

Castles and Manors




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 Start Location

 Plane

 Cruise

 Over night

 Visited Location

 End Location

 Train

 Ferry

Day 1 | Welcome to Dublin



Set your watch to the lively pace of Ireland's capital city – the springboard for your in-depth journey through the lush landscapes and enduring allure of Ireland. Our exploration of Dublin with a Local Specialist will see us view St. Patrick's Cathedral and the colourful Georgian Squares. Spend some time at leisure exploring Dublin's pretty streets before joining your travel companions and Travel Director for a Welcome Reception celebrating traditional Irish flavours.

Meals: Welcome Reception

Hotel: Clayton Ballsbridge

Day 2 | Journey to Galway and on to Ashford Castle



Our first stop today is Europe's 'City of the Tribes', where you will have an opportunity to see Galway Cathedral and stroll through Eyre Square. We overnight at one of Trafalgar's Stays With Stories on the shores of Lough Corrib. Feel like lords and ladies as you relax in the elegant country quarters of The Lodge at Ashford Castle, celebrating the heritage and hospitality of Ireland.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: The Lodge at Ashford Castle

Day 3 | Admire the Elegant Westport House and Abbeyglen Castle



Leaving the elegant estate of Ashford Castle behind, our journey takes us to Westport House where we'll Connect With Locals and indulge in a memorable Be My Guest experience with tales of the Pirate Queen, and enjoy Banoffee and Baileys flavours in the Drawing Room of this stately 18th-century home. Our home for the next two nights is one of Trafalgar's Stays With Stories - the spectacular Abbeyglen Castle.

Meals: Breakfast, Be My Guest, Dinner

Hotel: Abbeyglen Castle

Day 4 | A Day Exploring Stunning Connemara



Drive through the 'savage beauty' of Connemara, as described by Oscar Wilde who was inspired by the region's craggy mountains, shimmering lakes and endless shades of green. We visit Kylemore Abbey, a magnificent castellated structure built as a family home and now inhabited by a group of Benedictine nuns. Stop for a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience at an oyster farm. Venture into the secret nooks and crannies of its extensive walled Victorian garden before returning to your castle accommodation for a delicious dinner.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Abbeyglen Castle

Optional Experiences:

Visit an Historic Connemara Farm - Dive back into 19th-century rural Connemara to hear its stories and traditions. You'll be able to see first hand the centuries-old custom of turf cutting at the hilltop bog. And in the cottage where he lived, hear stories of Dan O'Hara, who lived here before having to leave during the Famine. This is a not-to-be-missed insight into rural Ireland life.

Adult: 30.00 EUR

Day 5 | Onwards to the Cliffs of Moher and Killarney



This morning, visit the Connemara marble artisan workshop, where you'll Dive Into Culture and witness first-hand how this famous green jade-like marble is carved. Picture yourself living in 1520 alongside the Dunguaire Castle when we later stop to explore the charming seaport village of Kinvara. Next up is a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience you'll remember for years to come as you watch the UNESCO-listed Cliffs of Moher plunge dramatically into the Atlantic waters below. Beyond the endless views and the opportunity to capture on film the colonies of curious-looking puffins that find sanctuary in its nooks and crannies, you'll have an opportunity to visit the Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience which really brings this natural phenomenon to life in an interactive way, leaving you with a deep understanding of this special place. Our home tonight is one of Trafalgar's Stays With Stories - Great Southern, a Victorian-styled hotel built over 160 years ago as Ireland's first purpose-built hotel. The hotel's Victorian architecture ends the day still dreaming of life many years ago.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Great Southern

Optional Experiences:

Irish Ceilidh Evening - The Irish Ceilidh epitomises how music and dance were enjoyed in rural Ireland, especially on festive occasions. The craic - welcoming, jolly, fun and informal - is accompanied with plenty of food and drink. There's no more enjoyable way to understand Irish culture.

Adult: 67.00 EUR

Day 6 | A Day on the Ring of Kerry



Enjoy a slow start to your morning, joining a Local Specialist for a leisurely guided walk at Torc Waterfall, strolling over wooded paths and lakeshore trails. We embark on an epic drive next, exploring the enduring beauty of the Ring of Kerry whose enchanting coastal landscapes have inspired writers and poets for centuries.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Great Southern

Optional Experiences:

Experience a Jaunting Cart Ride - Enjoy a traditional pony and trap ride through the beautiful Bourn-Vincent National Park. During your journey, your Local Specialist will share fascinating anecdotes about the area and Ireland.
Adult: 23.00 EUR

Celtic Steps - Enjoy a spectacular evening of Irish music, song and dance performed by champion dancers and musicians and showcasing the music of Kerry and beyond.
Adult: 37.00 EUR

Day 7 | Discover Cashel and Return to Dublin



Discover the legacy of St. Patrick when you visit the imposing Rock of Cashel, once the traditional seat of the kings of Munster. View its ecclesiastical ruins with a Local Specialist then traverse scenic landscapes to Kildare. Here you'll Dive Into Culture and learn about Ireland's thoroughbred industry at the Irish National Stud. You'll have a rare opportunity to see the foaling unit, museum and of course the magnificent stallions that continue to make racing history. Later today, return to the Irish capital where you'll inject a bit of the craic into your Farewell Dinner with new friends.

Meals: Breakfast, Farewell Dinner

Hotel: Clayton Ballsbridge

Day 8 | Journey Home



We say a fond farewell to our newfound friends and Dublin today. You will be transferred to the airport, where your journey through the 'Emerald Isle' comes to an end. Transfers are available. Find out more about your free airport transfer at trafalgar.com/freetransfers.

Meals: Breakfast