

# Iceland

**Population:** 341,243 (2020)

**Capital City:** Reykjavik - Most people in Iceland live near the capital city, which is the northernmost capital city in the world. About 80% of Iceland is not inhabited.

**Language:** Icelandic

**Continent:** Europe

**Currency:** Icelandic króna

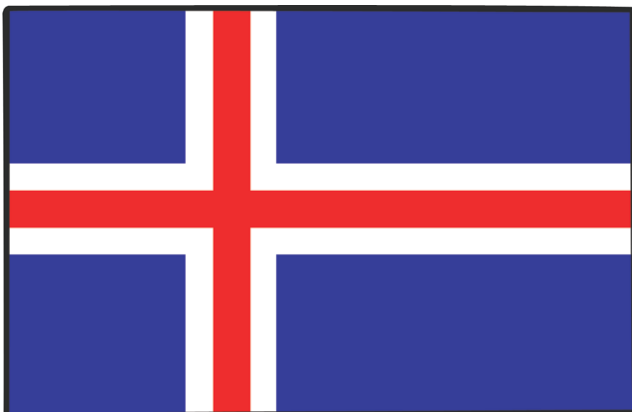
**Government:** Unitary  
Parliamentary Republic

**National Day:** 17<sup>th</sup> of June

**Religion:** Christian

**Famous Norwegians:** Famous Icelanders are the explorer Leif Erikson, nicknamed 'Leif the Lucky', who is known as the first European explorer in North America; Björk the musician; Vigdís Finnbogadóttir the first nationally elected female president in the world and four-time winner of World's Strongest Man Magnús Ver Magnússon.

**Flag:**



## Climate and Geographical Features:

Iceland is sometimes known as the 'Land of Fire and Ice'. This is because it is covered by glaciers but also has more than 20 active volcanoes.

In Iceland, the climate is cold, windy and cloudy for most of the year.

Because of the country's high latitude, in the summer months the sun sets for only a few hours per day. This is known as the "midnight sun". In contrast, there are only around 4-5 hours of daylight during mid-winter.

**Wildlife:** Sheep are the most common farm animals in Iceland. You will also see many seabirds like puffins and whale watching is popular too.