



On your own

Hiking

Route 1: Avalanche wall

Total distance: 9-10 km

Follow the yellow line on the map. From the harbour, work your way through Ísafjörður until you come to the long hill that leads up to the cross-country ski area. The road that takes you up

this hill is actually open for cars, but during the summer it is mostly used by hikers and bikers. On your way up you walk through a very short tunnel and a little bit later you make a right-hand turn towards the old ski-hut, which is now just an abandoned building. From there you can enjoy a beautiful view over Ísafjörður. You should also see your ship quite clearly. To return to

town, walk on the top of the avalanche wall (easy to find from the house) but watch your step as the surface can be a bit rough. When you come to a path that cuts across the wall, turn left towards Ísafjörður.

Route 1b: Avalanche wall + Tungudalur

Total distance: 13-14 km

Same as described above except: As you walk down the avalanche wall and come to the path that cuts across it, now turn right and follow the yellow,

dotted line. The path will take you to the golf clubhouse. Walk along the road past the golf course until you have a campsite on your left hand side and a small but beautiful waterfall on your right hand side. If you want to get closer to the waterfall, follow the path, it only takes a few minutes.

Route 1c: Avalanche wall + Tungudalur Express

Total distance: 9-10 km

Start exactly the same as Route 1. Shortly after you start walking up the

road towards the cross-country ski area, you will find a path, marked with a blue sign. Follow the path, as indicated by the yellow, dotted line on the map. It takes you over the avalanche wall and all the way to the small waterfall. To get back to Ísafjörður, follow the green line past the golf course and further on to town.

Route 2: Tungudalur + cross country ski area:

Total distance 11-12 km

Follow the green line on the map. This rather strenuous walk actually starts on a flat and comfortable terrain. Use the walking path next to the road. As you come to the bottom of the fjord, some 3 km from the harbour, turn right to enter the valley of Tungudalur (a small river and a sign for golf and camping will indicate where to turn). When you come to the golf clubhouse, keep on walking past the golf course until you come to a car park and see a small but nice waterfall on the right hand side. Take the path on the right hand side of the river and follow it past the waterfall. The path might be unclear as you proceed higher up, but you will easily see the ski-hut above you, so just aim for it and follow the river. Note that parts of the path, especially when you go past the waterfall, can be somewhat challenging and uncomfortable to walk. Please be cautious.

When you reach the ski area, take some time to admire the view before descending back to town. You can either follow the gravel road or walk on the avalanche wall, as described in Route 1.

Biking

Route 3: Óshlíð (Bolungarvík)

Total distance: 25 -30km

Leave town as indicated by the red arrow. Please use the path next to the road. This relatively flat back-and-forth route first takes you to our small neighbouring village Hnífsdalur, some 4 km from Ísafjörður. As you come past Hnífsdalur you will see where the main road enters a tunnel. However, some 400 meters before the tunnel you

make a right hand turn onto a road that continues along the coastline. Now you are just about to enter the scenic but infamous Óshlíð. This road is now closed for car traffic but has become very popular for biking and hiking. Please note, though, that rocks and slides are not uncommon there. Also, as the road is not really maintained anymore, there are points where the forces of nature have done some serious damages, so please be cautious. From Óshlíð you have a wonderful view out to the sea, the coast on the other side and up to the mountains and cliffs right above you. After some 12-13 km you will come to a small, yellow lighthouse and the popular Ósvör maritime museum. If you wish, you can continue to the village Bolungarvík, 3 km further on. Return to Ísafjörður along the same route.

Bike 'n hike

Route 4: Naustahvilft (Troll seat)

Total distance 13-17 km

Bike out of Ísafjörður as shown by the green line on the map. When the green line turns right towards Tungudalur, you carry on straight, as shown by the orange line. Bike past the Bónus supermarket, to the residential area Holtahverfi. This is the end of the separate bike/walking path. From now on you are on the road. As you get past the residential area you can either take the shortcut across the fjord or turn right to go around it orange dotted line. Most people prefer to go around the fjord on their way to Naustahvilft, and then take the shortcut when they return. The bird life is often quite lively by the coast, and also at the airport which you will pass just before you find the small carpark that marks the beginning of the hike. There is no real path leading up to Naustahvilft, but this is a relatively simple walk, just straight up. It takes around 30 minutes for most people, and you are not much faster going down as you need to watch your step in the steep hill. Follow the pink and green lines back and remember to use the path as soon as you can.