

COMPLETE 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: MEGALITHIC NEWGRANGE & SCENIC LANDSCAPES

Today, your private guide picks you up to start your adventure around Ireland. On your way to **Belfast**, you can decide where to stop with your guide. You could pass by the charming 12th-century **Malahide Castle** near Dublin. Or visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of **Newgrange**, where you can see megalithic passage tombs which are believed to be older than the Great Pyramids of Egypt. This is one of Ireland's most popular and fascinating attractions. Further, you could even admire the high crosses of **Monasterboice**, the historic ruins of a Christian settlement.

You will then cross into Northern Ireland to reach the capital city.

Spend the night in Belfast.

Driving distance: 191 km / 121 miles

Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 7-8 hours

Attractions: Belfast, Malahide Castle, Monasterboice, Newgrange

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DAY 3: DISCOVER BELFAST

Today you have a full day to explore Belfast, an exciting city with a mix of Victorian grandeur, industrial grit and living history. Don't miss out on the city's leading attraction, the **Titanic Belfast**. Experience the story of the world's largest and most luxurious ship, which was constructed in Belfast in 1909.

You can also see the **Peace Walls** and their famous murals and admire the architecture of the **City Hall**. Or opt to visit the **Ulster Folk Museum**, a complete recreation of an early 1900s traditional Northern Irish town.

Spend another night in Belfast.

Attractions: Belfast City Hall, Belfast Peace Walls, Titanic Belfast, Ulster Folk and Transport Museum

DAY 4: GIANT'S CAUSEWAY & ANTRIM COAST

Your private road trip continues along the beautiful Antrim Coast. First, your guide will pass by the atmospheric **Dark Hedges**, a *Game of Thrones* filming location. Then, you can decide if you'd like to enjoy a scenic coastal walk at **Carrick-a-Rede**. Here you can cross its rope bridge swaying 30 metres (98 feet) above the sea and providing stunning views of the cliffs below.

Then your guide will take you to the highlight of the day, the jewel of Northern Ireland and World Heritage Site, the **Giant's Causeway**. Nearby, you could pop into **Bushmills Distillery**, the world's oldest whiskey distillery.

Spend the night in the Donegal area.

Driving distance: 257 km / 160 miles

Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 8-9 hours

Attractions: Bushmills Distillery, Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge, Donegal, Dunluce Castle, Giant's Causeway, The Dark Hedges

DAY 5: WILD ATLANTIC WAY & CLIFFS OF SLIEVE LEAGUE

Today you can take in the beauty of the Wild Atlantic Way or enjoy a leisurely day in Donegal. The Wild Atlantic Way is a route along Ireland's west coast that is dotted with soaring cliffs, buzzing towns, epic bays and hidden beaches.

Your first stop is **Glenveagh National Park** where you'll explore towering mountains, lakes, valleys and woodlands. Your guide will drive past the imposing Mount Errigal and over the winding Glengesh Pass to Glencolumbkille, one of Ireland's best living-history museums. Then experience breathtaking views at the imposing **Slieve League cliffs**, which are some of the highest marine cliffs in Europe.

Spend another night in the Donegal area.

Driving distance: 223 km / 138 miles

Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 7-8 hours

Attractions: Glencolumbkille village, Glenveagh National Park, Slieve League cliffs

DAY 6: RUGGED COASTLINES & STONE AGE SITES

Today you head south to County Sligo, your guide driving past the stunning **Ben Bulbin**, one of Ireland's most recognisable mountains. Along the way you'll have the choice of visiting the small fishing village of Mullaghmore with its lovely sandy beach. Here, you'll find **Mullaghmore Head**, one of the signature discovery points along the Wild Atlantic Way.

You could also ask your guide to stop by the atmospheric **Carrowmore**, Ireland's largest Stone Age cemetery where you can roam around megalithic tombs and stone circles. You'll then continue to **Downpatrick Head** where you could enjoy a walk along the majestic sea cliffs and take in the vast views of the rugged coastline.

Spend the night in the Westport area.

Driving distance: 241 km / 150 miles

Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 7-8 hours

Attractions: Benbulbin, Carrowmore Megalithic Cemetery, Downpatrick Head, Mullaghmore Head

DAY 7: CONNEMARA NATIONAL PARK

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.

Later, you can decide with your guide which of the following you would prefer. You could stop by the **Connemara National Park** Visitor Centre to follow scenic walking trails. Or let your guide sweep you along the circular Sky Road near **Clifden** for broad views of the Atlantic. You'll then arrive in **Galway**, a lively and colourful city.

Spend the night in the Galway area.

Driving distance: 182 km / 113 miles

Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 7-8 hours

Attractions: Clifden, Connemara National Park, Galway, Glassilaun Bay, Killary Harbour, Kylemore Abbey

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DAY 8: CLIFFS OF MOHER & LIMESTONE LANDSCAPES

You can 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

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DAY 9: MEDIEVAL CASTLES & KILLARNEY NATIONAL PARK

Today, you will start the day 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, Killarney National Park, Muckross House & Abbey

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DAY 10: 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 11: 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 12: 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 13: 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

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DAY 14: 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.

Nordic Visitor | Tel: +354 578 20 80 | info@nordicvisitor.com | nordicvisitor.com