



Circumnavigate the Emerald Isle from Dublin, witnessing the natural wonders, down the rugged west seacoast through Galway, to the Southwest's Ring of Kerry, and on to Cork, where countless immigrants boarded ships bound for America. Enjoy the beauty of the rich green patchwork quilt of the Irish countryside.

Experience the country of Dylan Thomas, Saint Patrick, the Blarney Stone, the Book of Kells, beautiful woolens, the Clancy Brothers and so much more. Immerse yourself in this 16-day journey into the culture and history of the Ireland you have always wanted to experience.

For more information and registration, visit us at
www.uaf.edu/summer/travel
or call (907)474-7021

Important notes:

Travelers will be required to have their COVID-19 vaccinations. Guidelines regarding facial coverings and distancing will be followed in accordance with local governments.

Travel insurance is always recommended for any travel out of the United States. There are several ways to purchase coverage. Some credit card companies insure trips that are purchased with their card. Another option is to check with a local travel agency.

Note about Mobility: Our tours are designed for people who are able to walk comfortably for up to 3 miles per day, sometimes on uneven terrain, as well as handle stairs easily. If you have any concerns about this tour, please contact Summer Sessions.

Tour Dates:

Oct. 16 – Nov. 1
2021

Tour Cost:

\$4895.00

Single supplement
\$795.00

Inclusions

- 24/7 Tour Director/Guide
- Accommodations
- Ground transportation
- Entry fees
- Educational Programs
- Three meals per day
- Transfer to and from the airport
- Gratuities

Transportation costs to and from Ireland are NOT included in this tour price. All travelers must arrange their own transportation to and from the starting and ending cities.

The Enchantment of Ireland: Town and Country

Day 1: Dublin

Morning: Arrive at Dublin Airport and transfer to your hotel.

Evening: Welcome orientation meeting & dinner at the hotel.

Day 2: Dublin

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel.

Lecture: 'An Introduction to Irish History'.

Guided field trip of Dublin city, including a visit to St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Lunch in Dublin City centre

Afternoon: Guided walking tour of the historic Trinity College. Trinity College builds on its four hundred-year-old tradition of scholarship to confirm its position as one of the great universities of the world.

Afterwards visit the Book of Kells, a magnificently illustrated 9th century manuscript.

Dinner at the hotel.

Day 3: Belfast

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel.

Depart for full day field trip to Belfast.

Illustrated lecture on the evocative murals of Belfast and the political transformation of Northern Ireland.

Speaker: Prof Bill Rolston, University of Ulster.

Afternoon: Lunch at hotel.

Take Belfast's Black Taxi Cabs to see the colourful and evocative murals of East and West Belfast. It has been said that a city can be defined by its taxi drivers and nowhere is this more true than in Belfast.

Free time in Belfast.

Dinner en route back to Dublin.

Day 4: Dublin

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel.

Explore 300 years of Dublin history when visiting No. 14 Henrietta Street, from Georgian townhouse to a tenement dwelling. Lunch Allowance to explore local fare.

Afternoon: Lunch in Dublin city centre followed by free time in the city to explore the city independently.

Dinner at hotel.



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Day 5: Dublin - Westport

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel.

Depart for Westport, county Mayo. One of the few planned towns in Ireland, Westport was designed in the 18th Century by James Wyatt, and today is one of the prettiest towns in Ireland. Located in the south-east corner of Clew Bay, an inlet of the Atlantic Ocean, the town has many picturesque features, most notably its tree-lined, flower-decorated boulevard known as The Mall, with several stone bridges over the Carrowbeg River. The famous Croagh Patrick, one of Europe's best-known places of pilgrimage, presents a striking backdrop to the town.

On route make a visit to the National Famine museum at Strokestown, co. Roscommon which tells the story of this tragic period of Irish history.

Afternoon: Lunch en route.

Continue to Westport. Dinner at the hotel in the evening.

Day 6: Connemara

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel.

Depart for a full-day field trip to the region of Connemara in County Galway. A broad peninsula between Killary Harbour and Kilkieran Bay in the west of Galway, Connemara has long been regarded as the real emerald of Ireland. Enjoy a self-guided visit of Kylemore Abbey.

Afternoon: Lunch in the cafe at Kylemore Abbey.

Excursion around Connemara continues. Visit the award-winning Cnoc Suain Heritage Centre for an insight into rural folklore, tradition and way of life in the West of Ireland.

Return to Westport, dinner at the hotel.

Day 7: Westport - Galway

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel.

Depart Westport for transfer to Galway. Full-day field trip to the island of Inis Mor today, beginning with a coach journey to Ros a Mhil, where you will depart the mainland by ferry.

Arrive to Inis Mor, the largest of the Aran Islands, and take this day to explore this unique place. A remnant of authentic Gaelic civilization where Christian ruins stand side-by-side with remarkable pagan relics and the Irish language and traditions live on in daily life.

Walk the short distance to the pretty village of Kilronan. From here, explore the island by mini-van with local guide, including the prehistoric hill fort of Dun Aonghasa.

