

# THE TRAVEL CLUB

## Ireland: The Wild Atlantic Way

With Optional 4-Night County Kerry & Limerick post-tour extension

10 DAYS: Saturday, July 11-Monday, July 20, 2020

Per person double occupancy \$3,709 Single reservations \$4,059

Includes round-trip airfare, fuel surcharge and all air taxes and fees. Fuel surcharge, air taxes and fees subject to change. Passport required. Per person deposit is \$450.

Rugged natural beauty awaits along Ireland's western shores. The western coast of Ireland is home to some of the Emerald Isle's most astounding scenery. After exploring historic Belfast, set out to discover the highlights of the Wild Atlantic Way, from Donegal to the Cliffs of Moher. Between the breathtaking views of stunning seascapes and green landscapes, you'll step off the beaten path to get a feel for Ireland's quieter side in its small towns and villages.

### Your tour package includes

- 8 nights in handpicked hotels, 8 breakfasts, 4 dinners with beer or wine, Guided sightseeing tours
- Expert Tour Director & local guides, Private deluxe motor coach

### Included highlights

- Titanic Belfast Museum, Glenveagh National Park, Slieve League cliffs, Drumcliffe Cemetery
- Achill Island, Kylemore Abbey, Cliffs of Moher



Overnight Flight 1 night

Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Belfast today.

**County Antrim 2 nights****Day 2: Arrival in Belfast****Included meal: Welcome dinner**

Welcome to the Emerald Isle! Settle in, then gather with your Tour Director and fellow travelers at tonight's welcome dinner.

**Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Belfast****Included meal: Breakfast**

Start your day with a guided tour of Northern Ireland's capital.

- Glimpse the copper-domed City Hall
- View the Grand Opera House and Parliament Buildings
- Pass the shipbuilding docks where the Titanic was constructed and learn about the ship's ill-fated journey at the Titanic Belfast Museum

Enjoy a free evening in County Antrim or add an excursion.

**Giant's Causeway Optional Excursion at additional cost**

Pay a visit to the rugged Giant's Causeway, a series of naturally formed basalt columns. The hexagonal columns, which you can walk on, are 60 million years old and originated as volcanic lava. A colorful local legend says that mythical giant Finn McCool built the walkway so that he could cross the sea to Scotland. Please note: Raingear is recommended for this excursion.

**County Donegal 2 nights****Day 4: Donegal via Derry & Glenveagh National Park****Included meals: Breakfast, Dinner**

Depart Northern Ireland and cross into the Republic of Ireland, where you'll travel through the dramatic scenery along a portion of the Wild Atlantic Way.

- Stop in Derry, where you'll learn about the city's history on a tour with a local guide
- Visit Glenveagh National Park, where you'll enter Glenveagh Castle and admire the park's waterfalls, lakes, and mountains
- Continue through the beautiful Irish countryside to Donegal

This evening, sit down to an included dinner with your group.

**Day 5: Slieve League****Included meal: Breakfast**

Head west to see the highest cliffs in Europe today.

- Pay a visit to the Slieve League Cultural Centre
- Continue on to the Slieve League cliffs for incredible panoramic views from nearly 2,000 feet above sea level
- Visit the village of Glencolmcille and stop to enjoy free time in the picturesque village of Ardara on your way back to Donegal
- In Donegal, enter a local weaving shop to see a demonstration and learn about the famous Donegal tweed

## **County Mayo 2 nights**

### **Day 6: County Mayo via Drumcliffe & Sligo      Included meals: Breakfast, Dinner**

Journey south along the Wild Atlantic Way and through the landscapes immortalized by the poetry of William Butler Yeats.

- Stop at Mullaghmore Head to snap photos of Classiebawn Castle, an estate built during the 19th century
- Pay your respects at Yeats' grave in the Drumcliffe churchyard and learn about this cemetery's unique history from a chaplain
- Enjoy free time for lunch in the town of Sligo
- Step back in time during a visit to the Carrowmore Megalithic Cemetery
- Arrive in the village of Westport in County Mayo

Sit down to an included dinner with your group this evening.

### **Day 7: Achill Island**

**Included meal: Breakfast**

Make your way to Achill Island, an idyllic destination along the Wild Atlantic Way.

- Pass by many blanket bogs en route to the charming village of Dooagh
- Walk through the landscapes surrounding Keem Bay and visit Keem Beach
- Cross the Michael Davitt Bridge on your way back to Westport

Enjoy a free afternoon in County Mayo or add an excursion.



