Iceland: The Golden Circle & Ring Road July 16 - 26, 2025

Travel Preview

Tuesday, February 13, 2024 from, 9-10 a.m. Location: C-100 Curtiss Hall

OLLI members & friends are invited to learn about this trip during a presentation with our travel provider - Go Ahead Tours. Call the OLLI office to register for this preview (989) 964-4475 or register online.

Travel Registration

Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. Location: Curtiss Hall Seminar Rooms D-F

*Registration for this trip (along with other 2025 trips) will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Curtiss Hall Seminar Rooms on a first come first served basis. Please note registrations can be taken over the phone after onsite registration is finished.

Included Highlights:

- Reykjavik
- Thingvellir National Park
- Gullfoss
- Skógafoss waterfall
- Reynisfjara beach
- Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon
- Djúpivogur & Bulandsnes Sanctuary Walk
- Mývatn Nature Baths
- Víðgelmir Lava Tube
- Langjökull Glacier

Travel with OLLI - a lifetime of learning and exploring!



SVSU - Osher Lifelong Learning Institute



Travel to Iceland with OLLI!



Some of Earth's most astounding and extreme landscapes can be found in Iceland, where every corner of the country offers something new. Learn about fascinating maritime history and taste traditional fare as you journey from the culturally rich capital to the most remote parts of the coast. Glacier-fed waterfalls, boiling mud pools, moss-covered cliffs see it all on this small group Adventure Tour through the Land of Fire and Ice.



Travel Providers

This educational travel experience is offered by the SVSU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute in conjunction with Go Ahead Tours. GAT was our travel provider for our trips to Canadian Rockies, Charleston to Savannah, Germany, Spain, Iceland, Ontario to Quebec, the American South: Nashville to New Orleans trips, Italy, Canadian Maritimes, and most recently Greece.

Registrations:

Please fill out the registration form and bring it to the OLLI office on the day of registration. Trip reservations are on firstcome-first served basis. A passport is required at time of registration and the passport must be valid through six months following the end date of the tour (January 26, 2026).

Tour Activity Level: 4

This tour requires above average physical activity. You should be in good health, able to climb stairs, hills, and walk reasonable distances, walking up to three hours per day at one time, possibly over uneven ground and cobblestone streets. Travelers should be healthy enough to participate in all included walks without assistance. Adding optional excursions may increase the total amount of walking on your tour. You should feel comfortable managing your own baggage at all times. If you have any health, diet, mobility concerns or physical restrictions, please contact our OLLI office for additional information.

General Information:

Lodging

We will stay in accommodations handpicked to ensure quality and comfort. Specific hotel details will be given at the pre-trip dinner.

Travel Protection:*

Go Ahead's trip protection will be included in the price of this trip and must be paid at the time of deposit upon registration. The "Trip Protection" package has pre-existing condition coverage. Details about the travel protection package terms and conditions may be found on their website at: goaheadtours.com/about/travel-protection. Please note that insurance fees are not refundable. It is the traveler's responsibility to review insurance coverage to make sure it meets your needs prior to purchase. * *If you choose not to take travel protection for your trip - your registration/situation will be reviewed*.

Air Details:

Our package includes round-trip air from Detroit, air taxes and fees/surcharges. Specific flight information will be provided at a later date. If our flight is scheduled early, we may stay the night prior to departure in Detroit. If this is the case, there will be an added cost per person and these details will be forwarded to you closer to departure.

Waitlist & Roommates Needed:

If you are looking for a roommate please contact our office and we can share names of others looking for roommates. Our office will also maintain a wait-list if this trip fills to capacity of (25) travelers.

Included in Your 11 - Day Package

- 9 nights of lodging in hand-picked hotels
- Nine breakfasts, two lunches, 4 dinners with beer or wine
- One liquor tasting
- Three food tastings
- 16 sightseeing tours with expert tour director & local guides as outlined in the itinerary.
- Private deluxe motor coach.
- Pre-trip dinner at SVSU approximately two weeks prior to departure.
- Round-trip air transportation and airport transfers from SVSU to & from departing airport.
- Post-trip reunion to share photos, recipes and memories approximately two weeks following the return of your trip.

