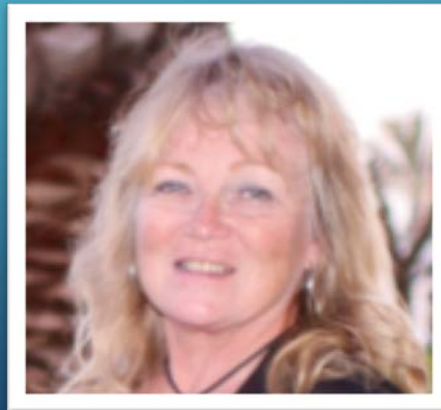


ICELAND OAT TOUR July 2021

With your guide Bryndís Kristjánsdóttir
and Óskar – our good driver.



A GROUP OF GREAT PEOPLE

Stairs from top:

Suzanne Vissers, Patricia Asmussen,
Brian Kramer, Anita Nichols,
Georgia Koch, Sara Foster,
Patricia Brierley, Carol Kerridge,
Nancy Kramer, Victoria Bergstrom,
John Brierley.

Ground:

Stephen Vissers,
Gerald Bottomley and Susanne
Bottomley



SELFOSS PARK EXPLORED



Admiring plants – but there were so many more to come ...



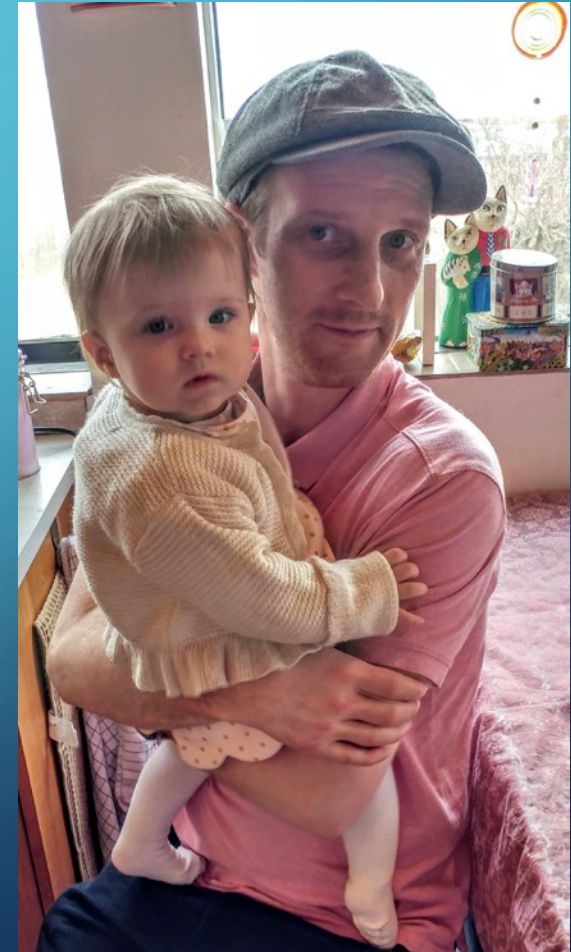
Patsy and Susie having a flower chat in Selfoss park.

But are Brian and Jerry discussing flowers?

After the walk in Selfoss a cup of coffee was needed, so we stopped at Kaffi Krús.



Bryndís' son Egill and his daughter Hanna, came to greet us at the café.



GUÐRÚN AT HESPUHÚSIÐ TALKS ABOUT WOOL COLORING



Georgia and Nancy working on the yarn color jigsaw puzzle.



HESPUHÚSIÐ – KNITTING TIME



- Lots of knitting going on ...

JERRY'S QUALITY TIME AT HESPUHÚSIÐ



It can't be THAT hard . . .



Jerry and Tryggur

SUPER JEEP TOUR WITH INGÓ



Happy people with Ingó, super jeep driver guide

GOOD TIMES ...



Brian and his new truck !



Black sand and green mountains – what can be more dramatic than that?!

GREAT LADIES AT KATLA JÖKULL GLACIER



INGÓ SERVES KATLA VODKA WITH 600 YEAR OLD PIECES OF GLACIER ICE ...



First Ingó broke a piece of ice of Katla jökull glacier. Then broke it into small pieces with ice pick ...



Brian skipped the Katla vodka and only had the 600 year old ice ...



