

THE TRAVEL CLUB

A Week in Ireland: Galway, Cork & Dublin

8 DAYS: Sunday, April 7-Sunday, April 14, 2019

\$2,449 per person double occupancy; \$2,659 for single reservations

THIS SIX-NIGHT EXCURSION STARTS IN GALWAY, where we'll leisurely tour Eyre Square, the 16th-century Spanish Arch and the traditional fishing village of Claddagh. View two of the country's most dramatic landscapes as we travel through the limestone plateau of the Burren and explore the majestic Cliffs of Moher—rising 700 feet above the Atlantic Ocean. Soak in the verdant beauty of the Irish countryside en route to Dublin where we'll spend two nights; enjoy a guided tour that highlights St. Stephen's Green, the Georgian architecture of Merrion Square, Grafton Street, soaring St. Patrick's Cathedral and ends in the Temple Bar district.

Your tour package includes

- 6 nights in handpicked hotels, 6 breakfasts, 3 dinners with beer or wine
- 5 guided sightseeing tours, Expert Tour Director & local guides, Private deluxe motor coach

Included highlights

- Galway Bay, Cliffs of Moher, the Burren, Blarney Castle, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Temple Bar district,
- Queenstown Story Museum,

Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for about 1.5 hours daily across moderately uneven terrain, including paved roads and cobblestone streets with some hills and stairs.

FEATURES

Galway tour including Lynch's Castle, Druid Theater Company, Eyre Square, Spanish Arch. Visit fishing village of Claddagh. Coach ride through the Burren, visit Cliffs of Moher. Free time in Galway. Visit Blarney Castle and town of Cobh. Explore Cork on a walking tour. Dublin tour including St. Stephen's Green, Merrion Square, Trinity College, Phoenix Park, St. Patrick's Cathedral, the Temple Bar district. Free time in Dublin. **OPTIONALS: County Cork—An Evening in Kinsale. Dublin—Excursion to Glendalough.**

ACCOMMODATIONS

DAY 1 Overnight flight from Boston

DAYS 2-3 Imperial Hotel, Galway

DAYS 4-5 Blarney Woollen Mills Hotel, County Cork

DAYS 6-7 Sandymount Hotel, Dublin

DAY 8 Return flight to Boston

or similar hotel accommodations



Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Shannon today.

Galway

Day 2: Arrival in Galway

Included meals: Dinner

Welcome to Ireland! Transfer to Galway to settle in to your hotel, then meet your fellow travelers at tonight's welcome dinner.

Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Galway

Included meals: Breakfast

On a guided tour, get a feel for the local energy and living traditions of Galway, Ireland's third-largest city.

- Stroll past Lynch's Castle, the Druid Theatre Company and the broad expanse of Eyre Square
- View the city's medieval walls and Spanish Arch
- Peruse authentic Claddagh rings in a local shop
- Watch fishermen at work in the traditional fishing village of Claddagh

Enjoy a free day in Galway, or add an excursion.

Optional Excursion

Castle Banquet Dinner

\$115/pp

Enjoy a feast fit for a king inside Dunguaire Castle, a 17th-century tower house overlooking Galway Bay. Sip from a goblet of mead and learn the history of the castle before proceeding up the spiral staircase to the banquet hall. Here, you'll enjoy a sumptuous, four-course dinner and an evening of live entertainment, including songs and stories. Please note: This excursion is seasonal and runs from mid-April through mid-October. Save \$10 when you book this excursion up to 3 days before your tour departs (On-tour price: \$125)

County Cork

Day 4: County Cork via the Burren & Cliffs of Moher **Included meals: Breakfast, Dinner**

Make your way to County Cork, stopping en route to explore two of the country's most dramatic landscapes.

- Travel through the limestone plateau called the Burren
- Explore the Cliffs of Moher, which

rise 700 feet above the Atlantic Ocean • Embark on a walking orientation of Cork, also known as the “Rebel City”

Day 5: Cobh & Blarney Castle **Included meals: Breakfast**

Get a feel for the many sides of Ireland, from charming villages to vibrant cities and iconic castles. • Discover the town of Cobh, once a launch site for ships bound for North America • Enter the Cobh Heritage Centre, whose exhibits tell the story of Irish emigration over the past 150 years • Visit Blarney Castle to kiss the legendary Blarney Stone Enjoy a free evening in County Cork or add an excursion.

Optional Excursion **An Evening in Kinsale** **\$79/pp**

Your evening begins with a visit to the star-shaped Charles Fort, specifically designed to withstand the devastating impact of cannon fire. Uncover the fort’s long history with your Tour Director before making your way to the nearby harbor town of Kinsale. A little village with a big past, this quaint community was the site of the 1601 Battle of Kinsale, a major turning point in the Nine Years’ War. Take time to explore this historic town’s narrow winding streets, artsy shops and lively bars on your own before rejoining the group for dinner in a traditional Irish restaurant. Save \$10 when you book this excursion up to 3 days before your tour departs (On-tour price:\$89)

Dublin

Day 6: Sightseeing tour of Dublin **Included meals: Breakfast**

Transfer to Dublin this morning to experience the history and vibrancy of the Emerald Isle’s capital city with your guide leading the way. • Stop in Phoenix Park, site of the presidential residence, and pass by the Guinness Storehouse • Step inside the soaring St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Ireland’s largest church • Pass St Stephen’s Green and admire the Georgian architecture of Merrion Square as you go • See Trinity College and walk past Grafton Street to the Molly Malone statue, ending in the Temple Bar district

Day 7: Free day in Dublin **Included meals: Breakfast, Dinner**

Spend the day exploring on your own or add an excursion. Later, join your group for a farewell dinner.

Optional Excursion **Glendalough** **\$29/pp**

County Wicklow has some of the wildest and most spectacular mountain scenery in Ireland, as well as many of the country’s most important historic sites. Journey through Wicklow’s captivating landscapes to Glendalough, which became famous throughout Europe as a center of Christian learning before it was sacked by Viking raiders in the 10th century. Here, you’ll see St. Kevin’s Cross, marking the place where the saint lies buried. You’ll also view the remains of the sixth-century cathedral and the remarkable Round Tower, thought to have been used by monks as a place of refuge. Your Tour Director will lead you on a tour of the site, and then you’ll enjoy free time. Save \$10 when you book this excursion up to 3 days before your tour departs (On-tour price:\$39)

Day 8: Departure **Included meals: Breakfast (excluding early morning departures)**

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.