



STERLING

TOURS LTD

Presents

A Private Tour to Ireland

Booking Reference: 11975



Your Itinerary in Detail

07 July: Arrival in Dublin, Céad Míle Fáilte. Private arrival transfer with orientation tour of the city.



Upon arrival at Dublin Airport from ORD on UA 980 @ 11.10AM, you will be met by one of our top-class local drivers and escorted to a luxury vehicle and privately transferred into Dublin's Fair City. Upon arrival at Terminal 2, your driver will be waiting at the yellow sculpture (after you collect your luggage and enter main arrivals hall). Your driver/guide will conduct a short orientation tour of the city including some of the major sights, subject to traffic conditions and timings. You will certainly get a feel for this great

city before checking into your centrally located hotel. The rest of the day is free for you to rest and relax and enjoy.

Welcome to Dublin, a city that is as intimate as a village and as friendly as an Irish pub. Framed by mountains, set on a river and edged by a beautiful bay, the city's streets and alleys are filled with vibrant art and historic buildings, hip cafés and traditional "old man" pubs, as Dubliners call them. Walk the streets and you will feel the energy of over 1,000 years of history, as echoes of the Vikings mix with buzzing boutiques, cobbled streets reverberate with the sounds of buskers, and 18th century parks play host to festivals, film, and food markets.

2 nights at the Merrion Hotel in 2 Junior Suites inclusive of breakfast

08 July: Private Full Day Tour of Dublin Including the Guinness Storehouse

Today you will enjoy a full day tour of Dublin city centre with your driver/guide in a luxury vehicle. Your driver will discuss your interests with you and tailor the day to your preferences. Entrances are included to The Book of Kells, St Patrick's Cathedral, and the self-guided tour at The Guinness Storehouse.





The Book of Kells: Welcome to the Old Library and the Book of Kells - a “must see” on the itinerary of all visitors to Dublin. Located in the heart of Dublin City, a walk through the cobbled stones of Trinity College Dublin will bring visitors back to the 18th century, when the magnificent Old Library building was constructed. Inside is housed the Book of Kells - a 9th-century gospel manuscript famous throughout the world.

Saint Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin, Ireland, founded in 1191, is the National Cathedral of the Church of Ireland. With its 43-metre spire, St. Patrick's is the tallest and largest church in Ireland.



Guinness Storehouse: Find out exactly what it takes to make beer the Guinness way. From our famous strain of yeast to the passion shared by all our brewers, we go to extraordinary lengths to bring you the world's number-one stout. Where better to savour a perfectly poured pint of the black stuff than sitting high above Dublin's historic rooftops? Broaden your horizons with 360° views across the city's magnificent skyline.

09 July: Dublin to Ardmore in County Waterford via Wexford

Depart Dublin with your driver/guide in a luxury minivan this morning. Travel south to County Wexford where you can see where your ancestors are from – spend as much time here as you wish. Continue to Waterford City where you will enjoy a visit to the Waterford Crystal Factory. Later, travel on to your hotel and check in for an evening at leisure.

Waterford Crystal: Entrances are included for the factory tour of Waterford Crystal. Nothing compares with the atmosphere of the blowing room, the heady mix of heat, noise and bustling activity makes this experience even more breath-taking as you edge closer to the 1400c furnace. You will see red-hot molten crystal take shape, in a miracle of light, heat and skill. Our craftsmen are meticulous, and you can watch as they transform glowing balls of molten crystal into elegant shapes with skills that have made two hundred years of perfection clearly visible in every piece.



Explore the City of Waterford, Ireland's oldest city founded by Vikings in 914AD. This seaport in the Southeast of Ireland is also a treasure trove of artefacts and architecture as well as good shopping and good restaurants.

2 nights at Cliff House Hotel in 2 Deluxe King Balcony Suites inclusive of breakfast

10 July: Full Day Touring to Cobh and Kinsale

After breakfast you will meet with your driver/guide and travel south to Co. Cork for a visit to the town of Cobh where we include a visit to the Queenstown Story. Afterwards, travel to the seaside village of Kinsale for some time to explore. Return to Cliff House Hotel for your overnight



The Queenstown Story: A remarkable story of Cobh's unique origins, its history & legacy are dramatically recalled at Cobh, the Queenstown Story. Our stunning multimedia exhibition is in Cobh's restored Victorian Railway Station. On your visit here you can explore the conditions on board the early emigrant vessels, including the dreaded "coffin ships." Experience life on board a convict ship leaving Cobh for Australia in 1801.

