverty to Abundance'

Photos documenting Icelandic fishermen at the turn of the 20th century.
On permanent view

Reykjavík Maritime Museum - 'The History of Sailing'

Iceland's maritime history that showcases the growth of the Reykjavík Harbour.
On permanent view

A RARE, ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY

Around, on and deep within the awesome Langjökull ice cap glacier.

Into the Glacier offers various tours to the World's largest ice tunnel. The ice tunnel and caves are located high on Iceland's second largest glacier, Langjökull.

Daily departures from Klaki base camp, Húsafell center and Reykjavík.



You can choose from various tours and book online at www.intotheglacier.is
Tel: +354 578-2550



Art



**N°RTH
WORN**

*North Worn
available in all main
tourist shops*



United By Division

4 Parts Divided

October 6 - November 25 | i8 Gallery | Admission: Free!

'4 Parts Divided' brings together four different artists to examine the concept of collaboration. One by one, they will present their large-scale artworks at i8 Gallery, for ten days each. The series opens with a conceptual work of porcelain sculptures by Sigurdur Guðmundsson, created between 2001 and 2014. Part 2 features artist Birgir Andrésson's photographs from the collection 'Different People' (1991). Ignacio Uriarte's 'The History of the Typewriter Recited by Michael Winslow' (2008) comes third. Ragna Róbertsdóttir closes the exhibition with her robust combination of lava bricks and ink wall drawing. Four parts not to be missed! **AB**

Reykjavík Maritime Museum - 'Seawomen - the fishing women of Iceland, past and present'
On permanent view

Reykjavík Museum of Photography - 'Outlook' by Charlotta María Hauksdóttir
A series of photographs shot in Iceland in the fall of 2015.
Runs until October 9

The Reykjavík Museum of Photography - 'Portraits'
A collection of portraits taken by eight Hasselblad Award Winners.
Runs until January 15, 2017

Stofan - Grjótaþorp - 'Hjarta Reykjavíkur'
A photography exhibition dedicated to the little village in the middle of Reykjavík that has stayed mostly the same through the years.
Runs until October 10

The Culture House - 'Points of View'
Guests are taken on a journey through the Icelandic visual world of past and present.
Runs until further notice.



The Icelandic Phallogical Museum
More than 215 penises and penile parts belonging to land and sea mammals of Iceland.
On permanent view

The National Gallery - 'Vasulka Chamber'
Steina and Woody Vasulka are some of the pioneers in multimedia and video art, and have a show at the National Gallery.
On permanent view

The National gallery - 'TEXT'
Text-centered works from the collection of Pétur Arason and Ragna Róbertsdóttir
Runs until January 8, 2017

The National Museum of Iceland - 'The Making of A Nation'
This exhibition is intended to provide insight into the history of the Icelandic nation from Settlement to the present day.
On permanent view



The Nordic House - 'In the Moorland'
International children's literature festival will be held in the Nordic house with authors and scholars from Scandinavia, Europe and USA.
Runs October 6 - 9

Tveir Hrafnar - 'Beaucoups Of Blues'
A collection of oil paintings by Jón Óskar
Runs until October 15

Volcano House
The exhibition gives a brief overview of Iceland's magnificent nature.
On permanent view

Wind and Weather Gallery - 'The Shell'
A hanging exhibit by Linn Björklund
Runs until October 29



Flowers In Bloom

Linda Óla - 'Í blóma'

October 1 - October 30 | ART67 | Admission: Free!

As autumn knocks on the door, and with winter on its way, the flowers are still flourishing at ART67 Gallery. The paintings of Linda Óla can be described as a combination of vivid forms with the light tone of blooming flowers on raw linen canvas. Of course, there's more to her work than we can fit in here. But as summer comes to an end, Linda makes sure the beauty of blooming flowers is captured for posterity, and on show for the whole of October. **AB**

**A GUIDE THAT
FUCKS YOU UP**

**A list of
Every
Happy
Hour
in 101 Reykjavík**

American Bar
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. Beer 650 ISK, Wine 750 ISK.

Apótek
Every day from 16:00 to 18:00. Beer 645 ISK, Wine 745 ISK.

B5
Every day from 17:00 to 20:00. 2-for-1: Beer 1,000 ISK, Wine 1,200 ISK, Cocktails 1,100 ISK.

Bar 7
Every day from 16:00 to 21:00. Beer 400 ISK, Shot 450 ISK.

Bar 11
Thursday to Saturday from 21:00 to 01:00. Beer 500 ISK, Shot 450 ISK.

Bazaar
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. Beer 800 ISK, Wine 800 ISK, Selected cocktails 1,500 ISK.

Barber Bar
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. Beer 700 ISK, Wine 750 ISK, Selected cocktails 1,500 ISK.

Beer Garden
Every day from 16:00 to 18:00. Beer 650 ISK, Wine 850 ISK, 50% off cocktails.

Bjarni Fel
Sun-Thu from 21:00 to 23:00. 2-for-1: Beer 1,190 ISK.

Boston
Every day from 16:00 to 20:00. Beer 650 ISK, Wine 750 ISK.

Bravó
Every day from 11:00 to 20:00. Beer 650 ISK, Wine 850 ISK.

Bryggjan Brugghús
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. Beer 750 ISK, Wine 750 ISK.

Bus Hostel
Every day from 17:00 to 21:00. Beer 700 ISK, Wine 800 ISK.

Den Danske Kro

Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. 2-for-1: Beer 1,200 ISK, Wine 1,200 ISK.

Dillon
Every day from 16:00 to 20:00. 2-for-1: Beer 1,100 ISK, Wine 1,400 ISK; Whiskey 550 ISK.

Dúfnhólar 10
Every day from 17:00 to 22:00. Beer 500 ISK, Wine 800 ISK.

English Pub
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. Beer 650 ISK, Wine 750 ISK.

Frederiksen Ale House
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00, Sat-Sun from 22:00 to 00:00. 2-for-1: Beer 900 ISK, Wine 1,150 ISK.

Forréttabarin
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. Beer 500 ISK, Wine 700 ISK.

Gaukurinn
Every day from 14:00 to 21:00. Beer 600 ISK, Wine 750 ISK, Shots 750 ISK.

Hilton Hotel Bar
Every day from 17:00 to 19:00. 50% off all drinks: Beer 600 ISK, Wine 675 ISK.

Hlemmur Square
Every day from 16:00 to 20:00. Beer 700 ISK, Wine 700 ISK, Selected cocktails 1,200 ISK.

Hótel Holt Gallery Bar
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. Beer 750 ISK, Wine 800 ISK, Selected cocktails 1,600 ISK.

Hótel Natura
Sat-Thu from 16:00 to 18:00, Friday from 14:00 to 18:00. 50% off all drinks: Beer 600 ISK, Wine 750 ISK, Selected cocktails 1,600 ISK.

Hótel Plaza Bar
Every day from 16:00 to 18:00. Beer 600 ISK,

Wine 900 ISK.

Hraðlestin
Mon-Fri from 14:00 to 18:00. Small beer 590 ISK, Wine 590 ISK.

Hressó
Every Sunday and Thursday from 20:00 to 23:00. Beer 675 ISK.

Húrra
Mon-Sat from 18:00 to 21:00, Sunday from 19:00 to 21:00. Beer 800 ISK, Wine 800 ISK.