SKÁL !!!!



Everyone enjoying the glacier snaps!



VÍK VILLAGE BLACK SANDED BEACH



One of the most famous black sand beaches in Iceland!

SUPER JEEP TOUR BY KATLA GLACIER



GULLFOSS WATERFALL / GOLDEN WATERFALL



Nancy: "Here he is – this famous Gullfoss waterfall."



Friends on a tour in Iceland;
Carol and Patrica.

GEYSIR – GEOTHERMAL AREA



The colors of nature in geothermal areas are really special – and the flowers also like to show their beauty.

GEYSIR IS THE ORIGINAL "GEYSER"



Here the group is waiting for Geysir's neighbor STROKKUR to spout. Standing by them seems to be one of the Hidden people ...

PINGVELLIR NATIONAL PARK

At Þingvellir national park one can witness the boundaries between two Earth plates: the American one and the Euro-Asian one.

Here our ladies have one foot on the American plate and the other one in Europe – “so to speak.”



PINGVELLIR NATIONAL PARK



Georgia tries to find out on her own body how deep the rift between the plate is ...



BORGARNES

We came to Borgarnes town on the West coast of Iceland, where we spent two nights.

Here we are in Skallagrím's Park, where we saw the burial mound of Egil's father, Skallagrímur, and Egil's son. It dates back to Viking era and can be read about in EGIL'S SAGA.



SNÆFELLSNES PENINSULA - ARNARSTAPI



Freyja – our Norse goddess of nature – did not grant us good weather for our walk along the shoreline of Arnarstapi village.



ARNARSTAPI – SNÆFELLSNES PENINSULA



Well, at least everybody got a chance to use the raingear they brought ...

SAMKOMUHÚSIÐ ARNARSTAPI



It was really good to have a hot lamb stew soup and home baked bread at Ólína's place after our walk in the rain.

WITH *BÁRÐUR*
THE GOOD SPIRIT OF
SNÆFELLSJÖKULL
GLACIER



Made by the sculptor
Ragnar Kjartansson

BJARNARHÖFN SHARK FARM VISIT



From a third generation of shark farmers we got to know everything there is to know about fermenting shark meat.

VICKY EATS THE SHARK ...



Dip IT in the snaps ...



Put IT in your mouth ...



Drink the snaps ...



The snaps was supposed to kill the taste ...



NOW, I understand why Gordon Ramsey spit IT out !!!!

BRIAN EATS SHARK ...



Nothing to it: Shark in the Black Death snaps, then in my mouth ...



OMG!!!



Icelandic Vikings like it, so I will pretend I like it too.

SUZIE EATS THE SHARK!



OK. Here it goes. A tiny piece of shark...



Dip it in the Brennivín ...

“Ha, ha. I bet she can’t go through with it”



And put it in my mouth...

“Oh, no. I think she is going to be sick.”



I am dying!
I must drink the snaps-thing ...

“Ok, Since she survived I guess I’ll have a piece.”



STEVE EATS THE SHARK...



“This can't be right.
Óskar said it was
yummi – I thought he
was my friend”

“It is by far the worst
thing I have ever put
in my mouth”

“But since Suzie ate it,
I MUST do the same”

PATSY EATS THE SHARK ...



It's in my mouth ...



I don't like it. I don't like it ...



Maybe it will taste better with the snaps ...



"Now I am going to die ..."

STÓRA - ÁSGEIRSÁ HORSE FARM



Magnús, the farmer, tells Patsy all about it. (She seems to have recovered from eating the shark).



Magnús' daughter shows us a 20 days old kitten.

PEOPLE AND HORSES WITH MATCHING HAIR COLOR



AT STÓRA - ÁSGEIRSÁ



Anita, horse, green grass
and yellow flowers = HAPPINESS



Vicky and Brian admire Magnús' hot tub with a waterfall view.

THE ROYAL HORSE BACK RIDERS



Lady Georgia, Lady Carol
and Sir Brian.

STÓRA ÁSGEIRSÁ

*Á kraftalegum klárum sit
mína hestavísu flyt
Og þó að enginn hlusti á
þá hef ég mörgu að segja frá*

Magnús has made a small pub out of the former barn, where he entertained us with some of his songs. And we sang with him the refrain that was written on the wall.