Discover Queenstown's special connections with the ill-fated Titanic which sank on her maiden voyage – Cobh was her last port of call. Witness the tragic story of the Lusitania, which sank off Cork Harbour. Learn about Annie Moore and her 2 brothers who left Cobh for a new life in America – Annie was the 1st immigrant ever to be processed in Ellis Island and discover your Irish ancestry with our Genealogy Record Finder Service.

The harbour town of Kinsale, offers a fantastic range of quality shops and boutiques with many unique designs and great gift ideas. Beautiful clothing, homewares, art, and jewellery make Kinsale a destination for the discerning shopper. Also, many shops and galleries are happy to post/courier your purchases so they can follow you home! Kinsale enjoys an excellent reputation for fantastic restaurants, cafes and bars serving delicious, quality food with a great atmosphere. Chefs are fortunate to have the highest quality ingredients available from several local producers. Known as 'the Gourmet Capital of Ireland,' Kinsale is proud to be considered a 'Foodie Town' and a food tour with Kinsale Food Tours is a must!



11 July: To Kenmare via Cork City and Blarney Castle

Check out after breakfast and travel to the city of Cork for some time to explore and to enjoy a stop at The English Market. Continue to Blarney Castle for an included visit. Travel to Co. Kerry where you will arrive in the town of Kenmare in the afternoon and check in to your hotel.



Cork is Ireland's second largest city in the southwest of Ireland. Famous for Blarney Castle, the Blarney Stone, and the 18th century indoor English Market. Perhaps a visit to Crawford Art Gallery, Cork Opera House, sample the many seafood bistros or visit some of Cork's long-standing pubs which serve classic Irish food.

The English Market is a civic space, a meeting place, a thoroughfare, and a bustling social hub of the city. With its variety of products, the pride of place accorded to small traders, the personalised service, the growing emphasis on organic products and reliance on small-scale producers, it is forever popular.

A mix of traditional Cork fare and exciting new foods from afar, along with longstanding family-run stalls and newcomers from outside, all contribute to its unique appeal, which is celebrated widely, especially by visitors to the city.



Blarney Castle was built nearly six hundred years ago by one of Ireland's greatest chieftains, Cormac MacCarthy. Over the last few hundred years, millions have flocked to Blarney making it a world-famous landmark and one of Ireland's greatest treasures. Now, that might have something to do with the Blarney Stone, the legendary Stone of Eloquence, found at the top of our tower. Kiss it and you will never again be lost for words.

Kenmare, the Irish name of the town Neidin, means little nest. Founded in 1670, though many generations have passed since then, the unique charm and inherent beauty of the town remains unchanged. The Tourist Board, *Bórd Fáilte*, officially recognised the historical, cultural, and environmental significance of Kenmare by bestowing upon it the title of Kerry's first Heritage Town. Kenmare is a haven of tranquillity, gourmet food and breath-taking scenery in one of the most natural, unspoilt environments in Europe. Cradled in the heart of Kenmare Bay, the picturesque town of Kenmare is the perfect location from which to discover the Southwest of Ireland, linking the internationally famous Ring of Kerry with the rugged Ring of Beara.



3 nights at Sheen Falls Lodge in 2 Suites inclusive of breakfast

12 July: The Ring of Kerry

After breakfast today, meet with your driver/ guide for a full day tour of the Ring of Kerry. You will travel from Killarney to Killorglin, via Glenbeigh and continue to see dramatic views over Dingle Bay to Cahersiveen, the birthplace of Daniel O'Connell – Ireland's Great Liberator. Time permitting, take a detour to see Valentia Island and the Skellig Ring where you can see stunning coastal views out to the Skellig Island (used in the latest Star Wars film, please note it is a longer day to do this). There will be time to enjoy an optional lunch. You will continue your journey with some of the most beautiful sights in Ireland, through Sneem and via Molls Gap, you will see the Gap of Dunlo and travel along ladies' view and along the 3 lakes and the Killarney National Park arriving in Killarney in the mid-afternoon. Perhaps visit Muckross House and Gardens or take a short hike to the Torc Waterfall before returning to your hotel. The evening is free; however, we will add tickets to the stunning Irish show Celtic Steps, with round trip transfers.



