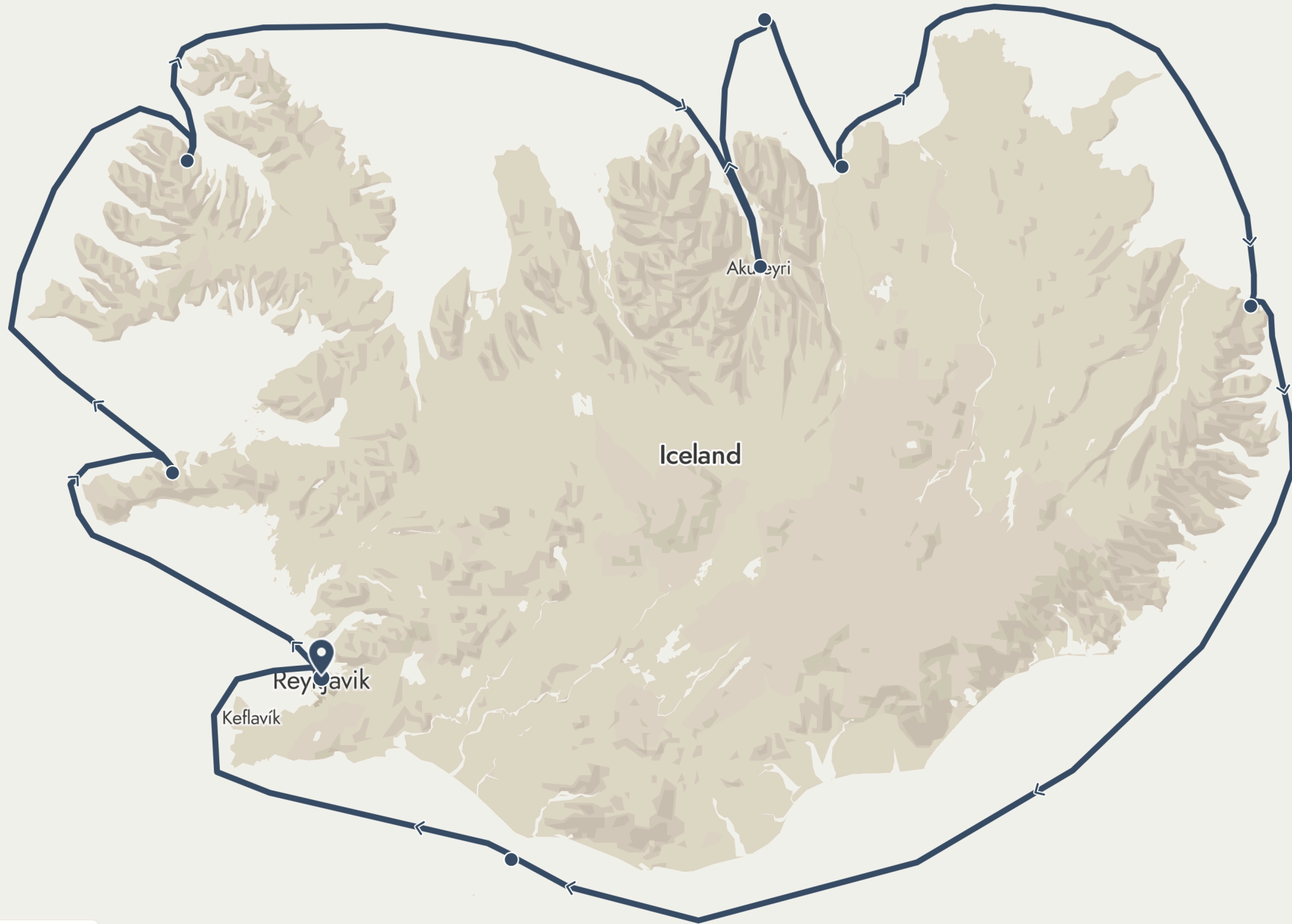


MS Fridtjof Nansen

2025.05.10 - 2025.05.17



Legend

— HX Expedition

50 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Reykjavík - Embarkation

Embarkation day in Reykjavík with HX Expeditions marks the beginning of an unforgettable adventure. As you step aboard your expedition vessel, MS Fridtjof Nansen, the crisp Icelandic air and dramatic coastal views set the tone for the journey ahead. After a warm welcome from the crew and a safety briefing, you'll have time

to settle into your cabin, explore the ship, and meet fellow travellers. With anticipation building, the ship sets sail from Reykjavík's harbour —your gateway to the wild, remote wonders that lie beyond. Our next stop: the picturesque town of Grundarfjörður, nestled beneath the iconic Kirkjufell mountain.



