



Westfjords Way Challenge

July 1

Reiðhjólaverzlunin Berlin Stage One

→ Race Week Guide



Reiðhjólaverzlunin
Berlin

Reiðhjólaverzlunin Berlin

Lifestyle / Enjoy / Adventure

Reiðhjólaverzlunin Berlin Berlin has made a name for itself as a bicycle shop and more in Reykjavik.

We specialize in classic/everyday bikes and adventure bikes for those who want to go on short or long trips, quality accessories and other beautiful products suitable for everyday cycling.

All our bikes have their own character with beautiful lines and colors. Every time you go out for a ride on our bikes, you'll smile and enjoy going from place to place.

Our motto is: Lifestyle / Enjoy / Adventure

Our workshop accepts all types of bicycles for maintenance and repair. We restore older bikes, assemble bikes and custom order products for customers.

Stage 1

259 km [161 mi] 1,660 m [5,446 ft]. 14% unpaved

The first stage starts in **Ísafjörður** and ends at Hótel Laugarhóll in Bjarnarfjörður. Day 1 takes you through the long meandering fjords, where you will switch from headwind to tail wind countless times throughout the day. You'll have the option to fuel up on the world's best waffles and soak in road-side hot pots.

Cultural Connections

Litlibær
Heydalur
Hörgshlíðarlaug
Reykjanes



Stage One

Ísafjörður to Hótel Laugarhóll

Stage 1 begins at The Fjord Hub, the only bike shop in The Westfjords. It is located on the main street, Aðalstræti 20.

- Breakfast will be available at Hótel Ísafjörður Torfnæs, starting at 6am. Breakfast is included for all riders. Note that this is approximately 1 km from the start line!
 - **Please note that anyone not registered as a racer or volunteer will need to purchase their meal at the hotel.** Ölgerðin drinks and Arna products will be available.
- The Reiðhjólaverzlunin Berlin van will be parked at breakfast for bag loading at breakfast and near the start line 15 minutes before the start. Drop off your one bag + sleep system here.
 - **The race will transport one 30-liter bag per rider.** There are no restrictions on what you can carry in this bag, but there is a strict 30-liter limit for riders. Additionally, we will transport a bag containing a sleep system [limited to tent, sleeping bag, sleeping pad, and/or pillow] for riders that decide to camp. **Make sure all bags are labeled clearly.**
- **The official start of the race is at 7:00 am** and there will be a mass rollout from The Fjord Hub. The start time for all other stages is 7:30 am. **Start times will be enforced to ensure on-time arrival to Cultural Connections during their opening hours. Late departures risk disqualification.**



Stage One

Cultural Connections

Flags will be placed at the point where it is required to exit the race course to reach the Cultural Connection.

The Cultural Connection itself may require riding off the race course. Remember, only your ride time on the course is counted for race results. You must take a timestamped selfie when you arrive to a CC flag and a timestamped selfie with the CC flag when you are leaving. Time spent at CCs will be deducted from your total stage time. You must email your photos in at the end of each day. Times will be updated after each stage and standings will be communicated to participants.

If you plan to visit the donation based hot pots, please plan on carrying cash to donate. There is no suggested donation amount but anything between 100 and 1.000 isk is reasonable.

Each Stage is broken down below with Cultural Connection descriptions and information.



CC Litlibær

Kilometer 72.9 [Mile 45.3]

Reiðhjólaverzlunin

Berlin

Litlibær is a small turf house in Skötufjörður which was built in 1895 by two families. The walls on each side are built of natural stones but front and back made with timber and roof covered with turf. The two families lived together in it till 1917 and at one point 20 people lived there at the same time. It continued to be inhabited till 1969, but in 1999, the National Museum acquired the house. They renovated it inside and out, and it is now one of 38 houses in the organization's possession. Today Litlibær is the perfect stop for a coffee and waffles which come with your choice of blueberry or rhubarb jam.



Type

Coffee + Waffle House

Price

Included in registration fee
(2 servings per person)

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Hours

Opening at 9am for the race

Directions

Right off the road, just up the hill
to the right from the CC flag.



