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6 x winner Best School Tour Operator

Endorsed for Pearson Edexcel Qualifications

EDUCATING • EXPLORING • EXCELLING

5 day Geography Tour to Iceland

Pearson Edexcel GCSE Geography B - Component 1: Topic 1: Hazardous Earth

ABTA The Travel Association

ATOL 9233 PROTECTED

stf SCHOOL TRAVEL FORUM ASSURED STANDARDS SINCE 2007

Quality Badge awarded by Council for Learning Outside the Classroom

ABTOT Financial Protection for Travel

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ENDORSEMENT STATEMENT

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To ensure high-quality support for the Pearson qualification, this resource has been reviewed by the awarding body. The review confirms it fully covers the relevant specification content, balancing subject skills, knowledge, understanding, and assessment preparation.

Endorsement excludes guidance on assessment activities or methods (e.g., practice questions) and does not prescribe specific teaching approaches. The official specification and assessment guidance remain the authoritative sources for definitive information.

Pearson examiners have not contributed to exam-related sections, nor will endorsed resources be used to create assessments. Endorsement does not imply this resource is required or the only suitable option; other resources may also support the qualification.

Programme Day 1

- **Arrive at UK airport for flight to Iceland**: Prior to arriving at the airport, our agency's representative will call you to agree a meeting point in the terminal building. The representative will assist with your group check-in and directing and assisting your group through security.
- Flight departs - **Flight Number**
- **Evening:** Transfer to accommodation and check-in. Have dinner in your accommodation.

Top tip: '*Key themes*' links provided by the endorsed body will be referenced in this format for each relevant visit.

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Programme Day 2

- Following breakfast, collect packed lunches and depart the hotel. Group to meet their local **Specialist Geography guide** for the **Golden Circle Tour**.

- **The Secret Lagoon**: What better way to start off your day than a relaxing soak outdoors in the warm waters of Iceland's oldest swimming pool, formed by the area's hot springs. This spot has new changing facilities, a café and a viewing deck.

> ***Tectonic activity**: The causes and impact of tectonic activity. What are the possible uses of geothermal energy? How has it been harnessed in a sustainable manner?*

- **Thingvellir National Park & Visitors Centre**: Set foot down into the rift between the North American and Eurasian plates and learn much about Iceland's past at this historic site.

> ***Tectonic activity**: The causes and impact of tectonic activity. The layered structure of the Earth. What are tectonic plates? What activities occur around plate boundaries and why? What are Convergent, Divergent and Conservative plate boundaries and how do they differ? How the core's internal heat source generates convection.*

- **Gulfoss**: An opportunity to view this spectacular site with its two waterfalls, with a combined drop of 32 metres and the impressive Gullfossgjúfur canyon.

> ***Climate change**: What geographical features can be identified by the landscape? What factors created the falls and the canyon? When was it formed?*

- **Haukadalur geothermal area:** Your chance to study hot springs, fumaroles, mud pots and geysers, including the famous Great Geysir and the active Strokkur in action.

> ***Tectonic activity**: The causes and impact of tectonic activity. The Earth's internal heat source. Why are these features present in the Haukadalur valley?*

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- **Kerid Crater**: This volcanic crater lake is believed to be a collapsed magma chamber from a volcanic eruption that occurred more than 6,000 years ago.

> ***Tectonic activity**: Causes of contrasting volcanic and earthquake hazards. What happened at this site to cause this crater type?*

- **Evening**: Arrive back at the hotel for your evening meal/evening at leisure.

Programme Day 3

- Following breakfast, collect packed lunches and depart the hotel. Group to meet local **Specialist Geography guide** for the **Wonders of Reykjanes Peninsular tour.**

- **Hvergerdi Geothermal Park:** This is an area of geothermal activity, where students also get the opportunity to boil an egg on the earth.

> ***Tectonic activity**: The causes and impact of tectonic activity. What features are present in Hvergerdi and why are they here? The use and management of activity by the local community.*

- **Quake 2008**: A simulator dedicated to a local earthquake in 2008, in which students in groups of four will experience the ride, recreating the earthquake that measure 6.8 on the Richter scale.

> ***Tectonic activity**: The exposure of people to risks and their ability to cope with tectonic hazard changes over time; Primary and secondary impacts of earthquakes or volcanoes on property and people. Prompts discussions of short-term relief and supply.*

- **Krýsuvík:** This impressive geothermal area is the location of impressive mud pools and hot springs.

> ***Tectonic activity**: What features of tectonic activity are present in Krýsuvík and why are they here?*

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- **Graenesvatn (Green lake):** Back on the coach, your group will pass the 45 metre deep Graenesvatn, dyed a sea-foam green due to the high amount of sulphur in it, and Lake Kleifarvatn; that has no visible surface drainage despite its levels dropping dramatically in a 2008 eruption. There is also lava pillow to see nearby.

