

World of Travel

Presents

The best of Ireland

“Hub and spoke tour”
Move only once

Spring / Fall 2011

\$2,995.00

8 Nights / 9 Days

Per person double occupancy

Included Features:

- Round trip airfare from selected cities (subject to airline fuel surcharges)
- Seven nights first class hotel
 - Six nights in Killarney
 - One night in Shannon
- Full breakfast daily
- Two dinners at Killarney Plaza Hotel
- One medieval banquet at Killeen House
- One dinner at Bunratty Castle
- All admissions and sightseeing as indicated in itinerary
- Horse drawn Jaunting car ride in Killarney
- All luggage handling
- Fully escorted
- One complimentary trip for every twenty paid passengers



Itinerary:

Day One ~ United States to Shannon

Depart your hometown and take an overnight flight across the Atlantic. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service as you travel to start your vacation.

Day Two ~ Shannon arrival and Killarney



After customs and immigration formalities at Shannon Airport, your CIE Tours driver/guide will welcome you to Ireland and escort you to the motorcoach. Depart Shannon and drive to the coast of Clare to view the Cliffs of Moher. This impressive wall of rock rises to almost 700 feet above the foaming Atlantic breakers. Then take a short ferry ride across the River Shannon Estuary to the mountainous countryside of Kerry. Arrive in Killarney and check into your hotel. Then you will have the afternoon free to relax or stroll around town on your own. In the evening join your fellow travelers for dinner in the hotel restaurant. Dinner & Overnight: Killarney Plaza Hotel, Killarney

Day Three ~ Kinsale sightseeing and Blarney

Today travel south through lovely mountain scenery to Glengarriff and Bantry Bay where the mild climate allows sub-tropical vegetation to thrive. Continue along the coast through peaceful fishing towns to Kinsale, nowadays a popular yachting center. Take a stroll around this attractive town with steep narrow streets and elegant Georgian houses. In the center see the Old Courthouse, now a regional museum, and a few miles outside the town see Charles Fort, built in the 1670s to protect the area against naval attack from the Continent. Then travel north through County Cork to Blarney where you may climb to the battlements of Blarney Castle to kiss the “Stone of Eloquence.” Also visit the Blarney Woollen Mills, which has an excellent range of Irish products of all types. Return to Killarney for a free evening. Overnight: Killarney Plaza Hotel, Killarney

Day Four ~ Dingle Peninsula Tour & Killeen House Dinner

Today discover the beauties of the Dingle Peninsula, made famous by David Lean's movie, "Ryan's Daughter." Drive along the south shore of the peninsula for plenty of vistas of heathery mountains, sandy stretches of beach and rocky headlands. There will be frequent stops at strategic locations to admire the views and take photos. Stop in the town of Dingle before continuing to the western tip of the peninsula. Here the scenery becomes wilder as the influence of the open Atlantic Ocean strengthens. You will pass early Christian monastic beehive huts and small fishing villages. Return to Killarney and freshen up before dinner.



Tonight drive to Killeen House, located on Aghadoe Heights with views of Lough Leane and the mountains. This charming little hotel offers a warm welcome and serves wonderful food to ensure you have a great evening. Dinner & Overnight: Killarney Plaza Hotel, Killarney

Day Five ~ Gap of Dunloe Tour

Today visit the Gap of Dunloe, a natural mountain wonder surrounding a great glacial breach valley. The area boasts beautiful scenery of the Tomies and Purple Mountains on one side and Magillicuddy's Reeks on the other. There are also lovely lakes in this area, including Black Lake, otherwise known as Serpent Lake, where St. Patrick is reputed to have drowned the last snake in Ireland. While enjoying the breathtaking landscape, feel free to stop in nearby Moriarity's, which has a large selection of fine Irish-made goods. In the evening you are free to choose from the many restaurants and pubs that Killarney has to offer. Overnight: Killarney Plaza Hotel, Killarney

Day Six ~ Ring of Kerry Tour



Today explore the Ring of Kerry 100 miles of marvelous scenery consisting of the highest peaks in Ireland on one side and a coastline scattered with golden beaches and rocky headlands on the other. Enjoy plenty of stops to view the scenery and take photos. Travel through Glenbeigh and Cahirciveen and on to Waterville and the colorful village of Sneem. Stop at Moll's Gap for a view of the three lakes of Killarney with the mountains and the town in the background. Return to Killarney for some free time to look around the town before dining in your hotel. Dinner & Overnight: Killarney Plaza Hotel, Killarney

Day Seven ~ Jaunting Car & Muckross House

Today an old-fashioned horse drawn jaunting car will bring you through the Killarney National Park, which is closed to motorized vehicles. Drive along the shores of Lough Leane to Muckross House, an elegant 19th century mansion set beside the tranquil Muckross Lake. A guided tour around the manor house will fill you in on some local history and the family ties to the United States. Enjoy the elegant rooms and rich furnishings. Return to Killarney where the balance of the afternoon and evening are at leisure for independent activities and dining. Overnight: Killarney Plaza Hotel, Killarney

Day Eight ~ Adare, Limerick Tour & Bunratty

Leave Killarney and drive north away from the mountains and into the fertile grazing lands of County Limerick. Stop in the village of Adare to view its main street with picturesque thatched cottages and colorful gardens. You will have an opportunity to take some photos. Continue your drive into Limerick for a panoramic tour of the city, which features the sights made famous in Frank McCourt's biography, "Angela's Ashes." Pass the 13th century King John's Castle in the center of the town. This imposing fortress with its massive walls and towers has guarded the River Shannon crossing for the past 700 years. Cross the River Shannon and arrive in the village of Bunratty where you will have some free time to explore some of the attractions near your hotel – choose from the Bunratty Folk Park, Dirty Nelly's Pub or the Bunratty Village Mills. In the evening join your fellow travelers for a farewell dinner at the famous Bunratty Castle..A medieval banquet with music, wine and fun! Dinner & Overnight: Bunratty Castle Hotel, Bunratty



Day Nine ~ Return to the United States

Sadly, today your Irish vacation has come to its final day. Transfer to Shannon Airport in good time to check in for your flight. You may do some last minute shopping at the duty free stores. Then clear U.S. Immigration before boarding your aircraft and flying across the Atlantic Ocean back to the United States.

Optional ~ One night stay in Dromoland Castle



With an extraordinary history stretching back to the 5th Century, the Dromoland Castle 5 Star Hotel in Ireland was originally the ancestral home of eight generations of the O'Brien's. Now, seamlessly blending Old-World elegance with contemporary luxuries, Dromoland's tradition of delivering impeccable, unobtrusive service is never compromised.

Additional \$250.00 per person based on double occupancy