DÆLI FARM LODGE



After a really good soup and salad lunch, we sat outside on the veranda to watch a horse show.

DÆLI HORSE SHOW



DÆLI FOREST



Villi, the farmer, and Hrabba, his daughter show us how to plant the trees in the Dæli forest.

DÆLI FOREST PLANTING



Well earned rest after hard work of tree planting.

AND THEN WE'LL EARNED HAPPY HOUR DRINK



Skál, Fiskimenn!



Unnur, who manages the OAT office in Iceland, spent some time with us at Dæli.

GOOD TIMES AT DÆLI



The Happy hour lasted long into the evening ... (but it never got dark).

SIGLUFJÖRÐUR TOWN



SIGLUFJÖRÐUR HERRING MUSEUM



Learning all about the herring era in Iceland.

One of the Herring girls got left behind ...



SIGLUFJÖRÐUR FOLK SONG MUSEUM



It did not take Sara long to master playing the old Icelandic Langspil



AKUREYRI HOTEL



Waiting in the
Happy hour line.



Happy drinks have been gotten ...



Carol having a good time.

MÝVATN LAKE REGION



MÝVATN HOT SPRING BREAD MAKING AND TASTING



KRAFLA GEOTHERMAL POWER PLANT



We visited Krafla geothermal power plant and the two host ladies told us about how Icelanders use the hot water in the ground to produce electricity and heat the houses.



Outside Bryndís offered a taste of BJÖRK birch tree liqueur and HRAUN (Lava) chocolate.

DIMMUBORGIR AT LAKE MÝVATN



BY GATAKLETTUR.

GOÐAFOSS – WATERFALL OF THE GODS



The Bottomley's anniversary photo shoot at Goðafoss waterfall.

AKUREYRI BOTANIC GARDEN



Alexa, Bryndís' grand daughter, by a sleeping cat in the flower bed.



ALL DRESSED UP FOR WHALE WATCHING AT DALVÍK



GÍSLI, EIRÍKUR, HELGI RESTAURANT DALVÍK



Heiða dishes out her tasty sea food soup.
Þormar, a young Dalvík musician, plays his music.
Look for TOR on Spotify.



REYKJAVÍK – OCEAN CLUSTER VISIT



Nanna talks about innovation within the fish industry in Iceland.



Freshly caught fish at the Fish Market.



Steve's forfathers were fishermen, so here he is right at home.

REYKJAVÍK CENTER WALK



What is here to buy?

LUNDI – PUFFIN BOAT RIDE



In Reykjavík most of the group went on an hour long boat tour to Lundy – Puffin island – to see puffin; often called parakeet of the North.

LISTASEL VISIT - ART GALLERY AND FOREST



Erla Axels, told us about her art and family history.



LISTASEL FOREST ART



Guðfinnur, Erla's husband had made the forest around their cabin into a "Magical forest".



FICUS GREENHOUSE VISIT - HVERAGERÐI



Anything can grow in a greenhouse, says Birgir the greenhouse farmer, as he shows us the house plants he grows.

ÁRBÆR OUTDOOR MUSEUM



The old Árbær farm was the "entry" into Reykjavík in the olden days.



Old houses from down town Reykjavík have been preserved here so the history of Reykjavík back in the days will not be forgotten.

ÁRBÆR MUSEUM STORE ...



Museum stores are always so interesting ...



Georgia and Sara's anniversary photo



PREPARING TO GO BACK TO USA – COVID TEST



The only time a mask
had to be worn ...

BLUE LAGOON – UNIQUE EXPERIENCE



It is not easy to take photos in the steam ... photos; courtesy of Sara Foster.

White silica mask makes all the difference !
The soft blue-green water of the lagoon just feels so good, and makes you feel like a new person after the soakubg.

PREPARING LUNCH



After shopping at the super market lunch was prepared; *A Taste of Icelandic Christmas.*

EATING AND LEARNING AT THE SAME TIME



As we enjoyed our lunch of "Taste of Icelandic Christmas" we listened to members of Search and Rescue team in Vogar village tell us about their work.



VISITING SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM VOGAR



THANK YOU – AND COME BACK AGAIN !

I hope this overview
in pictures of our
OAT journey in
Iceland brings back
good memories.

You are always
welcome back.
Your guide and
friend in Iceland.

Bryndís

