

# DISCOVER THE EMERALD ISLE



## Day 0 - September 18, 2023

Travel day from the United States



## Day 1 - September 19, 2023

**Dublin** - Welcome to Dublin! On your arrival at Dublin Airport, once you have collected your luggage, make your way to the Arrivals Hall where your Driver-Guide will be waiting for you with a sign: **All About Destinations Party**. Once all introductions have been made and your luggage loaded on your luxury air-conditioned touring vehicle, your journey begins!

Welcome your local guide on board as they join you on a journey through Ireland's capital; **Dublin City**. **Dublin** is Ireland's economic and political hub and took center stage in Ireland's "1916 Rising" against British rule and subsequent independence. The city's history can be explained in detail, each step of the way, by your guide. Each question asked will lead you further and further into the depths of this ancient city. Experience the famous Dublin wit first-hand, along with the city's slang and somewhat impenetrable accents. Experience all that Ireland's "Fair City" has to offer as your guide introduces you to its world-renowned landmarks and lesser-known hidden gems.

Enjoy a visit to **EPIC: The Irish Emigration Museum**. Voted, recently, as "Europe's Leading Tourist Attraction", this museum tour tells the story behind the millions of people who fled, or were forced from, Ireland over the past three centuries. Located in Dublin's Docklands, you will also visit the **Guinness Storehouse** with an address at the world-famous St. James's Gate. Here you will tour the world-renowned brewery and enjoy a perfect complimentary pint of Guinness in the Gravity Bar — located at the top of a glass tower that commands spectacular views of Dublin City. The evening is free in Dublin. You might like to pay a visit to **Davy Byrnes Pub** or the world-famous **Temple Bar**.

Tonight, you will stay at the **Gresham Riu Plaza Hotel**, located in a grand Georgian building on Dublin City's main street; O'Connell Street. This is a luxury hotel in a dream location. BREAKFAST

## Day 2 - September 20, 2023

**Glendalough**. Journeying south to the Wicklow Mountains, such was the level of rebel activity in these hills just outside the capital city of Dublin, the British Government built a military road to cross the mountains to enable troops to be deployed quickly into the area. Today, the principal activity is mountain sheep farming and recreation with over 54,000 acres of woods, bogs and upland heath forming Wicklow National Park. Glendalough is nestled deep in the spectacular Wicklow Mountains. The steep wooded slopes of Glendalough, the "valley of the two lakes", is one of Ireland's most atmospheric monastic settlements. Sacked time and again by the Vikings, it nevertheless flourished for over 600 years.

You will return to **Dublin City** in the afternoon. The afternoon is free to explore/shop in Dublin and we would also suggest you take a stroll up **Grafton Street**. LUNCH, DINNER (OYO). NIGHT IN DUBLIN

### Day 3 - September 21, 2023

**Explore Galway, the Cliffs of Moher and County Clare** - Following another wonderful Irish breakfast\* and hotel checkout, we depart for Limerick via Galway City across the center of Ireland through the counties of Kildare, Meath, Offaly, and Westmeath.

Enjoy some free time in **Galway City**, known as the "City of the Tribes". Galway, located on the famous **Wild Atlantic Way**, is a vibrant bustling harbor town with medieval origins and with a long tradition of the Irish language, music, song, and dance. Here, you can take a ramble to **Salthill Promenade**, a Wild Atlantic Way discovery point, or down **Quay Street** with its many great pubs including "The Quays" and "Ti Neachtain" — a townhouse which belonged to "Humanity Dick", an 18th-century MP who promoted laws against cruelty to animals.

As you leave Galway, you will now begin one of the great coastal scenic routes of the world down the Atlantic west coast of **County Clare**. Traveling down the Atlantic seaboard, your journey will take you via Galway Bay, **Dunguaire Castle at Kinvarra**, and **Ballyvaughan**. See **The Burren**, which is Gaelic for rocky land—an apt name for this vast limestone plateau. In the 1640s, Oliver Cromwell's surveyor described it as "a savage land, yielding neither water enough to drown a man, nor tree to hang him, nor soil enough to bury".

You will visit **Cliffs of Moher**, braced against the ocean, on the coast of County Clare. Here you will stand on the dramatic 702ft (214m) high and 9 miles (14km) long cliffs, a Wild Atlantic Way signature discovery point, to gaze out on the vastness of the Atlantic Ocean.

Tonight, you will stay at **Limerick Strand Hotel**. Located in the heart of the vibrant and welcoming Limerick City, the Limerick Strand Hotel is an award-winning hotel that offers stunning views of the majestic **River Shannon** in a prime location. LUNCH, DINNER (OYO). NIGHT IN LIMERICK

### Day 4 - September 22, 2023

**Killarney Town and County Kerry** - This morning, after an early breakfast\*, you will set off for the world-famous **Ring Of Kerry**. Officially known as the Iveragh Peninsula, it is a captivating journey of spectacular mountain and coastal scenery dotted with colourful small towns and villages. You will travel via the thatched village of **Adare**, considered by many as Ireland's prettiest village and home to the 2027 Ryder Cup. Crossing the Limerick/Kerry border, you are now in the "Kingdom of Kerry" and you will travel on to **Killarney**.

You will continue on via the Killorglin, Glenbeigh, Cahersiveen, Waterville and Coomakesta Pass with its magnificent views over Derrynane, home of Daniel O'Connell, known as "The Liberator", to Caherdaniel. Mid-day, you will visit the **Blind Piper Pub**. Here, you will have a traditional Irish

Pub Lunch\*. Located in the village of **Caherdaniel**, locals and visitors alike have been drinking here since 1865. Who is the Blind Piper, you may ask? The Blind Piper is Mici Cumba O'Sullivan, who was born nearby in 1835 and became one of Ireland's most famous pipers.

Your day's journey continues via the hamlet of Castlecove, the colorful village of Sneem, and on via Moll's Gap, Ladies View, Killarney National Park, and along the Lakes of Killarney to Killarney Town. There will be free time in **Killarney Town** before returning to Limerick. DINNER (OYO). NIGHT IN LIMERICK

### **Day 5 - September 23, 2023**

**County Cork and the Blarney Stone** - After a hearty Irish breakfast\*, this morning you will depart for **Cork City**. Founded on the banks of the River Lee. The rebel city is home of Murphy's Original Irish Stout and considered by many Corkonians to be the real capital of Ireland!

You will continue via the village of **Blarney**, visiting **Blarney Castle**. Built on this site in 1446 by Dermot McCarthy, you will have the chance to kiss the legendary Blarney Stone. There will also have an opportunity to shop at **Blarney Woollen Mills**, boasting a huge selection of Irish arts, crafts & produce.

In **Midleton Town**, you will visit **Jameson Distillery Midleton**. You will experience a fully guided Jameson Experience Tour. Here you will find the world's largest pot still, with a capacity of over 30,000 gallons.

### **Day 6 - September 24, 2023**

**Slan Eire! - Depart Ireland from Shannon Airport - Aerfort na Sionainne.** Irish Breakfast\* at hotel. Today marks the end of your Ireland 6-Day Tour.

Meet your driver-guide at the agreed time in the lobby of your hotel and make the short journey to Shannon Airport - Aerfort na Sionainne. Depart on your return flight home with wonderful vacation memories!

**\*Please note that this tour ends with departure from the Shannon airport and not Dublin. When making your flight arrangements, please book one-way to Dublin and one-way from Shannon.**

\* = Meal included

(OYO) = Meal on your own