13 July: The Killarney National Park and Local Touring with your Driver Guide

Enjoy a full day with your driver/ guide for local sightseeing. We include a jaunting car trip through the Killarney National Park which will end at Ross Castle. You may wish to visit Ross Castle before an included scheduled hour-long cruise on Lough Leane. Meet your driver after the boat trip and you can discuss options for the remainder of the day.

Killarney was established as a tourism resort in the year 1750, it was built on a perfectly natural site adjacent to the 3 lakes which make up Killarney National Park. The town is set against the backdrop of the McGillicuddy Reeks Mountain Range on the shores of Lough Leane. Your driver/guide will conduct an orientation tour of the town, you can see dramatic views over the lakes and mountains from Aghadoe. The hospitality in Killarney is legendary and no better place to enjoy the culture of the town. There are many great pubs most of which serve delightful locally sourced food and will have music in the evenings. There are many superb restaurants, and your driver/guide or hotel concierge can advise, or we can make reservations on your behalf.



Killarney National Park, near the town of Killarney, County Kerry, was the first national park in Ireland, created when the Muckross Estate was donated to the Irish Free State in 1932. The park has since been expanded and encompasses over 102.89 km² of diverse ecology, including the Lakes of Killarney, oak and yew woodlands of international importance, and mountain peaks. It has the only red deer herd on mainland Ireland and the most extensive covering of native forest remaining in Ireland. The park is of high ecological value because of the quality, diversity, and extensiveness of many of its habitats and the wide variety of species that they accommodate, some of which are rare. The park was designated a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in 1981 and forms part of a Special Area of Conservation.



14 July: Killarney to Galway via Adare and The Cliffs of Moher

After breakfast today you will meet with your driver/guide and travel north with a short stop in Adare regarded as Irelands prettiest town. Later travel northwest to The Cliffs of Moher where entrance is included to the visitor centre. Continue via the Burren National Park to your County Galway hotel.



Adare: Ireland's Prettiest Town. You will stop in Adare at the heritage centre where you can discover the heritage of this beautiful village. In the town there are the remains of a Norman Castle, a Franciscan Friary, and an Abbey. In the centre of Town is Ireland's only Trinitarian Church and across the road are the stunning thatched cottages. There will be time to enjoy a tea or coffee in the Heritage centre.

The Cliffs of Moher is a sheer precipice that stretches for 5 miles along another part of the Wild Atlantic Way. The Cliffs of Moher rise to a height of 668 feet above the Atlantic and is one of the most impressive coastlines in Ireland. In nesting season, the cliffs are home to a variety of seabirds. Entrances to the Cliffs of Moher Visitors Centre is included. In the afternoon, there will be time to see the Burren Region a remarkable landscape of Limestone and littered with Neolithic sites dating back 6,000 years. Your entrances have been included.



The Burren National Park: The word “Burren” comes from an Irish word “Boíreann” meaning a rocky place. This is an extremely appropriate name when you consider the lack of soil cover and the extent of exposed Limestone Pavement. However, it has been referred to in the past as “Fertile rock” due to the mixture of nutrient rich herb and floral species. In 1651 a Cromwellian Army Officer named Ludlow remarked, “of this barony it is said that it is a country where there is not water enough to drown a man, wood enough to hang one, nor earth enough to bury them. This grass is so scarce that the inhabitants steal it from one another and yet their cattle are very fat. The grass grows in tufts of earth up to three-foot-square which lies between the limestone rocks and is extremely sweet and nourishing.”

Galway City is also known as the City of Tribes and is a swirl of colourful shop-lined streets filled with buskers and performance artists, enticing old pubs that hum with traditional music sessions throughout the year, and an increasingly sophisticated food scene that celebrates local produce.



