Circumnavigation of Iceland

Cruising aboard the
Exclusively Chartered, New Small Ship
Five-Star Le Bellot

June 28 to July 6, 2020
Round-Trip Air Included from Select Cities

RESERVE BY NOVEMBER 20, 2019
Dear York University alumnus/alumna,

Join fellow alumni and their friends for this unforgettable exploration through Iceland’s seemingly endless variations of magnificent scenery and fascinating cultural heritage. This program is specially designed by Gohagan & Company and their team of professional travel directors and expert guides, who will also accompany you on your journey to ensure you receive maximum enjoyment from your experience.

On this seven-night circumnavigation, you’ll experience close encounters with Iceland’s primal landscapes and unique wildlife at the best time of year, when the Midnight Sun of the summer solstice melds into lingering twilight. Cruise aboard the exclusively chartered, Five-Star Le Bellot—launching in 2020—able to cruise into small ports inaccessible to larger vessels and to alter course as ethereal waterways, rugged fjords and magisterial glaciers unfold before you.

Explore Reykjavík, the world’s northernmost capital and a vibrant example of Iceland’s egalitarian society. Visit seldom-trod islands and hamlets where mythic lore and epic sagas of Iceland’s national identity are passed down through generations. Cruise into Siglufjörður, cross the Arctic Circle on Grimsey Island, touch ice fragments calved from Breiðamerkurjökull in UNESCO-designated Vatnajökull National Park and marvel at dramatic Goðafoss, the “Waterfall of the Gods.” Look for orcas and humpback whales as you cruise past Surtsey, one of Earth’s youngest islands and a UNESCO World Heritage site. Uncover the history of Iceland’s “Pompeii of the North” on fascinating Heimaey Island, where houses hemmed by hardened lava flow from Eldfell volcano are clustered beneath towering cliffs populated by multitudes of puffins, fulmars and guillemots.

This program includes round-trip air from Toronto and select U.S. cities or Low Air Add-Ons for an additional $200 USD per person from Chicago, Dallas and Minneapolis, or an additional $300 USD per person from Denver, Portland, San Francisco, Seattle and Vancouver.†† Make your reservation now while space and Early Booking Savings are still available!

Feel free to call or email me questions you may have about York’s Alumni Travel Program. You can also visit our website at yorku.ca/alumnitravel.

Warmest regards,

Melanie McLean
Travel Planner, Alumni Engagement
York University
Email: mcleanm@yorku.ca
Tel: 1-866-876-2228

You’ve received this mailing because you are a member of the York University Alumni Association. Alumni Educational Travel is a new benefit for alumni. If you would rather not receive mailings about the Alumni Educational Travel Program please let us know, either by email to alumni@yorku.ca or call 1-866-876-2228.

††Included Air and Low Air Add-Ons have limited availability and are not guaranteed.
U.S. Sunday, July 5
Depart the U.S.

Reykjavík, Iceland Monday, July 6
Arrive in Reykjavík, a UNESCO Creative City of Literature. See the idyllic parks and botanical gardens of Laugardalur, where a geothermal, Olympic-sized outdoor swimming pool speaks to Iceland’s seemingly endless supply of natural hot water. Continue to the impressive National Museum, where over 2000 artifacts—including the priceless 13th-century Valþjófsstaður church door—provide a comprehensive account of Iceland’s history and culture. Visit Hallgrímskirkja church, whose distinct silhouette rises above Reykjavík’s skyline. Continue to Reykjavík’s old town center, a compact core of narrow streets lined with small, colorful houses, before boarding Le Bellot. (b,d)

Please note that the ship’s cruising pattern and direction are dependent on weather and sea conditions and are subject to change.

Vigur Island/Ísafjörður Tuesday, July 7
Enjoy the morning cruise to the awe-inspiring, seldom-visited Westfjords peninsula. On verdant Vigur Island—home to a single farming family—observe Arctic terns, black guillemots, eiders and thousands of puffins in their natural habitat. See relics of Iceland’s traditional farming heritage, including the nation’s only windmill and a 200-year-old rowboat still used to ferry sheep to the mainland. Enjoy sweeping fjord views and keep watch for whales, dolphins and seals. Visit Iceland’s smallest post office and savor coffee and cakes served by our hosts in their home, the picturesque 19th-century Viktoria House. This afternoon, cruise up Ísafjarðardjúp, the dominant fjord of this remote 14-million-year-old region, framed by the dramatic rise of rugged mountains. Near the town of Ísafjörður, visit the open-air Ósvör Maritime Museum, where restored 19th-century fishermen’s huts and fishing equipment vividly depict the harsh reality of the lives of generations of Iceland’s fishermen.

Tour Ísafjörður’s Westfjords Heritage Museum, where fishing and nautical exhibits, including tools from whaling days and evocative old photos, relate this remote outpost’s fascinating maritime history.

