SNORKELING IN SILFRA FISSURE

YOUR GUIDE TO SNORKELING IN THE MAGICAL VISIBILITY WONDERLAND

Silfra fissure is one of the most amazing places one can visit in the world. Diving or snorkeling through the crystal clear glacial water is an experience like no other as Silfra fissure is actually the only place in the world where you can go diving or snorkeling in between the tectonic plates and the visibility is so great is almost feels like you are flying. But before, you take the plunge there are a few things we want you to know.

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SNORKELING

The experience of snorkeling in Silfra is otherworldly and probably the most exciting adventure you will do in Iceland it does not require any certification or previous snorkeling experience, actually the only requirements are that you can swim independently and are in good physical shape.

“Lazy current”

Running through the fissure is a slow beautiful glacial water current. For the first half of the snorkeling experience, you will float along in the same direction as the current. For the second half, you might have to swim against this slight current, this is not challenging, but does require that you are able to swim.

Age limit for snorkeling:

The minimum age for snorkeling in Silfra is 12 years and minors under the age of 18 need to be in the company of a guardian. Although there is no upper age limit elderly people in bad physical shape are advised against joining the tour.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SNORKELING IN SILFRA

Snorkeling in Silfra is a beautiful experience that we would love to share with you. However, is it important that you are aware of a few facts about the adventure you are planning on taking.

This is why we would kindly like to ask you to read thoroughly this section and evaluate if you accept the following.

- Snorkeling in the Silfra fissure involves a moderate level of exercise.
- The dry suit has seals on the neck and wrists that stop water from getting in, a very good thing when entering glacial water but these need to be quite tight and if you are claustrophobic this might be a little uncomfortable.
- The time spent snorkeling is about 30-45 minutes and the water temperature is 2° Celsius so it's best to eat and drink before the tour starts.
- Although you might have realized, since this is a snorkeling tour we still want to mention that your face, hair and hands will get wet during this activity.
- Outside temperatures in Iceland can be quite cold. This country is not named Iceland for no reason. Note that you will spend up to 3 hours outside. Dress accordingly and make sure you have warm thermals, winter coat, hat and gloves during the winter.
- Participants cannot wear any types of jewellery in the water, as sharp items can break the dry suit.
- There are no locker rooms at Silfra. Please do not bring any valuable items that you don't need for the tour.

MEDICAL CONDITIONS?

You **are not allowed** to dive or snorkel in Silfra if you have or have had any of the following conditions:

- ☐ Inability to perform moderate exercise (swimming 500m and walking 600m)
- ☐ Current or previous heart disease, heart surgery or heart attack
- ☐ Current lung disease
- ☐ Previous pneumothorax (collapsed lung), chest disease or chest surgery
- ☐ Head injury with loss of consciousness during recent years
- ☐ Thrombocytopenia or other blood disorders
- ☐ Colostomy or ileostomy
- ☐ Recent epilepsy or conditions resulting in sudden unconsciousness
- ☐ Obesity
- ☐ Very high or very low blood pressure
- ☐ Severe asthma

Notice: Pregnant women are not allowed to dive or snorkel in Silfra.

EQUIPMENT

When snorkeling in Silfra you will be wearing 3 layers of clothing to protect you from the 2 degrees C glacial water. Instuction video on how to dress, **click here**. Most of the equipment is provided by us. You need to bring the items closest to your body, the base layer.

Layer 1 - You bring this

Thin thermals in wool, fleece, or synthetic.
Warm socks in wool, fleece, or neoprene.
(Cotton not recommended)

Layer 1: Base Layer

Layer 2 - Provided by us

Undersuit

Material: Nylon Taslan
Manufacturer: Waterproof, Santi

Layer 2: Undersuit

Layer 3 - Provided by us

Dry suit

Material: Neoprene
Manufacturer: Waterproof or 0´Three

Layer 3: Drysuit

Additional equipment - All provided by us

When snorkeling you will also be needing some extra equipment, hood and gloves to keep your head and hands a little bit warmer in the cold water, a mask, snorkel and fins. These items are all provided by us.

1.

2.

3.

1. Hood and Gloves
Manufacturer: Waterproof or 0´Three
Material: Neoprene

2. Mask and snorkel
Variety of manufacturers and models. Kindly note you cannot wear glasses under the mask. Contact lenses work fine.

3. Fins
Manufacturer: Poseidon, Apeks, Mares
Material: Rubber or plastic for snorkeling.

AVAILABLE DRY SUIT SIZES

Women Snorkeling	Men Snorkeling
150 cm – Max weight 75 kg	150 cm – Max weight 75 kg
155 cm – Max weight 80 kg	155 cm – Max weight 80 kg
160 cm – Max weight 85 kg	160 cm – Max weight 85 kg
165 cm –Max weight 90 kg	165 cm –Max weight 90 kg
170 cm – Max weight 95 kg	170 cm – Max weight 100 kg
175 cm – Max weight 100 kg	175 cm – Max weight 110 kg
180-200 cm – Max weight 110 kg	180-200 cm – Max weight 120 kg

MEETING POINT

Directions to the meeting location

The meeting location for your tour is at Silfra Car Park. Type **"Thingvellir Parking P5"** *(GPS coordinates 64.255825, -21.123666)* into google maps, and it will give you directions to where you can park your car, which is the 2nd car park 400m further along the road to where you will be snorkeling from. Please allow one hour if driving from Reykjavik. Once parked at Thingvellir parking P5, you will need to buy a ticket to display on your dashboard, which costs 500 ISK (you can pay at the machine with a credit or debit card).

