On 31 August a small fissure eruption started in Holuhraun, north of Dýngjujökull glacier, on the same volcanic fissure that erupted last week. The eruption site is outside of the glacier. The fissure is estimated to be 1.5 km long with lava flowing to northeast. No volcanic ash has been detected by the radar system.

The seismic activity at the Bardarbunga volcano is continuing. Approx. 1 470 earthquakes (magnitude less than or equal 5.1) were registered in the area in the last 48 h (20 of them were larger than 3.0 M, see map below).

Iceland lowered the Aviation Colour Code of Bardarbunga to Orange, from Red, and lifted the air traffic ban on 31 August after it appeared the most recent eruption had not led to a major release of ash. All airports, international and domestic, are open. On 1 September morning the alert is still Orange for Bardarbunga, Yellow for Askja.

Background information: Bardarbunga volcano is a stratovolcano located under the north-western part of Vatnajökull glacier (elevation 2 009 m), Iceland’s most extensive glacier; it is a part of a volcanic system. Related fissure systems include the Veidivötn and Trollagigar fissures. The last major eruption of Veidivötn occurred in 1477.

Sources: Icelandic Civil Protection, NMS, Media, International Media, VEDUR, SMITHSONIAN