

ICELAND

John Roche

Needless to say, the Covid attack of 2020 on our society has changed our lives forever. For the better part of two years, we were isolated, masked, and vaccinated while trying to keep clear of the virus. During the summer of 2021 the world started to lighten up. The epidemic appeared to be winding down and people were starting to come out of their caves.

I went on the Celebrity Cruise Lines website looking for potential trips in 2022. One itinerary really caught my eye. There was a twelve-day cruise out of Amsterdam to Iceland and Ireland. **ICELAND & IRELAND?** Who thought up this one?

I immediately went to my wife Peggy and told her about the trip. When it comes to spending money, she rarely says no. **Cruise on.** When my oldest daughter, Morgan, caught wind of the trip, she insisted on joining us. When my youngest daughter, Shannon, heard about the trip, she said,

“You’re not doing this without me.”

Before I get into the gist of this story, I’ll just say it was one of the best trips that the Roche family ever took. I was initially worried about the length of the cruise. Peg and I had never sailed more than seven days before. I always got antsy around the sixth day. What was going to happen on a twelve-day vacation? Between the ports-of-call and the beautiful ship, the Apex, I could have sailed for months. Enough already (that’s Brooklynese for enough already).

As we sailed north, we crossed the Arctic Circle. Since it was early June, the days were extremely long. In fact, they were so long that there was no darkness for the six nights that we were in Iceland. While we were out in the Danish Straights, I went up to the top deck of the ship at midnight to check out the view. I took some pictures.



Note the sky.