Íslenski Barinn
Every day from 16:00 to 18:00. Beer 700 ISK, Wine 700 ISK.

Íða Zimsen
Every day from 19:00 to 22:00. Beer 495 ISK.

Ísafold Bistro
Every day from 16:00 to 18:00. Beer 600 ISK, Wine 900 ISK.

Jörgensen Kitchen & Bar
Every day from 16:00 to 18:00. Beer 600 ISK, Wine 900 ISK.

Kaffibarinn
Every day from 15:00 to 20:00. Beer 650 ISK.

Kaffi Vinyl
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. Beer 700 ISK, Wine 750 ISK.

Kaldí Bar
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. Beer 700 ISK, Wine 700 ISK.

Kiki Queer Bar
Thursday from 21:00 to 01:00. Beer 500 ISK, Shots 500 ISK.

Kitchen & Wine Bar at 101 Hotel
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. Beer 650 ISK, Wine 900 ISK.

Klaustur Bar
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. Beer 800 ISK, Wine 800 ISK.

Kryddlegin Hjörtu
All day long. Beer 750 ISK,

Wine 1,090 ISK.

Lebowski Bar
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. 2-for-1: Beer 1,200 ISK, Wine 1,200 ISK.

Loft Hostel Bar
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. Beer 750 ISK, Wine 800 ISK, Cocktails 1,600 ISK.

Matarkjallarinn
Mon-Fri from 15:00 to 17:00. Small beer 550 ISK, Beer 750 ISK, Wine 650 ISK, Selected cocktails 1,100 ISK.

MarBar
Every day from 18:00 to 21:00. Small beer 550 ISK, Cocktail 1,200 ISK.

Meze
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. Beer 650 ISK, Wine 790 ISK.

Mímisbar
Every day from 16:00 to 18:00. Beer 600 ISK, Wine 800 ISK, Selected cocktails 1,100 ISK.

Ölsmiðjan
Every day from 16:00 to 01:00. Small beer 490 ISK, Wine 990 ISK, Shot 990 ISK.

Petersen Svítan í Gambla Bíó
Every day from 16:00 to 20:00. Beer 600 ISK, Wine 1,000 ISK.

Prikið
Mon-Fri from 16:00 to 20:00. Beer 600 ISK.

Public House
Every day from 15:00 to 18:00. Beer 575 ISK, Wine 745 ISK.

Reykjavík Chips
Mon-Fri from 20:00 to 22:00. 2 beers and fries 2,000 ISK.

Red Chili
Every day from 16:00 to 18:00. Beer 650 ISK, Wine 650 ISK.

Roadhouse
Every Friday and Saturday from

21:30 to 23:00. Beer 650 ISK, Wine 650 ISK.

Sæta Svínið
Every day from 15:00 to 18:00. Beer 595 ISK, Wine 695 ISK.

SKY Restaurant & Bar
Every day from 16:00 to 18:00. Beer 600 ISK, Wine 900 ISK.

Skuggi Bar
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. Beer 500 ISK, Wine 700 ISK.

Slippbarinn
Every day from 15:00 to 18:00. Beer 500 ISK, Wine 700 ISK, Selected cocktails 1,200 ISK.

Stúdentakjallarinn
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. Beer 550 ISK, Wine 700 ISK.

Sushisamba
Every day from 17:00 to 18:30. Beer 645 ISK, Wine 745 ISK.

Tacobarinn
Mon-Sat from 16:00 to 19:00, Fri-Sat from 22:30 to 01:00. Beer 600 ISK, Wine 700 ISK.

Uno
Every day from 17:00 to 19:00. Beer 600 ISK, Wine 700 ISK.

Uppsafir
Every day from 17:00 to 19:00. 2-for-1: Beer 1,000 ISK, Wine 1,350 ISK.

Vegamót
Thu-Sat from 22:00 to 00:00. Beer 750 ISK, Wine 750 ISK.

Verbúð 11 Lobster & Stuff
Every day from 16:00 to 19:00. Beer 600 ISK, Wine 750 ISK, Selected cocktails 1,400 ISK, G&T 735 ISK.

Ölstofan
Every day from 15:00 to 20:00. Beer 750 ISK, Wine 890 ISK,



Download the FREE Grapevine Appy Hour app!
Every happy hour in town in your pocket.
Available in the App Store and on the Android Play Store.



THE COOLEST GASTROPUB IN TOWN
Kitchen open until 23



Laugavegur 24 | #publichouse101
publichouse.is

icelandic FISH & CHIPS
Organic bistro
EST 2006

Tryggvagata 11, Volcano house
Tel: 511-1118
Mon-Sun 12:00-21:00
www.fishandchips.is

Voted the Best Seafood Restaurant in Reykjavík by Grapevine (again)

2016 2015 2014 2013 2012 2010

Fish Company - Vesturgötu 2a - 101 Reykjavík - +354 552 5300 - www.fishcompany.is

Experience real ICELANDIC WHALE WATCHING

Tel: 546 6808
LakiTours.com
lakitours55@gmail.com

LÁKI TOURS IS ICELAND'S MOST SUCCESSFUL COMPANY IN ORCA'S SIGHTINGS
Located in the Snæfellsnes peninsula, west Iceland



ANY PANS FOR LUNCH?



PAN-FRIED FISH

FISH STEW

Onion, garlic, potatoes, celery, lime, white wine, cream and butter

1.850 ISK

PLAICE

Tomatoes, capers, parsley, lemon and butter

2.100 ISK

ARCTIC CHAR

Honey, almonds, cherry tomatoes, lemon and butter

2.100 ISK

OUR PAN-FRIED FISH IS ALWAYS SERVED WITH BUTTER-FRIED ICELANDIC POTATOES & FRESH SALAD

DESSERTS

DATE CAKE

Walnuts, coconut, cream cheese coffee cream blueberries and whipped cream

1.400 ISK

SKYR MOUSSE

WITH WHITE CHOCOLATE
Roasted almonds, blueberry sauce and whipped cream

1.550 KR.



A New Taste Of Italy In Iceland!

Checking out Essensia at Hverfisgata 4-6

Words YORK UNDERWOOD Photo ART BICNICK

One thing Iceland does really well is pizza. Hold on! Iceland? Yes, Iceland. Iceland might be the only place in the world where Domino's Pizza is good. There are many theories as to why this is correct: the water, ancient sourdough starters passed down through a secret society of bread makers for a thousand years, or even market pressure in a place where a slice of pizza is the only reasonably priced food item in the whole country. Does a city—nay, a country—that already runs on pizza, a dough-mocracy, need another pizza joint?

Essensia is different. It's not your typical pizza place, nor is it a specialty pizza place like **Hverfisgata 12**. Essensia is a Italian/Mediterranean restaurant built with locals in mind. It's a calm and social atmosphere with high ceilings and huge front windows giving a view of Arnarhólland Harpa. It's near the National Theatre. This wasn't a mistake. Its location is on purpose.

"I want to build regulars," said Guy. "I want people to be able to come here, grab a nice Neapolitan-style pizza (nine-inch) and head to the theatre, if they only have an hour. They can also share as well, a few antipasti, a pizza, and maybe

some pasta. They can also come with a big table, sample everything and stay all night and drink our great Italian wines. This is a place for either type of customer."