Grundarfjörður

The expedition ship Nansen docked alongside in the picturesque town of Grundarfjörður, nestled beneath the dramatic peak of Kirkjufell. Guests disembarked for a short shuttle bus ride to Kirkjufellsfoss, where the iconic mountain and cascading waterfall offered an unforgettable photo opportunity. From there, guests could enjoy a short walk in the surrounding landscape.

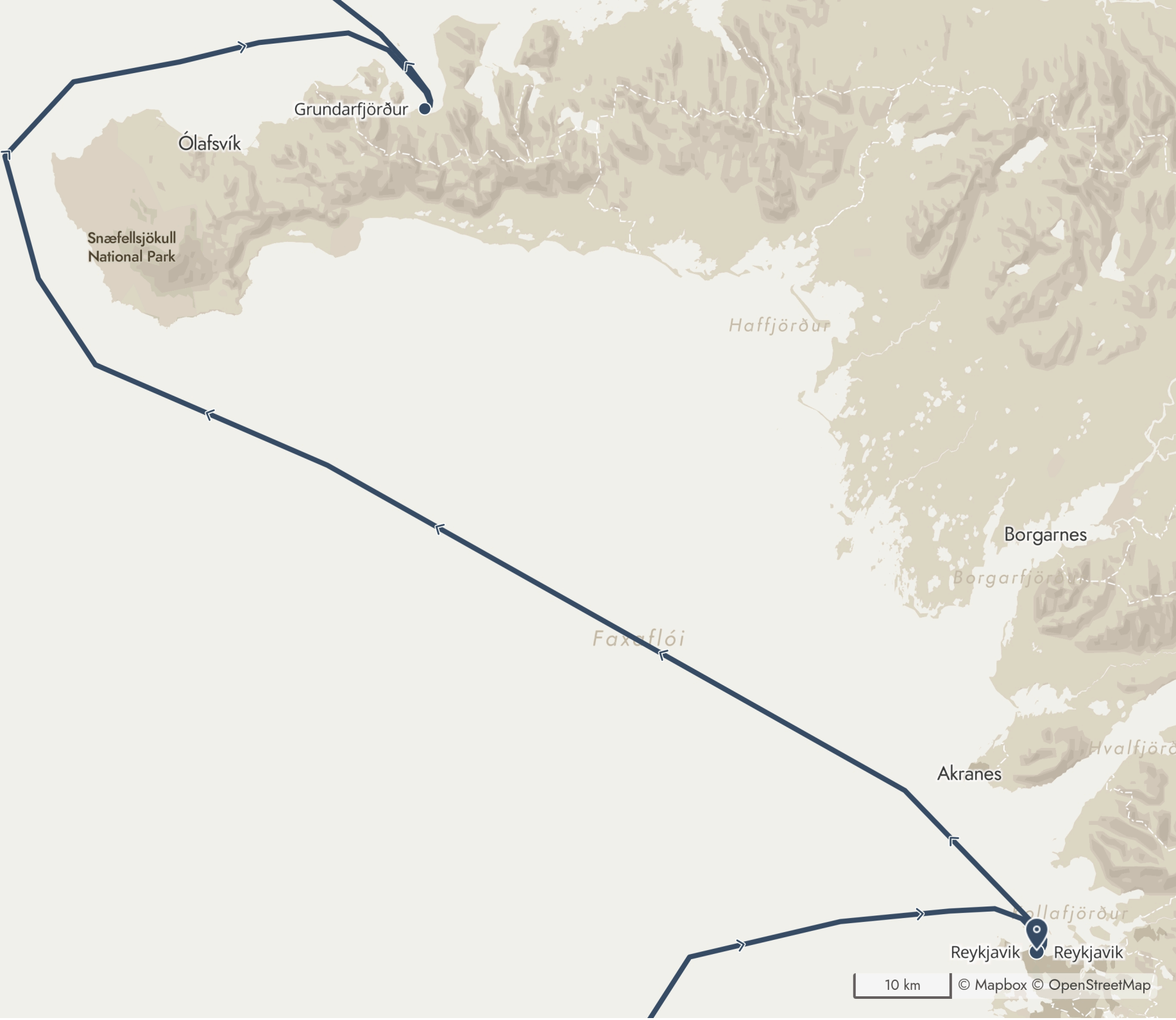
Optional excursions included a guided hike along the rugged coastal trails of the Snæfellsnes Peninsula, a bus tour focused on the Snæfellsnes Peninsula, or a visit to a glacier.

