



Itinerary

7 Day Southern Ireland Discovery Small Group Tour

***IMPORTANT NOTE:** Any extra nights, optional tours or other amendments, will not be visible on this itinerary.

Day 1: Arrive Dublin ~ Galway

Welcome to Ireland! This morning, depart Dublin at 09:00 and travel west through the picturesque farmlands and peat bogs of County Kildare and Offaly towards Kilbeggan. Visit Kilbeggan Distillery, one of Ireland's oldest licensed distilleries, where you'll have time to enjoy a dram of their famed Irish whiskey and perhaps pick up a bottle to take home. Continue your journey with a choice of local lunch spots before visiting the atmospheric Clonmacnoise Monastic Site, founded in 544 by Saint Ciarán. Explore the ancient churches, round towers, graveslabs and Cathedral ruins, with time to visit the visitor centre and view the impressive high crosses. In the afternoon, continue to the charming village of Shannonbridge for a peaceful stroll along the River Shannon or a visit to Luker's Bar, one of Ireland's oldest and most atmospheric pubs. This evening, arrive in Galway City, known for its lively atmosphere, traditional pubs and excellent restaurants. Spend the remainder of the evening at leisure before settling into your accommodation for the night.

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Approximately 4-5 hours total driving time, excluding stops along the way.

MEALS: Nil

OVERNIGHT:

Day 2: Galway ~ Burren ~ Killarney

This morning, depart Galway and travel along the coast towards the spectacular Burren, one of Ireland's most unique natural landscapes. Stop in the charming village of Kinvara to admire the historic Dunguaire Castle before continuing into the Burren, a fascinating landscape of limestone pavements, rare flora and ancient monuments. Visit the 13th-century ruins of Corcomroe Abbey, set against the dramatic Burren Mountains, followed by a scenic stop at the ancient Poulhnabrone Dolmen. This afternoon, continue to Kilfenora, known as the "Town of the Crosses", where you can visit its historic cathedral before stopping for lunch. Continue to the magnificent Cliffs of Moher, one of Ireland's most iconic natural landmarks, where towering sea cliffs rise dramatically above the Atlantic Ocean. Enjoy breathtaking coastal views and discover the landscapes featured in films including Harry Potter and The Princess Bride. Continue south through County Clare and cross the Shannon Estuary by ferry before arriving in Killarney. Spend the evening at leisure, with plenty of time to explore the town's traditional pubs, restaurants and live music.

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Approximately 4-5 hours total driving time, excluding stops along the way.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT:

Day 3: Killarney ~ Dingle Peninsula & Slea Head

This morning, explore the spectacular Dingle Peninsula, renowned for its dramatic scenery and rich Gaelic culture. Begin at Inch Beach, a vast stretch of golden sand overlooking the Atlantic, before continuing along the scenic roads towards Dingle. Visit the Fahan Beehive Huts, remarkable early medieval stone dwellings dating back to around 800 AD, before continuing towards Slea Head. Take in the rugged coastal scenery, ancient forts and prehistoric settlements, with plenty of opportunities for memorable photographs overlooking the Blasket Islands. This afternoon, visit the ancient Gallarus Oratory, one of Ireland's best-preserved early Christian churches, before continuing to the historic Kilmalkedar Church, a national monument located along an ancient pilgrim route. Enjoy lunch along the way and, weather permitting, take a stroll around the Dunmore headland and its spectacular beaches and cliffs. Continue to the colourful harbour town of Dingle, where you can spend some time exploring the town or enjoying its famous seafood. Later, return to Killarney and spend the evening at leisure, with the option to enjoy an evening stroll through the beautiful Killarney National Park.