Travel Requirements:

There are currently no travel requirements related to COVID-19. This is subject to change and may vary by country and travel provider. We will provide any known updates closer to departure dates.

Cancellation:

All cancellations must be made in writing to the OLLI office and are subject to a cancellation fee of \$50. Go Ahead's cancellation policies will prevail.

** All information included in this brochure is deemed reliable at time of print. All trip updates and announcements will take precedence over information included in brochure.**



Day 1: Wednesday, July 16 (SVSU → Reykjavik)

Depart SVSU via motorcoach for our overnight flight from Detroit to Reykjavik.

Day 2: Thursday, July 17 (Reykjavik)

Arrival in Reykjavik & Sightseeing Tour (Welcome Lunch)

Welcome to Iceland! We will begin by meeting fellow travelers at a welcome lunch. After lunch we'll set off on a walking tour to with our Tour Director get a feel for Reykjavik, often called the greenest city on Earth. We will view Hallgrim's Church and glimpse the artwork of Ásmundur Sveinsson and Einar Jónsson, both famous Icelandic artists. Then we'll learn about Leif Erikson, an early Norse explorer, and Iceland's Viking history. We will see Tjörnin lake, the Parliament House, and the modern City Hall. Then we will head to the Old Harbour to see the Harpa concert hall. The afternoon is free for your own explorations in Reykjavik **OR** add an excursion: Blue Lagoon Spa Visit.

Day 3: Friday, July 18 (Selfoss)

Selfoss via the Golden Circle (B/Tasting/L)

Following breakfast today, we will begin our travel around the Golden Circle, a ring of some of Iceland's most magnificent natural wonders. We will leave the bustle of Reykjavik behind and head towards Selfoss. Our first stop will be at Thingvellir National Park to see the Althing, an open-air governmental assembly that was established in 930 and continued to meet until 1798. Then we will tour the horse stables at Friðheimar to learn about Icelandic horse breeding during a presentation served with coffee and tea. Next, we will sample tomatoes and sit down for lunch at Friðheimar Farm, where the produce is grown fresh in a greenhouse heated by geothermal energy. Then we will explore the Great Geysir geothermal area, located in the Haukadalur Valley. Finally, we will discover Gullfoss, or the "Golden Waterfall," a natural wonder and one of the most powerful waterfalls in Europe. Then we will continue on to Selfoss and the evening is free for you to enjoy.

Day 4: Saturday, July 19 (South Coast Region) Sightseeing Tour of the South Coast (B/D)

Today we will continue on to the South Coast, a lowland region of lush farmland, striking waterfalls, beaches, glaciers, and picturesque villages. Weather permitting, we will make a photo stop by the Eyjafjallajökull volcano to marvel at breathtaking views. We will take in the views of the coastal mountain scenery as we travel to the Seljalandsfoss waterfall for a short walk behind the falls led by our Tour Director. We will then head towards a second waterfall—Skógafoss waterfall and travelers may choose to opt to join our Tour Director on a hike up a staircase to a viewpoint overlooking the top of the falls. Next we will marvel at the Sólheimajökull glacier and iconic black sands of Reynisfjara beach. Then enjoy free time for lunch in the remote, seaside village of Vik. Next we will pass Eldhraun lava field and Skaftafell National Park. Then this evening, we will sit down for an included dinner with your group. *Please note: The order of the daily events may be changed due to hotel location and weather*

Day 5: Sunday: July 20 (South Coast Region) Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon (B/D)

After breakfast we will travel to the East Fjords region, admiring the stunning landscape and stopping for an amphibious boat ride en route. We will set off on a cruise through Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon, whose pristine waters lap against a black-sand beach. On our cruise, try to spot wildlife as we pass between giant icebergs and head toward Breiðamerkurjökull glacier. Our local guide will explain to the group how the glacier lagoon was created. Then we will board the coach again for a short drive to Fjallsarlon Glacier Lagoon, whose surface is dotted with floating icebergs. Here we will spend an hour enjoying an easy walk along the lagoon, and up-close views of the lagoon and glacier. Then travelers have three options as to how they spend their afternoon. Travelers may return to Reykjavik for free time, visit Skaftafell National Park, OR add an excursion: Falljökull Glacier Hike. No matter how you spend your afternoon, this evening the group will sit down for an included dinner.

