Please note that a fund for the promotion of Icelandic literature operates under the auspices of the Icelandic Ministry of Education and Culture and subsidizes translations of literature.

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non-fiction

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BERGUR EBBI BENEDIKTSSON

Room Temperature

“Lay down your cards before you explode. You don’t need to explode. Explosions are meant to start fires, but it’s already burning. Enjoy burning. Enjoy burning at room temperature.”

Room Temperature is a precise and pressing dissection of our modern world that tackles the themes of social media, connectivity, terrorism, data leaks and other issues that are drastically changing our identity whether we know it or not. Is it possible that despite the constant catering to the individual we are all becoming a big collective? That the more information driven and transparent the world seems, the more of an enigma the sources of power have become?

This is the book that was needed, a young guide to the modernity that is in the making ... an amusing writer, funny, genuine, sharp and full of enthusiasm of the monster that mankind is currently creating. He produces bittersweet tales of his own life and of tragic yet funny times.

HALLGRIMUR HELGASON, AUTHOR

BERGUR EBBI BENEDIKTSSON (b.1981), poet, journalist, and stand-up comedian, writes with sensitivity and enthusiasm about present realities – what matters to us: who are we, and where are we going?

Stofuhiti.tech
ANDRI SNAER MAGNASON

Dreamland: Self-Help for a Frightened Nation

*Dreamland* is a wake-up call, a devastating polemic that puts environmental issues into global perspective.

*Dreamland* is an influential book about the most burning issues of our times, written with knowledge and a rare passion that will move any reader.

*Dreamland* immediately became a best seller on publication in Iceland and has already attracted worldwide attention due to its radical style, in the vein of Naomi Klein, Malcolm Gladwell and Jared Diamond, as well as critical acclaim from the Icelandic media. Revised edition with an introduction by Björk and a new chapter on the bank crisis in Iceland. *Dreamland* has been made into a movie.

- The Icelandic Literary Prize
- The Icelandic Bookseller’s Prize
- The Kairos Prize – a European cultural prize awarded by the Alfred Toepfer Stiftung

ANDRI SNAER MAGNASON (b.1973) has won the Icelandic Literary Prize for both fiction and non-fiction. His work has been published or performed in over thirty countries and received numerous international awards, amongst them the Janusz Korczak Honorary Award, the West Nordic Children’s Book Prize and the Kairos Prize awarded by the Alfred Toepfer Foundation to outstanding individuals. Magnason has been active in the fight against the destruction of the Icelandic Highlands.

[andrimagnason.com](http://andrimagnason.com)
EINAR MAR GUDMUNDSSON

Zero, Bank Street

In Zero, Bank Street, Gudmundsson deals with the trinity of book knowledge, work knowledge and ethical knowledge; how this trinity has been broken up, the enormous power of the financial world, entertainment and thrillers, volcanoes, banks, and revolutions. Can culture be bought with money? He discusses the Report of the Special Investigation Commission into the collapse of the banks, comedians and cake baking, poverty and riches, justice and injustice; all of this is put forward through stories in which reality beats fiction by a mile. The guiding lights of the author this time are the Icelandic-American writer and philanthropist Bill Holm, the revolutionary writers Thorbergur Thordarson and Gudbergur Bergsson, and the immortal Beatles, featuring John Lennon along with his childhood friend, David Ashton. What happened in Bioletti’s barber shop by Penny Lane in Liverpool, and why is Zero, Bank Street located next to the Icelandic ministry offices?

EINAR MAR GUDMUNDSSON (b.1954) is a novelist, short-story writer, and poet, one of the most widely translated Icelandic authors born in the post-war period. A storyteller with a lyrical perceptive and humorous style, his work charts the growth of urban culture in the capital and the larger-than-life characters that it spawns.
Our time is characterised by widespread and profound changes in the world, in a political, economic, democratic and cultural sense. At the same time, globalisation has ensured that things which were once distant have drawn closer, shaping people’s environment and opportunities. New superpowers rise, some dramatically so, such as China and soon India, whilst others are losing their influence. History shows that changes in the balance of power have generally been accompanied with specific dangers and serious conflict. We live, then, in a dangerous time when understanding the interests, strengths, weaknesses and intentions of states and superpowers matters a great deal. *A Changed World* addresses various complex global conflict lines of our time and presents them as a coherent and comprehensible whole.

JON ORMUR HALLDORSSON (b.1954) is a senior lecturer at Reykjavik University. He has studied political science and economic history in England and the Netherlands, conducted research in South East Asia and completed a doctorate in economic politics in this part of the world. Jon Ormur was an assistant to Gunnar Thoroddsen during his time as Prime Minister of Iceland. He has written books and published a large number of articles and columns in newspapers, journals and broadcast media.
It’s nearly fifty degrees in the refugee camp and that is how it is expected to stay for some weeks to come. Baghdad was hot as well, but the stench was not as great as here. There she lived in a house which had a roof and walls and was able to seek sanctuary inside. There are no walls here. The heat in the tents is unbearable.”

In the autumn of 2008 eight families fled the terrible conditions in the Al Waleed refugee camp and were given shelter in Iceland. They were all single mothers of Palestinian origin with children, who had lived in Iraq all their lives. What was it that drove them to escape? 

State: None is a unique account of the political conflicts of recent decades in the Middle East and the people living and breathing in their shadow.

• The Hagthenkir Non-Fiction Prize 2011

SIGRIDUR VIDIS JONSDOTTIR (b.1979) was born in Akranes. She later moved to Reykjavik, where she took a BA degree in philosophy, with anthropology as a supplementary. She then went on to complete an MA in Conflict and International Development at the University of East Anglia in Britain. As of 2000 Jonsdottir has written news analysis, interviews, columns and travelogues. State: None is her first book.
GISLI PALSSON

Down to Earth

Could a person commune with mountains and lava fields? Does it make sense to form intimate relationships with geologic events and phenomena, comparable to the connection associated with date of birth and the zodiac?

*Down to Earth* discusses “earth connection” in a novel way – a relationship no less important to people than that with their fellow citizens. The author shares stories of his youth spent in the vicinity of an active volcano, the human drama in the face of natural disasters and of those forces that threaten life on earth. The human struggle to coexist with volcanoes, not least during the Heimaey eruption in the Westman Islands in 1973, reveals an unusual insight into humanity’s problems during the so-called Anthropocene, a period characterized by the damaging and potentially irreversible effects humans have had on their environment and on the Earth itself.

GISLI PALSSON (Ph.D., University of Manchester, 1982), is Professor of Anthropology at the University of Iceland. He has received a number of Icelandic and international honors for his academic work, for instance, he was recently elected Honorary Fellow of the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland. In 2000 he received the Rosenstiel Award for research from the University of Miami. Palsson has served on various international boards and committees, including the European Science Foundation. He has written over 120 articles in scientific journals and edited books and has published, edited, or co-edited more than 20 books.
In the year 1802, through the workings of fate, a young black man, slave and war hero from the Virgin Islands, a Danish colony in the Caribbean, settled in a small village in a remote fjord on the east coast of Iceland, married and became a merchant and a farmer. Why did he travel to Iceland? How did the Icelanders respond to him? And how did he respond to them?

*The Man Who Stole Himself* charts the true story of the strange and eventful life of Hans Jonathan, shedding a light on colonialism, imperial dreams, slavery, abuse and commerce, rebellion and desire of freedom. It extends itself over the oceans, from West Africa to the Virgin Islands to Denmark and Iceland. The story is relevant to modern readers – the issues of human rights, immigrants and dealings with people who are “different” are subject to debate today.

- Listed among the most important books of 2017, in *The Times Literary Supplement*
- *The Vinson Sutlive Book Prize in Historical Anthropology 2017*
Marianne Kowalew, known fondly as Mamutschka, was born in the Russian Empire and grew up in poverty on a farm. Later, she moved to Vilnius, competed with the most beautiful woman in the world for one of the richest available bachelors, and then fled with him to Frankfurt during the bombings of the Second World War. There she opened a restaurant that offered particularly adventurous dishes. The reputation of her spectacular feasts spread far and wide, attracting guests both prominent and proletariat.

For years, Halldor Gudmundsson regularly travelled to Frankfurt for the Book Fair and while there, he always visited Mamutschka at her restaurant. They became close friends and he wanted to chronicle her eventful life. But it would turn out to be a tall order to write the biography of a woman who had always preferred to decide for herself what would be on the menu...

A warm and entertaining narrative of the unusual friendship of a man from Iceland and an old woman from Central Europe.

Halldor Gudmundsson won the Icelandic Literature Prize for his biography of Icelandic Nobel Prize winner Halldor Laxness.

J.M. COETZEE, ON THE BIOGRAPHY OF HALLDOR LAXNESS
Hedinn Unnsteinsson was working as a specialist at the Ministry of Health, with experience and strong opinions on issues concerning mental health, when he suddenly finds himself in the infernal clutches of bipolar disorder. This book tells the story of his journey into a world of anarchy and delusions, with very trying consequences for his immediate environment, his family and his friends. His account of descent and disintegration, followed by resurrection and the slow road to recovery, is unflinchingly critical but at the same time very genuine, as he often views events and things in a very different light from his fellow human beings.

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize for Non-Fiction

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- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize for Non-Fiction

Hedinn Unnsteinsson (b.1970) is a senior policy analyst at the Prime Minister’s Office in Iceland, having previously held positions as a specialist at the Ministry of Health, and Technical Officer at the World Health Organisation (WHO). He has an MSc in International Policy Analysis from the University of Bath in England. Unnsteinsson has worked in the mental health field for nearly twenty-five years, both in Iceland and elsewhere; he has been a spokesman for users and carers, and worked with grass-root organisations, international associations and individual governments, promoting reform in mental issues. In recent years he has worked internationally as an independent policy adviser on mental health issues, and given nearly 700 lectures building on his experience, expertise and education.
JON GNARR

A Thousand Kisses

“I was an enthusiastic young woman full of joie de vivre. I was perhaps also a bit impatient, but impatience surely accompanies the great energy found in such joy. I could also be terribly naïve. Like many young people, I thought I was eternal and invincible and it didn’t occur to me that anything bad could happen. I feared nothing and trusted everyone.”

Joga goes to New York as an au pair in 1980, and there she has a horrible experience that takes her life in an unexpected and dramatic turn. After a stay in hospital, she begins a long battle with the American justice system. In one night, all her dreams were turned into a nightmare. This is a story of trauma, humiliation, and betrayed innocence. But it is also a story of resurrection.

A sincere and personal book that includes photos from Jon and Joga’s private collection.

JON GNARR is a comedian, actor, author, and former mayor. In late 2009 he formed the Best Party with a number of other people with no background in politics. The Best Party, which is a satirical political party that parodies Icelandic politics and aims to make the life of the citizens more fun, managed a plurality win in the 2010 municipal elections in Reykjavik, and Gnarr became Mayor of Reykjavik. Joga, wife of Jon Gnarr, has kept more to herself, choosing to stay out of the spotlight. She ran a fashion boutique in Reykjavik for a long time, and was also among the founders of the Best Party, taking an active role in its work.
DR OTTAR GUDMUNDSSON (b.1948) matriculated from the Medical Faculty of the University of Iceland in 1975 and went on to do postgraduate studies in Sweden, completing a specialist degree in pharmacotherapy in 1984 and submitting a doctoral thesis the same year. He has specialised in psychiatry since 1992. For the last two years he has been studying history and German in Germany. He is currently attached to the psychiatric ward at Kleppsspitali Hospital.

“*This combats prejudice, and also hopefully increases the chances of more people being saved from this fate.*”

SIGURDUR GUDMUNDSSON, FORMER DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

OTTAR GUDMUNDSSON

Do I Have to Die If I Don’t Want to Live?

In Iceland many people take their own lives every year. Every suicide is a tragedy which usually has a long series of events leading up to it; no death is so hard for the survivors to bear. A myriad of questions left unanswered, anger, helplessness, denial and depression typify the long and difficult grieving process.

Dr Ottar Gudmundsson tells the story of suicide, explaining the emotions and problems of those who take their own lives or attempt to, as well as relating many accounts of events and the circumstances of the people and their relatives. *Do I Have to Die If I Don’t Want to Live?* is an unusual book in which suicide is examined through the eyes of a psychiatrist with extensive knowledge in this field. A forthright and honest discussion about difficult and sensitive issues.
“An ambitious and interesting book about a sensitive and serious blight on society. Ottar Gudmundsson is our foremost specialist on the darkest secrets of the mind and succeeds in presenting this upsetting subject matter in an accessible and interesting way.”

JON GNARR, FORMER MAYOR OF REYKJAVIK (ABOUT DO I HAVE TO DIE IF I DON’T WANT TO LIVE?)

“One of the most stimulating texts I have read this winter ... This is an amazingly entertaining book.”

