

# Your best trip starts *here.*

Best of Ireland





# Your itinerary



 Start Location

 Plane

 Cruise

 Over night

 Visited Location

 End Location

 Train

 Ferry



## Day 1 | Welcome to Ireland



Write your own lively tale of legends and iconic landscapes during this epic encounter with Ireland's treasures. We begin our journey in the whimsical capital of Dublin, joining a Local Specialist to see the sights. Irish history takes centre stage this evening as we visit St. Patrick's Cathedral, one of the few buildings of medieval Dublin still left standing, for a Welcome Reception with your fellow travellers and Travel Director. You'll get a taste for the centuries of history you're about to explore first-hand, learning how the very place you're standing in has played an integral role in Ireland's history for over eight centuries and how its most prominent office holder was none other than Jonathan Swift, the famous author.

**Meals:** Welcome Reception

**Hotel:** Hilton Garden Inn

## Day 2 | Through the Scenic County Wicklow to Waterford



Journey through the scenic countryside of County Wicklow, 'The Garden of Ireland', and on to New Ross – the ancestral home town of John F. Kennedy. Stop at a seal rescue centre for a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience. Dive Into Culture and gain insights into the plight of the starving Irish emigrants who boarded the Dunbrody Famine Ship to flee the potato famine. We continue to Waterford, where we'll stay overnight. This afternoon, we celebrate the centuries-old craft of flint glass creations, as we Dive Into Culture at the House of Waterford Crystal and witness talented master craftsmen at work.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Hotel:** Marina

### Optional Experiences:

You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

**Explore Waterford's History** - Join us in Waterford, where the history dates back as far as the Vikings. Your Local Specialist will bring the historic area to life through stories and anecdotes; one guest even described the trip as the "best history lesson ever".

*Adult: 19.00 EUR*

**Irish Folk Fun** - Join a magical entertainment experience, where you'll get the chance to see Irish hospitality in the best folk tradition. Enjoy a drink while locals sing and play music for you.

*Adult: 29.00 EUR*

## Day 3 | Journey to Blarney and on to Killarney



Today, we travel through County Cork and pursue the 'gift of the gab' at Blarney Castle, where you'll have a chance to kiss the famous stone. Arrive in Killarney for a two-night stay.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Hotel:** Killarney Towers/Hotel Killarney

### 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*

You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

**Gaelic Roots** - A tour de force of traditional Irish song, music and dance, Gaelic Roots showcases Ireland at its best. Using traditional instruments, Irish dance and time-honoured folk songs, this energetic show will have you tapping your feet and singing along in no time.  
*Adult: 34.00 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 4 | A Day on the Ring of Kerry



Ireland's soul-stirring Ring of Kerry takes centre stage today as we embark on a scenic drive past its mountains, lakes and lush green countryside – unquestionably one of the most scenic routes in Ireland. We'll see Daniel O'Connell's Cahirciveen, the fishing village of Waterville, Moll's Gap and the Black Valley, whose remoteness saw it become the last area in Ireland to receive electricity.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Killarney Towers/Hotel Killarney

### Optional Experiences:

You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

**Kerry Farm Experience** - Step back into the past, on a traditional Kerry Farm of the 1930's. We'll meet a local farmer who will show us around the farm yard and tell of times gone by. Enjoy mountain views of the Ring of Kerry as he demonstrates his skills at herding sheep with border collies.  
*Adult: 22.00 EUR*

**Visit Muckcross House and its Gardens** - Come with us to Muckcross House and its beautiful gardens. With a backdrop of oak-clad mountains, enjoy taking in the towering azaleas and rhododendrons, alongside the shores of the lake. The 19th-century house contains some wonderful examples of furniture and paintings, including a portrait of King James VI, for whom Shakespeare wrote Macbeth.

*Adult: 21.00 EUR*

You will be offered one of the following three optional experiences which may take place on different days.

**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*

**Medieval Castle Banquet** - Enjoy a banquet and medieval entertainment in the great hall of the castle. The court jester will make an appearance, as will the castle's musicians and the ladies and gentlemen of the medieval court - giving you an evening you won't forget.