Those choosing to explore at their own pace could stroll the harbour, browse local shops, or enjoy Icelandic pastries and seafood at a cosy café before returning to the ship.



Legend

HX Expedition



Ísafjörður

The ship docked alongside in Ísafjörður, a remote gem in Iceland's Westfjords, surrounded by steep mountains and dramatic seascapes. Guests disembarked for a scenic overland excursion to Dynjandi, the most spectacular waterfall in the region. Often called the "jewel of the Westfjords", Dynjandi cascades 100 metres down a series of terraces, creating a stunning fan-shaped display. A short uphill walk offered

breathtaking views and photo opportunities.

Upon returning, guests had time to soak in the peaceful charm of Ísafjörður — perhaps browsing a local craft shop, sampling Icelandic delicacies, or simply enjoying the quiet rhythm of life in this far-flung coastal town.





Bolungarvík

Ísafjörður

Patreksfjörður

Breiðafjörður

Stykkishólmur

Grundarfjörður

Legend

— HX Expedition

Akureyri

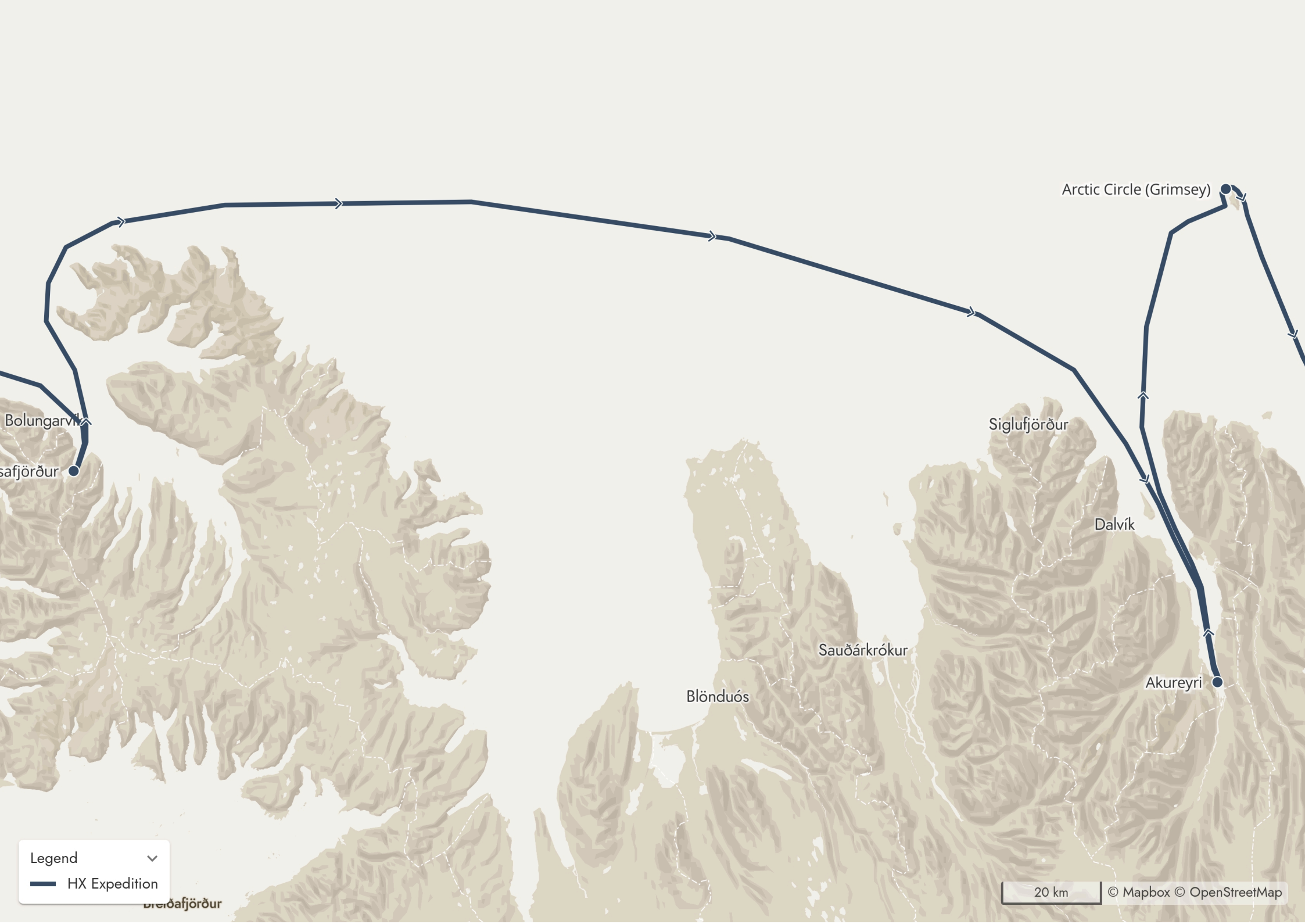
Fridtjof Nansen docked alongside in Akureyri, Iceland's vibrant "Capital of the North," nestled at the head of Eyjafjörður fjord, with snow-capped mountains as a stunning backdrop.