KILJAN, NATIONAL TV

OTTAR GUDMUNDSSON

Heroes and Emotional Distress
– Mental Disease and Personality Disorders in the Icelandic Sagas

Ottar Gudmundsson does not believe in taking easy options. He has previously turned his eye to sex, alcohol, death and the history of psychiatry. In the bestseller Heroes and Emotional Distress: Mental Disease and Personality Disorders in the Icelandic Sagas, he takes on the jewel of Icelandic literature and applies his professional expertise to unconventional effect. Can we identify the kinds of mental problems the great heroes of Old Icelandic literature had to contend with? How did the clinical aspects of their personalities affect the events of Njal’s Saga? How does a modern psychiatrist view the eternal triangle between Gudrun, Kjartan and Bolli in Laxdaela Saga? These and many questions like them are raised and answers sought in a book unlike any other in Icelandic saga research.
“This is the story of a woman who, at one time, was one of America’s most effective impostors: a person who enthralled great numbers of people with her fabrications. ... a multilayered text that gradually builds a cogent picture of the life experience of an unusual woman and the society in which she lived and functioned.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

INGA DORA BJORNSDOTTIR

Olof the Eskimo Lady
A Biography of an Icelandic Dwarf in America

A dwarf girl, Olof Solvadottir, was born in Iceland in 1858. She moved to the Western World at the age of 19, following the tracks of an American travelling circus, but then transformed herself into an Inuit Eskimo and started to deliver lectures about Greenland and her life there. As an Eskimo, Olof acquired fame and recognition with her concocted biography, travelled widely across America, and managed to con the world for more than two decades and deliver some 2,500 lectures without raising any suspicions.

• Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize for Non-Fiction 2004

INGA DORA BJORNSDOTTIR studied anthropology at Lund University in Sweden and at New York University before earning her doctoral degree from the University of California at Santa Barbara. She has taught anthropology at the University of California, as well as at the University of Iceland. Dr. Bjornsdottir is the author of several biographies, as well as the co-author of books and documentaries.
In the autumn of 1940 an Icelandic couple, doctors Fridgeir Olafsson and Sigrun Briem, set off to the United States for specialized studies. After four years there and in Canada they returned to Iceland, he now with a Ph.D from Harvard University and she having completed her internship working in children’s hospitals. But they brought back with them something bigger; their stay in America had been like an adventure and had satisfied their great ambitions, but what had changed everything and moulded them more than any other experience on this long journey was the birth and raising of three children. Sigrun and Fridgeir are truly symbols of the bright hopes of Icelandic medical science, when they board the Godafoss on her ill-fated last voyage in autumn of 1944, but they are also parents convinced of their most important role in the near future.

- The Icelandic Booksellers’ Prize Best Biography 2013
- The DV Newspaper Cultural Prize for Literature 2013
- The Hagthenkir Non-fiction Prize 2013

Sigrun Palsdottir (b.1967) completed a Ph.D in the History of Ideas at Oxford University in 2001, after which she was a research fellow and lecturer at the University of Iceland; since 2007 she has worked free-lance. Palsdottir is editor of Saga, the principal peer-reviewed journal for Icelandic history.
And the Swans Began to Sing

“He opens the trapdoor and I know that I must step inside... Gingerly I descend the steep staircase that leads down to the coal cellar, praying silently. It’s pitch dark, with a cold, mildewy smell. The trapdoor is slammed shut and now it happens—something I have spent half my life trying to forget.”

A closely guarded secret has been Gudbjorg Thorisdottir’s companion all her life. Its ghost had a tendency to raise its ugly head when least wanted, but finally in her sixties she decided to part with it for good. Her daughter, Thora Karitas Arnadottir, has now recorded this story of the little girl who didn’t know how unnatural it was to live in “two separate worlds, heaven and hell under the same roof”.

“A brave and honest book.”

OFEIGUR SIGURDSSON

THORA KARITAS ARNADOTTIR (b.1979) studied drama in Britain, and in addition to appearing on stage and television has been active behind the scenes as a producer. And the Swans Began to Sing is her first published book, and formed the final dissertation for her MA in Creative Writing. In it she recounts her mother’s life, a childhood spent in the warm embrace of a large family beneath which seethed a cesspit of horror—an atrocity no child should be forced to endure.
UNNUR JOKULSDOTTIR

The Wonders of Lake Myvatn
Watercolours by Arni Einarsson and Margaret Davies

The best way of escaping into nature is to read a book like The Wonders of Lake Myvatn. In this charming book, Jokulsdottir leads us through the wonderous world of Lake Myvatn and the Myvatn region. She explains how such a magnificent landscape came to be, takes part in a bird count, observes the exciting life-cycle of Goldeneye ducks, visits nesting sites, remembers the spherical green-algae growths that once characterised the lake bed, and tells us about trout fishing and fish farmers. She describes all these wonders with affection, curiosity, and burning interest as a guiding light. A remarkable new voice in nature writing.

• The Icelandic Literary Prize for Non-Fiction 2017
• The Icelandic Women’s Literature Prize 2018
• Nominated for the Hagthenkir Non-Fiction Prize 2017

UNNUR JOKULSDOTTIR has written popular books on nature, people, and voyage, both on her own and in collaboration with others. Most of her books on Iceland have been published in other languages besides Icelandic.
Still, in a way we are lucky,' Björgvin says all of a sudden. 'Most folk who get this news are compelled to make huge changes in their lifestyle. Their world is turned upside-down and they have the additional challenge of figuring out how to spend the time they have left. We don’t have to do that. We are already in that place, living the life we have always wanted.

Hard to admit but it is true. We have indeed been following our hearts. One after another our dreams have been fulfilled. Still, I find our situation highly unfair and I say so.

‘Unfair?’ His dark eyebrows are raised at me.

‘Would it be fairer if someone else had this brain tumour?’

In On Love, Dragons and Dying, Davidsdottir describes her and Her Beloved’s journey with the disease they knew would kill him, and her first year as a widow. The book provides an insight both into the world of cancer and the deep grief of one who has loved and lost. But it is in equal measure an ode to love, an incitement to live mindfully and accept that death is a natural part of life.
Johanna and I

Johanna Sigurdardottir and Jonina Leosdottir were both married when they first met in 1983, and neither had ever been involved with a woman. A fateful political tour in 1985 would mark the beginning of their tumultuous relationship, which for years was kept under wraps, Icelandic society being considerably homophobic at the time.

But love finally conquered all. After a long and often difficult journey, Sigurdardottir and Leosdottir moved in together in 2000 and ten years later they updated their civil union to a legal marriage. By then, Sigurdardottir had become the Prime Minister of Iceland, making the two women the world’s first same-sex prime ministerial couple – provoking interest around the world.

Leosdottir and Sigurdardottir have always been adamant about keeping their private lives to themselves – but now they think the time has come to reveal this unusual and touching love story.

“A remarkable and inspiring story, authentic and sincere.”

SANDI TOKSVIG

JONINA LEOSDOTTIR (b.1954) has a degree in Literature from the University of Iceland. She is a novelist, playwright and former journalist and the author of a dozen plays, seven novels, two biographies and numerous articles. She is married to the former Icelandic Prime Minister Johanna Sigurdardottir.
Sheriff Skuli
– Father of Reykjavik

*He succeeded in becoming a sort of hero in the minds of the tormented common people. But he was also a dragon and a devil; that was part of being the king’s revenue collector.*

Skuli Magnusson, the so-called father of Reykjavik, was the first Icelander appointed as sheriff, a senior representative of the Danish crown. With the power his position afforded him, he founded a textile factory, thereby bringing the industrial revolution to Iceland.

But there were many sides to Skuli: he was a shop boy, a cheerful student in Copenhagen, a budding and ambitious public official, a ladies’ man and a reveler; he was the most powerful Icelander for half a century, serving as district magistrate in Skagafjordur, fighting against the power of the trade monopolies, and enjoying a close relationship with men of influence in Copenhagen; and he was a world-weary old man who settled on the island of Videy in his later years and lived out his days there under the protection of his adversaries. In her own unique way, Valdimarsdottir reveals all these different facets of Skuli, along the way describing Skuli’s world and many of his contemporaries.

**THORUNN VALDIMARSDOTTIR** (b.1954) is the author of over twenty books – novels, poetry, memoirs, and books on various historical topics, including biographies. She has received a variety of awards and accolades for her work.
A six-year-old Indian boy is put on a train all by himself. Twenty-four hours later, he arrives in a large city where everyone speaks another language and there is no one to receive him. For the next years he is alone and utterly helpless. Some people are good to him, but he also experiences violence and abuse.

Then, he is sent halfway across the world, from hot, crowded Calcutta to a snowy, sparsely populated village in Iceland – from a life of extreme poverty to a life of plenty. Suddenly, he has parents and siblings – but they do not share the same language. A year later, he finds himself alone again, bitter, hurt and rootless, bereft of his language and culture. Traveling to India, he finds his family, but not the answers he was seeking.

Hasim Khan has an incredible story – a story of hardship, rejection, strength, and the will to keep fighting. This is a story stranger than fiction and more suspenseful than a thriller. It tackles an extremely sensitive issue - what happens to adopted children when their parents reject them or no longer trust themselves to live with them? And what effect does it have on the inner lives of children who have already been through a terrible ordeal to be left alone in an unfamiliar land?

Author THORA KRISTIN ASGEIRSDOTTIR is well-known in Iceland for her writing as well as her work in television and radio. She approaches this book with unparalleled sensitivity and shows empathy not only with the main character, but also with those who tried to help but gave up.
My Time – the Story of Johanna Sigurdardottir

Johanna grew up in a political household; her grandmother and namesake was among the pioneers who fought for labour unions in Iceland. Johanna first sat in parliament for the Social Democratic Party in 1978, and for a long time, she was one of only few women in a parliament where her campaigning was met with uneven support. In 1987, Johanna became a minister and quickly earned respect for her altruism and fiery idealism. She had begun to consider retirement when she was called to leadership following Iceland’s financial crisis. She became the chairperson of the Social Democratic Alliance Party in 2009 and then Prime Minister in a government faced with the most sinister tasks of any government in the history of the republic. My Time deals with what happened behind the scenes – the intense conflicts, but also love and empathy, victories and losses. In addition, this book describes Johanna’s personal struggle in loving another woman, but being unable to share that love publicly.

PALL VALSSON (b.1960) has previously written the remarkably popular and well-researched biographies of Vigdis Finnbogadottir, former president of Iceland, and the Icelandic poet Jonas Hallgrimsson.
Vigdis – The Woman Who Became President

Vigdis – The Woman Who Became President recounts the story of this woman who not only charmed her own countrymen as president, but also much of the world, thanks to her charisma, warm attitude and intelligence.

In 1980 Vigdis Finnbogadottir was sworn in as Iceland’s fourth president, becoming the world’s first elected female head of state. What did this entail and what sacrifices had to be made?

This comprehensive portrait of the person Vigdis Finnbogadottir, covers every shade from sorrow to victory, so that by the end of the book, the reader is left with an intimate and lasting impression of her.

• Icelandic Booksellers’ Prize best biography, 2009
“A deserving memorial to an unusual and difficult artist.”

FRETTABLADID DAILY

ARNI HEIMIR INGOLFSSON

Jon Leifs

Jon Leifs (1899–1968) was one of the most significant and unusual Icelandic artists of the twentieth century.

In the middle of World War I, he sailed to Germany, determined to dedicate himself to music, without the slightest inkling, however, of what that entailed. Like Halldor Laxness he was overtaken by world events. Married a woman of Jewish origin and lived in Germany until 1944. This book recounts his story more bluntly than ever before. Arni Heimir Ingolfsson has left no stone unturned in his quest for sources on Jon Leifs’ life, which reveals itself to be gripping and fraught with suspense.

ARNI HEIMIR INGOLFSSON holds a PhD degrees in Musicology from Harvard University and is the Programme Director of the Iceland Symphony Orchestra.
JON OLAFSSON

Oranges from Abkasia
Vera Hertzsch, Halldor Laxness, and the Great Purge

At the height of Stalin’s purge in 1937-1938, Vera Hertzsch, who had immigrated to the Soviet Union from Germany a decade earlier, was arrested by Stalin’s security police, the NKVD, along with her one-year-old, half-Icelandic daughter, Erla Solveig. Writer Halldor Laxness, who had been invited to dinner that night, witnessed the arrest.

A quarter of a century passed before Laxness would tell the story in a memoir published in 1963 while the fate of mother and child remained an unsolved mystery. Vera and her daughter had disappeared into a horrendous life in prison camps, sickness and disease, slavery and hunger. They never made it back and their relatives and friends received no information about them for decades.

This powerful and strange story has now been pieced together by Jon Olafsson in a thorough research of life in the Gulag during and after the Great Purge.

JON OLAFSSON (b.1964) worked for the Icelandic State Radio in Moscow when access was granted to Soviet archives after the collapse of the USSR. He has been a regular guest there ever since. He is author of books and articles dealing with Icelandic relations with Comintern and the Soviet Union. Olafsson has a doctorate in philosophy from Columbia University and is currently professor of philosophy and provost at Bifröst University.
“Little girl – you can light my cigarette with your eyes!” These were the first words uttered by Halldor Laxness to Ingibjörg Einarsdottir at Thingvellir in the summer of 1924 – and the girl was bewitched by this eloquent writer. Little by little a romance blossomed, and when Laxness set off for America they were more or less engaged to be married. While the letters depict the incredible ambition and diligence that drives Laxness, they show also his anxiety and worries, as well as chronicling the development of Halldor and Inga’s love, leading to their marriage on May 1st 1930, that would last for ten years.

During this time, which is also Laxness’ most prolific period as an author, he writes almost 180 letters to Ingibjörg which, as is typical for all romances, swing between mischief and sincerity, jealousy and desire, trust and half-truths. At the same time these letters provide a unique insight into the zeitgeist, society, and ideals of these optimistic years between two world wars.
“Stylistically admirable, exceptionally informative and will be the standard biography of Halldor Laxness.”