Day 6: Monday, July 21 (East Fjords Region) East Fjords Region via Djúpivogur (B/Tasting)

This morning we will make our way through the East Fjords region to the town of Djúpivogur and explore with our Tour Director. We will visit Langabúð, the oldest house in town which is now a heritage museum, and sample their homemade cakes. Then we will have some free time to explore the coastal town and admire the stunning views of Búlandstindur mountain. On our way to town we will see the Eggs of Merry Bay, an outdoor installation of 34 granite eggs that line the bay as a tribute to the area's native birds. In town, we will visit the world-renowned Bulandsnes Bird Sanctuary, and enjoy a scenic walk around the marshland, ponds, beaches, and dunes to see where shelducks, northern shovelers, and horned grebes breed. We will continue along the scenic South Coast through the East Fjords region to Egilsstaðir, enjoying views of towering mountains plunging vertically into sea.

Day 7: Tuesday, July 22 (Akureyri Region) Akureyri Region via Dimmuborgir, Mývatn Nature Baths, & Goðafoss (B)

Today we will make our way north toward the Akureyri region, stopping to admire breathtaking waterfalls and volcanic landscapes as you go. Our first stop will be at the Dimmuborgir lava fields and we will walk among the towering lava formations scattered throughout the area. Then travelers may choose to put on their bathing suit and relax in the Mývatn Nature Baths, a series of thermal pools heated by the area's geothermal energy *(Entrance includes access to changing rooms, lockers, showers, and a cafe)*. We will have a chance to marvel at the beauty of Goðafoss waterfall, one of Iceland's most famous cataracts, before ending the day in Akureyri.



Day 8: Wednesday, July 23 (Akureyri Region) Sightseeing Tour of Siglufjörður (B/Tasting/Liquor Tasting)

Today after breakfast we will have the opportunity, to get to know more about Icelandic culture during a visit to town of Siglufjörður. Then we will learn about the country's maritime history as we follow a local guide through the Herring Era Museum. Then we will enjoy a tasting of herring, one of Iceland's most important culinary staples, washed down with Brennivín schnapps. Then enjoy a free afternoon in the Akureyri region <u>**OR**</u> add an excursion: Akureryri Fjord Whale Watching.

<u>Day 9: Thursday, July 24</u> (*Húsafell*) Húsafell via Víðgelmir Lava Tube (*B/D*)

Today, we will drive through the landscapes of West Iceland to the Víðgelmir lava tube. We will take a guided tour of this cave, which is the largest in Iceland, as we discover the unique geology. We will hear how the cave was formed over 1,000 years ago and we will learn about the humans who lived in the cave during the Viking Age. Later today we will arrive in Húsafell and sit down for an included dinner with your group.

Day 10: Friday, July 25 (Reykjavik) Reykjavik via Langjökull Glacier, Hraunfossar, & Barnafoss (B/Farewell Dinner)

Today we will travel back to where it all started in Reykjavik, and we will be making several stops en route. We will be board a specially modified snow truck and drive on the Langjökull Glacier. Then we will walk through the interior ice tunnels of Iceland's secondlargest glacier. Next we will take a scenic walk to view the serene Hraunfossar and powerful Barnafoss waterfalls. We will also walk along platforms over the Deildartunguhver hot springs, Europe's largest and most powerful hot springs. Our next stop will be in Reykholt, where we will learn about Snorri Sturluson, a poet, writer, chieftain, and Iceland's most renowned historian. Then tonight, we will celebrate our trip with our Tour Director and fellow travelers at a farewell dinner.

Day 11: Saturday, July 26 Departure (*Reykjavik* \rightarrow *SVSU*) (*B*)

Today we will head back home to Michigan. Breakfast will be included today unless we have an early morning flight.

Optional Excursions:

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions must be added a month before departure.

Day 2: Blue Lagoon Spa Visit - \$159 pp (4.5 hours, departs in the afternoon)

Travel to the Blue Lagoon, a famed geothermal spa known for its restorative properties. The lagoon's lightblue water is a mix of freshwater and seawater, and is warmed deep in the Earth before being sourced and pumped into the lagoon by a nearby geothermal plant. Relax in the lagoon's spa, admire the surrounding lava field, and soak in beneficial min-



erals as you float weightlessly in the ethereal water.

