

Sun, Sep 13: UNITED STATES TO DUBLIN

Enjoy an overnight flight across the Atlantic to Dublin.

Mon, Sep 14: DUBLIN ARRIVAL, GIANTS CAUSEWAY & DERRY

Meet your driver/guide who will welcome you to Ireland. Stop at a local restaurant, for a traditional Irish breakfast. Journey along Ireland's rolling hills and visit the Giant's Causeway, an impressive area of hexagonal columns formed over 60 million years ago by cooling lava which has given rise to many legends. Travel into the city of Derry and check into your hotel. This evening join your group for a walking tour along the city walls learning about its rich history. Cross the Peace Bridge and enjoy dinner at the Walled City Brewery. Sample some local brew as you dine with your fellow travellers.

Hotel: City Hotel, Derry

Tue, Sep 15: GRIANAN OF AILEACH, BELLEEK CHINA

Today, visit, the Grianan of Aileach, one of Ireland's greatest circular ring forts. Archaeologists say that majority of the fort dates to around 500 BC. Continue your journey and stop to visit the Belleek Pottery Factory to see how skilled craftspeople form and decorate clay to produce delicate porcelain masterpieces. Visit Drumcliffe Churchyard and view W.B. Yeats' grave. Continue your journey to your hotel, check in and relax or freshen up before dinner at the hotel restaurant with your fellow travellers.

Hotel with Dinner: Glasshouse Hotel, Sligo

Wed, Sep 16: SLIGO ABBEY

This morning visit Sligo Abbey, a Dominican Friary that was founded in the mid-13th century by Maurice FitzGerald. After your visit travel to the legendary Innisfree. Take in the beautiful scenery as you embark on the Rose of Innisfree Cruise. Return to Sligo and enjoy some free time before joining your group for dinner at your hotel. Explore the dark history of the gothic novel Dracula on the Bram Stoker Dark Tales Walking Tour.

Hotel with Dinner: Glasshouse Hotel, Sligo

Thu, Sep 17 TOBERNALT HOLY WELL & GALWAY WALKING TOUR

Depart Sligo and travel South to the historic Tobernault Holy Well. Continue South through the counties of Mayo and Roscommon to the university city of Galway. Visit Galway Cathedral before departing on a walking tour of this fascinating city. See where Christopher Columbus prayed before setting sail for the New World. Check into your hotel, meet your fellow travellers for an authentic Irish dinner at the castle's fine restaurant.

Hotel with Dinner: Meyrick Hotel, Galway

Fri, Sep 18: AUGHNANURE CASTLE

Today, visit Glengowla Mines and enjoy a sheepdog demonstration. Continue your journey just outside of Oughterard to visit Aughnanure Castle. This castle was built in the early 16th century and a stronghold in controlling the territory of West Connaught. Return to your hotel and enjoy some free time.

Tonight, head to Dunguaire Castle, a beautifully restored 15th century castle. Enjoy dinner in this historic castle followed by wonderful evening of entertainment focuses on Ireland's literary heritage.

Hotel: Meyrick Hotel, Galway

Sat, Sep 19: DAN O'HARA'S HOMESTEAD

This morning tour Dan O'Hara's Homestead which is built on the site of Dan's original home. This preserved farm portrays life of the average family during the 19th and early 20th centuries. Stop in the fishing village of Roundstone to meet a Malachy, a Bodran (Celtic drum) maker. Learn the story behind the bodran and see how they are made. Return to Galway where the remainder of the day is free for individual pursuits and dining options.

Hotel with Dinner: Meyrick Hotel, Galway

Sun, Sep 20: KILBEGGAN DISTILLERY

Today, board your luxury motorcoach and drive through Ireland's rolling hills, continuing your journey towards Kilbeggan to visit the Kilbeggan Distillery, which was established in 1757 and is one of the oldest licensed distilleries in the world. Enjoy a tour and tasting of the finished product. Drive into Kinnitty, check into your hotel and settle into your room before meeting your fellow travellers for an authentic Irish dinner at the hotel restaurant.

Hotel with Dinner: Kinnitty Castle Hotel, Kinnitty

Mon, Sep 21 DUBLIN GUIDED TOUR

This morning, drive through Ireland's rugged countryside, passing through many market towns and into the metropolitan area of Dublin. Stop for a visit to Glasnevin Cemetery, Ireland's national necropolis. Learn about some of Ireland most renowned citizens that are buried here, along with some interesting tales of those that have passed. Continue to the General Post Office (GPO) and learn about Ireland's final push for independence and the men and women who stood their ground on this spot. Drive a short distance to your hotel, check in and relax or freshen up before this evening's festivities.

Tonight, head to Brazen Head, which is Dublin's oldest pub, dating back to 1198. Enjoy an evening of Food, Folk and Fairies, where storytelling will reveal Ireland's myths and beliefs in times past.

Hotel: Trinity City Hotel, Dublin

Tue, Sep 22 NEWGRANGE

Today drive into County Meath to visit the Boyne Valley Visitor Centre. Learn about the nearby passage tombs of Newgrange and Knowth constructed over 5,000 years ago. Next, visit the actual tomb of Newgrange, which is aligned to the mid-winter sunrise so that the beam of the rising sun falls directly into the chamber. Continue to the historic village of Trim in the shadow of the imposing Trim Castle. Enjoy some time at leisure to possibly have lunch, sip a pint or explore the town. Return to your hotel and relax, shop, sightsee and dine independently.

Hotel: Trinity City Hotel, Dublin

Wed, Sep 23: RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES

Your vacation in Ireland has come to the end. Transfer to Dublin Airport in plenty of time to check in for your flight. You may do some last-minute shopping at the duty-free stores before boarding your flight.

Inclusions:

11 Days / 9 Nights

9 Full Irish Breakfasts

5 Hotel Dinners

3 Specialty Dinners

Luxury Tour Coaching and Guiding Throughout

Tours and Admissions

Airfare from Dulles