DIE WELT

HALLDOR GUDMUNDSSON

The Islander, a Biography

Halldor Laxness was the most renowned Icelandic writer of the 20th century, having won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1955. In his best works he is considered to have combined the spirit of classical literary forms such as the Icelandic sagas with qualities that are reminiscent of what was later called South American magical realism.

This major biography is narrated in a gripping, exciting, and consistently critical way, giving readers a grand description of a personality in which the manifold conflicts of the 20th century are mirrored.

- The Icelandic Literary Prize for Non-Fiction 2004
- The Booksellers’ Prize for Icelandic biography

HALLDOR GUDMUNDSSON studied literature at the University of Iceland and then at the University of Copenhagen. For 19 years he worked in publishing, for the longest time as the publisher for Mal og menning. At the same time he continued researching and writing about literature, with emphasis on the works of Halldor Laxness.
“... a real masterpiece ... the text is terse and sharp, extremely readable and written with mature genius.”

DV NEWSPAPER

OSKAR GUDMUNDSSON

Snorri

Snorri Sturluson (1179–1241) left more of a mark on the history of Iceland and the culture of western Europe than perhaps any of his fellow countrymen. This biography paints a vivid portrait of an exceptionally talented individual who had to grapple with kings abroad, chieftains at home, his children, and his own weaknesses. But this man who struggled against the world more than eight centuries ago also conquered it through his literature.

The book lifts the veil of some of Iceland’s most intriguing historical figures and conjures up memorable images of cunning individuals and harrowing events.

OSKAR GUDMUNDSSON studied History, Literature and Social Sciences at the University of Reykjavik, in Bremen, Germany and Copenhagen during the seventies. He was editor in chief of the magazine Studenta-bladid, the weekly Nordurland and the news magazine Thjodlif. Oskar has worked as an independent academic and writer and has been involved in the publication of numerous books as editor and author.
ADALSTEINN INGOLFSSON

Erro
A Lifescape

A journey into the colourful and vibrant world of international art. In this outspoken biography, the life, art, and experiences of Gudmundur Gudmundsson, better known as Erro, are deconstructed by the artist himself and many of his personal friends, rivals, and contemporaries in the art world. Born in a small town in Iceland in the 1930’s, Erro discovered his muse and followed the siren call of his art to study and work in such places as Florence, Paris, New York, and Moscow, meeting and interacting with many of the best known artists of the time and celebrities such as Andy Warhol, Salvador Dali, and Fidel Castro, to name but a few. Over the course of his career, Erro was and remains a prolific, imaginative, and often controversial artist, a citizen of the world but always an Icelander at heart.

The author, ADALSTEINN INGOLFSSON, is a renowned art historian and author of several books on various aspects of Icelandic art. Philip Roughton translated from the Icelandic.
World War One raged savagely from 1914–1918, employing the newest, most brutal technology and greatly diminishing the value of human life. Arriving in the wake of a long period of peace and prosperity in Europe, it had been assumed that such brutality would be unthinkable at the hands of cultured nations.

Nearly 400 Icelandic soldiers fought in the trenches in Western Europe; many of them suffered tragic fates. The war had widespread effects on Icelanders’ standard of living and Icelandic politics, as well as on the nation’s fight for independence. German submarines didn’t spare Icelandic ships and the threat of shipping blockades loomed. For a time, the Icelandic people feared a possible famine.

In When Civilization Went to Hell, the history of the First World War is described in an unusual and stimulating manner, while still maintaining the work’s scholarly standards. Furthermore, the story is told from the perspective of Icelanders at the time, utilizing material from newspapers, letters, novels, and other Icelandic sources.

GUNNAR THOR BJARNASON is a historian. His previous book, Raise the Flag! The Struggle for Icelandic Independence, had a particularly good reception. It was nominated for the Icelandic Literature Prize, received a special recognition from Hagthenkir and the DV Cultural Award in the category of scholarly writing.
PALL BALDVIN BALDVINSSON

War in Iceland
1938-1945

Persecution of Jews • Occupation • Refugees
Sailing • Barracks • Accidents • Submarine
Peril • Extermination • Winter War •
Espionage Blitzkrieg • Heroic Rescue • Crime
• Convoys • Class Conflict • Culture and Arts •
Political Discord • Foundation of the Republic
Innovation • D-Day • Traitors • Nuclear
Weapons • Peace Day

This magnificent work centers around the situation in Iceland during World War II and shows how the country became an integral part of the armed conflict that took place around the world - and not least at sea around the country. The cruelty, the lust for life, acts of heroism and the horror of war comes to life through a number of interviews, news items, classified documents, diaries and memories, as well a myriad of photographs, domestic and foreign, many of which are published for the first time.

HARDCOVER
2015
1080 pp
25 x 30.5 cm

• Hagthenkir Non-Fiction Prize
• The Icelandic Booksellers' Prize
• Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize for Non-Fiction

PALL BALDVIN BALDVINSSON (b.1953), literary and cultural critic, has for years had a burning interest in this unique period in the history of the nation. This work is the result of his tremendously extensive labour collecting photographs, memoirs and other sources regarding World War II.
The Story of Love in Iceland

The Story of Love in Iceland explores the conditions of love in the country from the 9th to the 14th century in a lively and accessible manner: the right of the population to love a chosen partner and the lack of that right, free love, feasts and weddings, women’s right to refuse to marry a certain man, love in marriage, divorce, extramarital affairs, concubinage, illegitimate children and their limited rights, and homosexual love. Contrary to most recent works in this field it proves to support essentialism; the view that human feelings are basically the same among people in different periods and different parts of the earth.

A Brief History of Iceland

A concise, clear and vivid overview of Icelandic history through these centuries, the main events, the people and their way of life, in times of glory and in times of degradation and natural disaster.

GUNNAR KARLSSON is a historian and former professor of History at the University of Iceland. He has written a wealth of books, articles, studies, text books and introductions to Icelandic history.
History of Iceland

A lively and absorbing description of the development of the Icelandic nation from the settlement more than eleven hundred years ago and up to the present day. In concise and highly informative accounts, written with the general reader in mind, the book charts the glories and achievements of the Republic and Saga Age; the bitter and bloody civil war which led to humiliation and suffering under colonial rule; and the nationalist awakening which has created a thriving modern republic with deep attachment to its unique past.

JON R. HJALMARSSON (1922-2018) was a historian and educator and served as a school principal and later as regional administrator of education in south Iceland for many years. He is well known as a broadcaster and as the author of several books on history and related subjects.
“Wisdom is welcome, wherever it comes from.”
The Saga of the Confederates.

About one thousand quotes and passages from the Icelandic Sagas, including familiar sayings of wit and wisdom, as well as various excerpts that give valuable insights into life during the age of the Vikings, and the subject material of the sagas.

The passages include examples of extraordinary bravery, battles and Viking voyages, mythical beasts, ghosts and dragons, as well as unthinkable violence and, plainly, pure evil. Additionally, the work contains passages that give valuable character descriptions and glimpses of appearances, human relations and everyday life. The book also includes a brief introduction to the Icelandic Sagas and each of the forty sagas excerpted in the work, and a foreword by History Professor Gunnar Karlsson.
“An excellent work.”

SVENSKA DAGBLADET

VESTEINN OLASON

Dialogues with the Viking Age

An introduction to and a critical discussion of the Sagas of the Icelanders or the Icelandic Family Sagas, as they are often called. The author presents the historical and literary background of the saga genre, analyses the narrative form and describes the world view expressed in the sagas. He sees the sagas as dialogues between the authors and their past, conversations between the Middle Ages and the Age of the Vikings. He joins in that conversation from a modern standpoint and leads the reader into the sagas step by step, gradually helping him to develop a deeper understanding both of individual works and of the genre as a whole.

VESTEINN OLASON has been professor of Icelandic literature at the University of Iceland, UC Berkley and the Universities of Copenhagen and Oslo as well as being the director of The Arni Magnusson Institute for Icelandic Studies. Olason has published numerous articles on Icelandic literature in Icelandic and foreign magazines as well as several books, amongst them Traditional Ballads of Iceland. He received the Icelandic Prize for Non-Fiction in 1993.
BODVAR GUDMUNDSSON AND HEIMIR PALSSON

Norse Gods in a New Land

The settlers who came to Iceland in the 9th and 10th centuries brought not only people and livestock, but also countless tales, including tales of their gods. These gods now had to find their way in a new land, where many things differed dramatically from their former home. Some took on new roles, whilst others were lost because they no longer served a purpose. In this book, the literary scholar Heimir Palsson writes about the pagan faith as it was practised and traces the fates of the gods in Iceland. In the second part of the book, the author Bodvar Gudmundsson retells all the known stories of the Norse gods.

The work combines accessible scholarship on the religion of medieval Icelanders and vibrant, entertaining tales of the gods, who could be remarkably human despite their supernatural powers.

BODVAR GUDMUNDSSON (b.1939) is the author of numerous plays, poetry and novels as well as a translator of books for children and adults. His historical novels about Icelandic emigrants to America in the 19th century were published to acclaim and have been highly popular with readers and one of them, The Tree of Life, received the Icelandic Literature Prize in 1996.

HEIMIR PALSSON (b.1944) a Literary scholar who has decades of experience as a professor of Icelandic. He is the author of several text books on medieval literature and is also a prolific translator.
Icelandic folktales have lived with the nation for centuries. They served as one of the primary forms of entertainment for people as they sat and worked through long winters. Many of the tales are inspired by Icelandic nature and deal with mountain trolls and elves who live in cliffs and crags, while others are a testament to the powers of imagination, including gruesome ghost stories and tales of strange beasts on land and in the sea. This volume brings together a wide range of stories and beautiful illustrations.

SILJA ADALSTEINSDOTTIR (b. 1943) edited the folktales for the present volume. She has written, translated, and edited numerous books and is a two-time winner of the Icelandic Literary Prize. She edited a volume of Icelandic folktales for children in 2009 and is the translator of a collection of Grimm’s Fairy Tales compiled by Philip Pullman.

FIFA FINNSDOTTIR (b. 1985) prepared the drawings that accompany the folktales especially for this edition. She holds degrees in East Asian studies and computer game design and has studied at the Reykjavik School of Visual Art.
JON R. HJALMARSSON

Ghost Stories along the Ring Road

In this book, many of the country’s most famous ghosts tag along for the ride, making your journey unforgettable. 50 spine-chilling ghost stories are retold here, each one introduced by Jon R. Hjalmarsson, with a description of the major landmarks, various noteworthy locations and phenomena in the area. The folktale in question is then recounted in lively prose. An essential companion for young and old travelling around the country.

A Traveller’s Guide to Icelandic Folk Tales

This is a collection of 60 local legends, designed to accompany the traveller on the road around Iceland. The scene is set for each story with a description of the surrounding landscape and a brief history of the region, as well as practical information about routes to the various locations. Trolls and elves, wizards, ghosts, mermen, and a host of other mysterious beings come to life in these pages to enliven the traveller’s journey around Iceland.
Where will you find elves in Iceland and what should you expect of them?

Those who travel around Iceland with an open mind will have a colourful and enjoyable journey ahead of them. With a bit of luck (and GPS navigation) travelers might even encounter an elf – almost no Icelandic farm is without stories of elf-dwellings located somewhere on the property.

This book contains a collection of stories and sources that shed light on the relationship between humans and elves in Iceland, from ancient to relatively recent times.

PALL ASGEIR ASGEIRSSON is an experienced outdoor enthusiast and has been a guide for many years. He has written numerous popular hiking books and trail guides, some of which, such as Iceland Adventure, have been published in English.
When the people of Iceland moved to the city they didn’t leave their ghosts behind, nor their need to keep them in check through stories. Stormy weather, grim nature, poverty, and isolation; these cornerstones of Icelandic society have long served as fertile ground for lost souls.

*The Haunting of Reykjavik* is based on extensive interviews with numerous Icelanders – both dead and alive. The book presents some of the capital’s best known modern ghost stories for the first time in print and is rich with historical information.

Read about the ghost in the attic of the Parliament Building. Learn about the girl who drowned her newborn child in Tjörnin Pond in a fit of despair. Meet the guests in the black rooms of Borg Hotel and the ghosts of Höfði, the historical building where US President Ronald Reagan met with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in 1986.

**STEINAR BRAGI** (b.1975) studied Comparative Literature and Philosophy at the University of Iceland. He has wandered a great deal around the globe, travelling through Europe, Asia, and both North and South America, acquiring unique experience. His first published book was the *Black Hole* volume of poetry in 1998.
Icelandic folklore heritage contains a wealth of tales about weird animals and ferocious monsters. These creatures terrified Icelanders in prior centuries but have hardly been noticed recently at least for the most part.

The main folk legends and stories of these monsters from in or around Iceland are recounted in this book, from both oral and written sources. The monsters and their peculiarities are described in the text in a detailed, insightful manner, and the locations where they have been spotted are shown on a map. The illustrations accompanying the text shed additional lights on this interesting part of Icelandic folklore.
Just because you haven’t seen something doesn’t mean that it doesn’t exist!
Icelandic trolls have always been reclusive but they’ve become even more so with the encroachment of humans on their island. According to folktales throughout the ages, trolls have been deservedly feared. In the more than thirty years that illustrator and author Brian Pilkington has been exploring Icelandic folklore, however, a more characterful, tranquil creature has emerged – a reticent, serene, and highly intelligent being living in harmony with nature. These creatures go around barefoot, even in the coldest of winters, because they like to have their feet firmly planted on the planet they revere so much.