4 nights at Glenlo Abbey in 2 Grand Suites inclusive of breakfast

15 July: A Free Day in Galway City

Enjoy a day at leisure to relax in the hotel. You may wish to take a cab into Galway City to do some shopping and explore. The hotel reception / concierge are there to assist you with any arrangements or requirements.

16 July: Knock Shrine and Roscommon

Meet your driver/guide this morning and travel to Knock Shrine for some time to reflect.

Afterwards, continue to Strokestown, where you may wish to stop at the County Roscommon Heritage and Genealogy Centre. Here they conduct genealogy research for people with Roscommon roots and undertakes research into families resident in County Roscommon before 1900. It is run by a community-owned company, affiliated to the Irish Family History Foundation.

The centre is situated at the west end of the main street in Strokestown and has a broad base of genealogical data which includes church and civil records of births, marriages, and deaths all available pre-1900. There are also land and census records and other historical materials pertaining to individual parishes. You may wish to contact the team to have them trace your family for you - full details at <https://www.roscommonroots.com/> Return to Galway in the late afternoon.

17 July: The Glistening Lakelands of Connemara including Kylemore Abbey



After breakfast today you will travel into the West through the glistening Lakelands, see an ever-changing vista with the 12 bens as the backdrop. See the world's largest natural bogland at Roundstone. See the town of Clifden and hear about its amazing history from the first transatlantic crossing of an aircraft to the Marconi telegraph site. Travel up the sky road for some truly breath-taking scenes of the Wild Atlantic Way before arriving at Kylemore Abbey where entrance fees are included. In the evening return to your hotel for an evening at your leisure.

Kylemore Abbey & Victorian Walled Garden: Here you will visit the restored rooms of the Abbey and learn about its history and tales of tragedy and romance. Explore the 6-acre Victorian Walled Garden with its magnificent, restored buildings. Discover woodland walks, lakeshore walks, nature trails and children's play trail throughout the 1,000-acre estate. The beautiful Gothic Church is a short walk from the Abbey. Nestled nearby is the Mausoleum where Mitchell and Margaret Henry are buried side by side. Children will enjoy making a wish at the Giant's Ironing Stone. Enjoy delicious home baking and home cooked food at Mitchell's Café or The Garden Tea House and finish your visit with a spot of shopping at our lovely craft and design shop.



18 July: Galway to Clare - A Full Day with your Driver / Guide

This morning you will meet your driver/guide and travel to Dromoland Castle in County Clare. Enjoy a stop to tour Bunratty Castle and Folk Park. Entrances included.

Bunratty Castle & Folk Park is the most complete and authentic medieval fortress in Ireland. Built in 1425, it was restored in 1954 to its former medieval splendor and now contains 15th and 16th century furnishings, tapestries and works of art which capture the mood of those times. At Bunratty Folk Park, enjoy the sights, sounds, tastes, and scents of this enchanting place as you stroll from house to house or around the charming village street complete with school, post office, doctors house, hardware shop and printers and of course McNamara's pub!



2 nights at Dromoland Castle in 2 Viscount Deluxe King Rooms inclusive of breakfast

19 July: Free Day at Dromoland Castle

Dromoland Castle: Today is free for you to explore Dromoland Castle, a magnificent playground of country pursuits. Dromoland Castle's 450-acre estate offers up so many opportunities for fun. Surrounded by County Clare's rolling hills, your stay can be as chilled out or high energy as you wish. Perhaps schedule some archery, clay shooting or falconry where you might be lucky enough to see some of the other wildlife that call Dromoland home such as deer or pheasant. Dromoland Lough is excellent for trout fishing or boating, with the bonus of distractingly good views of the Castle. You would like Dromoland Castle's 18-hole championship golf course or simply a day in the hotel spa. We would be happy to arrange activities of your choice ahead of your trip.

20 July: Private Departure Transfer Dromoland to Shannon

After check-out today you will meet your driver for a private transfer to Shannon Airport for your return flight to the U.S.A, UA 289 @ 9.30AM.

WHERE YOU ARE STAYING HOTEL SELECTIONS



[MERRION HOTEL - DUBLIN](#)

The Merrion, located in the heart of Dublin city centre, is the capital's most luxurious 5-star hotel, and a proud member of The Leading Hotels of the World. The Merrion is a marriage of exquisite comfort and relaxed elegance.