Guests embarked on the full-day Jewels of the North excursion, exploring some of the region's most breathtaking natural and cultural highlights. The day began with a visit to the beautiful Goðafoss waterfall, known as the "Waterfall of the Gods," where legends say the old Norse gods were cast away.

The journey then continued to the scenic Mývatn area, famous for its otherworldly volcanic landscapes, bubbling mud pools, and unique birdlife. Guests explored highlights such as the Dimmuborgir lava formations and the geothermal Námaskarð area before returning to Akureyri.

This excursion combined spectacular scenery with Icelandic history and folklore, leaving guests with unforgettable memories of the north.



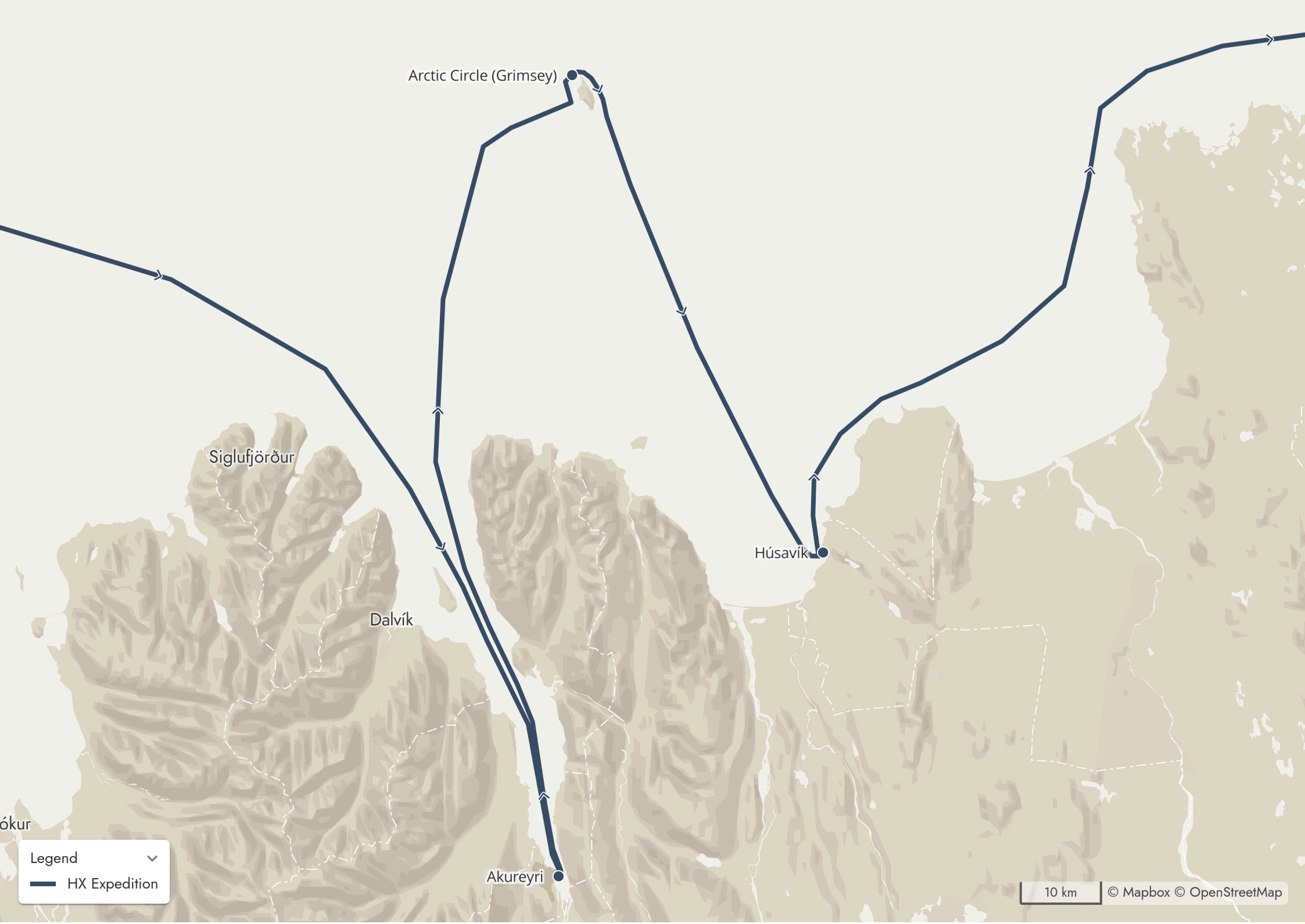


Arctic Circle (Grimsey)

Early the next morning, we crossed the Arctic Circle — a memorable milestone that everyone on board was excited about. A light-hearted ceremony marked the occasion, and to make it even more special,

Njord, the Norse god of the sea and winds, made a surprise appearance. He bestowed his blessing for smooth sailing and fair weather as we continued our journey north.





Arctic Circle (Grimsey)

Siglufjörður

Dalvík

Húsavík

Akureyri

Legend



— HX Expedition

10 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Húsavík

At lunchtime, we arrived in Húsavík, often called the whale-watching capital of Iceland. The town's charming harbour buzzed with excitement as guests prepared to set off on their whale-watching excursions. Out on the calm fjord waters, guides pointed out majestic humpback whales, offering unforgettable close encounters with these gentle giants of the sea.

For those who preferred to stay onshore, the Húsavík Whale Museum provided a fascinating insight into the region's marine life and the history of whale watching. Exhibits included life-sized models, interactive displays, and stories of the local community's deep connection with the ocean. After a full afternoon of exploration, everyone returned to the ship, their hearts full of memories from this incredible northeast Iceland experience.