_Trolls – Philosophy and Wisdom_ is a beautiful collection of paintings showing trolls in Icelandic nature along with their words of wisdom. Of Pilkington’s many books concerning Icelandic folklore, this is his tenth about Icelandic trolls.
Shrouded in mystery, steeped in legend, the *huldufolk* (hidden people) of Iceland have inhabited the island at least as long as humans. Countless tales are told of these wondrous creatures, their hidden world, their customs and festivals and their interactions with human beings. Usually only seen when they wanted people to see them – often entering their dreams – they sometimes sought help from humans and gave rich rewards. The hidden people still demand respect in Iceland, where roads have been altered and construction plans changed to avoid disturbing elf-stones, large rocks housing huldufolk families. The hidden people have been known to avenge destruction of their homes with a vengeance ...

*The Hidden People of Iceland* is richly illustrated by award-winning artist BRIAN PILKINGTON. The text is written by TERRY GUNNELL, Associate Professor of Folkloristics at the University of Iceland.
What is sleep? How much sleep do we need? How can we best respond to sleep problems? Sleep is one of the fundamental elements of good health, along with nutrition and exercise. Sleep problems are common in fast-paced modern society, but irregular sleep habits and lack of sleep can have a variety of effects on physical and mental health. In this book, various perspectives on sleep are discussed. It is explained what happens during sleep, and common sleep problems among children, teens, and adults are examined.

DR. ERLA BJORNSDOTTIR completed her Bachelor degree in psychology at the University of Iceland in 2007, her Candidate's exam at the University of Aarhus in 2009, and her PhD degree in biological and medical sciences at the University of Iceland in 2015. Erla specializes in cognitive-behavioural therapy for insomnia and is working on research in that field alongside colleagues in Europe and the United States.
SOLEY DROFN DAVIDSDOTTIR

Take Control of Social Anxiety

• Do you feel shy, anxious, or unsafe around people?
• Is it difficult for you to relax and enjoy yourself during social interactions?
• Are you concerned about other people’s opinions?
• Do you feel anxious about speaking or expressing your opinions in large groups?

Social Anxiety is a problem that many people wrestle with. This self-help book is based on the cognitive behavioral therapy method and grounded in trustworthy research. It will help readers boost their self-confidence and improve social interactions, as well as ease the processes of getting to know new people and making friends. It is also practical for anyone who wants to support someone who is struggling with these problems, such as parents of children with social anxiety.

Psychologist SOLEY DROFN DAVIDSDOTTIR is the director of The Icelandic Center for the Treatment of Anxiety Disorders. She has completed specialized training in cognitive behavioral therapy and is certified in clinical psychology. Soley specializes in the treatment of anxiety disorders and has developed a successful treatment program for social phobia. In 2014, she published her first book, Take Control of Anxiety, Phobias, and Fear.
RAGNHEIDUR HARALDS-OG EIRIKSDOTTIR

Sex in Iceland

Move over Carrie Bradshaw! Iceland’s hottest sex educator, Ragga, has written an honest, instructive, playful, and adventurous book. The book features transcriptions of her Q&A sessions with Icelandic women and men, young and old, on familiar topics as well as unusual ones, common and rare, simple and complicated. Laced throughout the pages are selected excerpts from a host of new interviews Ragga has conducted with Icelanders of all ages about their sexual practices and desires. Sex in Iceland is an enlightening and informative, sex positive book – for those who have been enjoying sex since early last century, as well as those taking their first steps into Cupid’s labyrinth.

RAGGA (Ragnheidur Haralds- og Eiriksdottir, b.1971) is a registered nurse. She is well known for her writings and appearances in Icelandic media for the past fifteen years addressing issues on sex and sexuality.

raggaeiriks.com
ARNALDUR BIRGIR KONRADSSON
ROBERT TRAUSTASON

Budz Boot Camp: Maximum Success

Published in Iceland in 2010, *Budz Boot Camp - Maximum Success* has been so popular that it has already been reprinted several times. Thousands of Icelanders have tested their strength and endurance at the Budz Boot Camp, which recently opened a branch in Copenhagen with great success.

*Maximum Success* book describes the many different exercises and stretches they have evolved, together with training schedules with basic exercises for beginners and *élite* exercises for the more experienced. There are explanatory illustrations and photographs of all the exercises with clear instructions on how to execute each of them as well as special directions on the main features of each schedule. The book also furnishes the reader with nutritional advice and a wealth of other information indispensable to achieving maximum success.

ARNALDUR BIRGIR KONRADSSON AND ROBERT TRAUSTASON designed and developed the Budz Boot Camp training system used in Iceland and Denmark. Using their combined experience as personal physical fitness coaches, sport trainers and bodyguards — taught by ex-special squad instructors — they have created a unique, demanding but highly enjoyable set of physical training programs.
SIGRIDUR SNAEVARR & MARIA BJORK OSKARSDOTTIR

Empower Yourself

Ideas, advice and motivation for the unemployed and anyone looking for a new opportunity.

- Are you at a turning point in your life looking for a new job or new opportunities?
- Do you need ideas, motivation and advice to achieve success in changing circumstances and complex occupational environment?

The goal of Empower Yourself is to help people in a job search to get a better chance to stand out on a competitive job market and to help those who want or need to find a new space for their time and skills or just switch jobs. The book points to multiple ways around the job hunt with extensive coverage on the hiring process, such as introspection, strength exercises, writing a resume and cover letters, and practice and tips for interviews.

The authors, MARIA BJORK OSKARSDOTTIR, a business management graduate, and ambassador SIGRIDUR SNAEVARR, put emphasis on originality, networking and wellbeing and their methods have been very successful. The duo is behind the workshops/seminars Empower Yourself that they have run since 2008 with over 1000 participants. This book builds from that experience and their own methodology, developed in exceptional circumstances after the financial crash, which has benefitted partakers in creating successful advantages and new opportunities. The methods and the courses, designed to empower the participants and changing their outlook, have a success rate of 75%.
NANNA ROGNVALDARDOTTIR is well known in her native Iceland and beyond for her extensive knowledge of Icelandic culinary history and straightforward recipes of all sorts. She has authored a wide variety of cookbooks and received numerous awards.

NANNA ROGNVALDARDOTTIR

Straight in the Oven

A bottomless well of culinary inspiration that emphasizes variety in cooking, the reduction of food waste, and the joy of being creative in the kitchen. *Straight in the Oven* is a cookbook for people who don’t have time to spend hours in the kitchen but still want to serve healthy, delicious home-cooked meals. You can come home and prepare any of the recipes in this book in the time it takes for the oven to preheat. Just pop the pan in the oven and turn your attention to something else – the meal practically prepares itself.

- Vegetarian dishes, vegan dishes, fish, chicken, and meat – everyday meals and meals for special occasions
- Every recipe cooked and served in a single baking dish, making cleanup a breeze
- Photos of all the ingredients used in each dish
- Tips on what you can prepare ahead of time
- Recipes that can be easily adjusted to modify the serving size or to suit your dietary needs
- All sorts of tips and information you can skip over if all you need is a recipe
- Easy-to-find and generally quite affordable ingredients
- Advice on how to use up leftovers and reduce food waste
Nanna Rognvaldardottir has always preferred to use cast iron pots and pans in her kitchen. You can cook almost anything in cast iron, as is obvious from the remarkably diverse array of recipes in this book, which include some of Nanna’s favorites. (They can, of course, be cooked in other kinds of pots and pans as well!)

When most people think of cast iron cookware, they think of slow-cooked roasts, casseroles, and wheat breads, and there are many tempting recipes for dishes of these kinds in the book. However, *Nanna’s Cast Iron Recipes* also includes vegetarian dishes, soups, sides, sauces, pancakes, quick-fried shellfish, deep-fried snacks, sweet baked goods, and all kinds of tasty goodies. You’ll find Icelandic flatbread and French duck confit, Indian curries, Irish soda bread, oven-baked rice pudding, and nearly one hundred other delicious recipes. The book also goes over how to choose, treat, and take care of cast iron cookware in great detail, as well as the benefits of using cast iron pots and pans for all kinds of cooking.
Icelandic Food and Cookery is a cookbook that gives a taste of Iceland through a wealth of traditional and modern recipes, food history, and lore. The book begins with a historical introduction to Icelandic food and cooking, from the Settlement to the modern Nordic kitchen. Festive food traditions are covered in a separate chapter but the main section of the book consists of recipes for popular Icelandic dishes, a virtual journey through local home cooking in the 20th century. Most of the recipes come from the author’s own family or are sourced from old cookbooks and magazines. Every recipe is accompanied by historical information, personal anecdotes, or sociological tidbits that serve to explain the dish and give the reader a sense of Icelandic home cooking and culture and how it has changed and evolved.

150 traditional and modern recipes • Real Icelandic home cooking • Feasts and food traditions • A thorough overview of Icelandic food history
NANNA ROGNVALDARDOTTIR

Does Anyone Actually Eat This?

This richly illustrated book describes some Icelandic delicacies that often draw the attention of visitors for various reasons and call for questions like:
“What is this?” “How is it made?” “What is the origin?” “When is it eaten?” and, in some cases “Does anyone actually eat this?”
The author learned old food traditions at a young age and is now Iceland’s best known food writer.

NANNA ROGNVALDARDOTTIR

Cool Cuisine

Favourite traditional Icelandic dishes are brought to life in this inspirational cookbook. A mixture of old and new, combined with excellent ingredients, provides a collection of mouth-watering recipes. This book gives you a taste of Iceland’s coolest cuisine with recipes which are easy to follow and fun to cook.
We are coming to a better understanding all the time about wholesome nutrition’s effects on our health and wellbeing and so it’s important to think about what we eat. What matters most, however, is not our occasional “cheat day,” but rather our everyday eating habits. *Light and Colorful* emphasizes healthy, everyday meals and includes nearly 70 recipes for nutritious, easy, and delicious homemade dishes made from readily available ingredients. In it, you’ll find recipes for:

- Breakfast, light lunches, appetizers, and all kinds of snacks
- A wide variety of vegetarian dishes: soups, salads, homemade veggie patties, stews, and casseroles.
- Light and easy fish mains that will appeal to everyone, as well as chicken and meat dishes.
- Colorful, healthy, and scrumptious vegetables and other sides.

Most recipes are intended for two people, but all of them can be easily increased to serve more people.
Nanna’s Chicken Dishes

Chicken can be enjoyed in many diverse ways, both as an inexpensive everyday dish or a fine event meal. Here Nanna gives recipes for fifty fabulous chicken dishes where all can find something for their skill and shows diverse but simple cooking methods where the chicken turns out delicious delicacies of all kinds.

- Whole chickens: slow roasted, fast fried, stuffed, boned, and grilled.
- Chicken breasts and fillets, pan-fried, oven cooked, grilled, stuffed, hot smoked, in salads and sandwiches, on a stick, and nuggets.
- Chicken upper thigh, leg and wings: Mexican, Moroccan, American, Persian, Indian, Chinese, Korean, Turkish, Thai – in the oven, in a pot, grill, deep fried, in a bun, on a stick.
- Soups and gourmet dishes from chicken leftovers and chicken liver.
- Simple recipes for chicken stock, basic sauces, dips, and spice blends.

• Finalist Gourmand Awards 2014
A lot of dishes that people grew up with, or ate at their grandparents’ house, are now seldom seen. This is good food, though, and above all homely, evoking fond memories. It is an unmissable part of Icelandic culinary tradition. This book contains around 80 recipes for food like mum and grandma used to make: soups and sauces, meat and fish dishes, porridges, puddings, breads and cakes. Some dishes are completely traditional, whilst others have been modernised a touch.

- Cauliflower soup, langoustine soup, prawn cocktail, salmon salad and seasoned herring
- Fried fish, fish stew, fish balls, grilled trout and fish gratin
- Sunday leg of lamb, breaded lamb chops, roast pork with crackling, mince patties and stuffed cabbage with homemade sausage meat
- Rice pudding, cocoa soup, stewed rhubarb, lemon parfait and Toblerone ice cream
- Pancakes, twisted doughnuts, ‘wedded bliss’ cake, Christmas cake, Viennese tart and sandwich loaf
Sweetness Without Sugar

This book includes recipes for various desserts and cakes containing no refined sugar, syrup, honey or so on, or ready-made sweeteners – only fruit. Fruit of course contains fructose, but also various healthy nutrients and delicious flavours.

- Cereals, porridges and chocolate yoghurt
- Drop scones and waffles
- Cinnamon buns and savoury bread
- Cream and chocolate tarts
- Brownies, cookies and muffins
- Sweet sauces and dips
- Puddings, panna cotta and various kinds of ice cream
- Confectionery and sweet treats
Do you need to whip up a bag lunch, pick out perfect snacks for your next book club meeting or cocktail party, or plan a brunch, casual get-together, or party? Do you need ideas for toast toppers, cracker spreads or chip dips? In *Party Flavors*, you’ll find plenty of ideas, as well a diverse selection of recipes that will work for a variety of occasions:

- Flavored Cheese Spreads
- Veggie and Bean-Based Spreads and Dips
- Healthy Salads
- Homemade Pâtés
- Jams, Cookies and Sweets—both with and without sugar

*Party Flavors* has recipes to suit any taste: Pâté de Campagne (country pâté) and bacon jam for meat-lovers, mackerel pâté and marinated herring for fish fanatics, and plenty of recipes for vegetarians and vegans.

Nanna Rognvaldardottir is the author of numerous cookbooks and is known for her easy, accessible, and delicious recipes.
Nanna Rognvaldardottir

Nanna’s Christmas Food

Do you want a traditional Christmas, an inexpensive Christmas, a healthy Christmas, a fishy Christmas, a game Christmas, a luxury Christmas, a vegetarian Christmas, or a quick Christmas?