The place was designed and planned with the help of Italian designers and chefs. You can see it in the futurist font of the logo and the layout of the restaurant. It's something different in Iceland. Any doubts I harboured about the place disappeared with the first dish: almonds and olives (850 ISK). It's difficult to find really high-quality olives, not soggy or mushy, in Iceland. Wherever Essensia gets theirs, BUONISSIMO! The salty, snappy flesh of their olives gets you in the mood.

Next I had beef tenderloin carpaccio with parmesan and lemon (1750 ISK). This is one of my favourite antipasto dishes and I've tried it in the various Icelandic variations, mainly horse or whale; Essensia's is delicious. The meat has the right amount of marbling to taste nutty against the sourness of the lemon and the saltiness of the parmesan. This led into a platter of freshly sliced ham and cheese with mustard and grilled bread (2050 ISK). If this was lunch time, this would have been

enough—especially with the two glasses of wine.

This was not lunch and I was here with a photographer and an intern, so I figured we could handle anything, if we worked together. The next dish was a Margherita pizza (1850 ISK). The crust was perfect, the sauce wasn't too acidic or too sweet and the cheese was gooey without being greasy. It's a great pizza.

We split a bowl of crab linguine, which was rich and buttery (2750 ISK). I was too full for dessert, but my guess would be that it's delicious. I really want to come back to this place and eat slower and try the bigger dishes, such as the lamb shank with Moroccan spices and dried fruit (7900 ISK for two people) or the Bistecca Fiorentina 800 gram grilled Porterhouse (12,900 ISK for three to six people).

This is a really fun place to start off your evening, especially if you are attending the National Theatre or a show at Harpa. The wine, variety of food and the atmosphere make this place the perfect restaurant for a large group of friends or coworkers to eat, drink and partake in Iceland's official pastime: gossip.

Arrivederci!



NEW AWARD
BEST THAI FOOD 2016





Ban Thai

RESTAURANT

Awards For Best Thai Food Every Years

www.banthai.is



ATTENTION: *Ban Thai is not a "fast food" restaurant* every meal take some time to cook, we cook after receiving the order

All food is gently cooked from fresh ingredients and that keeps its nutritional value and original flavors well. it takes time to cook all the food, nothing is ready

Please prepare your time before you come to enjoy your meal



Laugavegur 130
TEL: 692-0564

The food and service will be slower when there's a full house
Our food is made fresh from scratch, it's not pre-made



Find the best food in Iceland!
Download our free dining app,
CRAVING on the Apple and Android
stores

The Anatomy Of An Icelandic Hot Dog

“One hot dog with happy meat and everything, please!”

Words **SIGNE SMALA** Photo **ART BICNICK**

It's well known that the more time you spend in a certain culture, the more it breaks into you, shifting the delicate notions and beliefs of your mind and heart. For example, after only a month in Iceland, I am having second thoughts about my

snacks. None of the toppings were favoured over others or discriminated against—or, to look at it another way, all toppings were favoured and discriminated against to the same extent. The most peaceful country in the world is

So now you know: the true Icelandic hot dog has it all. Lamb meat included. Find your apple ketchup, break out the mayo-cousin remoulade and go for it. Do not try to shy away from the distinctive taste of the moor-roaming animals by add-



crusade against liquorice in chocolate, and now realise it's just an acquired taste. So, for the sake of globalisation studies, I decided to see what Iceland has done with that trusted comrade of broke students, that consolation for workers in a hurry, and the reason for occasional regrets and meat sweats: the hot dog.

In order to fulfill this quest, I went out into the world in search of answers to the age-old question:

“What do you get on your Icelandic hot dog?”

Possible options:

- ✓ Ketchup
- ✓ Mustard
- ✓ Remoulade
- ✓ Fried onion
- ✓ Raw onion

Information on about 22 varieties of hot dog prepared and eaten in Reykjavik was obtained. This extensive research led us to the amazing discovery that each of the ingredients were present in 86% of these bread-embraced sausage

also the land of justice, I'd say.

The only exception is lamb. All of the hot dogs contained traces of lamb meat. They do not give you the freedom to decide if you want to have the taste of this happy herbivore sitting on your tongue for the rest of the day. Because this is Iceland. Get used to it or go home.

In order to continue the task with this high level of scientific rigour, I next decided to carry out a survey, and to compare the answers of two groups: the lovely people on the streets of Reykjavik, and the staff of the Grapevine. From this robust sample size, we were able to conclude that the general public (those within 50 feet of our office, standing adjacent to the hot dog stand), 90% of the time, live their life to the fullest by taking the option of having everything on their hot dog. The Grapevine, on the other hand, are a bunch of picky pickers, who frown upon such things as ketchup and remoulade, and rarely dare to mash all of the presented variables together. But that's okay. All hot dog eaters are beautiful.

ing two layers of that sweet, brown mustard. Embrace it, be brave, and maybe you'll move a step closer to finding your inner Icelander.

If you've read through all of the above, I congratulate you and thank you for your heartwarming loyalty, dear reader. And now—to the hot dog stand!

The Results

In the Grapevine office:

- ✓ Everything: 5
- In various combinations
- ✓ Ketchup: 8
- ✓ Mustard: 9
- ✓ Remoulade: 8
- ✓ Fried onion: 9
- ✓ Raw onion: 9

The obvious winners among the condiments were mustard, fried onion and raw onion, which were used on nine separate hot dogs. Only five people went for hot dogs with everything.

Outside the Grapevine office:

- ✓ Everything: 10
- ✓ Ketchup, remoulade : 1



SNAPS

Reykjavik | B I S T R O - B A R | Est. 2012

FRENCH ONION SOUP
Icelandic Ísbúi cheese, croûtons
2.300.kr

MOULES MARINIÈRES
steamed mussels from Breiðafjörður
2.300.kr

FISH OF THE DAY
chef's special
3.800.kr

101 ÓÐINSTORG REYKJAVÍK ÍSLAND SNAPSBISTRO.IS
snapsbistro@snapsbistro.is +354 5116677

#109



Lífið er saltfiskur

Dill is a Nordic restaurant with its focus on Iceland, the pure nature and all the good things coming from it.

It does not matter if it's the ingredients or the old traditions, we try to hold firmly on to both.

There are not many things that make us happier than giving life to old traditions and forgotten ingredients with modern technique and our creative mind as a weapon.



Hverfisgata 12 • 101 Reykjavík
Tel. +354 552 15 22 • www.dillrestaurant.is

To The Lighthouse

A magical getaway at Dyrhólaey

Words JOHN ROGERS Photos ART BICNICK

South

At the southernmost point of mainland Iceland sits a particularly dramatic and tide-lashed stretch of coastline. Around the town of Vík, the waves crash in with particular force, rending the cliffside apart in imperceptibly slow motion and leaving behind angular basalt formations and precarious sea stacks. The black sands of the surrounding beaches are a flat expanse punctuated by craggy land islands that appear and vanish through fast-moving bands of rain and dust.

Nestled between Vík and Sólheimasandur is Dyrhólaey, a high headland that juts out defiantly into the ocean, offering a view over the scene. The road winds a delicate path between pockmarked hills before crossing a land bridge over a shallow lagoon to an area where the elements have battered the cliffs since Iceland was born, creating a

series of impressive natural archways and rock formations. Down through a gap in the cliffside lies Kirkjufjara, a long beach where the violent tide lifts hundreds of black pebbles and noisily clatters them down again in a cloud of salty sea spray. Something about the ferocity of the elements imbues this part of Iceland with a sense of perpetual motion, and lingering drama.

