

WONDERS OF IRELAND & SCOTLAND

ITINERARY

DAY
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DAY 1: ARRIVAL IN IRELAND

Upon your arrival in **Dublin**, make your way to your accommodation in the city centre. You may choose to take a taxi or use public transport, but for a more direct and comfortable ride, we will be happy to organise a private airport transfer for you.

Then immerse yourself in the eclectic mixture of heritage sites, museums and historic pubs of the Irish capital. Take a stroll along the cobbled streets of the **Temple Bar district**, grab a pint at the **Guinness Storehouse** for a taste of the world-famous beer or visit the historic **Trinity College** to see the ancient Book of Kells.

You could enjoy an afternoon tea sightseeing tour of the city on a vintage bus or stroll along the characterful **O'Connell Street** filled with interesting shops and landmark buildings.

Spend the night at **Dylan Hotel** or similar.

Attractions: Book of Kells and Old Library, Dublin, Guinness Storehouse, Temple Bar District, Trinity College Dublin

DAY
2

DAY 2: INTO THE IRISH COUNTRYSIDE

Today, your guide will pick you up to start your adventure around Ireland. The tour will start with a drive across the beautiful midlands and towards the west coast. Take in the rolling hills and lush countryside during the journey.

On the way to Galway, we'll have the opportunity to learn about Irish history at **Trim Castle**, the largest Anglo-Norman castle in Ireland. You will also visit a local whiskey distillery for a tour and tasting.

Finally, we'll arrive in **Galway**, a lively city by the Atlantic Ocean, where we'll enjoy dinner as a group.

Spend the night at **Park House Hotel** or similar.

Included:

- Entrance to Trim Castle
- Tour and tasting at local distillery
- Breakfast at your hotel
- Dinner at the hotel restaurant

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8-9 Hours

Attractions: Galway, Micil Distillery, Trim Castle

DAY 3: EXCURSION TO THE ARAN ISLANDS

Today we'll head out on an island excursion. We'll start the day by taking the ferry to Inis Mór (Inishmore), the largest of the western **Aran Islands**. These three windswept islands are one of the few places where the Gaelic language, culture and music still truly thrive.

On the island, we'll enjoy a guided bus tour so you can learn more about the history and culture of the local community. You'll also have some free time to explore at your leisure before returning to the mainland.

Spend another night at **Park House Hotel** or similar.

Included:

- Aran Islands excursion
- Breakfast at your hotel

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8-9 Hours

Attractions: Aran Islands

DAY 4: IRELAND'S JEWEL, THE CLIFFS OF MOHER

Today we'll continue south along the Galway Bay. The first stop of the day will be **Dunguaire Castle**, where you'll have the opportunity to take some scenic photos. Sitting on a rocky outcrop overlooking the bay, it is one of the most photographed castles in Ireland. Then we'll pass by **Pounabrone Dolmen**, one of Ireland's oldest megalithic monuments.

Finally, we'll reach the west coast to visit Ireland's top attraction, the breathtaking **Cliffs of Moher**. This is a true showcase of the country's iconic coastal scenery. Walk along the paths, try to spot some seabirds and take in the views of the fierce Atlantic Ocean.

Later, we'll make a stop at the 15th-century **Bunratty Castle**. We'll take some time to visit the castle and learn about its history before arriving in **Killarney**.

Spend the night at **Randles Hotel** or similar.

Included:

- Entrance to Cliffs of Moher visitor centre
- Entrance to Bunratty Castle
- Breakfast at your hotel
- Dinner at the hotel restaurant

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8-9 Hours

Attractions: Bunratty Castle, Cliffs of Moher, Killarney, Kinvara & Dunguaire Castle, Pounabrone Dolmen

DAY 5: THE RING OF KERRY

Today, we'll take in the magic of the **Ring of Kerry**. This is one of Ireland's most famous routes and a must-see when visiting its countryside. Along the way there'll be plenty of stops for you to take photos and admire the striking landscape.

We'll first take some time to wander around the grounds of **Kells Bay House** to see its primeval forest of planted giant ferns. Then, if the weather allows, we'll stop by the charming Derrynane Bay with its striking white sands. Later, we'll complete the circular tour ending back inside the **Killarney National Park**, where we'll visit the picturesque **Torc Waterfall**.

Spend another night at **Randles Hotel** or similar.