> ***Tectonic activity**: Primary and secondary impacts of earthquakes*

- **Reykjanes Fissure Eruptions Area:** Fissure eruptions in the last few years, including November 2024, have made headlines particularly around the town of Grindavík and the Blue Lagoon. You will drive through safe zones of the area with your expert guide seeing fresh smoking lava fields and the impact on properties, roads and people.

> ***Tectonic activity**: The causes and impact of contrasting tectonic activity. Primary and secondary impacts of earthquakes or volcanoes on property and people management of volcanic or earthquake hazards in a developed country.*

- **Brimketill Lava Rock Pool:** This large natural lava rock pool sits at the bottom of a cliff at the oceans edge, carved by the pounding of waves against soft lava rocks.

> ***Tectonic activity**: Primary and secondary impacts of volcanoes. What coastal processes have occurred here?*

- **Gunnunver:** In this geothermal area, you can watch the boiling salt-water mud pools and vibrant escaping steam from a viewing platform.

> ***Tectonic activity**: What features of tectonic activity are present in Gunnunver and why are they here?*

- **Reykjanesviti Lighthouse:** Take in the magnificent coastline and dramatic breaking waves from this working lighthouse perched on a volcanic cone, and enjoy the 360-degree panorama from the cliff tops.

> ***Coastal landscapes**: What processes have created, and continue to shape the landscape of the Reykjanes Peninsular?*

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- **The Bridge Between Continents:** Step out on to the bridge which connects the American and Eurasian tectonic plates, another magnificent site and photo opportunity.

> ***Tectonic activity**: The layered structure of the Earth. Distribution and characteristics of the three plate boundary types. What activities occur around plate boundaries and why? What are Convergent, Divergent and Conservative plate boundaries and how do they differ?*

Additional options:
The Perlan Centre - With its excellent exhibitions and 100m long ice cave; which is made from over 350 tons of snow and is the first of its kind in the world!

- **Evening:** Arrive back at the hotel for your evening meal in the hotel/evening at leisure.

Programme Day 4

- Following breakfast, collect packed lunches and depart the hotel. Group to meet their local **Specialist Geography guide** for the **South Shore tour**.
    - **Lava Tunnel Tour:** Explore the magnificent lava tunnel **Raufarhólshellir**, one of the longest and best-known lava tubes in Iceland.

> ***Tectonic activity:** What causes volcanic activity? Why does Iceland have so many active volcanoes? Managing the impact of volcanic or earthquake hazards.*

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- **Seljalandsfoss:** Visit one of Iceland's most beautiful waterfalls, where you will have the chance to walk behind the falls themselves; the perfect photograph opportunity.

> ***Climate change and coastal landscapes:*** *What type of waterfall is Seljalandsfoss and how do its origins differ from Skógafoss?*

- **Skógafoss:** See where the Skógá River tumbles over cliffs of the former coastline, which now lies roughly 5 kilometres away.

> ***Climate change and coastal landscapes:*** *What type of waterfall is Skógafoss? What is isostatic rebound and how has it changed the landscape around the falls?*

- **Sólheimajökull:** One of Iceland's most accessible **glaciers**. It is just a 10-minute walk from the car park to the glacial lagoon, where you will be met by an impressive view of the glacier wall and its retreat into the valley behind.

> ***Climate change and tectonic activity:*** *What is a glacier and how is it formed? Why is Sólheimajökull stained black and what does this tell us about earlier tectonic activity? What factors are causing the glacier to retreat?*

- **Reynisfjara:** Walk along the black volcanic beaches where you will have a chance to see the impressive basalt columns formed from cooled volcanic eruptions and the wonderful sea-stacks at the site.

> ***Coastal landscapes:*** *What processes have created the landscape of the south shore? How have the various rocks present at Reynisfjara been affected by erosion?*

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- **Evening:** Arrive back at the hotel for your evening meal in the hotel/evening at leisure.

Programme Day 5

- Following breakfast, collect packed lunches and depart the hotel. Group to meet their local **Specialist Geography guide** - *visits subject to time of return flight.*
- **Hellisheidi Power Station:** Visit and learn about this impressive site, with its modern Geothermal Exhibitions and viewpoints out over the facility.

> ***Tectonic activity:*** *The use and management of geothermic activity by the local community. What are the possible uses of geothermal energy? How has it been harnessed in a sustainable manner? Latest developments in energy technology.*

- Transfer to **Keflavik airport** (Main Terminal) for your return flight. Upon your return to the UK, you will again be met by an **airport representative** who will assist with escorting the group through immigration and direct you to baggage reclaim.