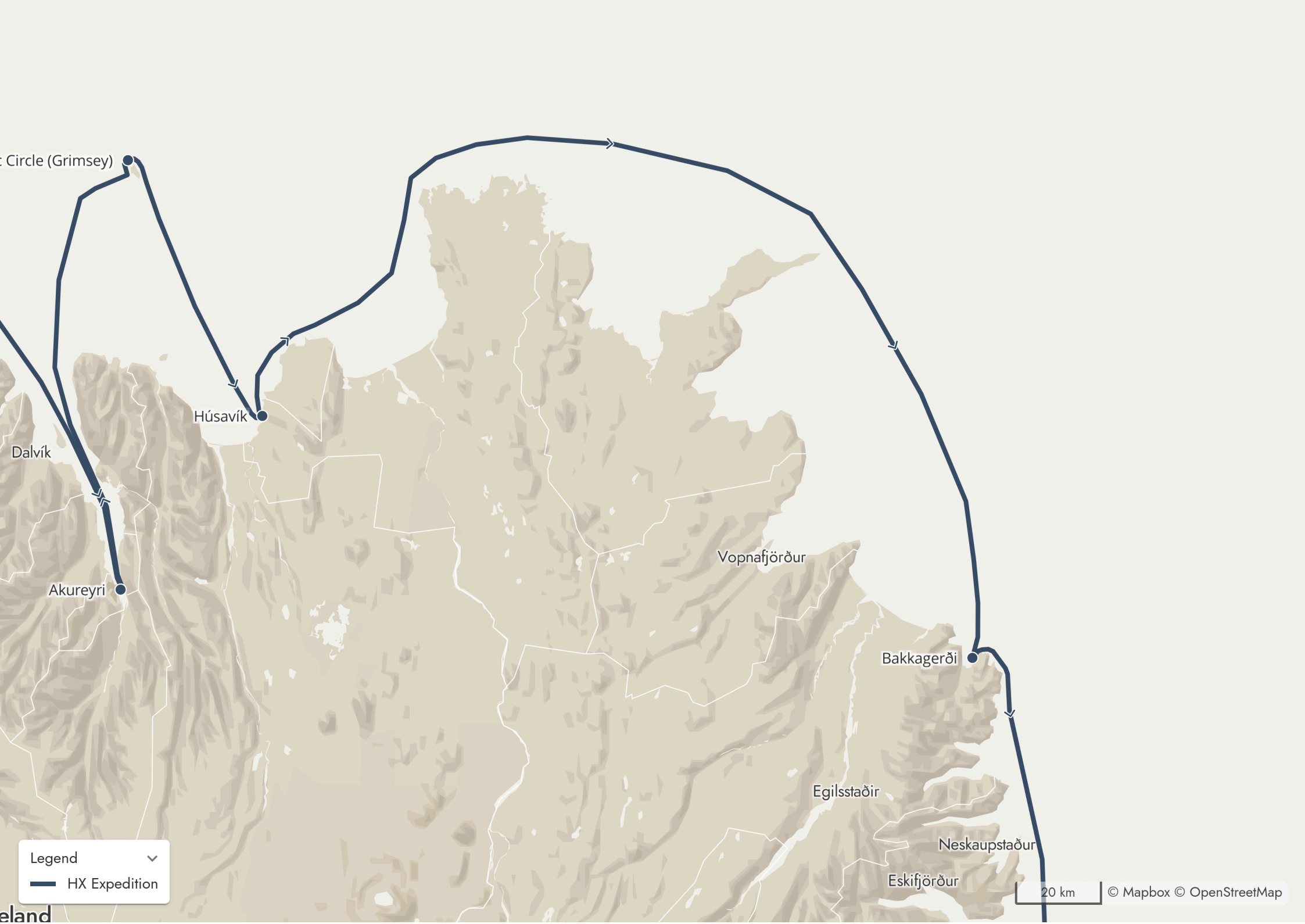
Bakkagerði

The next day, the ship arrived in the small village of Bakkagerði, nestled along the rugged coast of East Iceland. Known for its vibrant puffin colonies, the area was alive with the flutter and chatter of these colourful seabirds as guests visited the cliffs to observe them up close. Here, we used our Zodiac boats to go ashore.

In the small town, a leisurely stroll revealed quaint houses adorned with blooming gardens and local folklore everywhere — including

tales of Iceland's famous elves, said to live in the nearby hills and rocks. The guide shared stories of these mystical beings, adding a magical touch to the visit. With puffins soaring overhead and the whispers of elves in the air, Bakkagerði offered a perfect blend of nature and legend before the ship continued its journey around Iceland.





Arctic Circle (Grimsey)