High castle

Overlooking the scene from the crown of Dyrhólaey is a lighthouse. It's a proud little building, squat and square, topped with a rampart and a giant lamp. Tourists ascend the potholed dirt track in droves to take a look at it. They set up tripods, studying the light and the clouds for a particularly photogenic moment, or come over and try the unmarked

front door only to find it locked.

What lies inside might surprise them. Because rather than the lodgings of a lighthouse keeper or a workspace full of oil cans and machine parts, the lighthouse has been converted over the last year or so into a luxury hotel residence. As we unlock the door, we're greeted by an immaculate grey wood-lined hallway, a modern kitchen, and dining and sitting rooms set up for five people. The narrow, winding stair leads up to three bright, minimally decorated bedrooms—a double, a twin and a cosy single—spread across two more floors.

At the top, a steep wooden stair leads up to a hatch that opens onto the roof. The view is a sight to behold, even to someone familiar with Dyrhólaey. To the north stands the towering, icy peak of Myrdalsjökull, overlooking the vast floodplain of

Sólheimasandur which recedes to the west as rhythmic waves lap the black shore. To the east, the black sea stacks of Vík are silhouetted against the raging sea. It's a breathtaking vantage point over a quite astonishing landscape.

The machine awakens

As the sun sets, pink light floods through the bedrooms. We settle into our rooms, all of which have nice design touches, whether hanging white lamp shades, coat hooks that resemble old doorknobs, or piles of comfortable blankets made from Icelandic wool. Each room also comes with a couple of pairs of earplugs, which I assume are for nights when the weather outside is particularly loud.

But as night falls, their purpose is revealed. I'm jarred from a sleepy

reverie by a loud grinding sound that seems to shake the walls. I come out into the hallway, wondering if the emergency generator has started up due to a power cut. But the noise is coming from above. I open the roof hatch and realise that the lighthouse has started its work for the night. The huge lamp has started turning, sending three bright beams shooting out into the gloaming, alerting incoming ships that they've reached Iceland.

Beaming out

The noise has a rhythmic quality that becomes soothing after a while. I sleep deeply, waking up for a few sleepy moments at dawn. Outside the window, the sun is coming up, catching the clouds and the breaking waves with pink and orange light. The machine is still running,





How to get there
take Route One south

Trip provided by
IcelandAir Hotels
www.icelandairhotels.com

Distance by Car
from Reykjavík
174 km



grinding away above our heads, and the beams of light rotate across the sky, shining out to the horizon. It's a special and dreamlike moment.

Morning comes, and the lighthouse falls silent. Downstairs, we discover the fridge is stocked with smoked salmon and sliced meats, bread and cheese, and hard-boiled eggs. We look out through the curtains as we eat, watching people buzzing curiously around the building once more. As we head out for one last walk around the headland, we feel like we're sneaking out of a secret door. We quietly lock the lighthouse behind us, and vanish back into the crowd.

✂ **SHARE & MORE PICTURES:**
gpv.is/dyrh



ÍSAFJÖRÐUR

ICELAND'S WESTFJORDS
ARE ONLY 40 MINUTES AWAY

**BOOK YOUR FLIGHT OR
DAY TOUR AT AIRICELAND.IS**



AIR ICELAND



Elding
adventure at sea



Call us on +354 519 5000
or visit www.elding.is

WHALE WATCHING from Reykjavik

Price
9.900 ISK



REYKJAVÍK CLASSIC WHALE WATCHING

Duration: 2,5-3,5 hours
Departures: All year round

Price
22.990 ISK



REYKJAVÍK EXPRESS WHALES & PUFFINS

Duration: 1-1,5 hours
Departures: 1. April - 16. October

Price
9.900 ISK



NORTHERN LIGHTS CRUISE

Duration: 1,5 - 2,5 hours
Departures: 1. September - 15. April

Price
1.200 ISK



VIÐEY ISLAND

Schedule on elding.is
Departures: Daily

Come and meet us at Reykjavík Old Harbour
+354 519 5000 www.elding.is



INTERVIEW

Golfing In The Westman Islands

Being angry and frustrated in a beautiful place

Words & Photos **YORK UNDERWOOD**

"I'm going to tell you something, okay? What shot do you really think you can do? Do you think you're going to make that long difficult shot? Probably not. You want to be a better golfer? Make better decisions," said Howard Glassman, co-host of the golf podcast *Swing Thoughts* and co-host of the long-running and popular *Humble and Fred Show* in Toronto. "But just stop for a second and look around," he continues. "This is great. We're golfing in Iceland. The view alone puts most courses to shame."

The golf course in question is on Vestmannaeyjar, or The Westman Islands, an archipelago off the south coast of Iceland. The course sits amongst the remnants of an extinct volcano, right on the coastline, and features swarms of puffins and Arctic terns circling overhead before settling back on the cliffs. The course was built in 1938 by 36 dedicated golf enthusiasts. It was originally nine holes, but was expanded to eighteen in the early 1990s.

"This is the type of course where they just laid down the turf

over the natural landscape, similar to Scotland," said Howard. He's in Iceland on a trip with his daughter, but agreed to go golfing with me and leave his daughter Charlie to fend for herself in town for a few hours.

In 1973, Eldfell erupted, resulting in a complete evacuation of the Westman Islands. The golf course was completely covered in ash. After a few years, the original course was restored and in 1994 the course was expanded and edged right up to the sea, giving it one of the most breathtaking and difficult back nine holes in Europe. With Iceland being on the tip of the Gulf Stream, the weather is mild enough for golfers to play year-round.

"You want to keep your head down until after you hit the ball," says Howard. "You're raising your left shoulder and topping the ball. This course is very tight. It's all close together. You don't have a lot of room for error... Look! A tourist just popped out of nowhere. You could have killed him. This might be the only golf course where hu-

mans are also a common hazard on the course."

If you're not a tournament player and all-around expert like Howard, the course is still quite manageable. I'm what life insurance agencies call "a liability." That didn't stop me, however, from tapping in a nice birdie on a par 3 in the back nine. This sudden stroke of decent playing only led to more frustration and heartbreak for the rest of the round. As P.G. Wodehouse said, "Sudden success in golf is like the sudden acquisition of wealth. It is apt to unsettle and deteriorate the character."

Howard and I returned our cart and headed into the clubhouse to return our rental clubs. Howard continued his coaching, encouraging me to keep practicing. He sees a lot of potential—it'll just take work. Then, as I handed my clubs in, he grabbed one out of the bag. "No wonder you were topping all day," he says. "These are women's clubs."

SHARE & MORE PICTURES:
gpv.is/golf





NORTHERN LIGHTS MYSTERY



BOOK YOUR TOUR NOW!



Your Iceland Tour Expert

Contact Information - 24 hour booking service

- Book now at www.grayline.is or call +354 540 1313
- Sales office, Hafnarstræti 20, 101 Reykjavík, Iceland



#FindAReasonToGo

#GraylineIceland

#GraylineIceland

/GraylineIceland

grayline.is



**TRAVEL
NEWS
IN BRIEF**

The volcano **Katla**, located close to the southern Ring Road, has continued to rumble intermittently over the last weeks. Over 200 earthquakes were recorded on September 29th and 30th, resulting in the eruption threat level being elevated to “yellow” status. The road to the popular Sólheimajökull glacier was closed, and people forbidden from walking on the glacier. However, the earthquakes subsided, and the road was since reopened. Katla erupts roughly every 50 years, with the last major eruption recorded over 98 years ago. Although earthquakes happen often around the volcano, it’s worth staying aware if you’re travelling in the area.