CC Heydalur Kilometer 134 [Mile 83.2]

The old barn at [Heydalur](#) has been reconstructed as a hall with a restaurant where meals are prepared and served with local ingredients. Come to taste the mushrooms and the blueberries from the valley, the lamb meat from the next farm, the smoked puffin and the trout from the fish pond. Kobbi, the talking parrot, will be there to entertain you. You can also stop by their greenhouse pool and outdoor hot tubs!

Type

Restaurant, hotel and pool

Price

Lunch price varies
(1,700 kr - 4,500 kr)

Call-Ahead

+354-456-4824

Hours

Lunch is served from 12:00 to 14:30. **You need to call ahead to order your lunch while at Litlibær** to make sure the food is ready when you arrive. [Here is a link](#) to their lunch menu.

Directions

Take a right at the CC flag and go all the way until you see the premises on the left (approx. 1.8 kilometers off course).



CC Hörgshlíðarlaug

Kilometer 140.5 [Mile 87.3]

This manmade hot pool is about 0.8m deep, 2m long and 40°C down by the sea. It is filled with natural geothermal water and is a perfect place for a mid-ride dip to recharge. The pool is a perfect temperature for soaking, and taking in the fjord and mountain views.



Type

Hot pot

Hours

Always open

Price

Donations accepted (cash only). Anything between 100 and 1.000 isk is reasonable.

Directions

Just off to the left of the road, you can't miss it!

CC Reykjanes

Kilometer 165.9 [Mile 103]

The geothermal area of Reykjanes is home to the largest hot tub in Iceland, just outside Hotel Reykjanes. All that geothermal energy powers the hotel, the pool, and Saltverk – a local salt production company that uses a 17th century method of producing sea salt. Stop by for lunch at Reykjanes Hotel, take a soak in the pool and take a tour of Saltverk

Type

Hot pot, restaurant,
Saltverk

Price

Varies

Hours

Restaurant open 11-20. They offer chicken pasta, fish, hot and cold sandwiches and french fries.

Directions

Take a left at the CC flag.



Stage One Finish

Hótel Laugarhóll [Km 259 km /Mile 161]

Timing ends as you enter the driveway of Hótel Laugarhóll.

Campers and hotel guests can all check in at the front desk. Depending on the weather, a bike stand will be available in the front of the hotel or inside the gym. After dinner is served, you are welcome to bring bikes into the gym hall (just off the main entrance) to do any maintenance, or if you'd like to store them indoors overnight.

Riders can relax at the end of the day in the pool, hot pot, lounge and cozy café where dinner will be served from 7pm until 10pm. After 10pm, food will be set aside for any riders that arrive late.

Dinner Menu

The dinner menu (free with rider registration) is subject to change, but will most likely be: Homemade garlic-bread, lasagna (meat and vegan option), crunchy salad, and a dessert.

Please note that anyone not registered as a racer or volunteer will need to purchase their meal at the hotel.



In Case of Disqualification

If you disqualify or decide not to continue on to the next stage, you are responsible for your own transport on- or off-course and back to Ísafjörður. Note that transport can be difficult as buses do not run every day, and not all buses carry bikes. We also welcome and encourage you to continue on at your own pace – you will still have access to what is included in the race entry if you are able to keep up with the race whether that is through the official race course or an alternative route.

It is most important to note that once you are off the race schedule, you will be entirely responsible for:

1. Researching and booking transport if you choose not to continue riding
2. Knowing and respecting the opening hours of restaurants and other resupply points

Public bus availability from the end of each stage are listed below.

They do not run every day, and their schedules are not released until summer. The most up-to-date information can be found [here](#). Strætó, the bus operator, can be reached at +354 540 2700.

If a bus cannot be arranged, race staff can help arrange a private pick up at the expense of the rider. Ultimately, nothing is guaranteed and riders should be prepared to be flexible in the case they need to arrange any kind of transport.

- **Stage One:** Ride to Hólmavík and take a bus back to Ísafjörður.
- Note that you must contact Strætó to confirm there is space for your bike.
- **Stage Two:** Ride to Hólmavík and take a bus back to Ísafjörður.
- Note that you must contact Strætó to confirm there is space for your bike .
- **Stage Three:** Bus from Patreksfjörður to Ísafjörður.
- Note that you must contact Westfjords Adventures (+354 456 5006) to confirm there is space for your bike.