Are you looking for tried and tested recipes for traditional Christmas food, original takes on familiar party foods, or something new and exciting?

You’ll find it all in this book.

Nanna Rognvaldardottir was not allowed anywhere near Christmas cookery until she was well into her adult years, but she has made up for it ever since. The book is lavishly illustrated with Gisli Egill Hrafnsson’s beautiful photographs.

• Finalist for Gourmand Awards Easy Recipe 2011
What’s for dinner?

The most asked question in many families’ kitchen is: What’s for dinner? Everyday meals are a task we must complete every day – deciding what to cook, shopping for the ingredients, preparing and cooking, and serving the meal to the family.

In this book, Hjaltadottir provides suggestions for simple and delicious dishes for every evening of the week. Hjaltadottir has spent some time learning to cook in Florence so many of them are inspired by Italian flavours and ingredients. She is also mindful of food waste and shares her own strategies to fight it.

JOHANNA VIGDIS HJALTADOTTIR

(b.1962) is a news reporter and TV presenter. This is her third cookbook. Hjaltadottir has presented cooking shows on RUV, the National Broadcasting Service, and ran the largest cookbook-club in Iceland for many years.
From the Nordic nations to Korea, pickled vegetables play a large role in the food traditions of many countries around the world. Pickling cabbage and other vegetables as well as fruits and other plants is an ancient practice, intended both to preserve the food and give it great flavor. In recent years, more and more people have focused on health, and studies have shown that unpasteurized sauerkraut and other fermented vegetables with live cultures can greatly improve digestion and overall health.

DAGNY HERMANNSDOTTIR, the queen of sauerkraut, has taught a number of popular classes around the country in the past few years. In this book, she teaches basic techniques and gives tips on ingredients, tools, storage, and usage, alongside a number of simple gourmet recipes for sauerkraut and other fermented veggies, as well as chutneys, cured lemons, kimchi, and even more tasty treats.
The low-carb lifestyle has been a hit all over the world, and Gunnar Mar Sigfusson’s books and courses have played no small part in its popularity in Iceland. Ever since his first book on the subject, many Icelanders have revolutionized their diet and lifestyle, and the selection of low-carb products in grocery stores has grown by leaps and bounds.

This new book provides a six-week low-carb menu, along with ten tasty desserts. The focus is on affordable and good home meals, everyday fare that can be prepared quickly and easily; healthy and tasty meals that steer clear of sugar, yeast, and flour. The recipes are simple and suitable for all, with gorgeous color photos of each meal provided.

GUNNAR MAR SIGFUSSON (b.1973) is a licensed golf fitness trainer from Titleist Performance Institute. He has worked as a personal trainer for over 15 years, besides organizing courses on golf fitness. He writes articles on health and golf for Pressan.is.
Help, My Kid is a Vegetarian!

Vegetarians and vegans are growing steadily in number, and everyone benefits from eating more vegetables. But those in charge of the cooking at home are often at a loss when they need to serve tasty and nutritious food that everyone can enjoy. Jon Yngvi Johannsson is a home cook who knows this from his own experience, and he has compiled a wide variety of tempting recipes for delicious vegetable dishes.

- Veggie balls and patties
- Casseroles and curries
- Veggie-dogs and barley
- Stuffed vegetables
- Pasta
- Breads and pies
- Soups and salads
- Sauces and purees

A cookbook for stumped parents, home cooks stuck in a rut, strapped-for-cash students, and anybody else who should eat more vegetables. Family-friendly vegetarian dishes for beginners and beyond.

JON YNGVI JOHANNSSON is an assistant professor of literature in the Faculty of Education at the University of Iceland. As a passionate he has thrilled an ever-growing group of children, families, and friends with countless meals over the past twenty-five years.
Thorbjorg Marinosdottir is famous for her sweet tooth and has always had a weakness for desserts and sweets. The problem is that she also wants to maintain a healthy diet. In Naturally Sweet, however, she does a great job of combining the two, demonstrating how to make all kinds of incredibly tempting and delicious desserts, cakes, and confections for children and adults that don’t contain any sugar—only fruit and other natural sweeteners. This beautiful and colorful book contains tantalizing recipes for both beginners and seasoned cooks.

- Cakes and Muffins
- Sweet Bites
- Sauces, Jams, and Ice Creams

Thorðbjörg Marinósdottr is a well-known journalist and broadcaster in Iceland. She is a media analyst by education and has a Master’s degree in project management. She has previously published four books. She’s known for delving deeply into whatever subject matter she turns her attention to.
The Power of Food
Preventative nutrition

Each and every day, we make a number of decisions that impact our lives and health, both mentally and physically, and many of them are about our diet. What are we going to have for breakfast? Lunch? Dinner? What foods benefit our health and strengthen our bodies and what should we avoid? Minor decisions regarding diet become habits that form our lives and affect our health, now and in the future. Committing to a healthy lifestyle is therefore one of the most important preventions against diseases and illness. Cancer poses one of the greatest health threats today and research has indicated that diet plays a vital role.

This book offers detailed guidelines for a healthy lifestyle and an abundance of information about ingredients, food, and health, in addition to several delicious and accessible recipes suitable for the whole family that are sure to boost your health.

THORUNN STEINSDOTTIR (B. 1984) and UNNUR GUDRUN PALSDOTTIR, LUKKA, (b. 1970) are well known for their passion for cooking, a healthy lifestyle, and preventative measures for cancer and other illnesses. They have teamed up with doctors and other specialists to create a book that benefits everyone wanting to improve their health and boost the body’s defences against disease. Thorunn is a lawyer at the Ministry of Welfare in the Department of Quality and Prevention. She is extremely interested in cancer prevention and has held many lectures on the issue. Lukka is a physiotherapist, she managed a restaurant (Happ) focusing on health foods, published recipe books, and hosted television programmes on food and health.
ASLAUG SNORRADOTTIR

Icelandic Superfoods

The healthy and colorful ingredients from Iceland’s bountiful table have long served as inspiration for photographer and food artist Aslaug Snorradottir. In Icelandic Superfoods, Aslaug travels around the country, visiting food producers and foodies, conjuring up feasts, getting inspiration, and sharing what she’s learned along the way. Icelandic Superfoods is a book of stunning vitality and originality in which Aslaug celebrates the beautiful, nutrient-rich and wholesome food from her local environment: Iceland’s very own superfoods.

- Underground: rutabagas, beets, and other root vegetables
- Aboveground: cabbage and leafy greens
- The Greenhouse: vegetables that thrive in Icelandic geothermal heat and under the Nordic sun
- The Moorland: wild herbs, flowering plants, and berries
- The Sea and Lakes: fish, seaweeds, and coastal vegetation

ASLAUG SNORRADOTTIR (b. 1967) food author and photographer, has herself created two cookbooks as well as participated in several others as co-writer, photographer and generator of ideas. She has also participated in a variety of food-related projects and written about and photographed all kinds of foods, both delicacies from Icelandic nature and exotic dishes from all over.
Anyone who has an interest in a balanced diet and healthy lifestyle knows about CafeSigrun, the website where Sigrun Thorsteinsdottir has for years written about health and cooking, publishing recipes under the slogan “Healthfulness begins at home.” In this collection, you’ll find an array of appetizing recipes for tasty treats for the whole family. All recipes are free of white sugar, wheat, and yeast and are clearly labeled to indicate which dishes are gluten-free, vegan, or are suitable for those who want to avoid eggs, dairy, seeds, or nuts.

- Breakfast Foods
- Healthy Drinks
- Bread and Baked Goods
- Vegetable Dishes and Salads
- Grain, pasta, and noodle dishes
- Stews and filling soups
- Fish and Chicken Dishes
- Sauces and Dips
- Desserts, Cakes, and Chocolate Treats

SIGRUN THORSTEINSDOTTIR is a clinical child psychologist with an MSc in Health Psychology. She’s the mother of two young children and has striven to give them the healthiest food available. She lived for many years in London and has been influenced in many ways by the cuisines of other countries, both within the UK and on her travels around Africa and beyond.
When actress Anita Briem was pregnant with her daughter, she wanted, of course, to make sure that she and her child were getting the vitamins and nutrients that were best for both of them. She started looking for a simple, jargon-free book about food and health during pregnancy, but none of the books she found exactly fit the bill. And so, she decided to write such a book herself.

Anita sought the expertise of raw food expert and healthy lifestyle advocate Solla Eiriksdottir and *MomBites* is the end result: a fantastic guide that moms-to-be can refer to for information and inspiration, with tips and advice on everything from working through nausea and a lack of energy during pregnancy, to preparing healthy and nourishing food for yourself and your child. Other topics include:

- Snacking between meals
- Healthy mains
- DadBites
- SweetBites
- Drinks and Nonalcoholic Cocktails

ANITA BRIEM (b. 1982) is a world famous and prestigious actress. Solveig Eiriksdottir (b. 1960) is a food designer and a gourmet chef with a true passion for healthy food. She is at the forefront of the Raw food movement both in Iceland and abroad.
RAW SOLLA

Raw Food Desserts

One of the greatest pleasures in life is to try new and delicious dishes that focus on goodness and health, and here Solla opens up new dimensions in the art of desserts and sweets, for raw food converts, and for everyone and anyone who like to give themselves a treat.

This book contains all sorts of delicacies, with an emphasis on good and wholesome ingredients that are thoroughly discussed in the book’s introduction. Everyone should be able to make brownies, small and large pies, cookies, cupcakes, nibbles, ice cream, and chocolate à la Solla.

• Finalist in the vegetarian category for the Gourmand Awards 2012

SOLLA EIRIKS (Raw Solla) is a food designer with a true passion for raw food. She is at the forefront of the Raw food movement both in Iceland and abroad. Two years in a row she was the winner of the Worldwide Best of Raw competition in two categories, Raw Vegan Simple Chef and Gourmet Raw Chef. She runs the popular raw food restaurant Glo with her husband.

rawsolla.com
SVEINN KJARTANSSON

Fair Fish

This entertaining and unusual cookery book contains recipes and facts about seafood, and aims to encourage people to eat more fish, and to convince the reader that preparing fish can be exciting and straightforward, whether cooking for a feast or for everyday.

The cornucopia of the ocean provides fish, both familiar and rare, shellfish and vegetation, and within the pages of this book these ingredients are transformed into diverse and delicious dishes that everybody will be able to conjure up in their own homes.

This is the book of the TV series produced by chef Sveinn Kjartansson and photographer Aslaug Snorradottir and others, and is packed with excellent photos and illustrations.

SVEINN KJARTANSSON is a chef and the owner of the restaurant Aalto Bistro in the Nordic House in Reykjavik. He has lived and worked both in Iceland and abroad, in Oslo and Amsterdam. Kjartansson has participated in three food and lifestyle series on national TV and is one of the authors of Hagkaup supermarket’s Fishbook.
The Book of Icelandic Fish Stew

Plokkfiskur, or Icelandic Fish Stew, is a hearty and classic Icelandic dish that was traditionally made as a way to stretch leftover cod or haddock. Today, however, plokkfiskur is a popular dish in its own right, and its inherent simplicity encourages any number of tasty variations. As a rule, plokkfiskur must contain at least three of the following four ingredients: white fish, white sauce, onion and potato. Of course, not all dishes that include all of the necessary ingredients for plokkfiskur are plokkfiskur, just as there’s more to being human than simply having all four limbs—many people have, of course, fewer limbs than that. Rather, to be a person, one must be capable of loving. And by the same right, plokkfiskur must have a certain special something, too.

The Book of Icelandic Fish Stew is not your usual cookery book. This quirky and entertaining title includes over 30 unique recipes.

EIRIKUR ORN NORDDAHL (b.1978) has written novels and poetry. Furthermore, he is a translator, both of fiction and non-fiction, and has written articles about literature and social issues. norddahl.com
AUDUR RAFNSDOTTIR

Herb Gardens for Beginners

Do you want to grow your own herbs? Do you want to not only learn to cook with herbs, but also to prepare herb-infused oils and spreads and make scented oils and soaps?

In *Herb Gardens for Beginners*, Audur Rafnsdottir gives simple and practical advice on growing twelve common herbs and shares their many uses. In her straightforward guide, you’ll find:

- Information about planting and cultivating twelve common herbs
- A wide range of methods to dry, freeze, and store your herbs
- Plenty of recipes and ideas for how to use homegrown herbs

AUDUR RAFNSDOTTIR (b. 1960) maintains a popular Facebook page about Icelandic herb cultivation and has supervised a television program on the same subject.
THORBJORGN MARINOSDOTTIR, ADALBJORN THORSTEINSSON, HILDUR HARDARDOTTIR

Happy Birth Day – Comfort, Choice, and Pain Management During Childbirth

Revealing the secrets of the birthing suite, Happy Birth Day is the perfect book for expectant parents as well as anyone who has an interest in birth.

Studies show that preparing for childbirth empowers the expectant mother, reduces anxiety, and increases the likelihood of having a positive birth experience. This book covers both the months leading up to labor as well as choices at the birth center, giving expectant parents helpful advice so they’ll be prepared to enjoy the miracle of birth to the fullest.

“I wholeheartedly recommend this book for any expecting parent.”