Afternoon: Lunch is your choice to explore the local island fare - a lunch allowance is provided.

Gather at the pier for the return ferry to Ros a Mhil and continue by coach to Galway city.

Dinner at the hotel on arrival.



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Day 8: Westport - Galway

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel

Lecture in the hotel by local expert on the Celts and the west of Ireland.

Depart hotel on foot for an expertly-guided walking orientation of Galway city in the company of a local historian.

Afternoon: Free time to explore the city independently. Lunch and dinner allowance will be provided.

Day 9: Galway - Killarney

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel.

Depart Galway and transfer to Killarney, County Kerry.

On route, visit the Burren, where you will meet with a local expert. Continue to the heart of the Burren where you will visit one of the most important megalithic monuments in Ireland, the Poulnabrone Dolmen.

Afternoon: Lunch in Vaughan's Pub, Kilfenora.

Depart Kilfenora and continue to the Cliffs of Moher. Rising like a cathedral into the sky some 700 feet over the Atlantic Ocean, the views from the cliffs stretch as far as Galway Bay and the Aran Islands. The cliffs are also home to one of the major colonies of cliff-nesting seabirds in Ireland.

Transfer continues to Killarney. Dinner at the hotel on arrival.

Day 10: Dingle Peninsula

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel.

Depart for full day field trip around the Dingle peninsula, featuring some of the most magnificent coastal scenery in Ireland.

Lunch in Dingle.

Accompanied by a local expert, discover the unique landscape and ancient archaeological remains of the Dingle peninsula, including a visit to the ancient and iconic Gallarus Oratory.

Afternoon: Return to Killarney.

Dinner at hotel.

Day 11: Killarney – Waterville

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel.

Guided visit of Muckross House, a magnificent Victorian mansion. Muckross House is spectacularly situated close to the eastern shore of Muckross Lake and is set beneath the impressive backdrop of Torc and Mangerton Mountains.

Depart for the village of Waterville on the Iveragh Peninsula, (Ring of Kerry). En route, enjoy the magnificent scenery and pretty village of the Ring of Kerry.

Afternoon: Lunch at the Smugglers Inn, a local family run restaurant set on the sea front.

Beach walk: In the company of a local marine biologist, learn about the marine life of this region of Ireland's Atlantic coastline, and the customs and traditions of the local area.

Free time to soak up the village atmosphere.

Dinner at the hotel. Enjoy a session of traditional Irish music and song.

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Day 12: Waterville - Cork

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel.

Depart Waterville and continue around the 'Ring of Kerry'. Free time in the pretty market town of Kenmare.

Continue to Cork via Blarney.

Afternoon: Lunch at Blarney Woollen Mills.

Visit Blarney Castle & Demesne

Continue to Cork city, Ireland's second-largest city. Cork was founded in the 7th Century by St. Fin Barre, and today is a bustling, lively city with a wealth of cultural life and festival atmosphere.

Check in to the hotel on arrival. Dinner is at the hotel.



Day 13: Cork - Cobh

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel.

Free morning to explore Cork independently. A lunch allowance is provided.

Afternoon: Depart Cork for the nearby harbour town of Cobh.

Lecture: "Irish Exodus to the New World; Desperation & Emigration".

Followed by an expertly guided 'Titanic Trail' walk: Retrace the steps of 2.5 million adults and children who emigrated from Ireland on coffin ships, early steamers and finally on the great liners.

Enjoy a home hosted dinner at local families' homes in Cobh.



Day 14: Cork – Kilkenny - Dublin

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel.

Depart Cork for transfer to Dublin via Kilkenny.

Visit Kilkenny Castle, a 12th Century castle remodeled in Victorian times and set in extensive parklands. Kilkenny Castle was the principal seat of the Butler family, Marquesses and Dukes of Ormond. Due to major restoration works, the central block now includes a library, drawing room and bedrooms decorated in 1830s splendour, as well as the beautiful Long Gallery.

Afternoon: Lunch at Kilkenny Design Centre.

Transfer continues to Dublin. Arrive to the hotel, check in and dinner at the hotel.



The Enchantment of Ireland: Town and Country

Day 15: Dublin

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel.

Lecture: 'Brexit: The Impact on the Republic of Ireland's politics and economy'.

Visit the GPO. which was the rebels' headquarters for most of the Easter Rising Rebellion.

Afternoon: Free afternoon to explore Dublin independently. A lunch and dinner allowance will be provided.

Day 16: Bru na Boinne

Morning: Breakfast at hotel.

Depart by coach for Bru na Boinne, County Meath.

Guided visit of Bru na Boinne, a group of Neolithic-age burial chambers. The survival of these chambers through more than 5,500 years reflects the sophistication of their design and ingenuity of the Stone Age man who constructed them.

Visit one of the burial chambers of Newgrange or Knowth.

Afternoon: Lunch at local restaurant.

Return to Dublin by coach and explore Dublin independently for the remainder of the afternoon.

Farewell dinner in a Dublin city centre restaurant.

Day 17: Dublin

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel.

Depart hotel for Dublin. Homeward Bound!

