



Coastal Ireland Adventure with Father Tommy Conway July 12-22, 2025

July 12th:

Tonight, you will board your transatlantic flight to Ireland.

July 13th: Howth Village & Dublin

This morning, we will arrive at *Dublin International*. Once we have gone through passport control and have collected our luggage, we will be met by our private coach. We will start our journey in the seaside village of *Howth*. Howth offers outdoor markets, ocean cliffs, and lighthouse views. We will drive to Howth Summit and walk down to *Bailey Lighthouse*, with fantastic views of the Dublin Skyline and rocky cliffs. Afterwards we will tour *Howth Castle*, which dates to the 1200s. We will finish our tour of Howth with a *fish n chips* lunch, that Howth is known for. Afterwards, we will continue to our hotel. Once we have arrived, there will be time to relax before we have dinner as a group.



Overnight in Dublin, dinner at hotel

July 14th: Dublin

Today after breakfast, we will take a **panoramic sightseeing tour of Dublin's Fair City**. As we drive through the main thoroughfare, we see historic buildings like the GPO (General Post Office) on O'Connell Street and *Trinity College*, housing the *Book of Kells*, we see the vast Georgian Squares, such as Merrion Square where Oscar Wilde's house can still be found (today owned by the American College). We end our tour at *Trinity College*, which houses the treasured *Book of Kells*, a 9th century Gospel manuscript famous throughout the world. Meander through the brand-new interactive exhibit and see 200,000 of the oldest library books preserved in the Long Room. After we will return to our hotel for the night.

Overnight in Dublin, dinner on own

July 15: Dublin to Westport



Today, after a hearty Irish breakfast we will depart **Dublin** and journey west to **Westport**. On our route, we will stop at **An Gobha**, an immersive and interactive experience of traditional metal forging. The craft will be demonstrated by *The Blacksmith of the Boyne Valley* as he tells stories of myths and history. Afterwards we will continue to **Westport**. Once we have arrived, there will be time to relax before having dinner as a group at our hotel.
Overnight in Westport, dinner at hotel

July 16th: Glen Keen Farm

This morning after breakfast, we will board our coach and journey to **Glen Keen Farm**, here we will have a three-part tour! First there will be an introduction to the *border collies*, followed by a **sheep herding tour**. Enjoy the farms' beautiful landscape while the Shepards instruct the collies to herd the sheep across the magnificent grounds. Afterwards, we will gather in the visitors' center for freshly brewed tea, or coffee, and **homemade scones**. While you are enjoying the delicious baked goods, local musicians will give you a show of **traditional Irish music**. Afterwards we will journey back to our hotel in **Westport**. Once we arrive back at the hotel, the night will be free for you. Head into town to enjoy many of the fabulous restaurants **Westport** has to offer.



Overnight: Westport- dinner on own

July 17th: Achill Island



This morning after breakfast, we set off to **Achill Island**, an area among the most remote and scenic areas in Ireland. Some of the roads that follow the coastline of Achill boast some of the most spectacular views of the area known as '**The Atlantic Drive**'. We will also see the **Deserted Village** – a reminder of the 1840s Famine, consisting of 80-100 stone cottages located along a mile stretch of road on the southern slopes of **Slievemore Mountain**. We will also visit the **Achill Island Distillery** for a wee taste of Ireland's **Wild Atlantic Way**.

Overnight: Westport- dinner at hotel

July 18th: Westport to Galway

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before we bid **Westport** farewell and head south to **Galway**. On our journey we will stop at **Ballintubber Abbey**, known for being the only church in Ireland that has offered mass without a break for the last 800 years. We will have time to explore the Abbey before we continue to the picturesque village of Cong. Located in the heart of Ireland's lake district, **Cong** is full of ancient sites and medieval wonders. Here we will have time to explore the village before we board our coach and continue to our hotel in **Galway**.

Overnight in Galway, dinner at hotel



July 19: Aran Islands



After a hearty Irish breakfast, we will board our private coach to **Rossaveal ferry**, here we will say goodbye to our driver for the day while we board our ferry to the **Aran Islands**. We will journey across **Galway Bay** to the largest Island of **Inis Mor**. Once we have arrived in **Kilronan**, we will be met by our tour guide, and minibuses that will take us around the small Island. **Inis Mor** is an outdoor museum, home to over 50 monuments scattered throughout the island. Enjoy the scenic views as we tour around for the day. After, we will once again board the ferry back to **Rossaveal** where our private coach will be waiting to escort us back to **Galway**. Once we have

arrived, the night is free for you.

Overnight: Galway- dinner on own

July 20: Welcome to Father Tommy's Home

Today will head for Fr. Tommy's hometown, **Newbridge in Co. Galway** where we will bask in the warmth of some authentic **Irish hospitality**. Ireland is known as the place of one hundred thousand welcomes and you will experience that and so much more. This is Ireland at its best, its people. After an eventful day, we will return to the hotel where you have the rest of the evening at your leisure.

Overnight: Galway- dinner on own



July 21: Galway to Dublin



This morning after a hearty and leisurely morning, depart **Galway** and journey to **Dublin**. Once we arrive in Malahide, enjoy some free time before our special banquet. There will be time to relax once we have arrived at our hotel, in the evening there will be a **medieval farewell dinner**.

Overnight: Dublin- Medieval Banquet Dinner

July 22: Malahide to Dublin International Airport

This morning after your last Irish breakfast, we will bid farewell to Ireland as we journey **to Dublin Airport** where you will board your transatlantic flight back to the USA.