



**The Training
Partnership**
discover who you are

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ICELAND WORK & TRAVEL FACTSHEET

Agriculture

The farm work involves taking care of cattle and sheep, caring for the cows, milking and feeding them all year around, sheep herding in the fall, helping with the birthing of lambs in spring and hay - making during summer, gardening, assistance with household chores, and even some care taking of the farmers' children is often required, etc.

The farms can be:

- Mixed farms, cows, sheep, and horses.
- Dairy farms; only cows, and maybe a few sheep and some horses.
- Horse farms; horses and foals, maybe some sheep or cows.
- Sheep farms, sheep only and maybe some horses.
- Gardening farms

Alternatives depend on jobs availability each time.

Requirements

- Be able to stay min. 3 months and up to 12 months
- Be between 18-30 years old
- Must have an upper intermediate English skills (B2)
- Have a valid driving license
- Have a clean criminal record
- Be physically and mentally healthy
- Be a non-smoker is preferred
- Be a non-vegetarian is a must in agriculture
- Previous work experience is a must, min 1 year (the work experience does not have to be in farming but this would make the application stronger) and be able to provide 1-2 written references.
- **A participant must bring to Iceland a passport sized picture to open a bank account.**

What is included?

- Coordination and confirmation documents
- An information package (handbook, information about driving in Iceland etc.)
- One night accommodation and breakfast in Reykjavik upon arrival
- A pick up to the orientation to Ninukot's office

- 2-4 hours orientation upon arrival (depends on the number of participants)
- Transport from the orientation to the bus station (if the participants leave for their work placement the same day)
- Accommodation arrangement at the work placement
- Salary min. 258.402 ISK* before taxes plus 10.17% vacation
- One way flight ticket is reimbursed after six months of work at the same farm, maximum 35.000 ISK and the other way after 12 months, maximum 35.000 ISK (maximum 70.000 ISK to/from Iceland if participant stays for 12 months at the same farm).
- An Icelandic mobile pre-paid SIM-card/phone number
- 24/7 support line
- Certification upon request

*Min. salary per month is around £1000, after taxes and deductions of payment for food and accommodation (it depends on the value of the currency, and it can also depend on how many days the employee stays at the work placement. Participants often do not pay for food and/or accommodation the days they spend away from their work placement).

Orientation

All placements start with an orientation, the day after arrival. The orientation will cover assistance with registration, Icelandic job market, culture, main concerns and basic words in the Icelandic language.

What is not included?

- Flight to/from Iceland
- Bus ticket from the airport to the bus station and the accommodation in Reykjavík (45 min.)
- Travel expenses to/from placement
- Medical liability and travel insurance
- Telephone calls, internet access (a free access is often available at work placements if used in a modest way), and personal needs, toiletries, special diet, gifts, etc.
- Food and accommodation (see information below in the part about food and accommodation)

Enrolment procedure

TTPL must receive full applications **8 weeks** before the planned starting date. We have the highest demand from April till September in the tourist sector (high season). **Arrival dates:** arrival dates Sunday through Thursday year around for Work & Travel Iceland.

The agricultural jobs are available all year around, (highest demand April through June) many of the farms requesting employees for up to a year (12 months). Horse training jobs are few and usually demand extremely high level of skills but many of the farms keep horses as a hobby.

The participant must provide:

- An application form and CV in English
- A motivation letter
- A smiling picture
- A copy of passport (a good copy with a clear photo)
- A health certification
- A copy of driving license
- A current DBS check
- A written reference from a former employer (1-2 references)
- The interview form
- Proof of health, travel and liability insurance (must be brought to the orientation meeting)

Applications will not be accepted until all documents have been sent in.

Work hours

Regular work hours are 40 hours per week, shift and/or overtime possible, 1-2 days off per week. Often employees prefer to gather days off and take longer holidays away from their work placement. Employees are entitled to lunch and/or dinner breaks (depends on their shift) and two coffee breaks during an 8 hour work shift.

Taxes

All individuals that reside in Iceland are subject to having their income taxed. Participants receive a personal tax credit card when they apply for an identity number and/or permission to stay.

Taxes (as of 2016)

Rate of income tax is 37.13% (for income less than 336.000 ISK per month)

Personal tax credit is 51.920 ISK per month and is refunded every month with the salary.

The personal tax credit is applied against the computed income tax, monthly. Please note that it is usually not possible to get a tax refund when the participants leave Iceland because they already get the maximum tax credit with their monthly salary each month they work in Iceland. The year's tax credit, every person is entitled to, is divided to the months of the year. People staying and working temporary in Iceland are entitled only to the tax credit from the day they arrive to Iceland until the day they leave.

Food and accommodation

In farming a room at the farmer's home is most usual. At some farms is a staff house or a staff apartment. Normally the farmer provides food and accommodation. There may be exceptions where the worker buys and makes his own meals. When food and accommodation is provided the employee charges max. 2368 ISK per day (approx. £16)

Recruitment Process and pre-arrival step by step

- TTPL receives application form and other necessary documents, including signed terms and conditions.
- Application is reviewed, references are contacted and applicant is interviewed.
- The application is then accepted or declined by TTPL and/or Ninukot, preferably within a week. TTPL/Ninukot retains the right to refuse any application it deems unacceptable for any reason or suggest another programme that might suit the applicant better.
- Ninukot must receive the application 8 weeks before planned starting date.
- If Ninukot has not placed the applicant 2 weeks before planned starting date then they will request a 4 week extension. If they have not been able to offer the applicant a job after the 4 week extension, the applicant can then decide whether to continue or cancel and receive full refund.
- Ninukot will offer a maximum of 3 work placements. If participant refuses all of them, then TTPL has the right to cancel the participant's participation in the programme, and charge them for the programme according to the cancellation policy.
- An interview is organised for the participant and possible employer.
- After a placement has been confirmed, participant will be sent an information package and a confirmation letter which he/she must sign before arrival.
- Arrival day is arranged by employer, Nínukot and the participant.
- The participant needs to send his/her travel information as soon as possible to TTPL so accommodation can be booked.
- When arriving in Keflavik, Iceland's International airport the participant shall drive by a Flybus to Reykjavík. Arrival information will be further explained in the confirmation letter.

Arrival and orientation

All participants must take a fly bus from the International airport to the bus station (BSI) in Reykjavík. At the bus station (BSI), participants must change buses. A mini-bus from the bus company takes them onwards to their one night accommodation. Further transport to the placement will depend upon position accepted.

Programme price: £755