





Dominick takes a leader's stance at Gönguleider

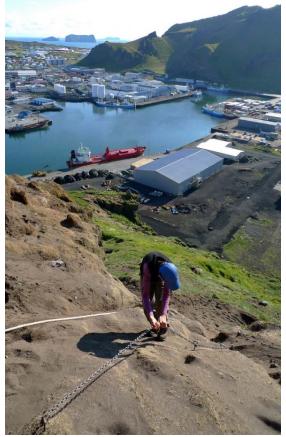
The lava tube at Raufarhólshellir

Our previous two bicycle tours were cold & wet slogs, so our decision was to take a driving/hiking tour of someplace we would not want to travel by bicycle. Iceland fit the bill. A minor eruption under a glacier thwarted our planned route by closing the only road heading east, but plan B worked beautifully. Reykjavik was our starting and ending point for three weeks of hopping between campgrounds in a rental car. The scenery was both bare and severe, but almost always incredibly beautiful. We visited old homesteads, saw the thermal features of Geysir, walked on a glacier, soaked in a natural geothermal pool in a fjord, hiked on some gorgeous trails, and saw lots of puffins. All while not being too wet or too cold. We missed the bike, but agreed that Iceland is the wrong place to tour by bike.



Camping on Vestmannaeyjar

Looking for birds along the shore



Dangerous climb up Heimaklettur





Guided tour on Myrdalsjökull glacier

Getting up close and personal with a waterfall



Admiring Seljalandsfoss



Eye masks made sleeping through the "night" possible



Turf houses at the Skógar Museum





Glacial melt water has no flavor



Black sand at base of cliff hike near Vik



Basalt columns at Reynisfjara



Reliable Strokkur at Geysir



Near the torrent of the upper Gulfoss



Campground thermal pool at Geysir







Lunch between American and European plates at Thingvellir



Site of Snorrabud at Thingvellir



Night sky just past midnight at Akranes



Basalt column cliff near Borgarnes



Scoping for birds near lighthouse at Saxhólsbjarg



Campground sculpture at Akranes





Black pebble whaling beach at Dritvik



Guardian spirit Bárdur Snaefellsás



Along the Hellnar to Arnarstapi hike

July 2011













Old house with whale rib roof beams near Talknafjordur



Local hot tub at Pollurinn near Talknafjordur



Puffin on cliff Latrabjarg Peninsula

Hraunfossar waterfall on Hvita River near

Idylic creek along hike

July 2011



Geothermal swimming pool at Husafell campground



Climbing hike at Husafell



Setting up the tent at Husafell campground



Staring contest at Reykjavik Botanic Garden



Nice moss waterfall











Toe fuzz angel at Reykjavik Botanic Garden



Cold, rainy and 50 mph winds as we brave a soak at the Blue Lagoon



Aboard the Odin Coast Guard ship museum



Hellisheidi geothermal power plant

Eerily blue water after generating steam at Svartsengi geothermal power plant



Reykjavik harbor with the new Harpa Concert Hall



Viking sculpture along coast walk in Reykjavik