

Guðrún Tryggvadóttir

Guðrún Tryggvadóttir grew up in Svartárvot in the Bárðardalur valley. She graduated with a Bachelor of Education from the University of Akureyri. She runs a farm in Svartárvot together with her sister Sigurlína, their husbands and children. The farm has 360 sheep, 4 horses and 4 dogs. The sisters grew up learning to appreciate the wilderness and nature, fishing, hunting mink and working on the farm with their parents. From a young age they travelled the highlands and developed a great respect for the region. They are interested in folk tales, oral heritage and all sorts of stories from the area.

Guðrún has participated in multinational cooperative projects such as the Northern Environmental Education Development project (NEED) founded by the Northern Periphery Programme (NPP) and PIPPI PÁ SLJÓÐ, a cultural heritage programme in the Scandinavian countries, as well as some projects within a farmers' association in the Nordic countries. Guðrún and Sigurlína have managed a wide range of cultural projects in the area. For example, they organized the exhibition *Outlaws of Ódáðahraun*, produced a CD containing songs from the Bárðardalur valley and planned and organized multiple events such as concerts and festivals.

Since 2003 they have run a school camp for elementary-school children where the subjects are agriculture, handicrafts, cultural heritage, outlaws and stories. The main focus of the school camp is on Howard Gardner's multiple intelligence theory and learning by doing (John Dewey). For many years they have managed diverse courses in the community. Currently Guðrún is the Chairman of the Farmers Association of Þingeyjarsýsla County (BSSP) and Vice Chairman of the Farmers Association of Iceland.