INGUNN JONSDOTTIR, MD

THORBJORGN MARINOSDOTTIR garnered attention after the birth of her daughter when she published an article exploring different schools of thought on epidurals. She wrote this book alongside obstetrician HILDUR HARDARDOTTIR and anesthesiologist ADALBJORN THORSTEINSSON. The book contains detailed information on various methods of pain management in childbirth, and the authors seek particularly to present a clear picture of epidurals based on the latest research.
The ideology behind these commandments isn’t complicated—it simply attempts to define what good interpersonal communication consists of. Because if we know that, then we can increase our own sense of wellbeing, as well as other people’s. We just have to start with ourselves.

The Communication Commandments take a systematic look at interpersonal communication and strategies for improving it. There’s always some motivation behind our behavior and state of mind and the explanations can be found in our personalities, our life experiences, and the opinions that we hold. Experience grows out of our dealings with other people, and so it’s important for us to examine it head-on and with honesty. The author assembled pointers on how you can improve interpersonal communication and interactions with other people—namely, a positive state of mind creates positive interpersonal relationships.

ADALBJORG STEFANIA HELGADOTTIR is mother to six children and stepmother to one. She is a Registered Nurse and the head of nursing at the NLFI Rehabilitation and Health Clinic. She has also edited nursing textbooks and lead courses on improving communication skills.
Who is in the Family?
Stepfamilies and Divorce

A stepfamily is a family where one or both members of the couple have a child or children with another person or people. This is a practical handbook which includes many examples and addresses frequently asked questions and the primary issues stepfamilies have to contend with, such as the role of stepparents, discipline, finances, former partners, and the loss that affects everyone. The book describes and analyses the same topics from the point of view of both the children and the adults, i.e. parents, stepparents, grandparents, and step-grandparents within stepfamilies – which is important when resolving disagreements and complicated issues. This handbook is based on the author’s own experience, her clinical work, source material, and research and is appropriate for both a general readership and professionals who work with families in some way.

VALGERDUR HALLDORSDOTTIR is a social worker with an MA in the field. She has also completed a course in Education and Childhood Development and a BA in Political Science. She created the website www.stjuptengsl.is and founded the Stepfamilies’ Association of which she is the president. She has held numerous lectures and courses on the subject of stepfamilies and has earned a great deal of respect for her work in their interests. She was chosen as Social Worker of the Year 2013, which she has previously been nominated for twice. She was nominated for the Frettabladid Newspaper’s Community Award in the category “Against Prejudice” and has been recognised by the parents’ association, “Home and School”. She is a member of “Welfare Watch” on behalf of the Association of Academics.
Research has shown that the first thousand days of a child’s life – from conception to the age of two – have an enormous impact on its future wellbeing. Loving and responsive interactions in this period lay an important foundation for the child’s development as an intelligent, emotional and social being. For this reason, children need attentive care from people who love them and understand and prioritise their needs. *The First 1000 Days* is an accessible handbook for parents, based on psychology, attachment theories and the latest neuroscientific research. It offers good advice on how parents can prepare for the birth of their child and provide care and stimulation in the first years, with the focus on developing a healthy and loving individual.

Children are born with the full potential to become sensible, reasonable and good people and it is up to us adults to enable them to do so.

**SAEUND KJARTANSDOTTIR** is an independent psychoanalyst who has a long track record in individual therapy and counseling in the health service. She is also the author of *What Makes People? The Psychoanalytic Quest for Understanding* (1999) and *The Years No-One Remembers* (2009).
THE PRJONAFJELAGID KNITTING COLLECTIVE: Kid Knits

A collection of beautiful clothing patterns for preschool and kindergarten-age children, Kid Knits 1 and 2 are well-suited for beginning and advanced knitters alike, including both simple and traditional patterns, as well as more complicated and unique ones.

Each garment was designed with Iceland’s changeable weather and climate in mind, with the goal that all items should be warm and comfortable, wearable both outside and in, and last, but not least, that children should be able to put these clothes on by themselves.

The majority of the book’s patterns can be made with two different kinds of yarn: either Icelandic wool (lopi) yarn or other yarn varieties which may be more easily acquired by knitters in other parts of the world.

PRJONAFJELAGID is an all-women collective of seasoned knitters with many years of knitting and pattern design experience.
Knitting with Icelandic Wool

65 patterns for garments made from Icelandic wool. Knitting with Icelandic Wool contains everything you need to know about Icelandic wool and knitting in Iceland. The book comprises 65 patterns for women, men, and children, chosen in collaboration with Iceland’s largest wool manufacturer, Ístex.

The book mainly features the classic Icelandic lopi sweater and other popular garments, but there are also patterns for smaller projects such as woolly hats, socks, mittens, and scarves.

The history of knitting in Iceland, from its origins to the present day, is told with an emphasis on the emergence of the Icelandic lopi sweater, as well as the growth of the Icelandic wool industry.

Knitting with Icelandic Wool is a great book for knitters looking for exciting patterns knitted in Icelandic wool, and an informative and entertaining resource for all who have an interest in the history of handicrafts.
GRETA SORENSEN

The Knitting Bible

A unique reference book about knitting techniques, as well as an idea maker for patterns and designs, both for seasoned knitters and beginners.

The knitting basics are covered in the first part of the book, including instructions on how to cast on, add one, pleat, and organize in different ways, plus many other ways to knit. Additionally the book discusses different types of yarn and their unique characteristics.

The second of the book contains one hundred knitting patterns which should be considered by all knitting fans an immeasurable source of ideas and inspiration to create and design their own versions.

The book is illustrated with a wealth of photos and pictographic explanations.

• Nominated for the Icelandic Women’s Literature Prize

GRETA SORENSEN graduated from the textile department in the Art and Crafts school of Iceland in 1983 and with an MFA in textile design from Konstfack in Sweden on 1993, with a focus on knitting. She has worked with creations by hand as well as with a machine, and teaching.
GUDRUN S. MAGNUSSDOTTIR is a handicrafts teacher and an extremely experienced and accomplished knitter. She has previously published *Knitting Socks, Knitting Hats, Knitting Mittens, Knitting Scarves, and Knitting Blankets*. All of her books have enjoyed much popularity.

*Christmas Knitting – 70 Patterns for Christmas Lovers of All Ages*

*Christmas Knitting – 70 Patterns for Christmas Lovers Of All Ages* contains patterns for Christmas socks, mittens, and hats, and at the back of the book are patterns for beautiful Christmas decorations.
Knitting Blankets: 42 Patterns for Babies and Kids

Knitting Blankets contains instructions for colourful and beautiful blankets for little ones. The blankets are extremely varied, there are many different patterns and knitting methods to choose from. The patterns are simple and straightforward, as suitable for beginners as the more experienced.

Gudrun S. Magnusdottir and Thuridur Magnusdottir are the authors of Blanket Knitting and the book is the result of years of collaboration between the sisters. This is Thuridur’s first book, and Gudrun has previously published Knitting Socks, Knitting Hats, Knitting Mittens, and Knitting Scarves, which have enjoyed much popularity.

Knitting Blankets is structured in the same way as Gudrun’s previous books, and as before, her family worked on the book alongside its authors.
Index

GUDRUN S. MAGNUSDOTTIR
Knitting Mittens
– 64 Patterns for Toddlers, Children, Women, and Men

A useful book for all of those who are interested in knitting. The book includes simple and clear instructions for gloves for all ages, useful guidelines, good advice, and brief introduction to style and methods of knitting and crochet used in the book.

GUDRUN S. MAGNUSDOTTIR
Knitting Scarves
– 53 Patterns for Tots, Teens, Ladies, and Gents

Knitting Scarves – 53 Patterns for Tots, Teens, Ladies, and Gents is a treasure trove for knitting enthusiasts, containing simple, clear recipes for scarves, fringes and wraps for children and adults, as well as useful tips and tricks and brief introductions to the knitting and crocheting techniques used.
GUDRUN S. MAGNUSDOTTIR

Knitting Hats & Caps
– 57 Patterns for All Ages

*Knitting Hats & Caps* is a diverse and colourful book for anyone interested in knitting. Here you have simple and clear patterns for hats and caps for people of all ages, in addition to practical information, great advice, and easy instructions on how to knit and crochet the designs in these patterns.

GUDRUN S. MAGNUSDOTTIR

Knitting Socks
– 52 Patterns for All Ages

In this vibrant book you’ll find 52 patterns for babies, toddlers, kids, men, and women. The book is a true gem for those who love knitting, offering basic instructions for beginners, while advanced knitters are provided with diverse and fun guidance on knitting various types of socks. The book has simple and clear patterns with different kinds of socks and numerous designs, in addition to precise instructions accompanied with photographs showing how to knit socks, stitch by stitch.
KRISTIN HRUND WHITEHEAD AND JOHANNA MARIA ESJUDOTTIR

The Yarn Poet
Original and Multipurpose Hand Knits

The Yarn Poet is a diverse, avant-garde knitting treasury in which creativity reigns supreme. Only wool and worsted yarn are used in these designs and the collection includes patterns for sweaters, hats, mittens, scarves, and dresses, as well as garments that can be used or worn in several different ways. Most of the patterns are equally suitable for women, men, and children. There’s also a special chapter dedicated to dyeing yarn and the marvelous colors that can be derived from both Icelandic plants and various other natural ingredients.

KRISTIN HRUND WHITEHEAD (b.1975) completed her MA in education from Albert-Ludwigs-Universitaet Freiburg, Germany in 2004 and an MS degree in Human Resource Management from the University of Iceland in 2011. Her main interests are all kinds of handcrafts but in particular knitting, using plants for dyeing and medical purposes, hiking and domestic travel.

JOHANNA MARIA ESJUDOTTIR (b.1975) plans to complete a BA in English in 2018 from the College of Staten Island. She lives in New York City with her three children. Her main hobbies are knitting, traveling with children and reading good books.
TINNA THORUDOTTIR THORVALDAR

Havana Crochet

Tinna Thorudottir dedicates her latest book to Cuba’s capital city, Havana. Teeming with life, vivid colours, patterns, and music – the city was the inspiration of this colourful book. It includes around thirty patterns; clothing, accessories, and domestic objects, practical and decorative. In addition, the book offers detailed instructions, and information on yarn and yarn types.

TINNA THORUDOTTIR THORVALDAR has published two other very popular books on crochet; Thora’s Book of Crochet, Maria’s Book of Crochet, and co-authored and edited the book The Crochet Company.
The Crochet Company

The Crochet Company contains new and exciting crochet patterns from Iceland, gathered by Tinna Thorudottir Thorvaldar, whose previous works Thora’s Crochet Book and Maria’s Crochet Book proved a hit in Iceland. The Crochet Company is an anthology of sorts, with Icelandic patterns by several crocheters. The 30 patterns in the book are diverse, ranging from clothes to accessories for children and adults, blankets, toys, tablecloths, and much besides. It also contains instructions for new crocheting techniques, such as amigurumi and cable crochet.

The patterns in The Crochet Company have been designed by 15 different authors, editor Tinna Thorudottir Thorvaldsdottir included. All the designers have a great deal of experience and the more than 30 patterns in the book show a wide variety of styles that are popular today.
MARIN THORISDOTTIR

Crochet for the Little Ones

In the book *Crochet for the Little Ones* one can find fun and simple crochet patterns for beginners as well as those more advanced – from crocheted animals to aliens and robots, as well as hats, socks, blankets, and bibs. Attractive book for all of those who enjoy crochet and needlework, filled to the brim with ideas for presents for the little ones.

MARIN THORISDOTTIR has vast experience with crochet and has created innumerable creations in that field.
In this handy architectural guide you will find 170 buildings of various kinds, in all regions of Iceland. All of them are, in one way or another, significant in the history of Icelandic architecture. You get a cross-section of Iceland’s most interesting buildings; from the traditional turf farmhouses, in which Icelanders lived for centuries, to the elegant wooden homes of the early 20th century and the highly innovative architecture of today.

BIRGIT ABRECHT

Discover Icelandic Architecture

BIRGIT ABRECHT is a writer and architect who founded a successful architectural office in Keltern, Germany. She has been at the forefront of energy-saving and using solar power in construction and modernisation of buildings. She has received several awards for her work. She has published a number of books and held several lectures inspiring people to improve their homes and quality of life. www.birgitabrecht.com
SAEVAR HELGI BRAGASON (b. 1984) is the editor of Astronomy Web, an Icelandic website dedicated to astronomy and astronomy education. He is also the president of the Seltjarnarnes Stargazing Society, the oldest and largest stargazing organization in Iceland. He has spent years observing the heavens and is one of the most experienced stargazers in the country. Saevar ensured that all schoolchildren in Iceland received a pair of viewing glasses with which to watch the solar eclipse on March 20, 2015—and he's already started counting down to the next one.

SAEVAR HELGI BRAGASON

Look to the Heavens

A book for the whole family to enjoy, Look to the Heavens explores the wonders hiding in the skies of the Northern hemisphere between dusk and dawn. In it, you'll learn about some of the most important celestial phenomena that can be seen with the naked eye, from lunar rainbows (or 'moonbows') and the Northern Lights, to satellites and shooting stars. The book also includes information about the moon, the sun, and the planets, as well as good advice on how to easily and successfully observe them. You'll also discover more than fifty phenomena that can be easily spotted amongst the constellations, either with handheld binoculars, a small, easy-to-use telescope, or a more power astronomical telescope. Look to the Heavens includes many images, as well as a high-quality star chart showing each of the constellations that are discussed in the book.
Is anyone out there?

Aliens – The search for life in space addresses one of science’s greatest questions: Are we alone in the universe, or does life exist on other planets? Why haven’t we become aware of aliens thus far, and have they already visited us on earth? What might aliens look like? Have we tried sending messages to them?

