

Irish Cultural Center's Wild Atlantic Way Tour October 4th – 11th 2024

Tonight, you will board your transatlantic flight to Ireland

Day 1: Shannon Airport to Galway

This morning, we will arrive at *Shannon Airport*. Once we have gone through passport control and collected our bags we will board our private coach towards **Galway**. When we arrive in **Galway**, we will have a panoramic tour of this magnificent city. Galway is a very lively cultural city with lots of music, drama and the arts, street performers (buskers), unique shops and pubs. After our tour we will check into our hotel. Here you will have some time to relax before a *PM walking tour* followed by a group dinner at our hotel.

Overnight: Ardilaun Hotel- Galway

Dinner at hotel



Day 2: Galway – Connemara & Kylemore Abbey

Today after a hearty Irish breakfast, we will journey north into **Connemara National Park**, an ever-changing landscape, majestic mountains, spectacular beaches, the wild Atlantic, mist covered lakes, pre-historic bogs and shady glens. We visit the quaint but lively villages where you have all the convenience of modern everyday alongside 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. Next, we will go to **Kylemore Abbey and Gardens**. Once a gothic nunnery the Abbey was resorted with Victorian rooms and now is used as a museum. After your tour of the Abbey, take a stroll around the garden. Displaying plants from the Victorian era only; this walled garden uses geometric patterns and strong color schemes to make the grounds come alive. Next, we will make a stop in Oughterard, where Annes family is from! After, we will head back to

Galway. The night is free this evening. Galway is filled with lively and bustling streets. Savor the wonderful restaurants and pubs Galway is known for!

Overnight: Ardilaun Hotel-Galway

Dinner on own



Day 3: Galway to Killarney

This morning after breakfast we will board our private coach, and journey south towards Killarney. On our way, we will make a stop at the **Mighty Cliffs of Moher**. The **Cliffs of Moher** stand over 700 feet high and with views out to the Aran Islands and even as far south as the Dingle Peninsula. The Cliffs are home to the Puffin Bird and many other bird species, which you will see a lot about in the interpretation center. After we will continue south to **Killarney**. We will take a ferry through the Shannon Estuary. Take a moment to enjoy the scenic route. Look out for Dolphins that are often seen! We will continue to our hotel, once we arrive there will be time to relax before having dinner as a group.

Overnight: Killarney Plaza-Killarney

Dinner at hotel

Day 4: Killarney

This morning after a hearty Irish breakfast, we will board our private coach and take a tour around the **Ring of Kerry**. Sit back and immerse yourself in the beauty of an area that has attracted visitors for centuries. We will see countryside surrounded *by mountains, lakes, woods, and rugged coastline* as we meander around the 110-mile route of the **Ring of Kerry**. After, we will journey back to our hotel In Killarney. Once we arrive, the night will be free for you. **Killarney** town is small and walkable. Enjoy any of the fabulous restaurants and pubs lined on the bright and colorful streets.



Overnight: Killarney Plaza-Killarney

Dinner on own

Day 5: Killarney to Cork

This morning, we will depart Killarney for the **City of Cork**. On our way we will journey through beautiful West Cork stopping at the charming village of **Glengariff**, nestled at the end of **Bantry Bay**. It has long been a popular spot for visitors due to wonderful mountain scenery and sea vistas. It is a traditional Irish village, and it has maintained a warm and welcoming atmosphere. After we will continue towards **Cork**. Once we check into our hotel, there will be time to relax before having dinner as a group at the hotel.



Overnight: Maldron Hotel South Mall-Cork

Dinner as group

Day 6: Cork

After breakfast this morning we will travel to the town of **Kinsale**. Kinsale (*Cionn tSáile*) is one of many colourful gems strung along the coastline of **County Cork**. Narrow, winding streets lined with galleries and gift shops, lively bars and superb restaurants, and a handsome natural harbour filled with yachts and guarded by a huge 17th-century fortress. **Kinsale** is also known as the gourmet centre of southwest Ireland. Which is why when we arrive, we will take a gourmet food tour! The tour offers a delightful culinary experience in town. You will enjoy a selection of different eateries, while also hearing history and stories about this magnificent town. After we will journey back to Cork. Once we arrive at our hotel you are free for the night.



Overnight: Maldron Hotel South Mall-Cork
Dinner on own

Day 7: Cork to Ennis

After a hearty Irish breakfast, we will depart **Cork** and journey towards **Ennis**. On our way we will travel a short distance to the city of Cobh. The beautiful town is known for being the Titanic's last port in call in 1912. First, we will tour **St. Colman's Cathedral**, an outstanding early 19th century church, with stunning stain glass that watches over the harbor. Next, we will take a walking tour through this historic town. Sights will include bustling *Patrick Street*, the iconic *Bridewell Garda Station*, and elegant *Hibernian House*. After we will journey north to Ennis. Once we check in to our hotel, there will be time to relax before heading to our farewell dinner which is a *medieval banquet*!!

Overnight: The Old Ground-Ennis
Dinner: Medieval banquet



Day 8: Depart Ireland to USA

This morning you will depart Ennis for the Shannon International Airport and journey back to the USA