



Photo:Nikolas Grabar

Seyðisfjörður



The word "Seyðis" has more than one meaning - for example, "boiling pot of magic broth" or "boiling sea of small fish". The word "fjörður" simply means fjord.

65°09'N -13°35'W

Seyðisfjörður is a welcoming town booming with creativity and rich in history. Inhabited by about 700 people, the town acts as one big family, and a friendly one at that. Everybody is welcome to our little paradise and we want to share the goodness with you.

Seyðisfjörður is regarded as one of Iceland's most picturesque towns, due to its impressive natural environment, and because of its renowned collection of well-preserved old wooden buildings. The community owes its origins to foreign merchants, mainly Danes, who started trading in the fjord in the mid-19th century. The establishment of Icelandic herring fisheries by Norwegians (1870-1900) was crucial to the village's evolution. The Norwegians established herring fishing facilities, and the small community quickly grew into a bustling town.

The local economy has long been based on the fisheries, but today tourism plays a growing role. Our town may look like a fairy tale, yet it's a real place with real people. Please help us keep tourism sustainable by conserving nature and respecting local culture.

Landslide in 2020

In mid-afternoon December 18, the largest landslide ever to hit a town in Iceland happened in Seyðisfjörður. The landslide was triggered by days of heavy rain and destroyed a total of 13 buildings. Miraculously, there were no casualties from this natural disaster and the town is recovering very well.

Public Art in Seyðisfjörður

- Tvísöngur Sound Sculpture is located on a mountainside above town and can be reached by walking up a gravel path for 15-20 minutes. Don't be shy to sing a song inside the sculpture. Each dome has its own resonance that corresponds to a tone in the Icelandic musical tradition of five-tone harmony.
- Close by there is a phone booth, a sculpture made by the artist Guðjón Ketilsson, in memory of the first telegraph connection to Iceland from the outside world through Seyðisfjörður established in 1906.

Services in Seyðisfjörður

- You can find information about services in Seyðisfjörður and our town map at the Tourist Information Center or online at www.visitseydisfjordur.com.

Suggestions for ships

- The port is in the center of town and the townspeople can hear sounds from ships very clearly. Please avoid using the onboard loud speaker system when in port, especially in the morning or late at night.

Guidelines

- Seyðisfjörður is known for its old, colorful houses. People do live in these houses so please be respectful of their privacy by not going into the houses or private gardens, even though the doors may be open. You can of course take pictures of these buildings but please don't take pictures through windows of people's homes.
- Our children play in the playground, around our schools and in many areas in town. Please do not take pictures of the children without permission from an adult.
- Enjoy a stroll around town, or take a small hike surrounded by our beautiful nature. Please leave native flora, animals and heritage untouched. Leave no trace and pick up your trash.
- Public toilets can be found at Herðubreið Community Center, the Tourist Information Center and at the Camp Site.
- During summertime the church is open during the day and you are welcome to visit.
- There are several waterfalls with walking trails that lead up to them. Tread carefully and with caution as slopes can be slippery. Get a detailed hiking map at the Tourist Information Center.
- Vestdalur and Vestdalseyri are part of a nature reserve with registered cultural heritage and unique vegetation. Please treat these areas with the utmost care and respect.



Photos: Ómar Bogason

Seyðisfjörður is known for its nature, old wooden houses and thriving art scene.



Don't miss the colorful, fun and iconic Rainbow Street on the street of Norðurgata, where you also find the Blue Church.



Photo: visitseydisfjordur.com

You can find the Tvísöngur Sound Sculpture on a mountainside above the town, just a 15-20 minute walk up a gravel path.



PLACES TO GO

- 1 Tvísöngur Sound Sculpture
- 2 Phone Booth Sculpture
- 3 Herðubreið Community Center
- 4 Rainbow Street
- 5 Vestdalseyri & Vestdalur valley
- 6 Tourist Information Center