Included:

- Entrance to Kells Bay House
- Breakfast at your hotel

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8-9 Hours

Attractions: Book of Kells and Old Library, Killarney National Park, Ring of Kerry, Torc Waterfall

DAY 6: BLARNEY CASTLE AND IRISH HERITAGE

Today, we'll drive south to explore **Blarney Castle**, a legendary medieval stronghold. It is well worth visiting because it is home to the Blarney Stone, surrounded by many myths and tales.

We'll then spend some time in **Cork**, Ireland's second largest city, before driving north to stop for a photo opportunity at the **Rock of Cashel**. This historic site is a fantastic collection of medieval buildings that span over 1000 years of history. Later, we'll arrive in **Kilkenny**. This is a beautiful medieval town nestled around a majestic 12th-century castle.

Spend the night at **Butler House Hotel** or similar.

Included:

- Entrance to Blarney Castle
- Breakfast at your hotel
- Dinner at the hotel restaurant

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8-9 Hours

Attractions: Blarney Castle, Cork, Kilkenny, Rock of Cashel

DAY 7: RETURN TO DUBLIN

Today, we have our final day of driving through the majestic Irish countryside. We'll pass through the scenic **Wicklow Mountains** to take in the beautiful views.

The next stop is at Powerscourt Estate, the home of the restored mansion **Powerscourt House**. We'll have time to wander through the beautiful gardens and even catch sight of Ireland's highest waterfall, which sits on these grounds.

Later, your guide will then drop you off at your accommodation in Dublin. You can enjoy the rest of the day and evening at your leisure in Ireland's capital.

Spend the night at **Dylan Hotel** or similar.

Included:

- Entrance to Powerscourt Gardens and Waterfall
- Breakfast at your hotel

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8-9 Hours

Attractions: Powerscourt House & Gardens, Wicklow Mountains & Glendalough

DAY 8: FLY OVER TO SCOTLAND

Today, you travel to Scotland for the second portion of your Celtic adventure. Make your way to Dublin Airport, where you'll catch your flight to Edinburgh. You can book a private transfer for a swift and easy way to travel to the airport.

When you arrive in Scotland, make your way into Edinburgh city centre where your hotel will be located. Many travellers opt to take a taxi or use public transport, but for a more direct and comfortable ride, we will be happy to organise a private airport transfer for you. You have the evening at your leisure.

Spend the night at **Nira Caledonia** or similar.

Included:

- Breakfast at your hotel
- Flight between Dublin Airport and Edinburgh Airport

Attractions: Dublin, Edinburgh

DAY 9: EXPLORE EDINBURGH

You have the day to spend as you wish in Scotland's capital. We recommend strolling along the Royal Mile and exploring the Old Town and New Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. There are also plenty of museums and landmarks to visit in the city centre, including the majestic Edinburgh Castle.

For a spectacular view over the city, we recommend going up Calton Hill. Tonight you can enjoy dinner at one of Edinburgh's many gourmet restaurants and spend the evening at your leisure.

Spend the night at **Nira Caledonia** or similar.

Included:

- Breakfast at your hotel

Attractions: Edinburgh, Edinburgh Castle, Edinburgh New Town, The Royal Mile & St Giles Cathedral

DAY 10: INTO THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS

Today, your guide will pick you up to start your epic trip around Scotland. The tour will start with a drive across the Firth of Forth, taking in the magnificent UNESCO World Heritage **Forth Rail Bridge**, before heading north to Inverness.

On the way, we'll have the opportunity to go for a forest walk at the picturesque **Hermitage**, followed by a visit of the nearby **Dunkeld**. From there we will continue through the **Cairngorms National Park** where we will stop at the **Highland Folk Museum**.

Arriving near Inverness, we will stop to visit the **Battlefield of Culloden Moor**, where the last battle on British soil occurred in 1746. Nearby we will also visit the mysterious **Clava Cairns**, a series of tombs and standing stones dating back roughly 4,000 years. Tonight, we will enjoy dinner at the hotel together.

Spend the night at **Kingsmill Hotel** or similar.

Included:

- Entrance to Highland Folk Museum
- Entrance to the Battlefield of Culloden
- Breakfast at your hotel
- Dinner at the hotel restaurant

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8 Hours

Attractions: Cairngorms National Park, Clava Cairns, Culloden Battlefield & Visitor Centre, Dunkeld, Forth Railway Bridge, Highland Folk Museum, The Hermitage

DAY 11: LOCH NESS, CASTLES & THE ISLE OF SKYE

Today we will experience some of Scotland's most famous attractions. Our guide will drive us along the shores of the mysterious **Loch Ness**, where we will have a chance to take photos and see if we can catch a glimpse of Nessie. Next up the guide will make a stop at the iconic **Eilean Donan Castle**, a sight you will surely recognise from films.