*Adult: 77.00 EUR*

## Day 5 | Onwards to Lively Limerick



We continue through the windswept countryside, arriving in Adare, one of the prettiest villages in Ireland. On arrival in Limerick, we will enjoy views of St. Mary's Cathedral, the Treaty Stone and the 13<sup>th</sup>-century King John's Castle during an orientation tour. Delve into an Ireland of old, as you discover the day-to-day life of the Irish during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries on your included visit to Bunratty Castle and Folk Park this afternoon.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Greenhills/The Inn at Dromoland

## Day 6 | Admire the Cliffs of Moher and Onwards to Galway



The sheer Cliffs of Moher plunge dramatically into the Atlantic Ocean, providing endless ocean views and wonderful photographic opportunities during your experience at this UNESCO-listed highlight along the Wild Atlantic Way. You'll be enchanted by its irresistible landscapes, but more so the interactive visitor centre which will bring the whole experience to life from the perspective of the resident wildlife that find sanctuary here. Later, we arrive in Galway with some time at leisure to see its beautiful stone Cathedral or stroll through Eyre Square.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Hotel:** Connacht

### Optional Experiences:

You will be offered one of the following three optional experiences which may take place on different days.

**City of Tribes Walk and Dinner** - Join us in the centre of Galway for a stroll with our Local Specialist who will enthrall us with stories of this bustling medieval port, as we meander through the streets while taking in the main historical



sights. Later we'll enjoy a meal, with a choice of classic dishes and an included drink.

**Adult: 63.00 EUR**

**Galway Castle Banquet** - Join us on a drive to Galway Castle where you'll begin your evening of medieval entertainment. This will be accompanied by a delicious dinner where wine will flow, and you'll be treated to songs and the marvellous Irish art of story-telling. *Please Note: this Optional Experience may operate on an alternative day, depending on availability.*

**Adult: 72.00 EUR**

**Trad on the Prom** - The best in Irish dancing from the most-awarded performers in Ireland. Combined with some of Ireland's best musical talent, this show is truly "can't miss".

**Adult: 37.00 EUR**

## Day 7 | A Day Exploring Stunning Connemara



Connemara's 'savage beauty' is yours to explore today as we tread in the footsteps of Oscar Wilde who described its 'wild and mountainous splendour' as magnificent. Admire the views on the scenic drive to Kylemore Abbey, now a Benedictine monastery, where we will embark on an included visit to the country's most romantic castle and walk through its exquisite Victorian Walled Garden.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Hotel:** Connacht

## Day 8 | A Pilgrimage to Knock and on to Sligo



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 18<sup>th</sup>-century home. Heading north, we stop in the pilgrimage town of Knock to view the Marian Shrine where villagers witnessed an apparition of Our Lady in 1879. We arrive in Sligo this evening, our home for the night.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Be My Guest

**Hotel:** Clayton

### Optional Experiences:

**Scenic Drive And Dinner** - This evening you'll discover the beauty of the land, as we take a scenic drive off the beaten track. Later, enjoy dinner in a local restaurant with a choice of drink included.

**Adult: 52.00 EUR**

## Day 9 | Return to Lively Dublin



Our journey continues south to Dublin. Here we'll enjoy some free time to take a walk down Grafton Street or stroll along the Liffey. This evening, we close the chapter on an epic journey through Ireland, joining our fellow travellers for a memorable Farewell Dinner.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Farewell Dinner

**Hotel:** Clayton Dublin Airport

### Optional Experiences:

**Luxurious River Shannon Cruise** - The longest river in the British Isles, the River Shannon is immortalised in songs and legends. Come with us for a cruise on this majestic river, through the beautiful rolling countryside of counties Leitrim and Roscommon. You'll also enjoy refreshments on the luxurious Moon River Pleasure Cruiser.

*Adult: 33.00 EUR*

## Day 10 | Farewell Ireland



After a hearty Irish breakfast, we bid our Travel Director and fellow travellers a fond farewell as our Irish holiday comes to an end. Find out more about your free airport transfer at [trafalgar.com/freetransfers](https://trafalgar.com/freetransfers).

**Meals:** Breakfast