Attend the Captain’s Welcome Reception this evening. (b,l,r,d)

Siglufjörður/Grímsey Island/Arctic Circle Wednesday, July 8
Clinging to the foot of steep mountain walls at the entrance to a gorgeous fjord, charming Siglufjörður is one of Iceland’s most dramatically sited towns. Multicolored houses lead to a bustling harbor, the hub of the town’s fishing industry. Siglufjörður celebrates the glory days of herring fishing at the award-winning Herring Era Museum, which recreates the history of fish salting and oil processing during the early 20th century.

Explore Vigur Island, where Iceland’s only windmill, built in 1840, sits on the serene seashore.

Spot black guillemots resting on the shore and cliff faces.

See gemlike Goðafoss, set among northern Iceland’s craggy lava fields and rich green pastures.

Cover photo: Touch the ice that has calved off of the luminously blue Breiðamerkurjökull glacier.
Enjoy a music-filled performance illustrating síldarsöltun (traditional herring salting process).

Return to the ship and cruise to Grímsey Island, which straddles the top of the world at 66 degrees north. Craggy coastal cliffs and basalt formations host dozens of species of seabirds, including puffins and auks. Walk across the Arctic Circle, where the island is lush with vegetation. (b,l,d)

Húsavík for Lake Mývatn Thursday, July 9
Explore northern Iceland’s extraordinary natural landscapes, stopping at Námaskarð—a geothermal wonder of boiling, sulfurous mudpots—and the pseudocraters at Skútustaðir, formed when hot lava flowed across the wetlands over 2000 years ago. Walk among the surreal “dark castle” lava formations of Dimmuborgir and drive along the shores of cerulean Lake Mývatn, a birder’s paradise harboring many rare migratory birds and 14 species of Iceland’s bountiful wild ducks.

Continue to Goðafoss, or “Waterfall of the Gods.” According to legend, this waterfall earned its name when an Icelandic lawspeaker threw wooden statues of Norse gods into its waters, signifying his conversion to Christianity. (b,l,d)

Seyðisfjörður Friday, July 10
Seyðisfjörður is a tranquil, 11-mile-long fjord that winds toward its eponymous town, a thriving artist’s community where colorful, chalet-style houses shelter beneath Mount Strandartindur and Mount Bjölfur (Beowulf).

Look for gregarious orcas in Iceland’s coastal waters.

Explore the sulfuric mudpots of Námaskard, where the mineral-rich, desert-toned terrain appears almost Mars-like.
Visit the sky-hued Blue Church and observe a specially arranged cultural and musical performance. Continue to the Technical Museum to learn more about the mechanical and architectural innovations that characterize this island nation, and enjoy light refreshments. (b,l,d)

**Djúpivogur for Jökulsárlón**

**Saturday, July 11**

Enjoy a full-day scenic excursion, with lunch, along Iceland's east coast with stunning mountain views.

Board a specially designed small boat for a private cruise amid the luminous blue icebergs of Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon and touch the ice that has calved off the outlet tidewater glacier. These mesmerizing ice sculptures can spend up to five years floating in the lagoon before moving out to sea via Iceland's shortest river. (b,l,d)

**Heimaey, Westman Islands/Cruise along Surtsey Island**

**Sunday, July 12**

Arrive at Heimaey Island, part of the Vestmannaeyjar (Westman Islands) archipelago, and stop at Sprangan, the craggy cliff where young islanders learn the local pastime of rope swinging. See the ruins of ancient Viking farmhouses dating from A.D. 650 in Herjólfsdalur Valley, observe Heimaey’s largest puffin colony from the headland of Stórhöfði and view a timbered stave church in scenic Skansinn. See the imposing Eldfell volcano and tour the Eldheimar Museum, which chronicles its fateful activity of 1973 and the subsequent impact on the community.

This evening, cruise along the coast of Surtsey Island, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Created by volcanic activity between 1963 and 1967, it is one of the youngest and most fragile islands on Earth; scientists continually study the evolution of flora and fauna. Be on the lookout for graceful orcas that frequent the region.

Join your traveling companions for the Captain's Farewell Reception this evening. (b,l,r,d)

**Reykjavík/U.S.**

**Monday, July 13**

Following breakfast, disembark and transfer to the airport for your return flight to the U.S. (b)

The captivating city of Reykjavík and its surrounding natural wonders provide you with the perfect introduction to Iceland. Visit the famous Blue Lagoon and rejuvenate in the warmth of its mineral-rich geothermal waters surrounded by black lava fields. Tour the legendary Golden Circle—UNESCO World Heritage-designated Pingvellir National Park, the thundering terraced cataract of Gullfoss and Strokkur, possibly the world’s most iconic fountain geyser. Take in the stunning panoramas from the futuristic glass dome of the Perlan Museum and discover its immersive exhibits on volcanoes, earthquakes and geothermal zones. Accommodations are for two nights in the deluxe Hotel Borg.

