# Taste of Ireland

Gain a better understanding of Ireland and the Irish through your stomach as you taste your way around the delicious Emerald Isle. A country one would previously not have thought of as a foodie destination, it now is definitely near the top of most culinary lists!





# 5 days/4 nights

#### **ITINERARY**

#### Day 1: Dublin

Your tour starts at 2:00 PM from the hotel lobby when all participants join a local guide for a tour of ancient and modern Dublin. Drive through the main streets to see historic buildings such as Trinity College, where the Book of Kells is housed; rows of Georgian houses with colourfully painted doorways; and the new buildings around the Financial Centre beside the River Liffey. Take a guided tour through parts of Dublin Castle, which was the seat of power and government for many centuries and today plays a leading role in European Union activities. Return to your hotel for a get-together with your tour group and a welcome drink. In the evening head to the Merry Ploughboy Pub for a great dinner of Irish specialties and a lively show with popular Irish songs and intricate step-dancing.

#### Day 2: Blarney Castle & Killarney

Depart Dublin and travel through the midlands of Ireland, which has many mixed farms. Stop for photos of the stately ruins on the Rock of Cashel, rising high above the surrounding plain. Continue your drive south and, just a few miles outside Cork, visit Blarney Castle to kiss the famous "Stone of Eloquence." Visit the Blarney Woollen Mills where you can find quality Irish made goods of all types, conveniently displayed under one roof. Drive through Macroom, built around a fine castle, and into County Kerry where the scenery becomes more mountainous. Arrive in Killarney, picturesquely set beside lakes with Ireland's highest mountains, the Macgillycuddy's Reeks, forming a backdrop. Check in to your hotel and relax before dinner.

#### Day 3: Ring of Kerry & Skellig Experience

Today embark on Ireland's most popular scenic drive of 100 miles – the Ring of Kerry. This winding route reveals breathtaking views of Macgillycuddy's Reeks as well as the scenic coast of beaches and cliffs. As you travel along, there will be plenty of stops for photos at the best vantage points. After a casual lunch in a cozy restaurant you'll continue your scenic drive. Cross to Valentia Island by bridge where you'll visit the Skellig Experience. Learn about the off-shore island of Skellig Michael where early Christian monks lived in austere conditions and how it was used as one of the locations for the film "Star Wars VII." Pause for a stroll around Sneem, with its brightly painted houses, and again at Moll's Gap for panoramic views of Ireland's highest mountains and deep valleys. Get a taste of farm life with a sheepdog demonstration of herding flocks, and see different breeds of sheep. Return to Killarney and enjoy a free evening for independent dining or exploring the many pubs in the town.

#### Day 4: Cliffs of Moher & Medieval Castle Banquet

Leave Killarney and drive north to Tarbert for a 20-minute ferry ride across the wide River Shannon Estuary. Your tour continues along the coast of County Clare to the Cliffs of Moher, a spectacular wall of sandstone that reaches almost 700 feet above the Atlantic Ocean. Drive past Lahinch Golf Course, one of Ireland's most famous, and through the marketing town of Ennis to Bunratty. Check into Bunratty Castle Hotel, which is located close to Bunratty Castle and Folk Park. In the evening head to Bunratty or Knappogue Castle for a memorable experience in a wonderful historic setting with good food and entertainment. Take your place in the Great Hall for a medieval-style feast of excellent

dishes and plenty of wine. During and after the meal the lords and ladies will serenade you with song and harp music evocative of the Middle Ages.

#### Day 5: Shannon

Your tour ends after breakfast today.

If you'd like to extend your Irish Adventure, we can add another day in Dublin at the end of your tour. Contact us for more details.

## **Details**

#### **Trip Code:**

002907-W18

#### **INCLUDED**

- Full daily breakfast (except day 1)
- All on-tour transportation including shuttles and ferries
- Welcome get-together drink with your group
- Free Wi-Fi on coaches
- Documents wallets and backpack
- All local taxes, hotel service charges & handling of one suitcase per person

#### **NOT INCLUDED**

- International flights
- Meals not specified
- Travel insurance
- Gratuities
- Items of a personal nature

## **TOUR NOTES**

This tour can also be booked as a 6 or 7 day tour, spending extra days in Dublin. Please ask us about extending your stay in Ireland.

Disclaimer: We do our utmost to ensure that information posted on our website is correct at the time of publication, however trip details are subject to change without notice by the suppliers and operators involved. We update the information as soon as possible when changes are advised to us, however, we cannot assume responsibility for such changes made by the suppliers and operators.

## **ROUTE MAP**



# Contact

#### Winnipeg

164 Marion Street Winnipeg, MB, Canada R2H 0T4

Phone: 204.949.0199 Fax: 204.949.0188 Toll Free: 800.661.3830

#### Edmonton

(formerly Butte Travel Service) 11733 95th St. NW Edmonton, AB, Canada T5G 1M1 Phone: 780.477.3561

Fax: 780.477.9871 Toll Free: 800.661.8906















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