The Icelandic Road & Coastal Authority (IRCA) reports that **traffic on Iceland’s Ring Road has increased by 17%** in September 2016 compared to same time last year. It’s the single biggest leap the IRCA has ever recorded. They measure traffic using cameras dotted around the island, and their footage also shows that East Iceland has seen the biggest increase, with a startling jump of 42%. The state of many of Iceland’s roads—particularly connecting sections of unpaved dirt track—is often dire, and the government is likely to come under renewed criticism for their lack of infrastructure investment given the dramatic increase in tourist traffic.



A **WowAir passenger flight was struck by lightning** mid-flight recently. Icelander Halldór Guðmundsson managed to capture the exact moment the bolt hit the plane in a mobile phone video, and his dramatic footage quickly went viral. The fact that the plane continued as if nothing happened is reassuring... we guess? In other weather news, this autumn has already seen **several storm warnings**, with the Icelandic Met Office telling drivers to check the wind conditions before setting out on any particularly long or adventurous journeys. Take a look at en.vedur.is before you set out to see what’s up.

DRIVE-THROUGH TOWN



A Day In The Kópacabana

No caipirinhas in Kópavogur, though

Words **HANNAH JANE COHEN**
Photos **ART BICNICK**

I’m not going to lie—when I suggested to my editor that we should write a travel article about Kópavogur, I was joking. Kópavogur, for non-Icelanders, is a suburb of Reykjavík—technically a separate municipality—best known for Smáralind, the largest mall in Iceland. While it is a beautiful residential area, it’s not necessarily a must-see on TripAdvisor. When I asked some Kóp-dwelling friends what people do there, I was met with bemused expressions—they thought I was joking too.

Enginn Enska

But they did have some recommendations. Café Catalina is a local haunt that was recommended by absolutely everyone I talked to. Some urged me to catch a classical concert at Salurinn—a Kópavogur concert hall—and finish with a beer at

Catalina, while others recommended going during the weekend, when it’s apparently pretty rowdy.

I arrive around noon, and immediately fall in love with the café’s homey decor. There are flowers on every table, shiny wood paneling, old-school wallpaper—it’s quite kitschy. Off to the side, hidden behind a false wall, lies a classic bandstand and dance floor. I promise myself I’ll djamm at Catalina as soon as possible.

There’s a small daily food menu—two entrées and a soup—which I decide to sample. Here’s why I’m urging future Kóp-visitors to check this place out: the food is unbelievable. The cauliflower soup is the best soup I’ve had in years, and the fish is cooked to perfection. If you’re looking for one of those “hidden” culinary destinations, here it is.

Warning though: This is not a tourist restaurant, so they don’t have a menu in English. But I guess if you’re the type of person who wants a hidden culinary destination, you’ll probably just

think this makes the café more authentic. God bless.

Romance-vogur

Our next destination is the nearby Gerðarsafn Kópavogur Art Museum. The current exhibition is called ‘Sculpture / Sculpture’ and features work by Sindri Leifsson and Eva Ísleifsdóttir. In the first room lie about twenty circular pieces of wood attached to metal rods. Sindri titled these ‘Sculptures with Attitude Problems.’ “Sindri is challenging the idea that sculptures are something that is only in one place,” says the museum attendant. “We move the sculptures around every day.” Sometimes they line up the wood in a line, while other days they make squares or diamonds or just random shapes. Eva’s work in the next room follows a similar format: the museum workers move her sculptures around constantly. It’s a cool concept, and I find the exhibit aesthetically pleasing, but who knows? The room will look

totally different when you visit.

Just a short walk up the hill from the museum is Kópavogskirkja, or, as many call it, Iceland’s “McDonald’s church”—if you look at the church from the side you’ll see some familiar arches. Local secret: There are actually two other ugly churches in Kóp, both so hideous that I’m thinking of writing a piece called: “Who the fuck hired this architect?”

But stroll down a paved path from the museum and you’ll find my favorite spot in Kópavogur—a beautiful duck pond with a little gazebo on it. It’s incredibly romantic. If you ever find yourself in the improbable position of planning an impromptu date in Kópavogur, here’s your secret.

So while Kóp might not be the most traditional tourist destination, if you find yourself there, there is plenty to do. Copacabana, Kópacabana? What’s the difference?

✂ **SHARE:**
gpv.is/kop



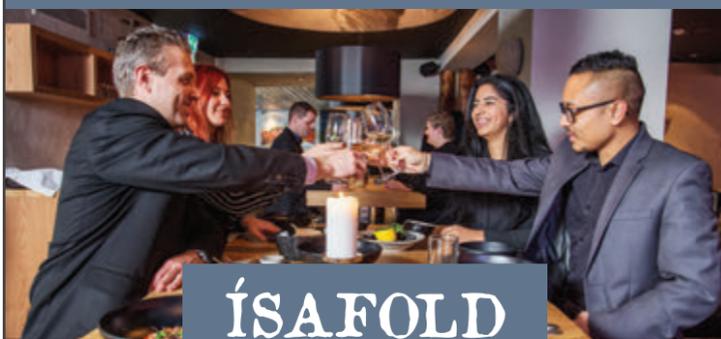
Welcome

Pre-booking required. Book online at [bluelagoon.com](https://www.bluelagoon.com)



BLUE LAGOON
ICELAND

TRUE NORDIC CULINARY EXPERIENCE WITH A TWIST



ÍSAFOLD RESTAURANT



Fresh local food and cozy ambiance in the city center
Kitchen open from 11:30 - 22:00



tripadvisor

"Warm, welcoming restaurant and staff serving great food"



"Highly recommend"



Dinghóltsstræti 5 - Tel: 595 8535 - www.isafoldrestaurant.is

SKÝ RESTAURANT & BAR



A COMBINATION OF TASTY FOOD, FUN
COCKTAILS, RELAXING ATMOSPHERE
& THE MOST SPECTACULAR VIEW



"Delicious food with great view"



"Sunset Dinner"



Ingólfsstræti 1 - Tel: 595 8545
www.skyrestaurant.is

ADVENTURE

High Alert

A night of chasing
aurora in Hvalfjörður

Words ARTA BALODE
Photos ART BICNICK



After seeing a recent high-alert aurora forecast, myself and a few other Grapeviners decided to jump in the car and get out of the city for the promised spectacle. Our photographer became a special Northern Lights tour operator for the night, deciding on a secluded hot pot in Hvalfjörður as our destination. We rushed out of Reykjavík as the sun started to set, driving into the dark and nervously checking the sky, imagining a soak in the hot pot with the aurora flickering above us.

Adventure time

Upon our arrival, the reality was slightly different, with a cold gale blowing. While my colleagues tried to find the courage to take off their layers, I got changed, ignoring the goosebumps. I stood by the pool, ready to jump into a natural hot spring for the first time in my life. But there was another twist: it quickly became apparent that the water was too hot to enter for more than a few seconds. The spectacular and relaxing night we'd imagined had become a mission we were determined to complete.