The Pre-Program Option is available at additional cost. Details will be included with your reservation confirmation.

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Luxury Small Ship, Innovative Design
Le Bellot, launching in 2020, represents a new generation of Five-Star small ships, combining revolutionary design and a new standard of luxury for unparalleled cruising. Dock in smaller ports inaccessible to larger ships where authentic cultural experiences and majestic scenery await you.

Blue Eye – World’s First Multisensory, Underwater Observation Lounge
Introducing the extraordinary Blue Eye, the world’s first multisensory, underwater Observation Lounge. View the beauty of marine life‡‡ through the large, subaquatic windows and integrated digital screens providing live images from underwater cameras, and enjoy the sensory experience of listening to the ocean’s unique underwater universe in the comfort of the exclusive Blue Eye lounge.

Life on Board
Enjoy sweeping views from the lounges— which open to the outdoors—and lectures, cultural performances or film screenings in the state-of-the-art theater. Relax in the spa and sauna or the Sun Deck’s infinity-style swimming pool. The ship has a beauty salon, a fitness room and three elevators. Complimentary Wi-Fi access is available (conditions permitting).

Elegant Suites and Staterooms, 100% with Private Balconies
Each of the 92 Five-Star Staterooms and Suites (up to 484 square feet) features a private balcony. Grand Deluxe Suites have a bay window and spacious private terrace. Accommodations offer two twin beds or one queen bed, individual climate control and a private bathroom with a shower and luxury hotel-style amenities.

Chic and Casual Dining
Dine indoors or alfresco on international and regional cuisine served in the stylish, spacious indoor-outdoor restaurant, at the casual pool deck grill or from 24-hour room service. Daily meals include continental and buffet breakfasts, buffet lunch, afternoon tea and four-course dinner.

Respect for the Environment
A state-of-the-art addition to the Ponant “Clean Ship” fleet, an important certification among ocean-cruising vessels, Le Bellot is energy efficient and eco-friendly, protecting fragile marine ecosystems.

World-Class Service
The highly trained, English-speaking crew is personable and attentive, and the ship has a medical center staffed with a doctor and a nurse.

‡‡Marine life viewing varies by location.
Included

◆◆ Round-trip air from select gateways† with Low Air Add-Ons available at additional cost‡
◆◆ Seven nights aboard the exclusively chartered, new Five-Star Le BELLOT
◆◆ Cruise round trip Reykjavík, Iceland, featuring port calls at Vigur Island, Siglufjörður, Grímsey Island, Húsvík for Lake Mývatn, Seyðisfjörður, Djúpivogur for Jökulsárlón and Heimaey, Westman Islands.
◆◆ Meals as specified in the itinerary
◆◆ Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages available throughout the program
◆◆ Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions
◆◆ All entrance fees and tours as described in the itinerary
◆◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s)
◆◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers
◆◆ Hospitality desk in the hotel and aboard ship
◆◆ Complimentary bottled water in your accommodations and on excursions
◆◆ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions
◆◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors throughout the program
◆◆ Pre-departure materials, including a reading list
◆◆ Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company

Not Included

◆◆ Taxes of $455 per person (subject to change)
◆◆ Gratuities to ship personnel ($105 per person recommended)
◆◆ Hotel staff gratuities (Pre-Program Option – $2 per person per day recommended) and gratuities for activities on your own
◆◆ Passport and visa fees
◆◆ Meals and alcoholic beverages not listed as included
◆◆ Transfers and baggage handling to/from airport/hotel on day(s) of arrival and/or departure if you are arriving earlier or later than and/or departing earlier or later than the scheduled group transfer(s)
◆◆ Any overnight on land due to flight schedule(s)
◆◆ Personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls and Internet access (unless otherwise specified)
◆◆ Accident/sickness, trip cancellation and baggage insurance
◆◆ Baggage charges on aircraft; airfare and associated local taxes not listed as included
◆◆ Airport facility taxes and federal inspection fees not listed as included
◆◆ All other services not specifically mentioned in the “Included” section

†† Included Air and Low Air Add-Ons have limited availability and are not guaranteed.
A land of unparalleled geological riches, Iceland is home to 11,600 square kilometres of glaciers, 30 active volcanic systems, 800 hot springs and over 10,000 waterfalls. Born of the monumental forces unleashed during the movement of the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates and carved out by formidable glaciers and incredible waterfalls, the land is a combination of intense natural energy and veritable calm. The topography of Iceland continues to evolve, yet many of its landscapes remain nearly unchanged since the first Viking settlers laid eyes on them more than 1100 years ago.

