

# Ireland Awaits

Ladies' Only Trip 



Accommodations: Castles & Manor Houses



11 Day Tour  
From \$2595  
Land only  
Taxes included

May 14 - 25th, 2012

## Price Includes:

Admissions to: Trim Castle, Bru Na Boinne Visitor Centre, Florence Court House, National Museum of Country Life, Cliffs of Moher Atlantic Edge Exhibition, Old Midleton Distillery, Waterford Crystal Centre, Glendalough Visitor Centre, Dublin Castle • Transportation throughout by modern touring coach • Services of an experienced tour guide • 10 nights accommodation in first class hotels • All rooms ensuite • 10 full Irish Breakfasts (B) • 8 table d'hôte evening meals in hotels (D) • Welcome drink on arrival • Light lunch at Ballyknocken House • Baggage handling charges at all hotels • Service charges and local taxes.

**Not Included: Airfare from Canada**



For more details, please contact:

Jeannette Novak 780-424-8310 ext. 7839 or  
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Email: JNovak@Geo.ca, Groups@Geo.ca

**UNIGLOBE**  
Geo Travel



**View the Cliffs of Moher and cross the Shannon Estuary to the Kingdom of Kerry; kiss the Blarney stone, drink whiskey; see how the world famous Waterford Crystal is made and view the 6th century monastic complex in the Wicklow Mountains. City and Country, North and South, 40 Shades of Green.**

**INCLUDED:**

Admissions to: Trim Castle, Bru Na Boinne Visitor Centre, Florence Court House, National Museum of Country Life, Cliffs of Moher Atlantic Edge Exhibition, Old Midleton Distillery, Waterford Crystal Centre, Glendalough Visitor Centre, Dublin Castle.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

Royal Meath • Trim • Boyne Valley • Kells • River Shannon • Sligo • Donegal Bay • Fermanagh • Westport • Connemara • Galway City • Burren of Clare Cliffs of Moher • Shannon Estuary • Lakes of Killarney • Ring of Kerry Killarney National Park • Blarney • Cork City • Midleton • Waterford City Tramore • Knockmealdown Mountains • Tipperary • Golden Vale • Wexford Wicklow • Dublin City

**Day 1 Arrive Dublin (Tuesday)**

Today is leisurely as we all gather in our hotel in the County of Meath just north of Dublin. Transfer will be provided from the airport to the tour hotel. Enjoy a pre-dinner drink and an introduction to your travelling companions before an early dinner. Dinner/Overnight – Dunboyne Castle, Meath

**Day 2 Royal Meath (Wednesday)**

The heritage town of Trim is first on our agenda this morning. We visit Trim Castle the largest Anglo-Norman castle in Ireland which was the location for the epic movie 'Braveheart'. Afterwards learn all about the Neolithic monuments at the Bru Na Boinne Visitor Centre town of Kells, the midland counties of Longford and Westmeath and across the River Shannon to our lovely castle hotel. After dinner listen to some 'tall tales' of Ireland in the hotel's Dungeon Bar. Dinner/Overnight – Kilonan Castle, Roscommon

**Day 3 Sligo & Fermanagh (Thursday)**

Looming over Sligo like a beached ocean liner is the limestone ridge known as Ben Bulbin in an area which the poet W.B. Yeats called 'the land of heart's desire'. We visit the Mass Rock and Holy Well at Tobernalt near Lough Gill and then the poet's grave in Drumcliffe before travelling on to Mullaghmore for views of Donegal Bay. Then into Fermanagh to visit Florence Court, one of most beautiful Georgian houses in Ulster nestled against a backdrop of mountains and forests. Dinner/Overnight – Kilonan Castle, Roscommon

