

AOH New Orleans Ireland Adventure
May 12th – 22nd 2025

Day 1 – Monday, May 12th Depart for Ireland

Depart New Orleans for Shannon Airport.

Day 2 – Tuesday, May 13th Arrival in Ireland

This morning you land in Shannon Airport. Once you go through passport control, you collect your bags and head out into the arrivals area where your professional Irish chauffeur will meet you. Along the way you could stop for breakfast in Kilkee or Doolin before visiting the mighty **Cliffs of Moher**.



The Cliffs are over 700 feet high at the highest point and range for over 5 miles over the Atlantic Ocean. O'Brien's Tower stands proudly on a headland of the majestic Cliffs. On a clear day you can see the Aran Islands, Galway Bay, as well as The Twelve Pins, the Maum Turk Mountains in Connemara and Loop Head to the South. Continue on your journey to Galway where you can check into the Park House Hotel. After freshening up, you will meet in the hotel restaurant for your **welcome dinner**.

Overnight & Dinner: Park House Hotel, Galway

Day 3 – Wednesday, May 14th Connemara



This morning after breakfast at the hotel, you will embark on a tour of **Connemara**, an ever changing landscape, majestic mountains, spectacular beaches, the wild Atlantic, mist covered lakes, pre-historic bogs and shady glens. Visit the quaint but lively villages where you have all the convenience of modern everyday along side an opportunity to step back in time with a relaxed and friendly era. This region in Ireland is also where the native Irish Gaelic is still spoken as a first language. You will visit the picturesque **Kylemore Abbey**, the home of the Benedictine nuns

and stands at the edge of a lake surrounded by woodlands. The Abbey was originally built in 1868 by Mitchell Henry, in memory of his late wife Margaret. Its architecture is best described as neo-gothic and the house still displays all the characteristics of that period. Kylemore Abbey's most famous feature is its miniature cathedral, known locally as the Gothic church. You can also visit the Victorian Walled Garden. Return to Galway city, where you have the evening to explore further. There are numerous restaurants in Galway. Perhaps taste seafood fresh from the Atlantic Ocean. Enjoy a pint while listening to Irish traditional music in one of the local pubs. Dinner on own.

Overnight: Park House Hotel, Galway

Day 4 – Thursday, May 15th Visit to Father Tommy's

After breakfast today, we will depart for a day which will write it's own adventure. We 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 today 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.

Overnight: Park House Hotel, Galway

Day 5 – Friday, May 16th Cork

This morning you will say goodbye to Galway and start your journey to **Cork**. Along the way you will stop to visit **Bunratty Castle & Folk Park** one of Ireland's most complete and authentic castle. The site on which Bunratty Castle stands was in origin a Viking trading camp in 970. Experience village life in 19th century Ireland while taking a walk through Bunratty Folk Park. Perhaps stop and have lunch at *Durty Nelly's* on own before setting off on your journey to Cork once again. Upon arrival in Cork check in to your hotel and freshen up ahead of **your group dinner**. The Imperial Hotel has been very much part of the growth and life of **Cork since 1816**. Learn of the many distinguished guests who stayed at the hotel over the years such as Charles Dickson and Michael Collins.



Overnight & Dinner: Imperial Hotel, Cork

Day 6 – Saturday, May 17th Cobh & Midleton Distillery

Today you will visit the historic port town of **Cobh**. It is from this town that over 2.5 million Irish people emigrated. Many would have attended mass at the beautiful Cathedral overlooking the port prior to their departure. Cobh was also the last port from which the Titanic left on April 11th, 1912. You will begin the day with **a tour of Cobh** before enjoying a visit to the **Cobh Heritage Museum**. Enjoy the afternoon there to explore before heading to the **Home of Jameson Irish Whiskey** for the **Midleton Cork Distillery Tour**. Be taken on a journey from past to present. Free evening to explore Cork. Dinner on own.

Overnight: Imperial Hotel, Cork

Day 7 – Sunday, May 18th Clonakilty & Kinsale



This morning after breakfast you will visit **Michael Collins House in Clonakilty**. A museum dedicated to Irish patriot and revolutionary hero, Michael Collins. Visit to learn about the 'Big Fella' himself, his life story entwined with the history of the fight for Irish Independence. In the afternoon, visit the picturesque yachting harbor of **Kinsale** (Cionn tSáile). Its narrow winding streets are lined with galleries and gift shops, lively bars and superb restaurants. Its stunning natural harbor is filled with yachts and guarded by a huge 17th century fortress, make it an engrossing place to visit.

Kinsale has been labelled the 'Gourmet Capital of Ireland,' and for such a small place it certainly packs more than its fair share of international standard restaurants. Most are situated near the harbor and within easy walking distance of the town center. Head back to Cork city for some free time. Dinner on own.

Overnight: Imperial Hotel, Cork

Day 8 – Monday, May 19th Kilkenny

Today you will depart Cork for Kilkenny along the way visit the **Rock of Cashel**, also know as Cashel of the Kings and St. Patrick’s rock. This historic site was the traditional seat of the Kings of Munster for several hundred years prior to the Norman invasion. You will continue on the road to **Kilkenny** where you will spend the next 3 nights. Arrive at your hotel, check in and freshen up and head out to enjoy this lively town.



Overnight. The Pembroke, Kilkenny

Day 9 – Tuesday, May 20th Kilkenny Castle & Malzard’s Experience

This morning after a leisurely breakfast you will visit Kilkenny Castle —once seat of the Butler family—for a tour of this magnificent estate. After being fully restored to its original grandeur, the ornamental gardens and ornate interior has made **Kilkenny Castle** one of the most visited tourist sites in all of Ireland. In the afternoon you will head to **Malzard’s Traditional Irish pub** where you can learn the ancient Irish Gaelic sport of Hurling in a relaxed, fun environment. Head back to Kilkenny where you will have some free time to enjoy the vibrant music scene, deeply rooted in traditional Irish Music, and fantastic cuisine and live the Irish life in Kilkenny.

Overnight: The Pembroke, Kilkenny

Day 10 – Wednesday, May 21st Glendalough & Wicklow National Park



This morning after enjoying a hearty breakfast, we travel to the ‘**Garden of Ireland**’ – **County Wicklow**. As with many other parts of Ireland, Wicklow is drenched in history and heritage and one of the most famous examples of that is the Monastic Settlement of Glendalough. St. Kevin founded this ancient Monastery in the 6th century and he chose this location for its beautiful and remote setting. In the afternoon, head back to Kilkenny for a free afternoon. Tonight you will meet the group and enjoy a **farewell dinner** together.

Overnight and Farewell Dinner: The Pembroke, Kilkenny

Day 11 – Thursday, May 22nd Homeward Bound

Pack your bags as we head for Dublin Airport, where you will board your flight home. Carry on your photos and memories and bring a bit of the Emerald Isle home with you. ‘The Land of One Hundred Thousand Welcomes’ will be expecting you again!