As our eyes grew accustomed to the dark we looked around for anything helpful, finding some unused buoys that we could use to carry cold ocean water to the steaming pool. After some unsuccessful attempts to fill them up

from the shore, my feet had soon turned white from wading into the ocean. But eight buoys full of icy seawater later, we could finally sink into the hot pot.

Worth the wait

By now, we'd entirely lost track of time—we had no idea if cooling the water had taken fifteen minutes or an hour. But as we settled into the hot pot, we started to see some dim green light in the sky. "Mission accomplished!" we thought. But it was just the beginning—we were soon to witness some truly powerful aurora.

It's difficult to describe the indescribable—it was like nothing I've seen in my life. Green, purple and white bands danced, mixed and swirled in every di-

rection. It made me want to have more pairs of eye, and to see 360 degrees at the same time. From a distance, we must have sounded like we were having a pyjama party, unable to hold in our excited screams. We sure broke the silence of Hvalfjörður.

As the lights faded, we started to search around for our belongings, with one of us almost putting on a stranger's lost sock by accident. If she'd put it on without noticing, maybe it would have become her "lucky northern lights sock." We got dressed for our return to city life—but this time, with a different perception of the greatness of nature.

SHARE & MORE PICTURES:
gpv.is/hvalf



HUMANS OF REYKJAVÍK



Words & Photo
YORK UNDERWOOD

This issue's human:
Clara Subirats Galimany

Why did you move to Iceland?
I moved here to finish the last year of my BA. It was part of the Erasmus program. I only had ten

months left. I loved it here so I decided to stay.

What do you love about living here? Also, what do you hate?
Icelanders. I love the people. The people is what I love the most.

I mean, I just fell in love with them, you know? I love the way they approach life. I know this is a huge generalization, but you must know what I mean. There is something about the people here.

What do I hate? Well, I know it's a worn out topic, but the weather—specifically the darkness. The darkness affects me a lot. It gets harder and harder to deal with every year. I'm Spanish and I miss the heat. I do love the summers here though, all that light, all the time.

Where is your favourite place to live in Iceland?

Well, it's either all or nothing with me. I live in Reykjavík or I live out in the middle of nowhere by myself. I don't want to be teased with an almost city. I couldn't live in Akureyri. It's a tease. I mean I could live there maybe a month, but that's it. It looks like there might be something going on. You'd think something was happening, but then you'd get downtown and realize, no, nothing is happening. This is Akureyri.

THE HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA FRIENDS OF THE ARTS SOCIETY 34TH SEASON

HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA 1986-2016

FESTIVE CONCERT CELEBRATING THE 30 YEARS CONSECRATION OF HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA



SATURDAY OCTOBER 29TH AT 7 PM - SUNDAY OCTOBER 30TH AT 5 PM

CHARPENTIER: FANFARE

J.S BACH: MASS NO. 1 IN F-MAJOR

CHARPENTIER: TE DEUM

PERFORMERS:

The Hallgrímskirkja Motet Choir

The Hallgrímskirkja International Baroque Orchestra

Sigríður Ósk Kristjánsdóttir mezzosoprano

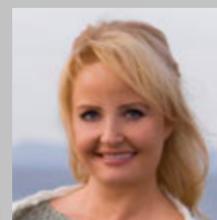
Oddur A. Jónsson bass

Auður Guðjohnsen alto

Thelma Hrönn Sigurdórsdóttir soprano

Guðmundur Vignir Karlsson tenor

Conductor: Hörður Áskelsson, Music Director Of Hallgrímskirkja



Triumphant trumpets and thundering timpani will join the glorious orchestral tones of the International Baroque Orchestra of Hallgrímskirkja and the rapturous singing of the prize winning Hallgrímskirkja Motet Choir during celebratory performances of Charpentiers's Fanfare and Te Deum and J. S. Bach's Mass nr. 1 in F-Major on the 29th and 30th of October. The concerts are held to celebrate the 30 year consecration anniversary of Hallgrímskirkja Church, but the church was formally consecrated on October 26th in 1986.

"Great is the power of the arts! The music life in Hallgrímskirkja really blossoms these days."

"Absolutely wonderful concert with delectable singing and magnificent playing – Solomon was a revelation – The drama unfolded under Hordur Askelsson's powerful conducting – Many choir parts were so dashingly performed by the Hallgrímskirkja Motet Choir that it was unavoidable to get goosebumps again and again. The choir is in excellent shape."

***** Fbl. Music critic Jónas Sen August 18 2015.



TICKET SALE: HALLGRÍMSKIRKJA TEL. 510 1000
WWW.MIDI.IS - ADMISSION ISK 5.900

16-1440 - INVITA HUBBÓ / SIA

GET YOUR DESIGNER BRANDS
TAX FREE AT KEFLAVIK AIRPORT

— WITH AT LEAST —
19.35 % OFF



SAGA RECAP

Words
**GRAYSON
DEL FARO**
Art
**INGA MARÍA
BRYNJARSÐÓTTIR**



Saga of Ragnar Shaggy-Britches

Listen up because I am about to recap the saga on which your favorite, wildly inaccurate History Channel drama series, 'Vikings', is based. And yes, it is literally called the Saga of Ragnar Shaggy-Britches. It is one of few sagas that is basically a sequel to another saga, one of the very best, so you may want to refresh your memory of Völsunga Saga and the most boss-ass bitch in the Middle Ages, Brynhildur.

Tits and Áslaug

Remember how warrior princess Brynhildur and dragon-slayer Sigurður randomly had a baby? Well after they died, Brynhildur's foster-dad whisks Áslaug, their daughter, away for her own safety. Unluckily for them both, he is murdered in his sleep by some shitty peasants who raise the girl as their daughter/servant.

Meanwhile, some guy named Ragnar is the son of a Danish king. He's big and strong and whatever. He gets his nickname by commissioning some weird shaggy pants and cape, which he dips in tar and wears as armor to kill a giant snake, because obviously shaggy tar-pants are snake-repellent. Duh. By killing this giant snake, he wins himself a shitload of money and also a smokin' hot wife with whom he has two children before she gets sick and randomly goes tits-up.

He is on the rebound when his crew discovers a bably peasant girl. They're supposed to be making bread but they burn it because they can't take their eyes off dat ass(laug). He requests she come to meet him, but because dudes can totally suck balls at communication, he says he wants her to come neither hungry nor full, neither clothed nor naked, neither alone nor with someone. She craftily eats one leek, wraps herself in fishnet, and heads out with a dog. He is wooed by her brains and beauty and wants her to come with him immediately. She's like "Nah, come back later, bro." So he comes back weeks later and they get hella married.

To bone or not to bone?

Ragnar wants to have fuck pronto but Áslaug has her mother's gift of future-sight and says no because if they don't wait three days then their child will be born without bones. Ragnar "disregards her." I wish I had to explain that this is a barbaric, medieval form of sexual assault but unfortunately, this is pretty much what still happens today because apparently the average male's attitude toward women's bodily autonomy has not changed in over 1500 years. Grim, huh? So they have one boneless son, Ívar, and another four normal-boned sons.

Ragnar's two sons from his first marriage get killed in a battle with an evil cow owned by the King of Sweden. Áslaug is having trouble convincing her sons to avenge her not-sons until the three-year-old son speaks a poem about he and his mother setting off to take on the Swedish king. The thought of a mother and toddler versus a bovine demon and the armies of Sweden gets the other brothers on board.

