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## Joan's Wales & Ireland Adventure

September 15 – 25, 2025

### Day-by-day Itinerary

Tour Day	Date	Hotel	Meal(s)
0	September 14	-	In-flight

#### Heading to the Emerald Isle

This evening you will board your flight for an overnight transatlantic journey to England. Your journey to Wales awaits!



Tour Day	Date	Hotel	Meal(s)
1	September 15	Coldra Court Hotel	Welcome Dinner

#### Arrival in London & Head to Newport, Wales

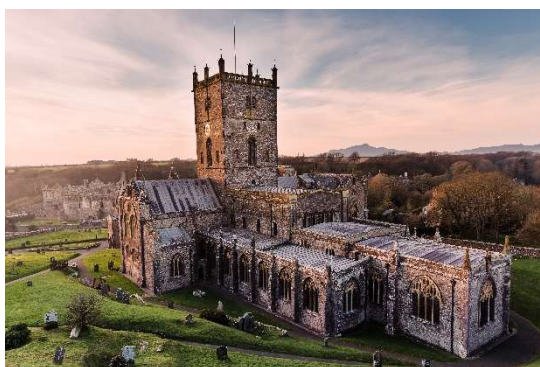
This morning, we will land at London Heathrow Airport. Once you go through passport control, you collect your bags and head out into the arrivals area where your very friendly Cara Group Travel representative will meet you. Your destination today is Newport, Wales. En route, we will visit **Avebury Stone Circle**. Built and much altered during the Neolithic period, roughly between 2850 BC and 2200 BC, the henge survives as a huge circular bank and ditch, encircling an area that includes part of Avebury village. After a quick lunch stop, you will proceed to **Wiltshire Crop Circles** before heading to **Tintern Abbey**. Tintern Abbey is a national icon — still standing in roofless splendor on the banks of the River Wye nearly 500 years since its tragic fall from grace. From here you will head to Newport for the evening, where you will check in at your hotel and enjoy a group **Welcome Dinner**.



Tour Day	Date	Hotel	Meal(s)
2	September 16	Twr y Felin Hotel	Breakfast Hotel Dinner

### Carmarthen and Sightseeing

This morning, you will go to the famous birthplace and childhood home of Merlin, **Carmarthen**. Carmarthen claims to be one of the oldest towns in Wales. In Welsh, the town's name *Caerfyrddin* can be interpreted as 'Merlin's Fort' and according to some Arthurian legends, Merlin was born in a cave outside Carmarthen. Take in this legendary location by hiking Merlin's Hill, look out for the famous cave! After departing Carmarthen, you will continue to **Saint David's Cathedral** and **Saint Non's Holy Well & Chapel**. It is here that St Non reputedly gave birth to her son, later to become St David, the patron Saint of Wales, in the 6th century AD. Legend states, at his birth the spring began to flow. The site of the chapel and well is encircled by several standing stones, said to be the remains of a Bronze Age stone circle. Afterward, you will check in to your hotel for the evening and enjoy dinner at your leisure.



Tour Day	Date	Hotel	Meal(s)
3	September 17	Twr y Felin Hotel	Breakfast

### Saint Davids

This morning, after a leisurely breakfast, you will further explore **Pembrokeshire** by visiting the **Waun Mawn Standing Stones**. Waun Mawn and the surrounding landscape hosts a number of nationally important archaeological features, which include a number of large standing stones scattered across the landscape. These are dated to prehistory and were constructed by ancient people. Afterward, you will head to **St Brynach's Church** in Nevern – an area home to thousands of years of history and spirituality. Experience the energy of this sacred site firsthand as you come across the **Pentre Ifan Dolmen**, the **Nevern Cross**, and the **Bleeding Yew Tree**. This evening, you will head back to your hotel and enjoy dinner at your leisure.



Tour Day	Date	Hotel	Meal(s)
4	September 18	The Bull & Townhouse	Breakfast Hotel Dinner

### Saint Davids to Anglesey

This morning, after a leisurely breakfast, you will head to Anglesey, stopping in **Aberystwyth** for a stroll and meander around the area. Also on the way, you will visit **Harlech Castle** set against the dramatic backdrop of Snowdonia's peaks. Harlech was completed from ground to battlements in just seven years under the guidance of gifted architect Master James of St George. Its classic 'walls within walls' design makes the most of daunting natural defenses. Afterward, continue to your hotel for the evening, where the group will meet for a hotel dinner.