### **Glen Keen Farm & Dinner Optional Excursion at additional cost**

Glen Keen Farm is one of the largest sheep farms in Ireland and while here, you'll learn about sheep farming while soaking in the natural beauty that defines the area. First, watch an interactive sheep herding demonstration followed by a guided walk to a nearby ring fort. These fortified settlements can be found all throughout Ireland and most were built during the Bronze Age. Then, head back to the farm for a traditional dinner of Glen Keen Farm Lamb Stew, dessert, coffee, and tea. Please note: Vegetarian options are available for the included dinner. Must book 20 days before departure

## **County Clare 2 nights**

### **Day 8: County Clare via Connemara National Park & Galway      Included meal: Breakfast**

Venture down the coast to County Clare, making several scenic stops en route.

- Visit the charming village of Leenane
- Spot Ireland's only fjord in Killary Harbor, then soak in views of the Maumturk mountain range en route to Connemara National Park
- Enter Kylemore Abbey and take time to explore its Victorian walled garden
- Drive through the picture-perfect landscapes of Connemara, stopping at the Inagh Valley and Maam Cross
- Arrive in Galway, where you'll follow your Tour Director on a guided walking tour
- Continue on to your hotel in County Clare

## Day 9: The Cliffs of Moher

**Included meals: Breakfast, Farewell dinner**

Walk along the mesmerizing coastline of the Cliffs of Moher, which rise 700 feet above the Atlantic Ocean. Then, pass through the Burren, a unique limestone plateau where fields of rock are dotted with wildflowers.

Spend the afternoon exploring County Clare on your own or add an excursion.

This evening, celebrate your trip with your group at a farewell dinner.



### **Bunratty Castle & Folk Park**

### **Optional Excursion at additional cost**

Make your way to the medieval Bunratty Castle in County Clare today. You'll enjoy a self-guided tour of the castle, which is full of art, tapestries, and furnishings that date back to the 15th century. Afterward, take a stroll through the nearby Bunratty Folk Park to experience what traditional village life was like a century ago. Explore streets lined with buildings, shops, and homes that have been recreated to represent what was typical in 19th century Ireland.

## **Flight Home**

### **Day 10: Departure**

**Included meal: Breakfast (excluding early morning departures)**

Transfer to the Shannon airport for your flight home or continue on to County Kerry.

### **Extension to County Kerry & County Limerick**

**\$699 pp/do**

Continue your journey through Ireland to discover even more of the stunning scenery and local traditions that make the country shine. Find every shade of green along the coast of County Kerry, then delve into history in neighboring County Limerick.

## **County Kerry 3 nights**

### **Day 10: Killarney National Park**

**Included meal: Breakfast**

Make your way from County Clare to County Kerry today, then spend the afternoon exploring Killarney National Park. Take a walk through the park, stopping for a photo at Ross Castle. Then, step inside Muckross House and stroll through its beautifully manicured gardens.

### **Day 11: Free day in County Kerry**

**Included meal: Breakfast**

Enjoy a free day in County Kerry or add an excursion.



### **The Ring of Kerry**

### **Optional Excursion at additional cost**

Set out to see some of Ireland's most spectacular scenery on the Ring of Kerry, a 112-mile coastal route. You'll begin your drive on the north side of the Iveragh Peninsula, looking out to Dingle Bay. Pass rugged landscapes dotted with sheep and take in sweeping coastal views. Keep an eye out for the rocky Skellig Islands and picturesque rural villages as you continue on, stopping for plenty of photos along the way. Then, finish your

journey in Killarney National Park, where you'll view two of the beautiful Lakes of Killarney, Muckross Lake, and Lough Leane.

**Day 12: Free day in County Kerry**

**Included meal: Breakfast**

Spend another free day exploring County Kerry on your own or add an excursion.



**Dingle Peninsula**                      **Optional Excursion at additional cost**

Spend the day getting to know the dramatically rugged terrain of the Dingle Peninsula. Start at Gallarus Oratory, a mysterious stone structure thought to have been an early Christian church. Drive south along Sleah Head Ring to circle the peninsula's rocky coastline. Stop at Coumeenole Beach, Sleah Head (arguably the westernmost tip of Europe), and Dunbeg Fort to take in spectacular views. Enjoy free time in the town of Dingle to grab lunch.

**County Limerick**    **1 night**

**Day 13: Transfer to County Limerick**

**Included meal: Breakfast**

Travel from County Kerry to County Limerick for a series of guided visits today.

- Tour of the 13th-century King John's Castle, located on King's Island in Limerick's city center
- Head to the Foynes Flying Boat & Maritime Museum, where you'll learn about the history of aviation and passenger travel in the region
- Get a taste of Irish coffee, a traditional local treat

This evening, enjoy a farewell drink as you celebrate your trip with your fellow group members.

**Flight Home**

**Day 14: Departure**

**Included meal: Breakfast (excluding early morning departures)**

Transfer to the Shannon airport for your flight home.