

Hunting the Northern Lights in Iceland



Many people travelling to Iceland are hoping to see the Northern Lights, and for many, it is one of the main reasons for travelling to the country. But there is a lot of confusion about where and when the best time to see the northern lights is and how you can hunt them.

Do you want to know how to hunt the Northern Lights in Iceland? Well, the secret is to do your research, be prepared, find the right conditions and last of all - to have a little luck! There is only so much you can do to ensure that you spot the Northern Lights in Iceland, as it ultimately comes down to a perfect storm of the right conditions needing to occur in order for this beautiful and natural phenomenon to occur. But - there are certainly a few things you can do to improve your chances.

If you want to know how to hunt Northern Lights in Iceland then we have some top tips that can help you make the most of your trip.

When are the Northern Lights Visible in Iceland?

One of the most important things to consider is the time of year that you are planning on travelling to Iceland, as the northern lights are only visible from **September to April**. Between these months is when Iceland is at its darkest, therefore allowing more opportunities to view the Northern Lights. For this reason, if your main goal in Iceland is to see the Northern Lights, you'll definitely want to plan your trip in the winter months, when the Northern Lights are visible in Iceland.

Fun fact - the Northern Lights can occur at any time of the day between September and April, we just can't see them until the sky is dark!

Are Northern Lights Visible In Reykjavik?

This is one of the most commonly asked questions that people ask as it is the most popular destination to stay if you are travelling to the country. However, you are not likely to see the northern lights in Reykjavik or other cities, as the light of the city can obscure your view. Although it's not impossible to see them in the city, it is unlikely and the lights would need to be particularly strong for you to catch a glimpse. This means that the best spots to see the northern lights would be outside of the city, with parts inaccessible by public transport.

What Are the Best Conditions?

In order to see the northern lights more clearly you will need some weather conditions to be just right. This includes;

- A clear sky without clouds, as these will block your view
- The lights need to be active as they do not appear all the time
- You also need to be somewhere dark to observe them clearly

If you have these **conditions** when you travel then you stand a very good chance of seeing the northern lights. They are also unpredictable and may only be visible for a few days at a time, so it's best to stay in Iceland for at least 7 days if you want to see them.

Should I Rent a Car?

Looking for a Northern Lights rental car in Iceland? **Driving** yourself is one of the best ways to get a glimpse of the northern lights in Iceland and offers you the most freedom. As you are not guaranteed to see the northern lights every time that you venture out, driving lets you take your time and cover the most ground in your hunt.

Public transport is not great for Northern Light hunting as it doesn't go to some of the more secluded spots, and there isn't a true public transportation system in place in Iceland anyway. There are tours that take you hunting for the northern lights, but you are still not guaranteed to see them, and they might end just before you get the chance to spot the lights.

Renting a car gives you the best chance to see the northern lights on your trip. If you're looking for a trusted Northern Lights rental car in Iceland, look no further! Our team can not only help you find the perfect car for hunting the Northern Lights in Iceland, but we're also locals, so we can help you with tips for increasing your chances of seeing the Northern Lights in Iceland! Browse **our cars** to find the perfect one for your Northern Light hunting road trip in Iceland!

How Will I Know the Best Day?

Although there is no way for you to guarantee when you will see the northern lights, you can get a better idea of whether you are likely to see the northern lights or not. There are a number of Aurora Forecast websites that help to highlight when you can expect to see the lights. A useful one from the [Icelandic Met Office](#) shows where cloud cover is low.

Although you won't be able to guarantee seeing the northern lights on your trip, by following our tips you will have a better chance at spotting them.

Where Are the Best Spots for Seeing the Northern Lights in Iceland?

Thanks to the gorgeous landscapes and natural beauty of Iceland, the island is home to some of the best spots for seeing the Northern Lights. We always recommend that you find somewhere rural and not overly populated for your Northern Lights hunting in Iceland. This means getting a little further away from big towns or the city.

Choosing the best spot for glimpsing the Northern Lights can be a challenge, as there are so many beautiful spots where you can catch them, taking in Iceland's stunning scenery around you. Discover our tips for some of the best spots for seeing the Northern Lights in Iceland in our other blog [here](#).