During your circumnavigation, see volcanic craters and fissures, watch as bubbling hot springs erupt steam into the air against a backdrop of Mars-like terrain, encounter pristine waterfalls and black lava deserts, and witness the stoic majesty of mountains capped with snow and volcanoes slumbering beneath sheets of ice. Along the coast, Iceland’s characteristic fjords chronicle the powerful path of the glaciers. Enjoy these natural wonders, in constant flux as glaciers calve and shift and new mountains emerge from volcanic lava flow. A startlingly beautiful portrait of Earth’s history and progress, Iceland is a primordial landscape hewn by the forces of fire and ice.

Explore “Diamond Beach” along Jökulsárlón glacial lagoon, where glistening ice formations contrast the slaty sand. 

Encounter the majesty of Strokkur, a fountain geyser that jets hot water toward the sky every six to eight minutes, on the Reykjavík and the Golden Circle Pre-Program Option.
Le Bellot has been specially contracted for this program, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from...

Add $1000 USD for reservations made after November 20, 2019.

Singles are available in category 5 at $15295 USD* and in category 2 at $17995 USD* on or before November 20, 2019.

Grand Deluxe

Chicago, Illinois 60604-1446
209 South LaSalle Street, Suite 500
c/o Gohagan & Company

credit card by March 25, 2020.

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by cheque, wire transfer or

Grand Deluxe Suite

Extra-large, two-room Suite, expansive sliding glass door, spacious private terrace, full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bath, sitting area with sofa. Deck 6. (limited availability)

Owner’s Suite

Extra-large, two-room Suite, expansive sliding glass door, spacious private terrace, with outdoor Jacuzzi, full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bath, sitting area with sofa. Deck 5. (limited availability)

$15295 $16295

CIRCUMNAVIGATION of ICELAND RESERVATION FORM

Send to: 2020 Circumnavigation of Iceland
York University Alumni
209 South LaSalle Street, Suite 500
Chicago, Illinois 60614-1046

For more information, please call Gohagan & Company at (800) 922-3088.

Title Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport) Grad. Year
Title Full Name (exactly as it appears on your passport) Grad. Year
Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Box number please)
City Province Postal Code
Telephone: (Home) (Mobile)
Email Address (Business)

Preferred Name(s) on Badge(s) Program No. 107-06/28/20-528

Program reservations require a deposit of $900 USD per person and $200 USD per person Reykjavi k and the Golden Circle Pre-Program Option. By reserving and depositing on this program, I/we agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

Enclosed is my/our cheque(s) for $ , as deposit.

Make cheques payable to Gohagan & Company.

I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $ to:

Visa MasterCard

Card Number Exp. Date

Signature as it appears on credit card

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by cheque, wire transfer or credit card by March 25, 2020.

Please make my/our reservation(s) in category:
1st choice ______ 2nd choice ______

Double occupancy (two twin beds).
Double occupancy (one queen bed).
Single accommodations.

I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my/our roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Please make my/our reservation(s):
Reykjavik and the Golden Circle Pre-Program Option
Double at $1495 USD per person.
Single at $2195 USD per person.
I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations.

Please make my/our air arrangements* (choose one and fill in departure city):

Included economy-class flights from select cities listed above.
Low Air Add-Ons are available for $200 USD per person from Chicago, Dallas and Minneapolis, and $300 USD per person from Denver, Portland, San Francisco, Seattle and Vancouver.*

* Taxes are an additional $455 USD per person and are subject to change.

Le Bellot has been specially contracted for this program, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

 mv Le Bellot
See puffins, nicknamed “little brothers of the north.”

Included Air, however, is not guaranteed to be available on any such changes. Upgraded economy and business class may be available at additional cost.

CANCELLATION INSTRUCTIONS: All travel arrangements will be handled by the program’s Travel Partner, Gohagan. All guests are responsible for all costs and fees associated with changes to the program. Pre-Progamm must be in writing and for purposes of determining cancellation fees are effective the date received by Gohagan. The following cancellation fees will apply to all deposits received prior to the non-refundable date, not the Early Booking Tariff, regardless of the actual booking date. Pre-Progamm Cancellations:

Time of booking through 120 days prior to the departure day from the United States or Canada: $300 usd per person plus any applicable airline cancellation fees. Once ticketed, the airfare is nonrefundable.

119 through 95 days prior to the departure day from the United States or Canada: $900 usd per person plus any applicable airline cancellation fees. Once ticketed, the airfare is nonrefundable.

59 days or less prior to the departure day from the United States or Canada, no-show or early return from the program = 100% of the published Full Tariff plus any applicable airline cancellation fees. Once ticketed, the airfare is nonrefundable.

Not included: Taxes; passport, visa and associated fees; personal expenses such as alcoholic beverages; additional transportation services; pre- or post-trip travel and/or stay; travel insurance; and tipping.

LUGGAGE: Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without notice.

PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY: All travel arrangements are rights managed and cannot be used without permission.

Acceptance of contract: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Claims statement.

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