

## SMALL TOWNS, BACK ROADS & CASTLES

AUG. 12 – 24, 2023

\$2,895.00 per person land only

**SAT. 12<sup>TH</sup>** Depart for overnight flight. Meal served on board.

**SUN. 13<sup>TH</sup>** Arrive in Dublin where we will be met by our driver/guide, Mike Hogan. Mike will escort us to our private motorcoach and begin our journey together. Our first stop will be to visit **Trim Castle** in Co. Meath. **Here a local guide will take us on a walking tour of the castle.** (beware there are steps). This is a great way to stretch our legs after the long journey. Trim Castle is the largest Anglo-Norman Castle in Ireland which took 30 years to build. After our visit we continue on to the beautiful town of **Carrick on Shannon** for three nights. Take some time to relax and freshen up before we meet for **dinner** tonight in our hotel. **(D) Landmark Hotel, Carrick on Shannon.**

**MON. 14<sup>TH</sup>** Enjoy a relaxing morning and explore a little of Carrick on Shannon. Check out St. George's Church and Costello Chapel (the smallest church in Europe) or just take a walk along the River. This afternoon we will enjoy a **cruise on the River Shannon on the "Moon River" boat.** [www.moonriver.ie](http://www.moonriver.ie) Tonight why not check out some of the pubs and restaurants. **(B) Landmark Hotel, Carrick on Shannon**

**TUE. 15<sup>TH</sup>** This morning we will visit The **Arigna Mining Experience** [www.arignaminingexperience.ie](http://www.arignaminingexperience.ie) This is a look back at mining in Ireland and guided by local miners who worked the mines for years. This will be a truly unique experience. After our visit we will make a stop at **Boyle Abbey**, the remains of a Cistercian Friary founded by St. Malachy in the 12<sup>th</sup> Century. It's then back to Carrick On Shannon with the remainder of the afternoon and evening free to explore on your own. **(B) Landmark Hotel**

**WED. 16<sup>TH</sup>** So long to Carrick on Shannon as we head further west thru beautiful **Connemara** with stops along the way. Our final destination is the town of **Clifden** where you can take some time to explore on your own before we can check into our beautiful hotel. Tonight we will enjoy a **dinner** together in the hotel. **(B D) Abbeyglenn Castle Hotel**

**THUR. 17<sup>TH</sup>** Our stay in Clifden was short but beautiful. We continue on this morning thru more of beautiful **Connemara** with stops along the way. We'll stop in **Galway** and give you time for some lunch and shopping. Our final destination is the village of **Ennistimon**. Our hotel is located overlooking a beautiful water fall. Take some time to yourself before we meet for **dinner** in our hotel. **(B D) Falls Hotel, Ennistimon.**

**FRI. 18<sup>TH</sup>** Today's adventure takes us into the amazing **Burren Region**. We will make a visit to **Caherconnell Stone Fort & Sheep Dog Demonstration.** <https://caherconnell.com/> Here you will learn about these stone forts dating back over 1,000 years. We will enjoy watching the amazing border collies herding the sheep just by a whistle from the farmer. We'll also make a stop at the **Poulnabron Dolmen.** <https://www.burrengeopark.ie/> We then return to Ennistimon with the remainder of the evening free. Tonight let's take a walk down to **Cooley's Pub** at the end of the drive. Pat & Joan will certainly have a big welcome for us. **(B) Falls Hotel, Ennistimon**

**SAT. 19<sup>TH</sup>** So long to Ennistimon as we head for the **Majestic Cliffs of Moher**. These cliffs rise 700 feet above the wild Atlantic. Take some time to hike/walk to the top for some great photos (weather permitting). Enjoy the interpretive center and of course the gift shops. We continue on south to catch the **Ferry to cross the River Shannon** into Co. Kerry. We'll make a stop in **Listowel** and visit the famous **John B. Keane's Pub** home of the famous Playwright John B. Keane. His son Billy will entertain with some storytelling and maybe bring in a musician. We continue on to our final destination of the tiny village of **Sneem** situated on the Ring of Kerry. Take some time to relax or walk around this beautiful area. Tonight we will enjoy **dinner** together in our hotel. **(B D) Sneem Hotel, Sneem**