Day 5: Falljökull Glacier Hike - \$149 pp (3.5 hours, departs in the afternoon)

Transfer to the rugged region of the Skaftafell Nature Reserve, located in

Vatnajökull National Park, Europe's second-largest National Park. Skaftafell Nature Reserve boasts breathtaking scenery, from waterfalls to birch forests, and is home to Falljökull Glacier. After a safety presentation, strap on your crampons and head out with your certified glacier guide who will teach you all about the Falljökull Glacier, which is an extension of the mighty Vatnajökull,



Europe's largest glacier. Learn about the glacier's formation, movement, and importance as you hike through fascinating ice formations, periwinkle blue ridges, and deep crevasses. Please note: An ice pick, crampons, helmet, and harness are provided.

Day 8: Akureyri Fjord Whale Watching - \$155 pp (3 hours, departs in the afternoon)

Take in the beauty of northern Iceland's varied landscapes and keep your eyes open for wildlife as you enjoy a threehour cruise on the Akureyri Fjord. As you cruise on the idyllic waterway, a local guide will tell you more about the fjord's ecosystem and history, and you may spot minke whales, orcas, humpback whales, dolphins and porpoises.



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Non Member - Double Occupancy	\$7,434	\$4	449	\$60		\$7,943	
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Cardholder's Name___

Terms & Conditions

For complete Terms & Conditions, please visit goaheadtours.com/terms or call 1.800.597.0350



U.S. Release & Agreement

I (or parent or legal guardian if enrollee is under 18 or a minor under any other applicable law) am an enrollee on an EF Go Ahead Tour and understand and agree to the following:

1. I acknowledge and understand that my tour is operated by EF Education First International Ltd., Switzerland, and that Go Ahead Vacations, Inc. acts only as a marketing service provider for that company. Go Ahead Vacations, Inc. does not provide any goods or services for your trip. If I am participating in a domestic tour in the U.S., I understand that a portion of my tour may be operated by EF Explore America, Inc., a U.S. affiliate.

2. EF Education First International Ltd., Go Ahead Vacations, Inc., and (if applicable) EF Explore America, Inc., and their affiliated companies, partners, and any companies acting on their behalf, along with their officers, directors, employees, agents, and authorized representatives (collectively referred herein as "GAT") do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for my tour, includ-ing for example hotels; arrangements for, ownership of, or control over houses, apartments, or other lodging facilities; tour directors; airline, vessel, bus, or other transportation companies; local ground operators; visa processing services; providers or organizers of optional excursions; or food service or entertainment providers. I acknowledge that all such persons and entities, specifically the Tour Director assigned to my tour, are independent contractors and not employees or agents of GAT. As a result, GAT is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity, or of any other third party.

3. Without limitation, GAT is not responsible for any injury, loss, or damage to person or property, death, disease, sickness, delay or inconvenience in connection with the provision of any goods or services occa-sioned by or resulting from any event or cause beyond the direct control of GAT or as a result of any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any third party. These matters include but are not limited to: "acts of God" or events of force majeure; epidemics, pandemics, or other public health issues or emergencies (such as but not limited to the current COVID-19 pandemic); acts of government; acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt; strikes or other labor activities; criminal, terrorist or threatened terrorist activities of any kind; overbooking or downgrading of accommodations; structural or other defective conditions in houses, apartments, or other lodgings (or in any heating, plumbing, electrical or structural problem therein); mechanical or other failure of airplanes or other means of transportation or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely; dangers associated with or bites from animals, insects or pests; sanitation problems; food poisoning; lack of availability of, access to, or quality of medical care; difficulty in evacuation in case of a medical or other emergency; financial failure or other defaults by suppliers; or dangers associated with water-based activities.

