SUGGESTED READING GUIDE

Iceland: Landscapes of Fire & Ice

Here is a brief selection of favorite, new and hard-to-find books prepared for your journey. Carleton travelers may enter coupon code N92017 at checkout to receive $25 off your order. For your convenience, you may call toll-free (800) 342-2164 to order these books directly from Longitude, a specialty mail-order book service. To order online, and to get the latest, most comprehensive selection of books for your trip, go directly to reading.longitudebooks.com/N923542.

RECOMMENDED PACKAGE

These 5 items are available as a set for $93 including shipping, 15% off the retail price (Item EXICL75). Any additional books ordered will be shipped free of charge.


McPhee, John. *The Control of Nature*. Noonday Press, 1989. In the classic McPhee tradition, these sparkling essays explore our generally feeble attempts to combat all-powerful nature, including valiant efforts by Icelanders to control the flow of a volcano across the harbor at Heimaey in the Westman Islands. (PAPER, 272 Pp., $16.00, Item NAT01) *Note from Prof. Savina: “Part 2 – Cooling the Lava’ is about Iceland and the (ultimately successful) attempts to prevent lava flowing on Heimaey in 1973 from completely blocking the island. We visit Heimaey, the largest of the Westman Islands [on July 12th].”*

National Geographic. *Iceland Adventure Map*. National Geographic Maps, 2011. A detailed map at a scale of 1:465,000, printed on handy tear- and water-resistant paper. (MAP, Pp., $11.95, Item ICL05)

**HISTORY & CULTURE**

Byock, Jesse. *Viking Age Iceland*. Penguin Putnam, 2001. In this scholarly study, Byock challenges the conventional view of Norse society in Iceland. He describes the life, economy and culture of Medieval Iceland -- including its autonomy from kings and warlords back home. (PAPER, 432 Pp., $18.00, Item ICL15) *Note from Prof. Savina*: “…strongly recommended by Bill North in the History Department and covers the archaeology, specific to Iceland.”


Oslund, Karen. *Iceland Imagined*. University of Washington Press, 2013. This cultural and environmental history explores the geography, literature, language, culture, politics and symbolism of Iceland, Greenland, northern Norway and the Faroe Islands. (PAPER, 260 Pp., $24.95, Item ICL57) *Note from Prof. Savina*: “Based on her Ph.D. work, this environmental history traces how Icelanders and foreigners have viewed Iceland and the rest of the North Atlantic from about the 16th century until the present. Her case studies include the Laki eruptions of 1783 and their aftermath, the introduction of reindeer in the 18th century, and the current battles over whaling.”

**TRAVEL, BIOGRAPHY & MEMOIR**


Holm, Bill. *The Windows of Brimnes, An American in Iceland*. Milkweed Editions, 2008. In these provocative essays, Minnesotan Bill Holm writes about the fate of America from his fisherman’s cottage on the shore of a creek in northern Iceland. (PAPER, 216 Pp., $15.00, Item ICL63) *Note from Prof. Savina*: “[relevant to] Skjálfjörður and Hofsfós (home of the Icelandic Emigration Museum which we will visit on July 18th).”


**LITERATURE**

Indridason, Arnaldur. *Jar City*. Picador USA, 2006. Indridason’s first moody police procedural finds Reykjavik detective Erlendur Sveinsson investigating the brutal murder of a lonely pensioner and the man’s connection to the deaths of a number of young women. Made into a darkly superb film. (PAPER, 288 Pp., $17.00, Item ICL27)

Kent, Hannah. *Burial Rites*. Back Bay Books, 2014. Setting her story against Iceland’s stark landscape, Kent reimagines the final days of a young woman who was accused of murder in Iceland in 1829. (PAPER, 311 Pp., $15.00, Item ICL70)

Olafsdottir, Auour Ava, and Brian Fitzgibbon (Translator). *Butterflies in November*. Grove Press, 2014. Scorned by love, a quirky, unapologetically independent 33-year-old woman takes a spontaneous trip along Iceland’s Ring Road, her best friend’s 4-year-old deaf-mute son in tow. Evocative of the Icelandic spirit. (PAPER, 296 Pp., $15.00, Item ICL74)
Smiley, Jane (Editor), and Robert Kellog (Introduction). *The Sagas of Icelanders*. Viking, 2001. Nine sagas and six tales composed between the years 1000 and 1500, including an account of Leif Eriksson’s voyage to North America, all newly translated. (PAPER, 848 Pp., $27.00, Item ICL13)

**NATURAL HISTORY & FIELD GUIDES**

Gundmundsson, Ari Trausti (Contributor), and Feodor Pitcairn (Photographer). *Primordial Landscapes, Iceland Revealed*. powerHouse Books, 2015. Presented here in gorgeous, oversized photos is the extraordinary landscape of Iceland. Award-winning photographer Pitcairn captures volcanoes building textured landscapes, glaciers melting into thunderous waterfalls and many of Iceland’s other unique geological forces. (HARD COVER, 256 Pp., $70.00, Item ICL77)

Hoskuldsson, Armann, and Thor Thordarson. *Iceland*. International Specialized Book Services, 2014. This geologic companion to Iceland covers rifting of the crust, volcanic eruptions and glacial and other geologic activity in detail. (PAPER, 272 Pp., $49.50, Item ICL56) *Note from Prof. Savina*: “I will be carrying a copy and so, most likely, will our Icelandic guide. I can help anyone who buys a copy with the technical terms.”

Kanipe, Jeff, and Alexandra Witze. *Island on Fire: The Extraordinary Story of a Forgotten Volcano That Changed the World*. W. W. Norton & Company, 2015. Two science writers discuss the political and natural ramifications of the 1783 eruption of Iceland’s largest volcano, Laki, which led to global death, famine and even revolution. Great for the geologically minded but accessible to all with an interest in volcanoes. (PAPER, 224 Pp., $16.95, Item ICL73)


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