Ragnar is away at this time, so Áslaug leads them to Sweden. The cow has a magic bellow that causes opposing armies to attack their own men, probably something like "STOP HITTING YOURSELF STOP HITTING YOURSELF." Apparently the trade-off for bonelessness is the ability to change your weight at will, so Ívar makes himself light as a stone so his brothers can throw him across the field. When he lands, he's as heavy as a boulder and this kills the cow, allowing them to win the war and tell the King of Sweden to fuck right off.

Motherfuckin' snakes in a motherfuckin' pit

Instead of being proud of his weird-ass family's success in Sweden, Ragnar is thrown into a fit of jealousy over their new fame. Because he's a big baby manchild, he ignores his wife's voice of reason, trying to conquer England with only two ships and getting his shit-for-brains captured. He refuses to reveal his identity to King Ælla, who has him stripped and thrown into a pit of snakes until he talks.

While in the pit, Ragnar manages to recite a 29-stanza poem about his own gloriousness but refuses to frankly state his name. As the God of Alanis Morissette would have it, the man famous for his snake-proof pants gets his naked ass bit to death by snakes. His sons are all sad and shit, so Ívar orchestrates some dope treachery and has the king killed by infiltrating his ranks. Then he becomes the King of England, Áslaug lives to a ripe old age, and all the brothers rule their own kingdoms except the one who ends up getting burned to death on a pile of severed heads.

Morals of the story: 1. Do not underestimate people with disabilities. They are probably more resourceful than you. 2. Rapists deserve to be thrown naked into a pit of snakes. Can we bring that back, please?

SHARE:
gpv.is/sag16

WORDS OF INTEREST

Light It Up

Words & Art **EUNSAN HUH**



"See the Northern Lights" is an item that commonly appears on bucket lists. Lucky for Icelanders, the country is in a prime viewing spot for these lights, as it snuggles up against the Arctic Circle where they tend to appear.

Though the "season" is typically described as spanning from September to April (since there's 24 hours of daylight during the summer), the Aurora Borealis can be and has been spotted around the

country throughout the year. As we transition into fall, there's been a recent flurry of cosmic activity and the city of Reykjavík even turned off the street lamps in the evening so that people could enjoy the spectacle without the interference of light pollution.

The Icelandic word for the Northern Lights is "Norðurljós," which literally means "northerly lights." It is a pretty literal translation, and in this case the alternate English name has a more interesting origin—"Aurora," the Roman Goddess of dawn, and "Borealis," the Greek name for the north wind.



They are a sight to be seen, but the cause of these auroras are far from romantic. They are a result of par-

ticles from a solar flare bumping into other particles in the Earth's atmosphere. Depending on the speed and altitude of the collision, the chemicals will produce different colours: green, white, and sometimes even red or blue. Basically it's all just a glorified, Instagram-friendly chemical reaction.

What is a little romantic though, is that it takes 40 hours for the solar particles to travel to Earth and create those heavenly reactions. So when you're looking at the Northern Lights, you're actually looking into the past.

Every Single Word in Icelandic (http://eversingleword.is) is a pictographic exploration of the Icelandic language. I find an interesting compound word, then deconstruct and illustrate it as icons. The goal is to express how Icelandic can be deadpan literal and unexpectedly poetic at the same time.

TCHAIKOVSKY

NEW PRODUCTION

Eugene
Onegin

An opera about deep love and longing

TICKETS ON OPERA.IS

MUSIC DIRECTOR **BENJAMIN LEVY** · STAGE DIRECTOR **ANTHONY PILAVACHI**
ANDREY ZHILIKHOVSKY · ÞÓRA EINARSDÓTTIR · ELMAR GILBERTSSON · NATHALÍA D. HALLDÓRSDÓTTIR
HANNA DÓRA STURLUDÓTTIR · ALINA DUBIK · RUNI BRATTABERG · HLÖÐVER SIGURDSSON
THE ORCHESTRA & CHOIR OF THE ICELANDIC OPERA · SET DESIGNER: EVA SIGNÝ BERGER
COSTUME DESIGNER: MARÍA TH. ÓLAFSDÓTTIR · LIGHTING DESIGNER: BJÖRN B. GUÐMUNDSSON
OCT 22 · OCT 29 · NOV 6 · NOV 12

HÖNNUN: HGM



f t i #islenskaoperan



THE ICELANDIC OPERA



DON'T ASK NANNA ABOUT

Viking Reparations

By **NANNA DÍS ÁRNADÓTTIR**

Hey Nanna, I read that when the Vikings raided Ireland they killed all the men and kidnapped the tall beautiful women so today 80% of Icelandic women have mainly Irish blood while the men are 90% Norwegian blood. Should the Icelanders not compensate Irish men? – Pot o' Gold

Hey Pot o' Gold, well first of all, I'm really taken aback by your excellent grasp of the differences between female and male blood. It's hard to find people who really understand how asexual reproduction, genetics and biology work. Secondly, I'm impressed by your command of the concept of reparations. I completely agree with you, naturally. Irish women, whom you don't know and are not related to, who were kidnapped and raped a millennium ago, entitle you, as an Irish man, to rape the Icelandic descendants of said women. Women whom you, incidentally, also don't know and who clearly have no agency and can be ordered to sleep with anyone the government decrees. It's only fair! Icelandic women's ancestors were YOUR ancestor's property first! IT'S SIMPLE LOGIC. – Nanna

Nanna, with a patronymic naming system, what do you do when two people have the same exact name? – Robert's son

Hey Robert's son, we do the same thing English people do when there are two people called John Smith.

Attempt to process the fact that two people can exist and occupy space within the boundaries of our dimension, with the same name, at the same time, without actually being the same person.

I know it's a big ask to expect something like that of the human mind, but by Odin's Good Eye we give it our best go!

Did you know there are like four other Nanna Árnadóttirs? Sometimes I don't even know who I am. It boggles the mind. #TheStruggleIsReal
– Nanna

Do you want to ask Nanna a question? Go ahead, but continue at your peril. Shoot her an email on [nanna.arnadottir\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:nanna.arnadottir(at)gmail.com) or tweet her using @NannaArnadottir

MONSTER OF THE MONTH

Sending Ghost of Substance

The fourth type of *sendung*, and the most peculiar, consists of ghosts raised from natural substances by master sorcerers with comprehensive knowledge of life and matter. These men were supposed to be experts in the substances from which the bodies of men and animals are composed, their construction and their structure. They are said to have made copies thereof, creating forms in which spirits could dwell. These allegedly had the appearance and substance of spectres, or even that of mist and vapour. The substances and their various compounds were stored in vials and had the appearance of a clear liquid. If ingested, they would cause insanity or dementia. If the liquid was poured out of the vial,

it took the form of mist or a wisp of steam that could then be inhabited by any evil spirit that was present. If none was nearby, one could be conjured up. A few foreign apothecaries were said to possess these substances and dispense them in secret. Sorcerers would sometimes add substances to animal carcasses that they raised, thus endowing them with new qualities

Sigfús Sigfússon, Íslenskar þjóðsögur og sagnir III, p. 203.

