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JOIN "LAND OF FIRE AND ICE" EXPEDITION ABOARD HANSE EXPLORER

June 14, 2021 By: Diane M. Byrne

If you're eager to travel again, an upcoming expedition through Iceland aboard *Hanse Explorer* may be the perfect opportunity to break out your passport. Hosted by EYOS Expeditions, it's further a superyacht charter offering per-cabin bookings.

Iceland earned the nickname the "land of fire and ice" due to its volcanoes and glaciers. From July 3 through 10, the 154-foot (47-meter) *Hanse Explorer* will venture from Reykjavik along the northwest coastline to Akureyri, the country's second-largest city. It's additionally 62 miles (100 kilometers) from the Arctic Circle.

Ben Lyons, EYOS' CEO, says, "After more than a year of COVID, escaping to the wilds of Iceland is a wonderful way to celebrate the ability to travel and explore again!" He adds that the per-cabin convenience still affords the intimacy and exclusivity of a traditional yacht charter, since only 12 guests will be aboard. **EYOS has collaborated on single-cabin charters since 2018.** "Time and time again, we find that the sheer excitement of an expedition always creates a natural camaraderie onboard."

PHOTO: Coulson and Tennant/EYOS

That camaraderie will start with an e-mountain bike tour to Reykjavik's Fagradalsfjall volcano. This volcano has been quite active lately, in fact, so you may witness the ongoing eruption. Additionally, land excursions include hiking remote trails in the Snæfellsjökull National Park. Interestingly, its glaciated volcanoes are the first "characters" in Jules Verne's *Journey to the Center of the Earth*.

The expedition aboard *Hanse Explorer*, however, will primarily involve anchoring in secluded fjords and using the megayacht's kayaks and Zodiacs for remote landings. Keep an eye out for arctic foxes and puffins on land. Two EYOS guides will educate you about them, and more wildlife. Furthermore, you'll visit the seemingly endless islands of

Breiðafjörður. Here, jagged cliffs rim fjords. In addition, the expedition aboard *Hanse Explorer* will take you above the Arctic Circle. All along the way, blue whales should appear, visible from several areas on the yacht.

Tim Soper, EYOS' co-founder, has visited Iceland numerous times over the past 25 years. "This itinerary has distilled the best of the best into seven days," he asserts. It's a combination of "the most beautiful and wild part of the country" with "opportunities to visit better-known sites near civilization."

The per-person expedition is €16,000, and all guests must be vaccinated. Additional dates are available upon request, as are full-yacht charters throughout the summer. Her weekly traditional charter rate is €155,000.

EYOS Expeditions eyos-expeditions.com

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