

IRELAND SPREE IV

\$2,989.00

pp based on double occupancy
includes air and taxes

Fri, Oct-04

DEPART THE UNITED STATES

Depart your hometown and take an overnight flight across the Atlantic. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service as you travel to start your vacation.

Sat, Oct-05

DUBLIN ARRIVAL

After landing at Dublin Airport, complete customs and immigration formalities. Your CIE Tours driver/guide will welcome you to Ireland and escort you and your luggage to the coach. Next, stop to enjoy breakfast with your group at a local restaurant or pub. Then, continue your journey through Ireland's countryside into Kilkenny and stop to visit the Smithwick's Experience to uncover the history of Smithwick's ale in Kilkenny, a city steeped in brewing tradition. While here, enjoy a taste of the fine Irish beer. After, motor a short distance to your hotel, check in and enjoy some free time before meeting your fellow travelers for dinner in the hotel restaurant.

After dinner, set off on a guided ghost tour of Kilkenny. Learn about many of the city's supposedly haunted sites: such Kilkenny Prison, Rothe House, Black Abbey and St. Mary's Cathedral.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: RIVER COURT HOTEL, KILKENNY

Sun, Oct-06

BLARNEY CASTLE & WOOLLEN MILLS

Leaving Kilkenny, drive into Ballykeefe and stop to visit Ballykeefe Distillery for a guided tour and tasting of the final product. Next, journey into Blarney, where you can climb the battlements of Blarney Castle and kiss the famous "Stone of Eloquence." Then visit the Blarney Woollen Mills, which has an excellent range of Irish products. You will also have time to browse around the village, charmingly set around a large village green. After, continue your travel into Cork, check into your hotel and settle into your room. In the evening, join your fellow travelers for dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: IMPERIAL HOTEL, CORK

Mon, Oct-07

DROMBEG STONE CIRCLE

After breakfast, travel out along the Atlantic Coast and stop to visit Drombeg Stone Circle, enjoying scenic views en route. Drombeg is probably Ireland's most famous stone circle. During the winter solstice it has been reported that the sun's rays fall on the flat alter stone that faces the entrance to the circle. Next, head back to Cork and stop to visit the English Market, which first opened in 1788. The market allows consumers to explore and sample a variety of produce from all corners of the globe. After, transfer to your hotel in Bunratty, check in and spend some time at leisure before dining with your group in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: BUNRATTY CASTLE HOTEL, BUNRATTY

Tue, Oct-08

LONGUEVILLE HOUSE

This morning, journey through Ireland's rolling hills into Mallow and stop to visit Longueville House for a Cider tour and tasting. While here, also enjoy a lite lunch with your group. After, continue on to visit Quin Abbey, which was founded by the MacNamaras around in the 14th century but later fell into disrepair. Return to your hotel in Bunratty, where the balance of the day free to sightsee, shop and dine on your own.

OVERNIGHT: BUNRATTY CASTLE HOTEL, BUNRATTY

Wed, Oct-09

BURREN SIGHTSEEING

Departing Bunratty, drive through the Burren, an area of rocky limestone hills where a number of unique flowers thrive. This region also contains many dolmens, prehistoric monuments formed by large limestone slabs. Continue on to visit Caherconnell Farm, where you will have the opportunity to experience farm life and see sheepdogs working in their natural environment. After your visit, transfer to your hotel in Westport, check in and settle into your room. You may like to rest or explore some of the city before meeting your fellow travelers for dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: WESTPORT PLAZA HOTEL, WESTPORT

Thu, Oct-10

ACHILL ISLAND & DESERTED VILLAGE

Today, travel along Curraun Peninsula to reach Achill Island, joined to the mainland by a bridge. Follow the Atlantic Drive to capture wonderful and wild scenic views of steeply sloped mountains plunging into the shimmering Atlantic Ocean. Also, stop to view the Deserted village, which provides a haunting reminder of times past on Achill Island. Return to your hotel in Westport for a free evening.

OVERNIGHT: WESTPORT PLAZA HOTEL, WESTPORT

Fri, Oct-11

BATTLE OF THE BOYNE CENTRE

After breakfast, travel to visit the Battle of the Boyne Centre, the site of a famous historic battle in the 17th century. While here, learn about the largest ever battle on Irish soil. At stake were the British throne, French dominance in Europe and religious power in Ireland. After, Continue your journey into Dunboyne, check into your hotel and settle into your room. Tonight, join your fellow travelers for a farewell dinner in Dunboyne Castle's fine restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: DUNBOYNE CASTLE HOTEL, DUNBOYNE

Sat, Oct-12

RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES

All too soon, your vacation has come to its final day. Transfer to Dublin Airport in good time to check in for your flight. You may do some last minute shopping at the duty free stores before boarding your aircraft and flying across the Atlantic Ocean back to the United States.