



РАНХиГС
РОССИЙСКАЯ АКАДЕМИЯ НАРОДНОГО ХОЗЯЙСТВА
И ГОСУДАРСТВЕННОЙ СЛУЖБЫ
ПРИ ПРЕЗИДЕНТЕ РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ



Iceland

**PERFORMED BY:
ULYANOVA A. A.
GROUP 21-ZIO-16
CHECKED BY:
KOZHEVINA O. I.**





General information

Iceland is an island and state. The total land area is 103 thousand sq. km, with a population of approximately 322 thousand people.

The capital city of Reykjavik, where a third of the entire population, with suburbs, more than half.

The official language is Icelandic, and the currency is the Icelandic Krona. Iceland is a parliamentary Republic, headed by a President, elected for 4 years.

Location

Iceland — land of ice — located in the Northern tip of the Atlantic ocean up to the North pole large areas of land are no more. Its Northern part is close to the Arctic circle.

Island removed from the rest of Europe: from the nearest Faroe Islands 420 km, from the island of Britain for 860 km and from the nearest point on the continental coast of Norway 970 km. Interesting fact that, despite this, Iceland belongs to the European countries, although much closer is separated from the North American island of Greenland, 287 km.



Iceland: interesting facts about the country

The discovery of Iceland refers to the end of the eighth century by Irish monks, and after them got here the Normans Nadad and Floki.

After these events, at the end of IX century began the active colonization of the island by the Vikings came from Norway, which for a century managed to master almost all suitable for living and economic development of land

In 1264 Iceland was annexed to Norway, and in 1381, it was part of Denmark. Its independence, the country received only in 1944.

The inhabitants of the island — the courageous and proud people, with reverence pertaining to its historical past and cultural traditions. Especially to old Icelandic tales — sagas, a story about family feuds, thrilling stories, about elves, dwarves and other mysterious characters, whose existence some people believe still.



Iceland is virtually crime — prison one, and it contains no more than a dozen people. Police here are unarmed, the army is not at all.

The Foundation of the modern economy are only two industries — recycling aluminium and fishing. By the way to say that the annual amount of catch the islanders in terms of European countries only Norway.

Iceland is among the most prosperous States. So, the average per capita annual income here is \$ 39 000 \$ (according to our ruble terms — here, every resident, including an infant, millionaire)



Nature

Iceland, for all its modest size, is the largest island of volcanic origin. The topography of the island is predominantly mountainous, the peaks represent the crater of extinct and active volcanoes. The highest peak of Hvannadalshnukur (2110 m), located in the South-West coast. The lowest point is just down the road is Laguna glacial lake (0 meters above sea level).

Many of the active volcanoes from time to time declare themselves powerful eruptions. The largest volcano of the island is the famous Hekla (1488 metres), located near the "Big in Reykjavik" and scare locals for its eruption in 2000. The longest river of the island is Torso (237 km). From other water bodies abound with glaciers and glacial lakes, are ubiquitous and innumerable in quantity.

Iceland unique diversity of natural landscapes. In addition to glaciers, the surface of the country in many places is covered with lava fields. In these areas there are often geysers and hot springs. The island common stony placers, covered with thick moss and lichens, little Islands with birch forests and meadows of grass and herbs. Special scenic terrain in different parts of the island give the waterfalls. On the West coast its beauty hit by numerous fjords. For protection the stunning nature of the country has created national parks.

The climate and typical weather Iceland is a Nordic country, which is not quite lives up to its icy name. Ambient warm currents, especially South of the Gulf stream, do not let it become cold, harsh desert.

The winters are relatively warm, with average temperature of $-1\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, which are the envy of many cities are located on the territory of Russia. However, in some periods of this season of frequent cold winds, which together with accumulations of drifting Arctic sea ice, especially in the South-East, causing a sharp drop in temperature to $-30\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. the duration of the light day - no more than five hours.

Summer is not hot. The average July temperature is $+12\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. the highest temperatures on the South coast — up to $+20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, with highs to $+30\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. In summer, the whole island around the clock illuminated by the sun, and here are characteristic of polar latitudes of the white nights.

The Sights Of Reykjavik

Reykjavik, the main city, the capital of Iceland. Which country can boast a huge number of sites? And Iceland has something to offer to its visitors. In particular its main city has historical and architectural monuments, museums and modern institutions. Among them the attention of tourists is attracted by

The Church Hallgrímskirkja is a Lutheran iconic building of mid-twentieth century, in the form of a volcanic eruption. Inside is a body. In front of the Church is a statue of Leif Eriksson Happy.

The Cathedral, which is the main temple, built in the late XVIII century.

The building of the Althingi (Parliament) in the style of classicism, built in the XIX century.

Perlan, or the pearl, looks like a Daisy with a blue dome. It is located on a high hill and has a rotating platform for a panorama view of the city. Inside the building houses the Museum of the Saga, winter garden, artificial geyser, stalls and restaurants.

"Caffi Reykjavik" — this bar is unusual in that it consists of ice blocks and drinks is certainly served in ice glasses.

The Harpa concert hall. The facades consist of colored glass of the cells with the integrated LEDs, impress visitors with a play of colors.

Blue lagoon

The lagoon is a geothermal source and resort with all the proper infrastructure. This is perhaps the most famous and visited place for hundreds of thousands of tourists.

Laguna artificially created body of water with a constant temperature at 40 °C. This is the only planet place of this kind, which is filled with visitors all year round. Found that bathing in the waters of the lake, rich in minerals, helps the healing of skin diseases.

The valley of geysers

Emerged in the XIII century after a major earthquake. The main sources, called the Great Geysir, throws a jet of water of high temperature to a height of 70 meters of depth more than two thousand meters. The contemplation of this magnificent spectacle leaves a strong impression. There is also a place for bathing in at least hot springs. Residents use the natural heat of geysers to heat their homes.

The Seljalandsfoss Waterfall

The waterfall is located on the South of the island and very popular with tourists. Water cascading from a height of 60 meters. It flows down from the rocks, which used to be a coastline, but now at this point formed a beautiful valley. The beauty of the falls (in combination with the surrounding landscape) has no equal. That's why his pictures can be found on calendars and postcards.

Colorful mountains

In the warm season of the year in the national Park Landmannalaugar you can see the amazing spectacle – colorful mountains. The slopes of the mountains gleaming with unusual stripes – brown, yellow, pink, blue, purple, green, white and black.

The reason for this phenomenon is associated with the volcanic origin of rocks.

The location of the Park near the volcano Hekla is one of the popular tourist centers of the country.

The Vatnajökull national Park

What else can I say about Iceland? Facts about the country, its attractions are simply not to list in one article. But still I would like to mention about this Park. It was created in 2008. Its area is nearly 12% of the territory of Iceland and is the largest in Europe. The main highlight of the Park is the eponymous glacier with an area of 8100 sq. km and ice thickness of up to 500 meters. Under his armor there are beautiful ice caves, and seven active volcanoes.

As entertainment Vatnajökull tourists can explore beautiful places, enjoy winter sports, but especially in demand enjoy bathing in the hot springs located inside the ice caves.

Undoubtedly, this is only a small part of the natural attractions of the country Iceland, its open spaces, tourists will be many more interesting and mysterious.