**SUN. 20<sup>TH</sup>** Today is a scenic day exploring the wild and rugged **Beara Peninsula** and surrounding area. We'll leave it up to Mike as to where he will take us!! It's back to the village of Sneem with the evening free to check out the restaurants and quaint pubs. **(B) Sneem Hotel, Sneem**

**MON. 21<sup>ST</sup>** So long to sweet Sneem as we being our journey back east. We will make a visit to the world famous **Blarney Castle**. Here you can climb to the top to kiss the magical stone, enjoy a walk around the gardens and do some great shopping at **Blarney Woolen Mills**. We will continue on to our final destination of **Castledermot** and our hotel **Kilkea Castle Hotel**. For those who may be interested you could play a quick round of golf on the property. We will enjoy **dinner** together tonight in a beautiful setting on the castle grounds. **(B D) Kilkea Castle Hotel**

**TUE. 22<sup>ND</sup>** After a lovely breakfast it's time to head back to Dublin. We will make a visit to the famous **Guinness Storehouse** for a **self-guided tour** and enjoy a **complimentary pint at the Gravity Bar** on the top floor. We will then continue on to the seaside village of **Malahide** just a short distance outside Dublin City. It's a lovely area to walk around and enjoy. Tonight try the restaurants in the hotel or walk into the village and enjoy a bite. **(B) Grand Hotel, Malahide**

**WED. 23<sup>RD</sup>** **Today is all yours to decide what to do.** Mike will take you into Dublin City Center in the morning and do a wee **orientation city tour** to point out many places to enjoy. He will arrange to pick you up later in the day or you have the option of taking a bus or cab back. Or you may like to just relax and enjoy Malahide. Check out Malahide Castle and Gardens, take a stroll around town or maybe get in a round of golf. Tonight we will enjoy a **farewell dinner** together in the hotel **(B D) Grand Hotel, Malahide**

**THRU. 24<sup>TH</sup>** Sadly our journey together has come to an end. Mike will get us back to the airport in plenty of time to check in for our flights home.

**Cost: \$2,895.00 per person sharing.** This is based on a minimum of 20 people traveling. If we fail to reach the minimum a price adjustment will become necessary or the tour could be canceled.

**A Single Room is available for an additional \$605.00.** We are limited to the first 5 single rooms at this rate.

**Includes:** 11 nights 4 Star Hotel Accommodations, full Irish breakfast each day except arrival, 6 dinners, transportation by private motorcoach with services of professional Bord Failte Approved Driver/Guide, Mike Hogan. All surcharges and taxes, portfolio of tour documents including small backpack and umbrella. Handling of one suitcase. Loads of fun and laughs and all around good time!

**Visits & Admission to:** Trim Castle Tour, Moon River Boat Cruise, Arigna Mines Tour, Boyle Abbey, Connemara, free time Galway, Burren Region, Caherconnel Stone Fort & Sheep Dog Demo. Poul nabron Dolmen, Cliffs of Moher, John B Keane's Pub, Beara Peninsula & More, Blarney Castle & Woolen Mills, Dublin City Tour, Guinness Storehouse. Loads of free time to walk and explore and meet the locals.

**Not Included:** Airfare, Trip Insurance, Tip to your drive/guide. Group air will be offered out of Orlando. We no longer offer trip insurance but highly recommend you shop on line and purchase whichever suits your needs.

**Tip to your driver:** We recommend €15 per day per person. This is just a suggestion you may tip as you please.

**DEPOSIT:** A deposit of \$500 is due immediately to secure your spot. \$250 becomes non-refundable prior to final payment and entire deposit is non-refundable after final payment is made.

**CHECKS ONLY FOR DEPOSIT PLEASE**

**MAKE PAYABLE TO: TOUR GALORE AND MAIL TO**

**26 Juniper Lane Duluth, MN (June – October)**

**4602 Wood Stork Drive, Merritt Island, FL 32953 (Nov. – May)**

**FINAL PAYMENT IS DUE BY: JUNE 16, 2023**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT:**

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[www.Toursgalore.co](http://www.Toursgalore.co)

This tour is subject to change due to weather conditions or the discretion of Tours Galore or Mike Hogan. Price is based on estimated exchange rates and VAT (value added tax). Should a radical change occur a price adjustment may become necessary.

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