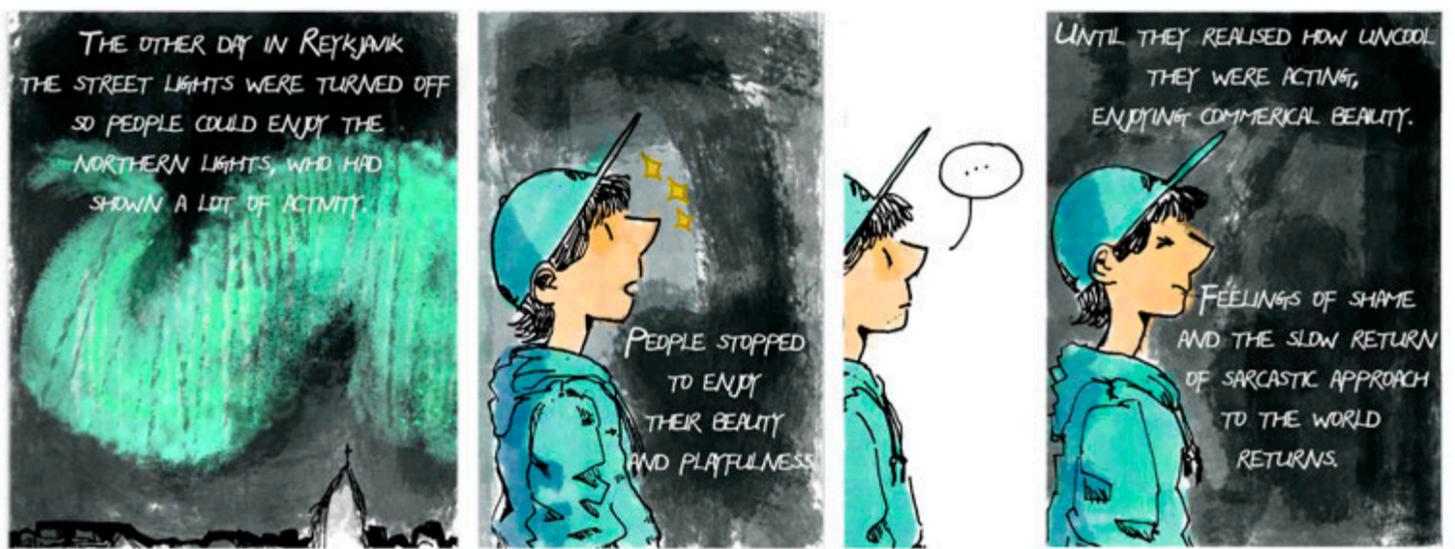
"Monster of the Month" is a spin off of "The Museum of Hidden Beings", by artist Arngrímur Sigurðsson. He delved into Iceland's mythological history, taking creature encounters from across the centuries and bringing them to life through painting in an act of creative cryptozoology. Find the book at bookstores, or order it online at arngrimur.com.



LÓABORATORIUM



SMJÖRFLUGA



SMJÖRFLUGA

Study in the Land of Renewable Energy

Iceland School of Energy graduate programmes

- MSc Sustainable Energy
- MSc Sustainable Energy Engineering

ICELAND SCHOOL OF ENERGY
REYKJAVIK UNIVERSITY

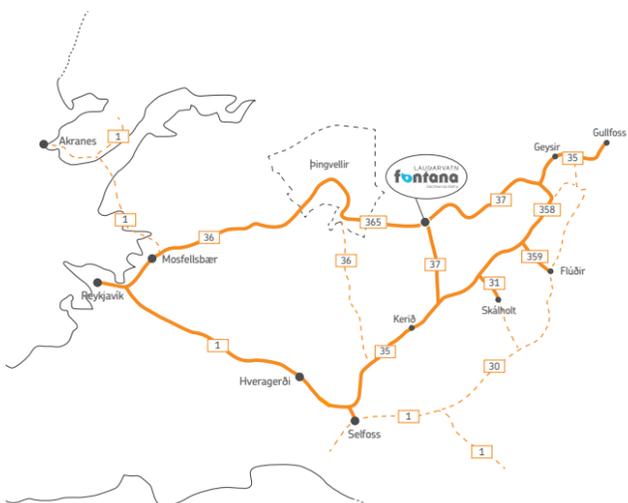
To learn more visit our website,
www.schoolofenergy.is

Completing the Golden Circle



Geothermal Baths - Natural Steam Baths
Local Kitchen - Geothermal Bakery

Open daily 11:00 - 22:00, extended hours summertime



We're only one hour from Reykjavik and in the middle of the Golden Circle, make sure to upgrade your excursion to include a visit to us.

A unique contact with nature - come enjoy a steam bath on top of a hot spring and afterwards relax in the open air geothermal baths.

Local Kitchen with our popular country style lunch and dinner buffet available daily.

Experience our Geothermal Bakery, every day at 11:30 and 14:30. Welcome!

LAUGARVATN
fontana
Geothermal Baths

TEL: +354 486 1400 • www.fontana.is



LAST WORDS

Curiosity Killed The Quiet



John Rogers

Reykjavík was once a quiet city. In 2008—the year I first visited, during the economic collapse—the tourism boom was just beginning. You could walk the length of Laugavegur and pass maybe five people the entire way. On weeknights, bars were quiet, and foreigners—known locally as “útlendingar,” or “outlanders” in English—were the object of much interest. It wasn’t unusual to find yourself penned into a corner as people threw curious questions your way: “What are you doing here? Where are you from? What do you do?”

Today, those days are long gone. Reykjavíkingar shun tourists as much as possible, more concerned with bypassing the slow-walking, raincoat-clad, “oh my gahhhhd would you LOOK at that cute sweater”-exclaiming masses on their way to work. Understandably so: tourism has impacted local life on many levels. The bars are packed, restaurants are full, supermarket and post office queues are swollen, and drivers have to constantly be on the lookout for lemming-like leaps into the road from Gore-texed amateur photographers.

In terms of that curiosity I experienced in 2008, the tables have turned completely. Now, it’s the searching, curious eyes of the tourists that rake across the faces of local residents, trying to soak up every detail with the heightened, hungry attention of someone in a state of bedazzled holiday wonderment.

And as a result, locals—lesser-spotted Icelanders, especially—have become de-facto actors in an ongoing production called Reykjavík Streetlife. Locals are now exotic creatures in a never-ending downtown tourist safari. And if you live in the tourism crucible of Miðbær, you might start to feel ground down by the staring; worn thin by the mental effort of keeping your head down to avoid being in ten photographs before you’ve even had morning coffee.

It’s enough to make you wonder about the wear and tear of this heavy attention on the psychological environment of the city—if, along with eroding peace and privacy, it might start to wear away the corners of the buildings themselves.

SHARE: gvp.is/last

arctic adventures

YOUR ADVENTURE TOUR OPERATOR IN ICELAND

since 1983

BOOK YOUR TOUR AT adventures.is



ATV • Caving • Diving • Glacier Hiking • Golden Circle • Hiking • Horse Riding • Hot Springs • Ice Caves • Kayaking • Multiday tours
Northern Lights • Rafting • Snorkeling • Snowmobiling • Super Jeeps • Trekking • Volcano Hiking • Whale Watching



ITM TOURIST INFORMATION AND FREE BOOKING SERVICE

We are proud to be the first & only downtown Tourist Information fully accredited by both the Icelandic Tourist Board and the Vakinn Quality System.

Bankastræti 2 - Downtown
itm@itm.is - www.itm.is
Tel: +354 522 4979
Summer: 08.00 - 21.00
Winter: 09.00 - 19.00

Drop by, we speak...

