



Claddagh School of Irish Dance

Tour of Ireland

June 16th, 2016- June 24th, 2016

Total Price: \$2,450 per person, double occupancy; Children under 12: \$2,050

Tour Includes:

- Round trip bus from Springfield to Logan
- Round trip airfare via Aer Lingus
- Luxury coach with Con Collins as our Driver/Guide
- Hotel accommodations with private bath
- 7 Full Breakfasts, 5 Dinners, 1 Medieval Banquet

Visits and Admission fees to:

Trinity College
National Museum of Country Life
Celtic Crystal Factory
Jameson Distillery
Blarney Castle
Ring of Kerry

Torc Waterfall
Muckross Gardens
Cliffs of Moher
Coole Park
Medieval Banquet at Bunratty Castle
...and much more

Deposit: \$500 per person due by November 1, 2015. **Final payment due February 1, 2016.**
Make checks payable to Mary Quinn.

Optional Trip Protection is suggested. See www.insuremytrip.com for details and fees.

For more information, contact Mary and Bill Quinn: 413-567-6729

Note: Price and itinerary subject to change. Gratuity for Driver/Guide not included.

Thursday June 16. Depart from Logan to Dublin, Ireland Depart by bus from the John Boyle O'Reilly Club in the afternoon. Depart Logan airport aboard an Aer Lingus flight in the evening and arrive in Dublin, Ireland on Friday morning.

Friday June 17. Dublin Arrival. After collecting your luggage and completing immigration formalities, we will be met by our Coach Driver/Guide for the week, Mr. Con Collins. Our first stop will be to enjoy a traditional Irish breakfast.* After enjoying a fine cup of Irish tea, we will begin our Irish adventure with a tour of Dublin City, the Capital of Ireland. While in Dublin this morning we will stop at Trinity College, located in the heart of the City. We will have time to view the Book of Kells which is a stunningly beautiful manuscript containing the Four Gospels. It is Ireland's most precious medieval artifact, and is generally considered the finest surviving illuminated manuscript to have been produced in medieval Europe. Many of the Celtic designs from the Book are used on Irish Dance Costumes. After our visit, we will make our way to our first overnight stop in Ireland. While traveling to Westport, County Mayo we will make a stop at the National Museum of Country Life located in Turlough Park. The award-winning Museum of Country Life is home to the National Folklife Collection. With exhibitions spread over four floors, the Museum gives its visitors a unique opportunity to see how the people of Ireland lived in the hundred years between the Great Famine and the end of the 1950s. ***Breakfast and Dinner is not included. Overnight at Wyatt Hotel- Westport, County Mayo**

Saturday June 18. We will all dine together for breakfast this morning and then begin our travels. We will depart on a full day of touring the beautiful Irish countryside via the Famine Roads. These roads are not found on any maps but they are a vital reminder of Ireland's troubled past and the tragedy of the potato famine. These roads are symbolic of a great struggle for the Irish people. We will pass through the villages of Delphi, Lenane, on by the Inagh Valley and onto Oughterard for lunch. After lunch, we will make a stop at the Celtic Crystal Factory. This factory is known for some of Ireland's most beautiful Crystal. We will see some of their award winning pieces and learn how it is made. After our stop we will continue along the scenic countryside and eventually make our evening stop in the city of Limerick. **Breakfast & Dinner is provided this evening. Overnight at The George Hotel, Limerick**

Sunday June 19. We will be leaving Limerick behind us this morning and will be touring our way down to Cork, the Southern Capital of Ireland. While in Cork we will stop at the Jameson's Distillery where we will see how the famous Irish whiskey is distilled. You may just have to try a sample or two...After a few whiskeys, we will travel on to Blarney Castle. Here you can climb the castle steps to the Blarney Stone and kiss the "Stone of Eloquence". You will also be provided a short period of time for a bit of shopping at the Blarney Woolen Mills. After a full day of exploring the beauty of Cork, we will make our way through Macroom into Killarney for the evening. Killarney is known for its great pubs and music, so you may want to venture around the town after dinner this evening. **Breakfast & Dinner is provided. Overnight at Randels Court, Killarney**

Monday June 20. This morning we will be leaving for a full day tour of the "Ring of Kerry". This world-famous drive will amaze and inspire you as you wind your way along the rocky coastline and get close-up views of unspoiled beaches and the wild Atlantic with the rugged mountains in the distance. We will also visit the Torc Waterfall and walk through the spectacular Muckross Gardens. **Breakfast & Dinner is provided. Overnight at Randels Court, Killarney**

Tuesday- June 21. We depart Killarney this morning and will make our way through Tralee and Listowel towards the Tarbert Ferry and into County Clare. We will follow the coastal road and arrive at the Cliffs of Moher. The Cliffs are one of Ireland's top visitor attractions. They are 700 feet high and extend for 5 miles along the Atlantic Ocean on the western seaboard of County Clare. O'Brien's Tower stands proudly on a headland from which one can see the Aran Islands, Galway Bay and Connemara – if the day is clear! The Cliffs of Moher have been used as the location for many movies over the years such as Harry Potter & the Half Blood Prince, The Princess Bride, Ryan's Daughter and many more. We then continue on to the Burren - an area of limestone rock covering imposing majestic mountains, and tranquil valleys. With its innate sense of spiritual peace, extraordinary and unique array of flora and wildlife, and megalithic tombs and monuments older than Egypt's pyramids, the Burren creates a tapestry of color and a seductively magical aura which few people leave without wanting to experience again. After a brief stop, we continue on to Galway for our overnight. **Breakfast & Dinner is provided. Overnight at Victoria, Galway**

Wednesday June 22. Free day. Following breakfast, you will have an opportunity to join in a walking tour of Galway City. You will learn about the city's historical past through its buildings and its colorful characters. Visit the Magnificent Galway Cathedral and take a walk down by the Claddagh Village. The shops are plentiful in this town and many other activities are available, such as – golfing, horseback riding, or a trip to the Aran Islands. **Breakfast & Dinner is provided. Overnight at Victoria Hotel**

Thursday June 23. Today we depart Galway and head to our final hotel. While traveling to Limerick, we will make a stop at Coole Park as well as the town of Ennis. We will also stop in the village of Quin to see the ruins of Quin Abbey. The abbey was founded in 1480 emerging from the remains of a Norman castle. The ruin is surrounded by idyllic pasture and has a very peaceful sense to it. This evening we will attend a Medieval Banquet at Bunratty Castle. We will enjoy a four course medieval meal followed by a program of Irish music and song. **Overnight at The George Hotel, Limerick**

Friday June 24. Departure. Following breakfast, we will depart for Shannon airport for the return journey home to Boston. We will allow time for everyone to pick up those last minute souvenirs at Shannon's Duty Free Shop one of Europe's largest duty free shopping centers. We will arrive in Logan airport and meet our bus to take us back to the John Boyle O'Reilly Club.