



Day 1: Fly to Ireland

Meet your group and travel on an overnight flight to Dublin.

Day 2: Dublin

Explore Dublin: Welcome to the Emerald Isle, where the greens are greener and the history is rich and full. Depending on your arrival time, you may have free time to explore the city on your own.

Explore Dublin: Join your Tour Director for a stroll through Dublin. Originally the Viking settlement of Baile Átha Cliath, which means "town of hurdles," Dublin is situated on the banks of the River Liffey. This informative orientation is perfect for your first day in the historic capital of Ireland. Keep an eye out for Dublin's famous 18th-century Georgian architecture as you stroll through the city. Walk down the brick-lined Grafton Street, the city's premier shopping street, and make your way through Temple Bar, Dublin's hippest neighborhood.

Dinner: Tonight, enjoy a taste of Ireland with your group and get to know your new friends.

Day 3: Dublin

Sightseeing tour of Dublin: Experience Ireland's capital, scenically situated between Dun Laoghaire and Howth Head's rocky peaks. On your sightseeing tour, you'll pass by Phoenix Park and the presidential residence before continuing to bustling O'Connell Street. When you ride through Dublin's elegant Georgian squares, remember to ask your guide about the colorful doors.

Trinity College: Playwright Samuel Beckett and satirist Jonathan Swift studied at Trinity College, your next stop. In the Long Room of the Old Library you'll view the *Book of Kells*. Irish monks created this calligraphic manuscript more than 1,000 years ago.

St. Patrick's Cathedral: Explore St. Patrick's Cathedral, whose presence honors the patron saint of Ireland.

Day 4: Dublin | Cork

Travel to Cork: A thriving cultural center, Cork is full of art, live music, and a growing restaurant scene. Make your way to the Cobh Heritage Centre to see exhibits that tell the story of Irish emigration over the past 150 years.

Dinner: Share a group dinner at your hotel.

Day 5: Cork | Kinsale | Killarney

Travel via Kinsale and Blarney Castle to Killarney: The coastal town of Kinsale is full of picturesque thoroughfares and centuries-old market houses, and makes an ideal escape for yachters or appreciators of gourmet fare. En route you'll stop in Blarney to visit the famed Blarney Castle. At this medieval fortification, join other visitors in kissing the Blarney Stone, which is said to grant the gift of eloquence.

Dinner: Test out your newfound wit over a group dinner in Killarney

Day 6: Killarney

Ring of Kerry: Traverse the Ring of Kerry on a guided tour and encounter Ireland's legendary verdant beauty. This stunning, 112-mile coastal route wraps around the Iveragh Peninsula. Here you can experience everything from the Old Monastery to unspoiled beaches to Killarney National Park. On your visit, make your way along lush rolling hills and take in magnificent views of the Atlantic Ocean and the placid Lakes of Killarney. You'll also pass by the misty peaks of Macgillycuddy's Reeks. This range reaches its zenith at Carrauntoohil, Ireland's tallest mountain.

Kerry Bog Village Museum: Check out the Kerry Bog Village Museum, a winner of the prestigious National Heritage Award. Wander through a re-creation of an Irish village from the early 1800s as costumed guides demonstrate the way of life that prevailed in 19th-century rural Ireland.

Day 7: Killarney | Dublin

Travel via the Rock of Cashel to Dublin: Head back to Dublin and discover the Rock of Cashel. Set on rolling Irish hills, the Rock of Cashel—the former seat of the Kings of Munster—is home to a stunning array of medieval architecture. Be sure to check out Cormac's Chapel and the Round Tower.

Day 8: Dublin

Dublin's Rebellion on foot: Step back in time and follow the historic route of a band of insurrectionists during the 1916 Rebellion. They brought about the event known as Easter Rising, and ultimately, after much bloodshed, paved the way for the formation of the Irish Republic.

Free time: The city is yours to explore as you see fit. Walk through the vibrant sights and sounds of Moore Street, the oldest outdoor food market in Dublin. Or trade cobblestones for clovers with a stroll through St. Stephen's Green, a beautiful park that is just a stone's throw from Henry Street—another famous shopping center.

Day 9: Depart for home

Transfer to the airport and check in for your return flight home.

3-DAY PROGRAM EXTENSION

Days 9-11: Dublin | Belfast

Sightseeing tour of Belfast: Learn how Belfast is redefining itself after undergoing a period of religious strife in the 1970s and 1980s. Testaments to the city's past remain: along Catholic Falls Road and Protestant Shankill Road, witness giant political murals that help tell the history of Northern Ireland. In the Old Town, see Victorian architectural gems such as the Albert Memorial Clock, Belfast's own leaning tower.

Dinner: Enjoy dinner with your group on your first night in Belfast.

Giant's Causeway: Touted as the eighth wonder of the world, the Giant's Causeway is a fascinating, one-of-a-kind geological phenomenon. These ancient rock formations are comprised of thousands of 55-million-year-old hexagonal basalt columns. On your excursion, you'll climb this honeycomb pathway to the sea.

Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge: Cross between grassy islands on this rope bridge, suspended nearly 100 feet above the rocks and waves below.

Bushmills Distillery: Take a peek at what goes into crafting this famous Irish whiskey and go behind the scenes of one of the oldest known distilleries in the world.

Day 12: Depart for home

Your Tour Director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.