

CLASSIC IRELAND - PRIVATE

ITINERARY

DAY
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DAY 1: ARRIVAL DAY IN DUBLIN

Upon your arrival in **Dublin**, you will be greeted by a private driver who will take you directly to your accommodation. Then it's time to immerse yourself in the eclectic mixture of heritage sites, museums and historic pubs.

Take a stroll along the cobbled streets of the **Temple Bar district** and 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 walk along the characterful O'Connell Street filled with interesting shops and landmark buildings.

Spend the night in Dublin.

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

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DAY 2: TOWARDS THE IRISH WEST COAST

Today, your private guide picks you up to start your adventure around Ireland. You'll first pass through the beautiful midlands. You can decide where to stop with your guide. You could learn about Irish history at **Trim Castle** or roam atmospheric ruins at **Clonmacnoise**. Or why not taste the local whiskey at **Kilbeggan Distillery**?

Later, your guide will take you to your stop for the night, the lively **Galway**. The colourful city is the perfect place to taste some Irish delicacies with its famous food scene and numerous pubs.

Spend the night in Galway.

Driving distance: 229 km / 142 miles

Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 7-8 hours

Attractions: Clonmacnoise, Galway, Kilbeggan Distillery, Trim Castle

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DAY 3: DISCOVER RUGGED CONNEMARA

Enjoy the sights of the striking **Connemara** region today. Its rugged landscape is famous for its mountains, white sand beaches, picturesque lakes and heathlands. You'll first stop by **Killary harbour**, Ireland's only true fjord with a length of 16 kilometres (9.9 miles). Further along, your guide will also make a stop at **Kylemore Abbey**. Here you can admire the spectacular Gothic architecture and take a stroll in the Victorian Walled Garden.

For a more leisurely day, you could also decide to visit the **Aran Islands** instead (pre-booking necessary). These windswept islands are one of the few places where the Gaelic language, culture and music still truly thrive.

Spend another night in the Galway area.

Driving distance around Connemara: 214 km / 133 miles

Driving distance to Aran Islands: 76 km / 47 miles

Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 7-8 hours

DAY 4: CLIFFS OF MOHER & LIMESTONE LANDSCAPES

Start the day with a visit to **Dunguaire Castle**. Sitting on a rocky outcrop overlooking Galway Bay, it is one of the most photographed castles in Ireland. Further ahead, your guide will take you to a beautiful spot to experience the surreal landscape of **The Burren**. You'll be able to walk around one of Ireland's oldest megalithic monuments, the portal tomb **Poul nabrone Dolmen**.

Then you will arrive at the jewel of Ireland, the breathtaking **Cliffs of Moher**. This is the top tourist attraction in the country, showcasing some of the most iconic coastal scenery of the island. On a sunny day the views are expansive, but even a stormy day can be exhilarating with the powerful Atlantic below.

Spend the night in the Doolin/Lisdoonvarna area.

Driving distance: 111 km / 69 miles

Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 6-7 hours

Attractions: Cliffs of Moher, Doolin, Kinvara & Dunguaire Castle, Poul nabrone Dolmen, The Burren

DAY 5: MEDIEVAL CASTLES & PICTURE-PERFECT VILLAGES

Today, you will be visiting the 15th-century **Bunratty Castle**. You could also decide to visit the nearby Bunratty Folk Park, where you can experience Irish rural life from the 1800s. Your guide will then take you to **Adare**, one of Ireland's prettiest villages with its thatched cottages housing craft shops and restaurants.

In the afternoon, explore **Killarney National Park** sitting below Ireland's highest mountains. Here, you can select your own adventure, whether you want to visit the 19th-century mansion of **Muckross House**, take an optional Jaunting Car tour of the park or a boat trip on the peaceful Lough Leane.

Spend the night in the Killarney/Tralee area.

Driving distance: 206 km / 128 miles

Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 7-8 hours

Attractions: Adare, Bunratty Castle, Killarney National Park, Muckross House & Abbey, Ross Castle

DAY 6: RING OF KERRY

The **Ring of Kerry** is a highlight in Ireland and today your private guide takes you around this must-do scenic drive. Your first stop will be at **Kells Bay House**, to see its primeval forest of planted giant ferns. You'll also pass by the ancient stone forts of **Caherdaniel and Staigue**, and Derrynane Bay with its beautiful white sand.

When you complete the circle, you'll have a chance to see the picturesque **Torc Waterfall**. If you prefer, today you could also take an optional boat tour from the coast to see the **Skellig Islands** from up close.

Spend another night in the Killarney/Tralee area.

Driving distance: 198 km / 123 miles

Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 7-8 hours

Attractions: Caherdaniel & Staigue Forts, Kells Bay House and Gardens, Killarney National Park, Ring of Kerry, Skellig islands, Torc Waterfall

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DAY 7: GARNISH ISLAND & IRELAND'S SOUTH COAST

Today, your guide will drive you over the scenic, winding Cahah Pass to the colourful village of **Glengarriff**. From here, you can decide if you'd like to take the short boat trip to **Garnish Island**. It is renowned for its gardens, and you might spot a seal colony on the way. Or you might prefer to visit the 18th-century **Bantry House**.

Later, travel to the lively city of **Cork** via **Kinsale**, a popular resort town with its picturesque yachting harbour and historic forts.

Spend the night in the Cork area.

Driving distance: 191 km / 119 miles

Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 8-9 hours

Attractions: Bantry House, Cork, Garnish Island, Glengarriff, Kinsale

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DAY 8: ANCIENT CASTLES & THE BLARNEY STONE

You have a full day of historic visits ahead of you. The first stop on your journey will be **Blarney Castle**, a legendary medieval stronghold that houses the Blarney Stone, surrounded by many myths and tales. Then you might decide with your guide to spend some time in the photogenic harbour town of **Cobh**. It is known as the last port of call of the Titanic in 1912.

You'll then continue on to explore the spectacular **Rock of Cashel**, a historic site containing a collection of medieval buildings that span over 1000 years of history. Later, you'll arrive in **Kilkenny**, a medieval town nestled around a majestic 12th-century castle.

Spend the night in the Kilkenny area.

Driving distance: 208 km / 129 miles

Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 8-9 hours

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

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DAY 9: THROUGH THE WICKLOW MOUNTAINS TO DUBLIN

Today you can decide with your guide what you prefer. You could head straight back to Dublin to spend more time exploring the capital. Or you could check out a few more sights along the way by taking the scenic route. This way you'll pass through the scenic **Wicklow Mountains** to visit **Glendalough**, a 6th-century monastic settlement, and the **Powerscourt Estate**, featuring the restored mansion Powerscourt House.

Then your guide will drop you off at your accommodation in Dublin. You'll have the rest of the evening to spend at your leisure, perhaps with a fine Irish dinner to top off your amazing journey.

Spend the night in Dublin.

Driving distance via Wicklow Mountains: 165km / 102 miles

Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 7-8 hours

Attractions: Dublin, Powerscourt House & Gardens, Wicklow Mountains & Glendalough

DAY 10: DEPARTURE

On your day of departure, a private driver will pick you up from your hotel to take you directly to Dublin Airport. If your flight is in the afternoon, you can use the morning to enjoy some last-minute shopping or sightseeing.

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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