Húsavík

Vopnafjörður

Bakkagerði

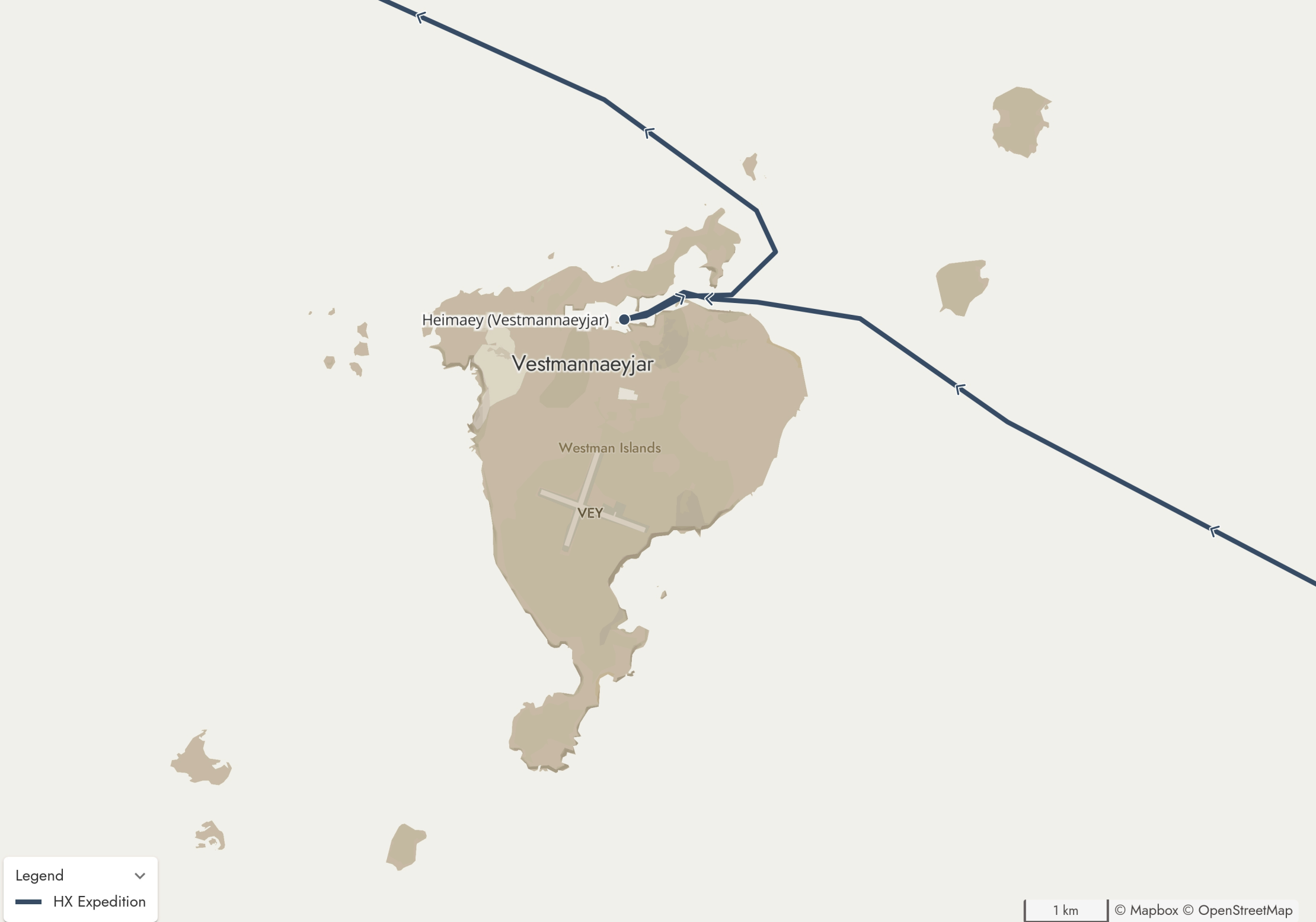
Egilsstaðir

Neskaupstaður

Eskifjörður

Legend

HX Expedition



Heimaey (Vestmannaeyjar)

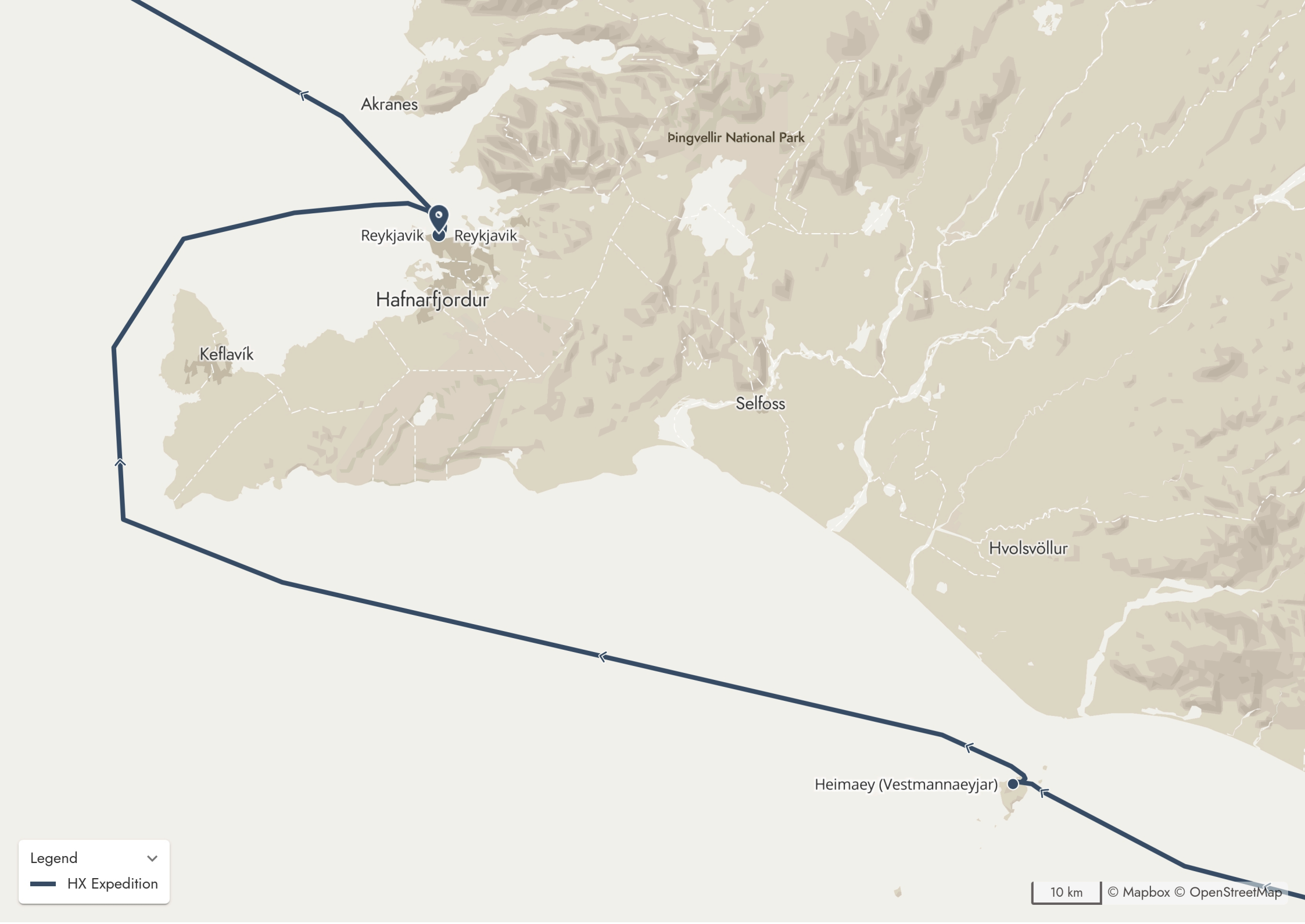
On the final day of the voyage, the ship arrived at Heimaey, the only inhabited island in the Westman Islands. A light fog drifted in from the sea, giving the volcanic landscape a quiet, mysterious feel as the town slowly emerged through the mist.