This afternoon we will make our way over to **the Isle of Skye** and set sail on a Misty Isle boat tour on **Loch Coruisk** in the heart of the **Cuillin Hills**. This will be a great photography and sightseeing opportunity for bird watchers and marine lovers, as we may spot marine wildlife such as minke whales, seals and dolphins as well as giant sea eagles which soar above these parts. Tonight, we'll enjoy another dinner as a group.

Spend the night at **Hame on Skye** or similar.

Included:

- Misty Isle boat tour
- Breakfast at your hotel
- Dinner at the hotel restaurant

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8 Hours (including a 1h45min boat tour)

Attractions: Cuillin Mountains, Eilean Donan Castle, Isle of Skye, Loch Coruisk, Loch Ness

DAY 12: THE WONDERS OF THE ISLE OF SKYE

Today we will have a full day to take in the magic of Skye, a haven for nature lovers. Our guide will take us to the northern part of the island, to the breathtaking **Trotternish Peninsula**. This is where so many of the island's mythical and spectacular landscapes lie.

Driving over the **Quiraing**, we will be able to admire some of the jaw-dropping natural sights. We'll also take a walk to the gorge overlooking **Lealt Falls**, see waterfalls plunging over the 90-meter **Kilt Rock** sea cliffs, pass by the iconic "**The Old Man of Storr**" rock pinnacle, and we'll even be able to go looking for dinosaur footprints at the **An Corran Beach** at Staffin. Tonight, we will enjoy dinner at the hotel together.

Spend another night at the **Hame on Skye** or similar.

Included:

- Guided walk at Lealt Falls (20mins)
- Breakfast at your hotel
- Meal at the hotel tonight

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8 hours

Attractions: Kilt Rock & Mealt Falls, Old Man of Storr, Quiraing, Staffin & An Corran Beach

DAY 13: SCOTTISH WILDLIFE & GLENFINNAN

Today we take the ferry from Armadale to Mallaig on mainland Scotland. On the drive down to **Loch Lomond**, we'll stop by the stunning **Camusdarach Beach** where we'll have some time to admire its white sand and crystal-clear water. We will then drive to **Glenfinnan** where you can visit the Glenfinnan Monument, overlooking the beautiful Loch Shiel, and admire the **Glenfinnan Viaduct** high above, which you may recognise from the Harry Potter film series. Later, we will travel through **Glen Coe**, Scotland's most famous valley. Here, we will go on a guided 20-minute walk, a perfect chance to take photos.

Spend the night at **The George hotel** or similar.

Included:

- Guided walk at Glen Coe (20mins)
- Ferry from Armadale to Mallaig
- Breakfast at your hotel

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8 hours (including 30-minute ferry crossing)

Attractions: Camusdarach Beach, Glen Coe, Glenfinnan, Glenfinnan Viaduct, Loch Lomond

DAY 14: THE TROSSACHS, WHISKY AND STIRLING CASTLE

Today we will explore the impressive Loch Lomond and **Trossachs National Park**. In the village of Doune we will enjoy a tour and tasting at **Deanston Whisky Distillery**. We will also pass by the beautiful city of **Stirling**, where we'll visit the impressive **Stirling Castle** sitting atop the hill. Our last stop on this tour will be the **Kelpies**, two impressive horse-head statues that will capture your attention.

Your guide will then drop you off at your accommodation in **Glasgow**. You can enjoy the rest of the day at your leisure in Scotland's largest city.

Spend the night at **Grand Central Hotel** or similar.

Included:

- Tour and tasting at Deanston Whisky Distillery
- Entrance to Stirling Castle
- Breakfast at your hotel

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8 hours

Attractions: Deanston Whisky Distillery, Glasgow, Stirling & Stirling Castle, The Kelpies, Trossachs National Park

DAY 15: DEPARTURE FROM SCOTLAND

On your day of departure, make your way back to the airport. If you would like to add any additional nights to your trip or to arrange a private transfer, you can add the option below. If your flight is in the afternoon, you may have time for some last-minute shopping on Buchanan Street, a visit to one of Glasgow's museums, or one last stroll through the charming West End.

Included:

- Breakfast at your hotel

Attractions: Glasgow

Whatever your needs, we are here to help. If you have any questions about our packages or services, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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