This book looks at planets and moons in our solar system which might possibly have the potential to sustain life, as well as the revolutionary changes that have happened in recent years regarding the discovery of habitable planets. We are moving ever nearer to answering the big questions.
What comes to mind when you think about Iceland? What makes it special? Is it the light? Or is it the glaciers, volcanoes and highlands? Or maybe the spectacular coastline and the contrasts between summer and winter? Nothing compares to actually being there, but the beautiful and stunning photography of Einar Gudmann and Gyda Henningsdottir bring the reader close to the real thing.

EINAR GUDMANN, GYDA HENNINGSDOTTIR

Iceland – Wild at Heart

EINAR and GYDA have pursued photography since 2005 and are among the most renowned nature photographers in Iceland. From the beginning of their careers, they have specialised in nature in its various forms – such as birds, animals and landscapes – rather than people and man-made constructions. They have participated in a diverse range of photography projects and their work has been displayed extensively both in Iceland and abroad. They spend weeks at a time travelling around Iceland with their cameras and strive to raise awareness of the importance of protecting untouched nature.
Do you ever become overwhelmed by the long, complex words on Icelandic road signs and maps? If you take a closer look, you’ll find that you can easily deconstruct these words. For example, take the famous Eyjafjallajökull volcano:

- eyja (island)
- fjalla (mountain)
- jökull (glacier)

See, it’s a piece of (skyr)cake!

Iceland in Icons explores the country’s landscapes, culture, and history through a linguistic and visual lens. Find out why Reykjavík is called Smoky Bay and which shopping mall is named after a pretzel. A fun travel companion and souvenir!

EUNSAN HUH is a Canadian writer and illustrator who currently lives in New York. She fell in love with Iceland in 2011 and began learning Icelandic shortly thereafter. Her Instagram project, Every Single Word in Icelandic, explores the semantics of the Icelandic language in a visual, iconographic way. Its goal is to share the beauty and imagination behind how Icelandic is constructed. The project is followed and enjoyed by many Icelanders and admirers of Iceland alike.
FJALAR SIGURDSSON

The Dark Side of Iceland / The Bright Side of Iceland

You have always wanted to find a nice tourist book about Iceland. One that tells you all about proud Vikings who sailed from Norway, wrote a lot of important sagas and now live happily ever after in the land of northern lights, renewable energy, Björk and volcanoes. This is exactly that book!

If this book had pictures it would be a nice book with beautiful pictures of glaciers, waterfalls and colorful houses with corrugated iron. This is exactly that kind of book. Except that it does not have pictures and half of the book is upside down! Because the best thing this book does is to separate the good and the bad by placing them at opposite ends of the book. So if you want to read a book about how nice, quaint and interesting Iceland is, look no further. For this is that book.

Facts and anecdotes that will change most of what you think you know about Iceland and Icelanders

WARNING: Might shatter some myths
ALDA SIGMUNDSDOTTIR

The Little Book of the Icelanders

After more than 20 years of living abroad, Alda Sigmundsdottir returned to Iceland and set about dissecting the national psyche of the Icelandic people. Among the fascinating subjects broached in The Little Book of the Icelanders are: The appalling driving habits of the Icelanders, naming conventions and customs, the Icelanders’ profound fear of commitment, the Icelanders’ irreverence, why Icelandic women are really men, how the Icelanders manage to make social interactions really complicated, the importance of the family in Icelandic society, where to go to meet the real Icelanders (and possibly score some free financial advice), rituals associated with weddings, confirmations, graduations, and deaths, and many, many more.

ALDA SIGMUNDSDOTTIR is a writer, journalist, translator and blogger. She has lived in the United Kingdom, Cyprus, and Germany. Returning to Iceland as an adult, and, essentially, as a foreigner, she was quick to spot the many foibles of her countrymen. English is Alda’s first language, and she has written extensively about Iceland for the international media. She chronicled Iceland’s economic meltdown on her English-language blog, “The Iceland Weather Report,” and has subsequently been a frequent commentator and lecturer on her country’s social and economic situation.

aldasigmunds.com
SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON

Iceland
Down to Earth

Magnificent aerial photographs of Iceland’s wilderness. A bird’s eye view that presents nature in new and unexpected ways, and the most incredible shapes and colours are revealed – all manner of fantastical images in glaciers, rivers and lakes, mountains, deserts, and shores.

SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON has worked as a photographer in Reykjavik for many years and is the author of several magnificent books of photography, all of which have enjoyed enormous success for Sigurjonsson’s ability to express the unique qualities of the Icelandic landscape.
On average, volcanic eruptions occur in Iceland every four to five years, most of the time to little attention outside the country shores. In April 2010 the world took good notice of happenings in Iceland as the volcanic ash cloud from the eruption in Eyjafjallajökull wrecked havoc on air travel in Europe for days. This magnificent book shows the drama unfolding around Eyjafjallajökull, and the effects on the territory, as well as giving a general background of volcanism in Iceland.

Tranquillity, silence … qualities that are becoming increasingly rare in our frenetic 21st-century world, a world in which we live and work to a persistent soundtrack of man-made noise. In contrast, the sounds evoked by Sigurgeir Sigurjónsson’s photographs are the eternal sounds of nature – the sighing of the wind, the lapping of waves, the hissing of steam, and the unchanging roar of a waterfall.
SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON  
Made in Iceland

A treasure trove of wondrous photographs of the Icelandic landscape, of the forces of nature – and of ordinary people. This is nature photography at its finest. Sigurgeir Sigurjonsson demonstrates once more his ability to express the peace, quiet, and solitude of the stark emptiness of the Icelandic landscape, and its brief glimpses of human life in harmony with nature.

SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON  
Iceland Getaway

Sigurjonsson’s pictures and sensitivity to the awesome natural forces of the north, the splendour of the Icelandic highlands, and the magical power of waterfalls and hot springs have become part of Icelandic iconography.

SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON  
Icelandic Horses

A unique book of beautiful photographs that shows the Icelandic horse in nature, in winter, summer, spring, and autumn. The pictures are both of herds and individual horses, while superb photos of Icelandic competition horses can also be found.
Over a period of two years, photographer Sigurgeir Sigurjonsson and author Unnur Jokulsdottir travelled the length and breadth of Iceland and visited people from all over the country. The result of their journey is the book *Icelanders*, which contains haunting photos of people and nature, amusing dialogue, and lyrical narrative spiced with gentle humour. Small-boat fishermen, jacks-of-all-trades, tourist farmers, fox hunters, rock collectors, hired women, and children of nature are among the people we meet – people who want to live their lives according to their own designs, in the environment they know best.

- *Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize for Non-Fiction in 2004*

**UNNUR JOKULSDOTTIR** has written popular books on nature, people, and voyage, both on her own and in collaboration with others. Most of her books on Iceland have been published in other languages besides Icelandic.
Icelandic belief in the “Hidden People” – the elves and fairies of Iceland – has remained strong through the centuries, although it has tapered off somewhat with the rapid urbanization of recent years. To some it is a bit of an embarrassment, while others find it a fun and unique part of the national identity. At its core, it is a form of animism: a perception of the surrounding nature as a living force that offers both rewards and dangers – just as the Hidden People do.

A few years ago, the Icelandic writer Unnur Jokulsdottir travelled around Iceland to have as many conversations about Hidden People she could. She was rewarded with a gaggle of thrilling stories about Hidden People (and even a few about Hidden Sheep and Hidden Cars), and finally enlisted the help of a specialist in an attempt to catch a glimpse of this mysterious folk for herself. She emerged from her voyage much the wiser – about the Hidden People, naturally, but also, in no less measure, about her country and its inhabitants.

“This book is nothing less than great company, and it re-awakened in me a sense of content with being an Icelander.”

GUDRUN EVA MINERVUDOTTIR, WRITER
Iceland in All Its Splendour

Iceland is a land of contrasts in many senses: light and darkness, ice and fire; the stillness of the empty wilderness counterposed against the wild surf pounding on the shore; while in the barren vastness of the interior scattered pockets of vegetation and flowers flourish in sheltered sanctuaries. The inhabitants of the island take these stark contrasts for granted, while visitors are astonished by the rich variety of Icelandic nature.

Photographers ERLEND and ORSOLYA HAARBERG fell in love with Iceland, and especially with the contrasts they perceived wherever they looked. They visited Iceland in both summer and winter, striving to travel off the beaten tourist track. And they have the patience and resourcefulness to capture images of unforgettable and extraordinary moments. The couple has won many international awards for their nature photography. Icelandic writer UNNUR JOKULSDOTTIR contributes a text to complement these unforgettable photographs: informative and accessible, exploring Iceland’s nature, geology, wildlife, and geological history.
On the Road

Iceland is known for its dramatic and stunningly beautiful nature. Locals and visitors alike will drive for hours on roads of dubious quality, in all sorts of weather, to get close to beautiful scenery or see new places. Here the photographer turns the lens towards the journey itself: the road that determines the way to the destination, and brings the traveller to one wonder after another.

GRETA S. GUDJONSDOTTIR is a photographer and mountain guide who has travelled around Iceland since childhood. Her photographs provide a unique view of the landscape and the roads that we humans have created.
Iceland is a unique destination for nature lovers, especially for anyone with an interest in geology and geological phenomena: volcanoes, hot springs, geysers, and glaciers. This book provides clear answers to common questions about the natural forces at work in Iceland, richly illustrated with stunning photographs.

ARI TRAUSTI GUDMUNDSSON is a geophysicist and one of Iceland’s foremost experts on volcanic activity and volcanoes. He is the author of some twenty books on geology, travelling, and nature, including a comprehensive study of all the volcanic areas in Iceland.

Photographer RAGNAR TH. SIGURDSSON holds multiple awards for his landscape photography. He is renowned for ability to capture the raw beauty of Iceland and the Arctic.
BJARNI DIDRIK SIGURDSSON is an expert on afforestation and a keen mushroom enthusiast, possessing a wealth of knowledge which he shares here in an extremely accessible manner. He has led many courses on mushrooms and mushroom gathering, which have proven very popular.

The Mushroom Handbook

The Mushroom Handbook is an essential companion for those heading out into the Icelandic countryside to gather mushrooms. This book details eighty varieties of edible wild mushroom, and also twenty species of similar-looking poisonous mushroom to watch out for. It also provides practical information on mushrooms and mushroom gathering in general: on the prevalence and identification of different species, the best time to gather mushrooms, their nutritional value and how to prepare them once you get home.
KRISTJAN FRIDRIKSSON

Lake Fishing

This useful guide to trout fishing in Iceland covers a whole year in the life of a fisherman, everything from preparation and fly tying to cleaning up after the last fishing trip of the year. The favoured habitat and behaviour of the trout is covered, along with different fishing spots, equipment and grips. As the fishing season progresses, different methods are introduced and good advice is offered on how to solve any problems that might come up.

KRISTJAN FRIDRIKSSON is well known amongst fishermen for his articles on trout fishing on his website Flies and Tall Tales, fos.is. His personal experiences and comments will prove useful for experienced and novice fishermen alike.

SNAEBJORN GUDMUNDSSON

Exploring Iceland’s Geology

An indispensable handbook for anyone who wants to take edifying trips around the country. The book takes a straightforward approach to geology and geological history at 100 points of interest all around Iceland. It explains how each of the sites was formed, what characterizes them, and, last but not least, what is the most important thing to see at each location. Nearly 200 impressive photographs and a detailed map enhance the text. A singularly insightful and informative account of Icelandic nature.

SNAEBJORN GUDMUNDSSON is a geologist who possesses extensive knowledge on the geology and geological history of Iceland.
ARI TRAUSTI GUDMUNDSSON
Living Earth
The Geology of Iceland

One of Iceland’s most distinguished writers of popular geological and nature books has compiled international research into Icelandic geology, providing the reader with an overview of the pooled findings, which are explained in a clear and accessible style. An incredibly useful and readable handbook that will satisfy even the most scientific readers.

ARI TRAUSTI GUDMUNDSSON
PETUR THORLEIFSSON
Icelandic Mountains
Walking Routes to 151 Summits

A wonderful book for trekkers and outdoor activity lovers. Icelandic Mountains contains walking routes to Iceland’s major summits, which are indicated in a clear and entertaining way, with detailed maps of mountains and their surroundings areas, and precious information for travellers on the length of each walk, the level of difficulty involved, and its duration.
KRISTJAN SAEMUNDSSON, a geologist with Iceland GeoSurvey (ISOR), has worked extensively on geological mapping and geothermal research.
Einar Gunnlaugsson is a geochemist with Reykjavik Energy, working on geothermal research.
Gretar Eiriksson is a nationally recognised photographer of Icelandic nature.
PALL ASGEIR ASGEIRSSON is an experienced outdoor enthusiast and has been a guide for many years. He has written numerous popular hiking books and trail guides, some of which, such as Iceland Adventure, have been published in English.

**EINAR GUNNLAUGSSON, GRETAR EIRIKSSON, KRISTJAN SAEMUNDSSON**

**Icelandic Rocks & Minerals**

This useful handbook, which fits easily into a pocket or rucksack, will help identify the interesting and often very beautiful minerals and rocks that are typical of Icelandic geology. Lavishly illustrated with colour photographs, the book contains detailed descriptions of the identifying features of each mineral, as well as an introduction to Icelandic geology in general and the conditions under which each mineral forms.

