

Summary of National Hunting Regulations: Iceland



Updated in August 2016

HUNTING AND TRAPPING LEGISLATION/ RESOURCES

Name of main legislation: Act no. 64/1994 on hunting and control of birds and wild mammals

Year of publication: 1994

Supporting legislation:

Legislation updates: 20 updates, latest update was in 15th of November 2015

Hunting legislation (web link): <http://www.althingi.is/lagas/nuna/1994064.html>

Authority in charge of controlling hunting (web link): The Environment Agency of Iceland www.ust.is

Major inconsistencies or loopholes detected (if yes please describe):

Egg collection from seabirds authorised by law.

Only country where Puffins can be hunted. Trapping authorised during breeding period.

Shooting or trapping of bird species protected throughout Europe, including Atlantic Puffin, Razorbill, Black Guillemot, Common Murre and Thick-billed Murre, Great Skua (egg collection only) and Northern Fulmar.

Derogations (on EU Birds Directive and/or Bern Convention): Not applicable

HUNTING AND TRAPPING: METHODS AND RESTRICTIONS

	Legal methods/restrictions	Notes
Hunting	Licenses to hunt some species are restricted at certain times of the year.	Holders of hunting permits may hunt on land that is not privately owned. However, on private property, special permission to hunt must be obtained from the landowners.
Trapping	Trapping of Atlantic Puffins with pole nets during the breeding season. Taking of eggs from seabird colonies during all breeding season (only landowners are allowed to collect eggs but many others do, one rescue unit does it for fundraising f.ex.) Taking eggs from 4 species – but never after 15 th of June (Arctic Tern, European Herring Gull, Glaucous Gull, Black-headed Gull)	It is the landowners right only to take eggs from seabird colonies, during all the breeding season. It can rent the right to others.

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	<p>Taking eggs from 9 duck species, but may not be sold or even given away.</p> <p>Taking eggs from Greylag goose (can be sold), and Pink-footed Goose (not to be sold or given away), but always leave 2 eggs in nest.</p> <p>Taking eggs from Common Raven, Great Black-backed Gull and Lesser Black-backed Gull is allowed during all breeding season.</p> <p>Taking eggs from Great Skua until 14th of July near protected Eider Duck colonies, were down is collected.</p>
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HUNTING SEASONS AND SPECIES

Open Hunting Season	Legally huntable species	Notes
Late October – Early December 12 days altogether each year for 2016, 2017, 2018	Rock Ptarmigan	Hunting days are only Friday to Sunday each week
August 20 th - March 15 st	Greylag Goose, Pink-footed Goose	
September 1 st - March 15 st *25 th of September – March 31 st in their only breeding areas (A-og V-Skaftafellssýsla)	European Shag, Great Cormorant, Northern Fulmar Great Skua (Only near or in protected Eider down colonies- from 15 th of April-14 th of July) *Barnacle Goose Duck species (Mallard, Common Teal, Eurasian Wigeon, Greater Scaup, Tufted Duck, Long-tailed Duck and Red-breasted Merganser) Glaucous Gull, Black-headed Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake	
September 1 st - April 25 th	Atlantic Puffin, Razorbill, Black Guillemot, Common Murre, Thick-billed Murre	
All-year round	Gulls (including the Great Black-backed Gull that is endangered in Iceland) and Common Raven	

TRAPPING SEASONS AND SPECIES

Open Trapping Season	Legally trapped species	Notes
Trapping season is from 1 st of July -15 th of August	Atlantic Puffin, Razorbill, Common Murre, Thick-billed Murre	

TRADE AND PEST SPECIES

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Legal trade	Notes
Ban on selling Rock Ptarmigan (there is a hunting ban on Greenland White-fronted Goose, but we believe that they are shot and sold as well to restaurants) All other game species can be traded, but not eggs from ducks or Pink-footed Goose	
Legislation on “pest species”	Notes
Gulls and Ravens are considered “pest species” and can be shot all year round.	

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