Tour Day	Date	Hotel	Meal(s)
5	September 19	The Bull & Townhouse	Breakfast

### Anglesey

This morning, your adventure begins with a visit to **Dinas Emrys**. The walk up to Dinas Emrys, as it's known, follows in the footsteps of a young Merlin to the birthplace of the legendary Welsh red dragon. The idyllic trail winds through beautiful oak woodland, past waterfalls and over rock-strewn streams, climbing steadily to the summit of a ragged hilltop crowned with the remains of a castle tower and with views to take your breath away. Then walk back in time to the Neolithic Age at **Bryn Celi Ddu**, one of the most impressive and evocative prehistoric monuments on the island. Still in use today by modern-day Druids for solstice ceremonies, pay special attention to the energy of this place. You will return to the hotel this evening and enjoy dinner on your own.



Tour Day	Date	Hotel	Meal(s)
6	September 20	The River Court Hotel	Breakfast

### Wales to Ireland

This morning, bid Wales a fond farewell as you head to Holyhead to board the ferry to **Dublin**. Once in Dublin Port, you will be picked up by the group coach and make your way to **Kilkenny**. En route, you will visit **Glendalough Hermitage Centre**. Glendalough has been a place of pilgrimage since the 6th century when St. Kevin lived there as a hermit and ascetic, attracting



followers and establishing a monastery there. Mystery shrouds St Kevin's life, since the many stories that were first written about him appeared centuries after his passing. After departing Glendalough, you will proceed to your hotel in Kilkenny where the group will come together for dinner.



Tour Day	Date	Hotel	Meal(s)
7	September 21	The Lake Hotel	Breakfast Hotel Dinner

### Killarney

Enjoy a free morning in Kilkenny before you set off for Killarney in the afternoon. En route, you will visit the famous **Rock of Cashel** for a tour. Originally the seat of the kings of Munster, according to legend St. Patrick himself came here to convert King Aenghus to Christianity. Set on a dramatic outcrop of limestone in the Golden Vale, **The Rock of Cashel** possesses the most impressive cluster of medieval buildings in Ireland. Among the monuments to be found there is a round tower, a high cross, a Romanesque chapel, a Gothic cathedral, an abbey, the **Hall of the Vicars Choral** and a fifteenth-century Tower House. From there you will finish your trip to Killarney and check into your hotel and enjoy a group dinner.



Tour Day	Date	Hotel	Meal(s)
8	September 22	The Lake Hotel	Breakfast

### Fall Equinox

This morning, immerse yourself in the natural beauty of Killarney. You will explore via a **Jaunting Car** ride – one of the oldest modes of transportation. From the comfort of the horse-drawn cart, experience an impressive combination of mountains, glacial lakes, waterfalls and woodlands. You will then take an **Island Boat** tour to **Innisfallen Island**. Innisfallen Island is a beautiful island just 1.5km from Ross Castle in the heart of Killarney National Park. This enchanting island



was once home to a monastery dating back to 640 AD. The island was a place of solitude for the monks to reflect and pray. On the island, you will see ruins of a 12th century Augustinian Priory as well as a Romanesque Church which are remarkable remains of the early Christian period. This history of Innisfallen island dates to the same time as the monastery on Skellig Michael! After an eventful afternoon, the group will meet at the hotel for the main event of the day: **Mary's Fall Equinox Transmission**.

Tour Day	Date	Hotel	Meal(s)
9	September 23	The Lake Hotel	Breakfast

### Killarney

This morning, you will embark on the breathtaking tour of the **Ring of Kerry**. Rolling green hills and sparkling lakes. Sheep bleating and cows grazing in patchwork fields. Pristine golden strands giving way to jaw-dropping cliffs. These are just some of the features of what is considered Ireland's natural treasure trove of the Southwest. This evening you will return to your hotel and enjoy dinner at your leisure.



\*There is an optional excursion today to visit **Skellig Michael** – one of the Republic of Ireland's two UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Those who opt not to visit Skellig Michael may still participate in a tour of **Valentia Island** and stop in the **Skellig Experience** exhibits.

Tour Day	Date	Hotel	Meal(s)
10	September 24	The Old Ground Hotel	Breakfast Farewell Dinner

### Killarney to Ennis

Enjoy your last full day in Ireland with a leisurely breakfast and free morning. At midday the group will depart Killarney and begin the journey to **Ennis**. Along the way, you will stop at, one of Ireland's most charming places. Peruse through the local artisan shops, have lunch, or take a walk around the town before finishing your journey to Ennis. After checking in to the hotel, you will rendezvous with the group one last time for a **Farewell Dinner** at a local restaurant.



This morning you'll pack our bags and head to **Shannon Airport** where you will board your flight home. Carry on your photos and memories from your fabulous trip! We look forward to booking your next adventure soon!

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