[CLIFF HOUSE HOTEL - WATERFORD](#)

Cliff House Hotel is a five star, privately owned luxury hotel located close to Cork and Waterford. Clinging to a cliff on the south side of Ardmore Bay it is regarded as one of the finest small luxury hotels in Ireland.



[SHEEN FALLS LODGE - KERRY](#)

Overlooking the picturesque Sheen Falls, this five-star Relais & Chateaux hotel, is renowned for its 2AA Rosette restaurant and luxurious rooms, suites, and villas. Set on the Wild Atlantic Way, outside the town of Kenmare, Co Kerry, Sheen Falls Lodge is an unforgettable base for your Irish holiday, providing the ultimate in hospitality.



[GLENLO ABBEY - GALWAY](#)

Glenlo Abbey which has been welcoming guests since 1740, is nestled peacefully on a stunning 138-acre estate on the edge of Ireland's largest lake, Lough Corrib.



[DROMOLAND CASTLE](#) - CLARE

Ireland's most magical address, Dromoland Castle, has been welcoming guests since the 16th century. The 5-star ancestral home of the O'Brien's of Dromoland, whose lineage dates back 1,000 years to Brian Boru, one of the last High Kings of Ireland.

What's Included?

Please see below for complete list of included services

Accommodation is included for 13 nights at the following hotels including breakfast.

Date	Nts	City	Hotel	Accommodation
Fri 07 Jul 23	2	Dublin	Merrion Hotel	2 Junior Suites
Sun 09 Jul 23	2	Waterford	Cliff House Hotel	2 Suites
Tue 11 Jul 23	3	Kerry	Sheen Falls Lodge	2 Suites
Fri 14 Jul 23	4	Galway	Glenlo Abbey	2 Grand Suites
Tue 18 Jul 23	2	Clare	Dromoland Castle	2 Viscount Deluxe King Rooms

Transport

Date	City	Service	
Fri 07 Jul 23	Dublin	Arrival transfer with orientation tour	Private Service
Sat 08 Jul 23	Dublin	Full Day Tour of Dublin	with Driver/Guide
Sun 09 Jul 23	Dublin	Dublin to Waterford via Wexford	with Driver/Guide
Mon 10 Jul 23	Cork	Queenstown Story and Kinsale	with Driver/Guide
Tue 11 Jul 23	Cork	To Kenmare via Cork and Blarney	with Driver/Guide
Wed 12 Jul 23	Kerry	The Ring of Kerry	with Driver/Guide
Thu 13 Jul 23	Kerry	Killarney - Local Touring	Private Service
Fri 14 Jul 23	Kerry	Killarney to Galway via Cliffs of Moher	with Driver/Guide
Sun 16 Jul 23	Galway	Knock Shrine and Roscommon	with Driver/Guide
Mon 17 Jul 23	Galway	Connemara including Kylemore Abbey	with Driver/Guide
Tue 18 Jul 23	Galway	Galway to Clare via Bunratty	with Driver/Guide
Thu 20 Jul 23	Clare	Transfer Dromoland to Shannon	Private

Services

Date	Service	
Sat 08 Jul 23	The Book of Kells	Entrance Fee
Sat 08 Jul 23	St Patrick's Cathedral	Entrance Fee
Sat 08 Jul 23	Guinness Storehouse	Entrance Fee
Sun 09 Jul 23	Waterford Crystal	Entrance Fee
Mon 10 Jul 23	The Queenstown Story	Entrance Fee
Tue 11 Jul 23	Blarney Castle	Entrance Fee
Fri 14 Jul 23	Cliffs of Moher	Entrance Fee
Mon 17 Jul 23	Kylemore Abbey and Victorian Walled Garden	Entrance Fee
Tue 18 Jul 23	Bunratty Castle & Folk Park	Entrance Fee

All communications costs, hotels taxes and fees are also included and the services of our professional travel experts on the ground are available to you 24/7 days a week throughout your trip

WHATS NOT INCLUDED: Flights, tips to your driver/guide and guides and anything not mentioned above