**PALL ASGEIR ASGEIRSSON**

**Wild Walking**

Independent Hiking in Iceland

Travelling in the wild interior of Iceland is becoming increasingly popular, particularly when it involves bidding goodbye to the noise of modern life and heading on foot towards the peaceful mountains, with equipment and supplies in a backpack. Some of Iceland’s most popular hiking trails are introduced here. The author guides the reader along each day-hike, pointing out natural wonders on the way, indicating places to stop for the night and advising on equipment and options.
ARNBJORG L. JOHANNSDOTTIR

Medicinal Plants of Iceland

This book is a guide to the healing power of native plants and herbs in Iceland, with detailed information on their healing properties, applications, dosages and traditional uses. The book also includes directions on how to gather and prepare wild medicinal plants, and the reader is taught how to make preparations such as herbal teas, poultices and salves.

ARNBJORG LINDA JOHANNSDOTTIR studied herbal medicine and later Chinese medicine and acupuncture in England. She has worked extensively as a herbalist and acupunturist both in Iceland and abroad.

HORDUR KRISTINSSON

Flowering Plants and Ferns of Iceland

*Flowering Plants and Ferns of Iceland,* one of the most popular guides to Icelandic flora, has now been extensively revised and improved. Inside you’ll find 465 different species of plants, some of which are new to Iceland or have been naturalized in recent decades.

HORDUR KRISTINSSON is a Dr. rer.nat. in botany and has been studying and photographing the flora of Iceland for almost fifty years.
JON BALDUR HLIDBERG has long been famous for his wild life illustrations, which have adorned specialists books and variety of other informative material in recent years. A portfolio of his stunning artwork is available at [www.fauna.is](http://www.fauna.is), an image database of over 1800 images of various plants and animals he has painted over the years. Images are added to the database as Jon Baldur Hlidberg paints new ones or as older ones are freed for publication. The database can be searched by English, Icelandic and Latin names.

**GUNNAR JONSSON & JONBJORN PALSSON**  
**ILLUSTRATIONS BY JON BALDUR HLIDBERG**

**Icelandic Fish**

The book is written by the two of Iceland’s foremost experts in this field. It deals with the 340 species of fish found in Icelandic waters and contains over 500 pictures, both portraits and details, most of them from actual specimens.

- *The Hagthenkir Non-Fiction Prize 2006*

**SIGURDUR AEGISSON**  
**ILLUSTRATIONS BY JON BALDUR HLIDBERG**

**Whales**  
**Species – Features – Habits – Distribution**

Interest in whale watching has greatly increased in recent years. This book is intended to meet the growing need for easy-to-read material on these mysterious creatures. It can be used both when observing whales in their natural environment, and as a general handbook. All whales found in the cold seas of the North Atlantic Ocean are covered in detail, while exceptional pictures highlight all the main distinguishing features of the animals.
AEVAR PETERSEN
ILLUSTRATIONS BY JON BALDUR HLIDBERG

Icelandic Birds

The most up-to-date and thorough book on Icelandic birds ever. Each species is described in independent chapters including distribution maps and illustrations of every breed’s eggs and different plumages.

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize in for Non-Fiction 1998

PALL HERSTEINSSON
ILLUSTRATIONS BY JON BALDUR HLIDBERG

Icelandic Mammals

Over 60 species of mammals are analysed in this book, each presented in lively and interesting prose, and accompanied by stunning water-colour illustrations, in addition to a wealth of maps and diagrams.

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize for Non-Fiction in 2004
JOHANN OLI HILMARSSON is a leading authority on the birds of Iceland and one of the country’s most experienced bird photographers. He has written numerous articles on birds in books, magazines and newspapers. He is also president of BirdLife Iceland.

**JOHANN OLI HILMARSSON**

**Icelandic Bird Guide**

This new edition of the popular *Icelandic Bird Guide* has been completely revised and expanded. It covers all Icelandic breeding birds and regular visitors in detail and also describes numerous annual vagrants – over 160 species in total. More than 700 stunning photos, breeding range and winter distribution maps, diagrams showing information on breeding and migration and photographs of eggs shown actual size. This is an indispensable aid to birdwatching in Iceland.

**JOHANN OLI HILMARSSON**

**The Puffin**

This delightful book explores the life of the puffin in words and pictures, and provides details of Iceland’s best puffin-watching locations. With unique photographs that show aspects of puffin behaviour which have not been photographed before.
FRIDTHJOFR THORKELSSON

The Colours of the Icelandic Horse

This is the first book of its kind to show the full range of possible colours to be found in the Icelandic horse. The book monitors foals from the moment of their birth to when they have acquired their definitive colour, and the changes in colour are shown, step by step.

GISLI B. BJORNSSON
H. SVEINSSON

The Icelandic Horse

This magnificent book is the largest and most comprehensive volume about Icelandic horses ever published. It contains information about almost everything that has to do with Icelandic horses. Also, there are chapters about how they are doing outside of Iceland, including competitions and shows. Finally, the book features a long chapter about breeding.
The Flora of Iceland
– Flowering Plants and Ferns

The Flora of Iceland - Flowering Plants and Ferns is the most comprehensive inventory of Icelandic plants to date. Alongside descriptions, photos, and illustrations of all 467 species of the Icelandic flora, each plant’s structure, life cycle, and development are described in detail. Distribution maps show where each plant can be found in Iceland. The book also gives a historical overview of the flora of the Northern Hemisphere. Developed in collaboration with the Icelandic Institute of Natural History, this guide is perfect for expert and layman alike.

HORDUR KRISTINSSON (b.1937) holds a doctorate in botany and has been a prominent scholar in his field for over 50 years. JON BALDUR HLIDBERG (b.1957) is among the most respected artists in the world in his specialty. THORA ELLEN THORHALLSDOTTIR (b.1954) has a doctorate in botany and has held a wide variety of research and teaching positions.

• The Icelandic Booksellers’ Prize 2018 for non-fiction
• The Icelandic Literary Prize 2018 for non-fiction
The biologist SNORRI BALDURSSON has long worked on this extensive project in which he summarizes manifold and ample information regarding the biota of Iceland, which comprehend all the major studies in this field in recent decades, in an accessible text supported many distinct diagrams. In addition, a splendid selection of imposing photographs by the author add a new dimension to the work.

HARDCOVER
2014
24 x 34 cm cm, 407 pp
Available in Icelandic

SNORRI BALDURSSON

The Biota
of Iceland

This unique book, which is both hugely informative and beautiful, seeks to investigate under the surface of the imposing Icelandic landscape, examining the life that thrives under different conditions in the various regions of the country. It tells the history and development of this biota and describes how organisms adapted after the ice age ended. The book discusses the different habitats of bioorganisms: terrestrial, wetland, freshwater, coastal and sea; the characteristics of areas and changes over time, the impact of location and use, and what should be protected and future prospects in the light of global developments. Finally it endavours to answer the question of what will happen if there is an ecological disaster in the North.

• The Icelandic Booksellers’ Prize for Non-Fiction 2014
• The Icelandic Literary Prize for Non-Fiction 2014

“Fantastically beautiful book!”
KILJAN, STATE BROADCASTING SERVICE

“Immensely ambitious ... gorgeous work.”
KILJAN, STATE BROADCASTING SERVICE

The biologist SNORRI BALDURSSON has long worked on this extensive project in which he summarizes manifold and ample information regarding the biota of Iceland, which comprehend all the major studies in this field in recent decades, in an accessible text supported many distinct diagrams. In addition, a splendid selection of imposing photographs by the author add a new dimension to the work.
GUDMUNDUR PALL OLAFSSON (1941-2012) was a doctor of marine biology from Stockholm University. He also had a degree in art from Columbus College of Art and Design, Ohio. He worked as a teacher, a writer, naturalist, nature photographer, active conservationist, columnist, and lecturer in Iceland, and sometimes abroad.

GUDMUNDUR PALL OLAFSSON

Water, the World, and Us

Water, the World, and Us is a multidisciplinary science book lavishly documented with magnificent photos of the spectacular water-environment of Iceland; the Amazonian rainforests, where water has nurtured the most diversified life on Earth; the banks of the Ganges in India, where water is sacred; the Yellow River and the Yangtze in China – from Greenland and the Antarctic to the African savannah...

Profusely illustrated, the artwork includes many breathtaking photographs and informative maps.

• Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize for Non-Fiction 2013

“Water is a book that will change attitudes, open people’s eyes, and make us realise that there is no doubt whatsoever that the battle to preserve natural resources is, literally, a fight for life and death. The book is an outstanding achievement by all those who were involved in its production.”

PRESSAN.IS
GUDMUNDUR PALL OLAFSSON

The Coast of Iceland

This all-round reference work opens up the world of the coast, its nature, its culture, its magic, describing the formation and endless evolution of the land; the influence of the sun, the moon, and the weather on life on the shore; the mechanisms of tides and complex oceanic currents; and littoral life-forms, large and small. With stunning photographs showing both of the ocean depths and the flora and fauna of the coast.

GUDMUNDUR PALL OLAFSSON

Iceland – the Enchanted

A comprehensive description of the extraordinary variety and magic of the Icelandic landscape, from chilling ice to fiery glory of the skies, from treacherous glacial melt water rivers to tiny meadow flowers, the unique and the everyday, even places of fond memories, or fearful ones.
The most comprehensive work ever published on the treasures of Icelandic nature. Entertainingly and informatively written, the books in this series are lavishly illustrated with stunning colour photographs and present the wonders of Iceland from all conceivable angles.

**GUDMUNDUR PALL OLAFSSON**

**Birds of Iceland**

This outstanding book introduces the reader into the enchanting world of Icelandic birds, with descriptions of their behaviour patterns and way of life and flight, feeding habits, breeding, and preferred habitats. The book enumerates each species of Icelandic breeding birds, in text and photographs, including references to folklore and fiction.

• Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize for Non-Fiction in 2005

**GUDMUNDUR PALL OLAFSSON**

**The Icelandic Highlands**

The mountainous centre of the island, with its rocky deserts, jagged mountain peaks, ice caps, volcanoes, hidden valleys, and hot springs, is an awe-inspiring and untouched wilderness. This magnificent book presents the Icelandic highlands in all their splendour.
The Icelandic Atlas

The Icelandic Atlas is the most extensive atlas of Iceland ever published, and marks a turning point in Icelandic cartographic history. The entire country, from the highest peaks to the outermost headlands and islands, is depicted on 132 magnificent maps in the scale of 1:100,000. The maps are highly detailed, including over 43,000 place-names, along with an introduction on the history of Icelandic mapmaking and on the country’s nature. Using the ArcGIS geographic information system from ESRI, the surface of the country could be reproduced with extraordinary accuracy, so that the height of mountains, the depth of valleys, and the endless expanses of the wilderness are perceived as if one were flying over the landscape.

The Icelandic Atlas is a unique reference work on the geography of Iceland, which has been warmly welcomed by the people of Iceland. The Icelandic Atlas won three awards at the ESRI Conference in San Diego in 2006, the world’s largest geographic information conference, with more than 1000 companies competing in 10 categories, where The Icelandic Atlas had the honour of being chosen absolute favourite.
The hiking maps are produced for those who travel in Iceland’s most popular natural regions. The maps focus on enjoyable driving and walking routes, and include a variety of information, including many place-names. On the reverse of the maps are descriptions of the main natural attractions of the regions, together with more precise maps of individual walking routes, etc.

Twelve maps in this series have now been published:

Map 1: Reykjanes – Thingvellir 1:100 000 / 1:50 000
Map 2: Gullfoss – Geysir – Hekla 1:100 000 / 1:50 000
Map 3: Kjolur – Langjokull 1:100 000 / 1:50 000
Map 4: Landmannalaugar – Thorsmork – Fjallabak 1:100 000 / 1:50 000
Map 5: Skaftafell 1:100 000 / 1:50 000
Map 6: Lonsoræfi – Snaefell 1:100 000 / 1:50 000
Map 7: Askja – Herdubreid – Kveikjöll 1:100 000 / 1:50 000
Map 8: Akureyri – Myvatn – Dettifoss 1:100 000 / 1:50 000
Map 9: Hornstrandir 1:100 000 / 1:55 000
Map 10: Snaefellsnes 1:100 000 / 1:55 000
Map 11: Borgarfjordur 1:100 000 / 1:50 000
Map 12: Westfjords 1:200 000 / 1:100 000
Touring Map
1:600 000

The *Touring Map* to the scale of 1:600 000 is a good overview map including up-to-date information on the road network, campsites, swimming pools, museums and road distances.

On the reverse of the map are details and colour photographs of Iceland’s most famous beauty spots, together with a table of road distances. All text is in Icelandic, English, German and French.
Mal og menning’s spiral-bound Road Atlas is designed to meet the needs of those who travel around Iceland. The country is divided up into 60 pages of maps, with a large overlap between pages, making the book convenient to use. The book also contains 38 indispensable plans of Reykjavik and other towns, in addition to information on museums, swimming pools, campsites, golf courses, petrol stations and meteorological observation stations. At the back of the book is an index of 9,000 place-names. All text is in Icelandic and English.

Mal og menning’s Road Atlas was nominated world’s best atlas at an international cartography exhibition in 2000, and has been since then Iceland’s most popular atlas.

The Atlas contains 78 new maps of Iceland in the scale of 1:200 000, together with maps of urban areas, and information on swimming pools, camping sites, museums, and golf courses. The latest additions to the new edition of the Atlas are descriptions of natural phenomena and historic places, drawings of birds, plants, and shells.
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