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Approximately 3-4 hours total driving time, excluding stops along the way.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: , Killarney

Day 4: Killarney ~ Ring of Kerry

This morning, explore the spectacular Ring of Kerry, travelling through picturesque valleys, villages and the foothills of the Macgillicuddy's Reeks, home to Ireland's highest mountain, Carrauntoohil. You'll also have the option to visit the Kells Bay Sheepdog Trails, with your driver able to help arrange the experience. Continue along the scenic coast road to Cahersiveen and visit the impressive Cahergal Stone Fort, a fascinating ancient ring fort overlooking the Atlantic. Continue to the charming fishing village of Portmagee for lunch, with the option to visit Valentia Island and the Skellig Experience to discover the story of the monks who once lived on the remote Skellig Islands. Continue to photo stop in Waterville, Charlie Chaplin's "home away from home", before taking in the incredible views from Coomakista Pass. Visit Derrynane House, the former home of Daniel O'Connell, known as the "Liberator of Ireland", where you can explore the historic house, scenic gardens and nearby beach. Continue around the Ring of Kerry with stops at Moll's Gap and the famous Ladies View. Take a short walk to Torc Waterfall before returning to Killarney for the evening.

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Approximately 4 hours total driving time, excluding stops along the way.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: , Killarney

Day 5: Killarney ~ Kinsale

This morning, depart Killarney and travel through the beautiful Cork countryside towards Blarney, home to the magnificent 600-year-old Blarney Castle. Explore the castle and its lush gardens, discover the

atmospheric dungeons and climb to the battlements for wonderful views. Of course, no visit is complete without discovering the famous Blarney Stone, where legend says that kissing it will bestow the “Gift of the Gab”. Continue to the historic port town of Kinsale for lunch, known for its colourful streets, charming cafés and excellent seafood. After being dropped at your accommodation, spend the afternoon and evening at leisure exploring Kinsale at your own pace. You might enjoy a stroll along the scenic Scilly Walk towards Charles Fort or take a harbour cruise to discover the beautiful coastline. This marks the end of the first leg of your tour, so you’ll leave your group and enjoy Kinsale independently for the remainder of today, before rejoining the second leg of the tour on Day 6..

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Approximately 2 hours total driving time, excluding stops along the way.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: , Kinsale

Day 6: Kinsale ~ Kilkenny

This morning, meet your new driver-guide and fellow travellers before visiting the historic port town of Cobh, the final port of call for the Titanic on its ill-fated maiden voyage in 1912. Discover Cobh’s fascinating maritime and migration history with a visit to the Titanic visitor experience or Cobh Heritage Centre, which explores Ireland’s mass emigration to countries including America, Canada and Australia. Continue east along the scenic Copper Coast, a UNESCO Global Geopark, to the charming harbour town of Dungarvan. Enjoy an early lunch and take in the beautiful coastline while discovering the area’s rich history, from ancient settlements to the impressive 13th-century Dungarvan Castle. This afternoon, continue to Waterford, Ireland’s oldest city, founded by the Vikings. Enjoy some free time to explore its historic streets, shops, restaurants and traditional pubs before travelling north to Kilkenny. Arrive in Kilkenny and spend the evening at leisure. Explore the city’s lively pubs and restaurants before settling into your accommodation for the night.

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Approximately 3 hours total driving time, excluding stops along the way.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: , Kinkelly

Day 7: Kilkenny ~ Dublin

This morning, enjoy free time to explore the vibrant city of Kilkenny, with the opportunity to visit historic sites, beautiful gardens and Kilkenny Castle, home to an impressive collection reflecting its 800-year history. Afterwards, meet your guide and continue your journey through Ireland’s beautiful countryside. Travel north into the Wicklow Mountains, stopping in Carlow to see the famous Brownshill Dolmen, a remarkable megalithic tomb dating back around 6,000 years, before continuing to the village of Hollywood for a traditional pub lunch. This afternoon, visit Glendalough, the spectacular site of a 6th-century monastic settlement founded by St Kevin. Explore the ancient churches, crosses and remarkably preserved round tower, surrounded by the beautiful mountains and valleys of Wicklow. Continue your scenic journey back towards Dublin via the breathtaking Sally Gap, with opportunities to stop at some of the area’s beautiful viewpoints along the way. Arrive back in Dublin at approximately 6:30pm, bringing your Irish adventure to a close with memories of ancient history, dramatic landscapes and charming towns.

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Approximately 3 hours total driving time, excluding stops along the way.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: , Kinkelly