To meet your guide

Walk 400m back along the road until you reach the car park with all the snorkel and dive vans, and look for your guide. There are other companies at the site so make sure you go to the right one and show your voucher. We are looking forward to meet you!

When to be there

Please be ready in the car park to meet your guide **15 MINUTES before** your tour is due to begin.

Duration

A Snorkeling tour takes about 3 hours on location.

PICK UP

Some of our departures include a pickup from Reykjavik. The booking page will tell you if pick up is available or not.

- ***"Snorkeling in Silfra from Reykjavik"*** - Always include pick up from Reykjavik
- ***"Snorkeling in Silfra from Thingvellir"*** - Never include a pick up

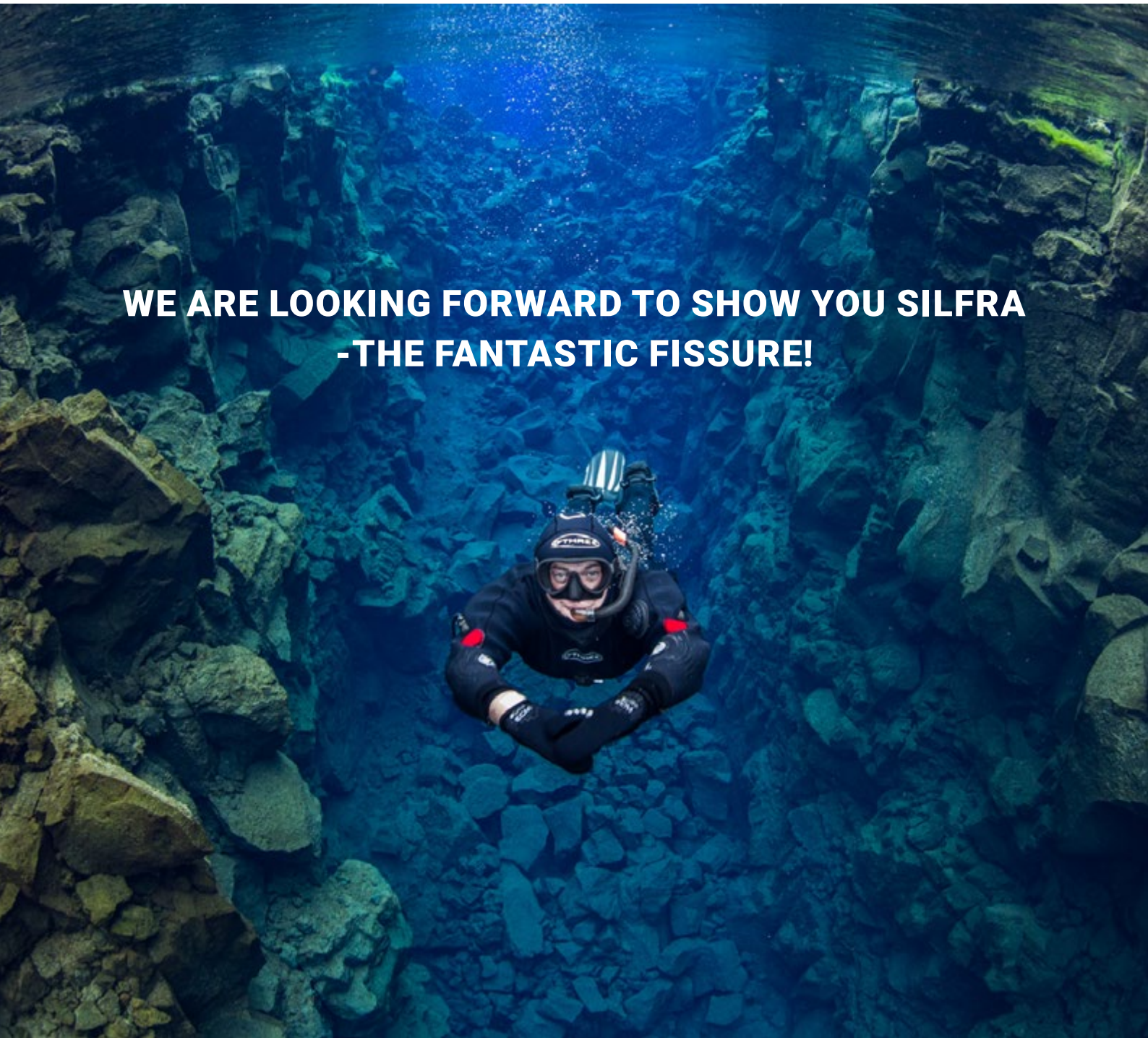
We only serve the **pick-up locations** specified in our **pick-up list**. Due to restrictions, we are not allowed to pick up from hotels in the city centre, or from private Air BnBs. Please contact us to find out your closest pick up point if your accommodation is not on our pick-up list.

If pick up time is for example 09.00, it means that we are arriving to the first pick up location at that time. **Kindly note it can take us up to 30 minutes to complete all pick-ups.** Pick up time at 09.00, means that we will pick you up between 09.00-09.30.

Duration

A Snorkeling tour takes around 5 hours including transport from Reykjavik.

WHAT TO BRING

For Diving and Snorkeling

- ☐ Thermal base layer in wool, fleece or synthetic material
- ☐ Warm socks in wool, fleece or neoprene
- ☐ A spare set of clothes and socks for after the activity in case you get wet
- ☐ A towel (remember your hair, face and hands will get wet)
- ☐ Outdoor clothing suitable for the current weather conditions
- ☐ Voucher