4. I agree to release GAT, my Group Coordinator (if applicable), and my Tour Director (the "Released Parties") from, and agree not to sue the Released Parties for, any and all claims, of any nature related in any manner to my participation in a GAT-sponsored tour, including, but not limited to, claims for negli-gence, breach of contract, breach of express or implied warranties, negligent or wrongful death or any statutorily based claim. I hereby unconditionally and unequivocally waive any and all claims and demands for all damages, losses, costs and expenses of any nature whatsoever (including attorney's fees) on account of or arising out of any and all personal injury, death, bodily injury, mental anguish, emotional distress, property or other damage that I may suffer from any cause whatsoever related in any way to my participation in any GAT-sponsored tour. I further agree to release and hold harmless the Released Parties from any and all decisions to cancel, modify or delay the tour as a result of events that are beyond the reasonable control of GAT including such "acts of God" or force majeure events as actual or threats of: epidemics or pandemics, or other public health issues or emergencies (such as but not limited to the current COVID-19 pandemic); severe weather events or natural disasters such as but not limited to hurricanes, earthquakes, tsunamis, tornadoes, fires, floods, volcanic activity, or landslides; war (whether declared or undeclared); terrorist activities; instability in a destination location; incidents of violence, riot, sabotage, civil commotion, or nationalization; strikes or labor disputes or lockouts; government orders, sanctions, actual or potential quarantines, or other restrictions affecting travel in, to, or around a location; disruption to transportation; chemical or radioactive contamination; or any other reason that makes it actually or potentially impossible or illegal for GAT to conduct the tour as originally contracted.

5. I understand that travel can involve inconvenience and risk, including, but not limited to, sickness, diseases, forces of nature, geographic and climatic conditions, different hygienic standards, infrastructure problems (including road maintenance, transportation delays and accommodation condition), civil unrest, vandalism, crime, political instability and terrorism. Medical services or facilities may not be readily availa-ble or available at all during all or a portion of the tour and, if available, may not be equal to standards in my home location or home country. I further understand that travel in other nations is not similar to travel in the United States and that different parts of the world present unique health, disease, and safety concerns, and I agree to review any specific risks related to my destination by visiting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Traveler's Health website at www.cdc.gov/travel and the State Depart-ment's International Travel website at www.state.gov/travel. I assume all risk of bodily injury, death, emotional trauma, property damage, inconvenience and/or loss resulting from negligence or any other acts of any and all persons or entities, however caused, including, but not limited to, those risks mentioned above. It is my intention fully to assume all of the risks of travel and participation in the program and to GAT from any and all liabilities to the maximum extent permitted by law.

6. I agree that the releases of liability included herein apply to and bind myself and any minor child who I am enrolling as a parent/legal guardian, along with all personal representatives, executors, heirs, and family.

7. GAT shall have no responsibility for me whatsoever when I am absent from GAT supervised activities or for non-supervised activities.

8. My tour begins with the takeoff from the GAT departure airport and ends upon completion of the flight back to the origination (or other arrival) airport. If I have purchased my own flights, I understand that my tour begins with my arrival at the first accommodation or transfer arranged by GAT on my itinerary and ends with my departure from the final accommodation arranged by GAT on my itinerary and does not include flights between cities.

9. The air carrier's liability for loss of or damage to baggage or property, or for death or injury to person, is subject to and limited by the airline's contract of carriage, its tariff, the Montreal Convention or Warsaw Convention and their amendments or both.

10. I understand and agree that GAT reserves the right to refuse or cancel my reservation at their sole discretion. In such event, standard cancellation guidelines as outlined in the Booking Conditions apply.

11. I agree to abide by GAT's regulations and the directions of my Tour Director and GAT's personnel during my tour. I understand and agree that GAT may dismiss me from the tour at any time and at my sole expense for the failure to follow such rules or directions or for any other reason that GAT deems in its sole discretion requires my dismissal from the tour. I understand that in the event I am dismissed from the tour for any reason, I waive the right to a refund of any part of my program price, and that GAT may then send me home at my own expense. GAT is not responsible for arranging my transport home.

12. I agree to abide by all local laws, regulations, and governmental advisories when traveling, including but not limited to all local health requirements. I understand that if I disobey, refuse to follow, or abuse such laws, regulations and governmental advisories, even unintentionally, I waive my right to a refund of any part of the program price, and GAT may send me home at my own expense. I also understand that should local authorities be involved, I will be subject to the laws of the country I am visiting.