Guests joined a guided walk through the town, where stories of the dramatic 1973 eruption came to life. The group passed lava-buried houses and visited the Eldheimar Museum, which documents the event and the community's remarkable recovery.

For those seeking a different perspective, optional boat tours circled the island, offering views of sea caves, bird cliffs, and dramatic basalt formations. Puffins and other seabirds occasionally appeared through the mist, adding a touch of magic to the experience.

Despite the weather, Heimaey's resilience and natural beauty made for a memorable and atmospheric end to the expedition.





Akranes

Þingvellir National Park

Reykjavik

Reykjavik

Hafnarfjordur

Keflavík

Selfoss

Hvalsvoellur

Heimaey (Vestmannaeyjar)

Legend
HX Expedition

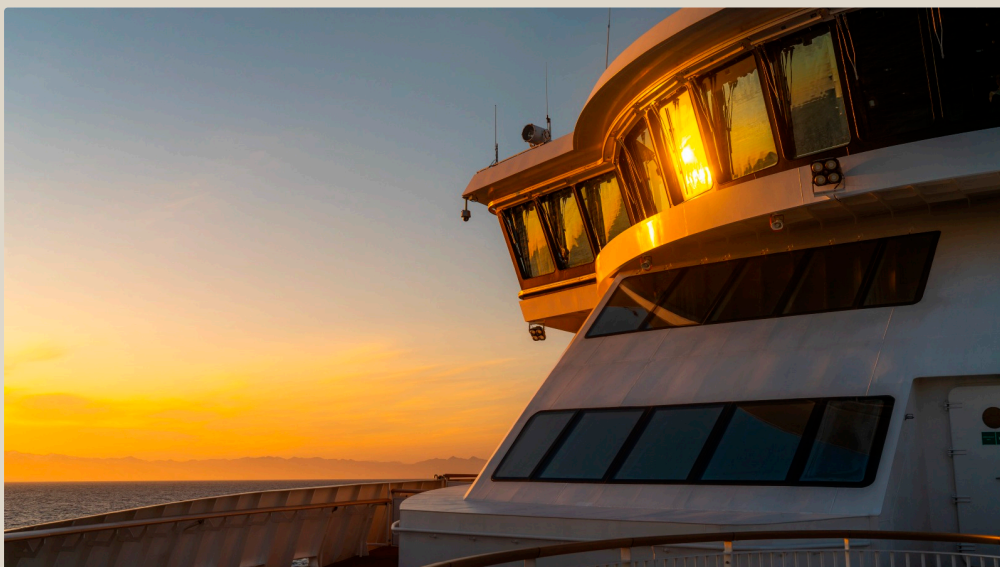
10 km © Mapbox © OpenStreetMap



Reykjavík - Disembarkation

After a week of unforgettable exploration around Iceland's rugged coastline, disembarkation day has arrived. From steaming geothermal landscapes and towering cliffs to remote fishing villages and majestic waterfalls, each stop on our circumnavigation has offered a glimpse

into the raw beauty and rich culture of this extraordinary island. As we return to Reykjavík and say farewell to new friends and the dedicated HX Expeditions crew, we leave with lasting memories, countless stories, and a deeper connection to the wild spirit of Iceland.





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