ICELAND - PRODUCER'S BRIEFING FOR FIRST CONTACT



Introduction: Settled by Norwegian and Celtic (Scottish and Irish) immigrants during the 9th century, Iceland boasts the world's oldest functioning legislative assembly, the Althingi, established in 930. After almost 500 years under Danish sovereignty, it became independent in 1944. Today, Iceland is a member of NATO but maintains a policy of no standing army, instead focusing on search and rescue operations and maintaining a strong civil defense. It is not a member of the EU, but a strong partner by any means.

Cultural Practices: Self-sufficiency, work ethic and independence are strongly valued here, and the brusque manners of Icelanders hide a friendly, helpful nature reflected in a dedication to the immediate community. Icelanders value punctuality, respect, and equality. Professional interactions are direct and efficient, with a strong focus on practicality and clear communication.

Tipping Guidelines: Tipping is not customary in Iceland, as service charges are typically included in bills. However, rounding up in restaurants or taxis is appreciated for exceptional service.

Climate: Iceland has a subarctic climate with cool summers and cold winters. Weather can be unpredictable, with frequent rain and strong winds, particularly in coastal areas. The northern regions and the highlands are typically colder, and daylight varies significantly with the seasons.

Religion: Evangelical Lutheran 62.3%, other Christian 11.8%, other 26%

US Embassy Contact Information: Laufásvegur 21, 101 Reykjavík, Iceland; +354 595 2200; https://is.usembassy.gov/; Email: ReykjavíkACS@state.gov

General Facts:

Regional Division Northern Europe

Capital Reykjavík

Airport Code / Airport Name KEF / Keflavík International Airport

Country Code 2 digits / 3 digits IS / ISL
Population 364,036
Language (Major Languages) Icelandic

Travel Facts:

Telephone Code / Code Dial 354 Local Emergency Phone 112

International Driving Permit Recommended

Road Driving Side Right
Time Zone / Time Difference UTC +00:00

Currency Code / Exchange Rate \$ -> ISK | Icelandic Krona (ISK) / 1\$: 136 ISK

Electricity / Voltage / Plug Type(s) 230 V / 50 Hz / C, F Passport / Visa Requirements Yes / 90 days in 180 days

Working Permits for US Citizens Necessary

Filming incentives:

Film Commission National 25-35% reimbursement

Film Commission Federal No VFX Grant Yes

Working conditions:

Working hours per day 11 + break

Working hours per week 55
Working days per week 5
Overtime +78%

Breaks 60 min after 5th hour

Turnaround 10 hours
Fringes / self-employed self-employed

Unions common but not mandatory

Filming infrastructure:

Crews internationally experienced, English speaking Equipment equipmed with cutting-edge equipment

Studios in the following cities Themed backlot sets include Specials -

Landscape & Architecture: Dramatic volcanic landscapes, cascading waterfalls, geothermal wonders, rugged coastlines, majestic glaciers, Northern Lights spectacle, Viking heritage, untamed wilderness. Architectural styles range from traditional turf houses to modern Scandinavian designs.