13. I understand and agree that if I become ill or incapacitated, GAT and its employees or contractors may Take any action they deem necessary for my safety and well-being, including securing medical treatment and transporting me home at my own expense. GAT retains the right and has my authorization, in its sole discretion, to contact my emergency contact(s) with regard to health issues or any matter whatsoever that relates to my tour. In the event of a medical emergency, GAT will attempt to cause appropriate treatment to be administered, and I authorize GAT to do so. GAT, however, makes no warranty that it will be able to may affective (or com) emergency treatment to be administered OC II will not be createrible for: cause effective (or any) emergency treatment to be administered and GAT will not be responsible for monitoring any health care that I may necessitate.

14. I understand and agree that GAT has the right to make changes in tour itineraries and departure dates, and to modify transportation arrangements, including the use of substitute airlines. In the event of such changes, refunds will be given only in accordance with the provisions of the Booking Conditions supplied herewith

15. I understand that it is my responsibility to secure the necessary travel documents (e.g., passport, visa [s], vaccination records, or other required medical records for all locations on my tour (including locations visited during transit). Failure to do so does not constitute grounds for a refund except according to the refund and cancellation guidelines as outlined in the Booking Conditions.

16. GAT is not responsible for loss of passports, airline tickets, or other documents, or for loss of or damage to luggage or any other passenger belongings. In the case of a lost paper airline ticket or missing a flight booked by GAT, I acknowledge that I am solely responsible for meeting the airline's requirements (both logistical and financial) for ticket replacement.

17. I understand that I will be required to pay for any phone calls or incidental personal expenses that I incur at hotels, as well as for any damage I cause to hotel rooms, buses or other property.

18. I represent that I understand the pacing, content, accommodations, and other aspects of the tour upon which I have enrolled, and that I have discussed with GAT any limitations that may make it difficult or impossible for me to participate in this tour as designed.

19. I understand and agree that this Release & Agreement and GAT's Booking Conditions constitute the entire agreement between GAT and me with reference to the subject matter herein, and I do not rely upon any promises, inducements or agreements not herein, including but not limited to any oral statements made to me by any agents or employees of GAT. This agreement may be amended or modified only in writing, signed by both parties. The waiver by GAT of any provision of this agreement shall in no way affect the remaining provisions of this agreement, and this agreement shall be interpreted as if such clause or provision were not contained herein. If any provision of this agreement is deemed illegal, unenforceable or invalid in any jurisdiction, it shall not affect the enforceability and validity of any other provision of his agreement.

20. I understand and agree that this agreement shall be governed in all respects, and performance hereunder shall be judged, by the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In the event of any claim, dispute or proceeding arising out of my relationship with GAT, or any claim which in contract, tort, or otherwise at law or in equity arises between me and the Released Parties, whether or not related to this agreement, all parties submit and consent to the exclusive jurisdiction and venue of the courts of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

21. I understand and consent that GAT may use any photographic, film, digital or video likeness taken of me, any of my comments while on a Go Ahead tour, any of my photographic, film, digital or video content shared by me with GAT through any form for future publicity or marketing without compensation to me and to also use my contact information for future GAT promotions. I have read and agreed to GAT's Privacy Policy outlined at www.goaheadtours.com/privacy, and I consent to GAT's processing of my personal

22. I understand that my enrollment on tour with GAT is not complete until I have signed and agreed to the Terms & Conditions and this Release & Agreement. By agreeing to this Release & Agreement and Booking Conditions on behalf of other travelers for whom I am completing the enrollment process, I represent that I am authorized to act on behalf of such individual(s) and I acknowledge and affirm that GAT's reliance on my authority is reasonable. I agree to indemnify and defend GAT for any claims arising out of any violation of this representation.

Signature	Date	In Office Checklist
Printed Signature	Date	Copy of passport - m
By signing above I have read and und	Emergency form	

and accept them on behalf of myself and my party. ** All information included in brochure is deemed reliable at time of

print. All trip updates and announcements will take precedence over information included in brochure.

- ust be good through January 26, 2026
- □ Monthly payment form

□ Travel protection

OLLI Membership (\$60)

Other_