



FEIF INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ICELANDIC HORSE ASSOCIATIONS

Invitation

21st FEIF Youth Camp – Hvanneyri, 9-14 July 2025

Dear All,

the FEIF Youth Committee would like to invite young riders of the FEIF member countries to the 21st FEIF Youth Camp, which will be hosted by Iceland.

About the FEIF Youth Camp

FEIF Youth Camp is an international camp for young people who will TURN 14, 15, 16 or 17 years of age in the year of the FEIF Youth Camp. The camp is arranged every second year in one of the member countries of FEIF. The first FEIF Youth Camp happened in 1986.

The goal of the FEIF Youth Camp is to bring together young people from different countries. All should share a passion for the Icelandic horse, and the participants will also learn something of the horse culture(s) of the host nation. In order to take part in the FEIF Youth Camp, riders do not have to own (or bring) a horse, but they should be interested in Icelandics, and have some riding experience. Throughout the week a range of activities – with and without horses – is offered, aimed at improving all sorts of horsemanship skills and fostering international friendship.

Improve your skills

The programme has a strong focus on a wide aspects of horse care. Participants will learn a lot about specific aspects of keeping horses, even if riding opportunities are limited. The common language spoken during the camp is English. For most participants this offers an amazing opportunity to improve their language skills. And not least, mixing freely in an international group of people with a common passion promotes a deep social, cultural understanding of how other people do things differently.

Travel and Venue

The FEIF Youth Camp will be based at the Agricultural University of Iceland, Hvanneyri, 311 Borgarnes, Iceland. Transfer from and to Keflavik airport to Borgarnes is not provided, but from 16:00 onward, we will organise transport from Borgarnes to Hvanneyri and back from Hvanneyri to Borgarnes from 9:00 onward to 12:00. Please note that the public bus to Borgarnes leaves from the bus station Mjódd, rather than BSÍ. More details at the very end of the letter. All additional costs regarding travel arrangements to and from Borgarnes need to be agreed between the participants and the national youth leader of the responsible country.

FEIF DIRECTOR OF YOUTH WORK



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Application process

All applications have to go via a national country leader, and no individual applications will be accepted. The application deadline is **25th April 2025**.

The organizers and helpers are very much looking forward to the FEIF Youth Camp. Thanks to Iceland for hosting the event. It will be a memorable week!

Cost

The participation fee for the FEIF Youth Camp is **€660**, this includes full board, transfers to and from the venue and covers all activities. (Country leaders also pay a fee of €660). Please note, initially, the maximum number is 2 young people per country. However, please keep a waiting list for any interested young people. Any available places will be distributed shortly after the registration deadline.

Gundula Sharman, on behalf of the organisers and the FEIF Youth Committee

Some general information

The role of the Country Leader

All participants must be accompanied by a country leader who is able to speak their language, and who can also be able to communicate in good English. Country leaders are responsible for the general well-being of their charges, travel with their participants to and from the FEIF Youth Camp, and they are the link between the organisers and the parents.

Country leaders are expected to know the medical and sporting abilities and limitations of their participants and will make sure that all participants take part in the total programme. Country leaders will sleep together with their teams and might also be called upon to help during the camp. For a FEIF Youth camp, one country leader can be responsible for participants of more than one country if (a) they speak the native language of all participants in their charge, and (b) if all arrangements have been cleared with the Youth representatives of the national associations concerned. In this case, FEIF needs to be notified which countries are collaborating, and who is responsible for the arrangements. As communication is key, national youth leaders are advised that they take the level of spoken English into account when selecting young people to participate.

2025 – Welcome to Iceland

The FEIF Youth Camp takes place at the Agricultural University of Iceland in Hvanneyri in the west of Iceland. During the week, there will be a range of different activities.

Apart from structured sessions on and off the horse, we will learn some more about the surrounding nature and culture of Iceland, there are plans for a visit to Hreppslaug, a bathing place protected by law, with a continuous flow of warm water from springs in the immediate area.

The programme will include:

- Horse riding
- Hiking
- Icelandic sagas
- various horse-related workshops
- Swimming
- Tour to some beautiful places
- and much more...

What you will need for the FEIF Youth Camp 2025

For the sake of the horses and other animals, it is of utmost importance that you respect the rules about biosecurity, particularly with your riding clothes (gloves, boots, etc)! Watch – and enjoy! <https://youtu.be/aA4iWi48IDs>

You need to pack the following:

- Warm / cold / wet weather clothes
- Riding clothes, suitable boots, **you do not need to bring a helmet.**
- Casual clothes and comfortable shoes
- Sun cream, sunglasses
- Swim suit and towel
- Personal medication
- Spending money

You do **not** need to bring a sleeping bag.

Application process

All applications have to go via a national country leader, and no individual applications will be accepted. Please note the following deadlines for a number of different forms:

- Participants form and CL form:
 - Deadline to return to FEIF Office: **14th April 2025**
 - Has to be sent in by the national youth leader/national offices
- Application form:
 - Deadline to return to FEIF Office: **25th April 2025**
- Liability form:
 - Deadline to return to FEIF Office: **25th April 2025**
 - Applications without liability form are not valid
- Payment:
 - **25th April 2025** - see application form for details

Draft Programme (pls note that this may change)

Arrival – Wed 9th July

Welcome! - Pick-up from Borgarnes bus station. Please inform the organisers when you arrive in Borgarnes, participants will be picked up from there.

Thursday – Sunday various activities including an opportunity to ride

Departure – Mon 14th July after breakfast

Farewell and transportation to Borgarnes.

Contact details

If you have any questions about arrival/departure or any other matter concerning the camp, please feel free to contact:

- Helga Björg Helgadóttir, email: helgabjhelga@gmail.com phone number +354 862 6206
- Dagbjört H. Guðbjörnsdóttir email: dagbjorthulda@simnet.is phone number + 354 697 6681

Useful links

Agricultural University of Iceland, Hvanneyri <https://www.lbhi.is/en>

Public transport to Borgarnes: the Straeto line 57 (Reykjavík to Akureyri) leaves Reykjavík from the Bus terminal Mjódd. Straeto bus 3 leaves Gamla Hringbraut (5 Mins walk from BSÍ) for Mjódd every 15 mins. Depending on your timings, it might be advisable to take a taxi from BSÍ to Mjódd. We will discuss the options in an online meeting for CL well before the Camp.

<https://www.straeto.is/en/route-planner/timetables/west-and-north-iceland/route-57>

<https://www.straeto.is/en/route-planner/timetables/capital-area/route-3/>

GMS/DHG Jan 2025