**Day 4 Westport & Connemara (Friday)**

We head to Westport on Clew Bay in the shadow of Croagh Patrick, Ireland's Holy Mountain, with a stop enroute at the National Museum of Country Life at Turlough Park, Castlebar. We continue to Leenane on Killary Harbour, over the Maamturk Mountains in rugged Connemara to Maam Cross and then to Rossaveal on Galway Bay with the Aran Islands to be seen only a few miles offshore. Enjoy some Irish music tonight after dinner in the hotel bar called 'Sin Sceal Eile' (Gaelic meaning – 'that's another story'). Dinner/Overnight – Connemara Coast Hotel, Galway

**Day 5 The Burren & Cliffs of Moher (Saturday)**

This morning we drive along the southern shores of Galway Bay via Ballyvaughan before traversing the Burren region of Clare with its remarkable flora and geological curiosities. We view the mighty Cliffs of Moher that stretch for over 8 km above the Atlantic Ocean and then continue along the coast via Lahinch and Miltown Malbay to Killimer where we cross the Shannon Estuary by ferry to Tarbert in the Kingdom of Kerry. Dinner/Overnight – Malton Hotel, Killarney

**Day 6 Ring of Kerry (Sunday)**

A leisurely tour around the Iveragh Peninsula reputed to be the most scenic 100-mile drive in Europe. Travel via Killorglin, Cahirciveen, Waterville on Ballinskelligs Bay and the quaint village of Sneem with its brightly painted shops and cottages. On through Moll's Gap and along by Ladies View that provides some spectacular vistas of the famous Lakes of Killarney. Walk the shores of Muckross Lake in Killarney National Park from where you may wish to take a jaunting car ride, through the park, back into Killarney. Overnight – Malton Hotel, Killarney

**Day 7 Blarney & Midleton (Monday)**

Leaving Killarney for Waterford we travel over the Kerry Mountains to Blarney to shop for handcrafts and a chance to kiss the famous 'stone of eloquence' (optional). Enjoy a panoramic tour of Cork City before viewing the largest pot still in the world on a tour of the Old Midleton Distillery, a journey through the story of Irish whiskey ending with a sampling of the renowned Jameson Whiskey. Dinner/Overnight – Faithlegg House, Waterford

**Day 8 Waterford & Tipperary (Tuesday)**

Waterford, founded by the Vikings some 1,100 years ago, is a bustling maritime city with a backcloth of 18th and 19th century buildings. The highlight of our visit this morning will be a tour of the Waterford Crystal Visitor Centre, home of the world's most famous crystal. Afterwards walk the beach at Tramore, travel the Gold Coast road to Dungarvan and over 'the Vee' in the Knockmealdown Mountains to Tipperary in the Golden Vale before returning to our hotel. Dinner/Overnight – Faithlegg House, Waterford

**Day 9 Wexford & Wicklow (Wednesday)**

Enroute to Dublin we travel thru' the south-eastern counties of Wexford, known as the 'Model County', and Wicklow known as the 'Garden of Ireland'. Landscapes of gently rolling hills with lush farmland in Wexford give way to the mountainous region of Wicklow, the only real wilderness in this corner of Ireland. New Ross, Enniscorthy and Ferns are some of the Wexford towns we see before arriving at Ballyknocken House in south Wicklow for a tasty light lunch. We then visit Glendalough (valley of the two lakes) the site of a monastic settlement founded by St. Kevin in the 6th century. Overnight – Clontarf Castle, Dublin

**Day 10 Dublin's 'Fair City' (Thursday)**

Much of the charm of Dublin lies in the old world atmosphere of many of it's streets and squares, magnificent buildings and beautiful public parks, Christ Church Cathedral, the National Museum, Trinity College, St. Stephens Green and Merrion Square to mention but a few. We will see all these places and much more on our tour this morning plus a guided tour of 13th century Dublin Castle. The afternoon is free for shopping or exploring the city further on your own. Tonight enjoy dinner followed by some rousing Irish music and song at the Abbey Tavern in Howth. Dinner/Overnight – Clontarf Castle, Dublin

**Day 11 Tour Ends (Friday)**

Tour Ends. Your tour ends after a final hearty Irish breakfast in your Dublin hotel. Transfers are provided to Dublin airport.

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