



Andy Cooney's Musical Tour of Ireland

October 8th to 18th, 2019
\$3399 per person from JFK
\$699 single supplement



ITINERARY

Perfect for regular walkers, some days will be more challenging than others and the terrain will be varied with some rough and rugged footpaths. More ascent and descent involved, so a good level of fitness will be required. Air departure tax, fuel & surcharges are subject to change until entire group is confirmed and ticketed.

Tuesday, October 8th - UNITED STATES TO DUBLIN

Depart JFK on Delta flight 44 at 10pm for Dublin. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service on your overnight flight. For those of you booked on other airlines we'll meet you upon arrival at Dublin Airport.

Wednesday, October 9th - DUBLIN ARRIVAL & KINNITTY CASTLE

After landing at Dublin Airport, complete customs and immigration formalities. Your Caddie Tours driver/guide will welcome you to Ireland and escort you and your luggage to the coach. Next, stop for breakfast at the **Coachman's Inn** with your group. Travel through the heartland of Ireland to **Offaly**. Check into your hotel and join your fellow travelers for dinner in the hotel restaurant. **Kinnitty Castle Hotel** is a gothic revival Castle located at the foothill of the Slieve Bloom Mountains in County Offaly, in the heart of Ireland. The Castle has had a long and turbulent history. The first Castle at Kinnitty was destroyed in 1209 and was later rebuilt by the Normans in 1213. Later the Normans were driven out by the powerful Gaelic clan, the O'Carroll's of Ely. The Castle was rebuilt in 1928 and the Bernard family lived there until 1946 when it was sold to Lord Decies who in turn sold the Castle to the State in 1951. The state retained ownership until 1994, during which time it became a forestry college, and has since been transformed into a luxury 37 bedroom hotel. Today, Kinnitty Castle Hotel can be enjoyed by visitors from all over the World. It offers a 60 seater restaurant, a Library Bar, which houses an unique collection of antique books and journals, and a unique Dungeon Bar.



DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: KINNITTY CASTLE, OFFALY (B,D)

Thursday, October 10th - BIRR CASTLE

The Award-Winning Gardens of **Birr Castle Gardens and Science Centre** in Ireland and the Science Centre are both rich in amazing feats of science and engineering as well as rare trees and flowers, wonderful wildlife, and walks along peaceful rivers and the lake. The Parsons family invite you to explore one of the most extraordinary places in Ireland. Created over generations it is an environmental and scientific time capsule. We'll have lunch at the **White House** in Roscrea with a visit to the castle next door. It boasts several awards including Black & White County Pub of the year, **Bewley's Best Restaurant**, Guinness cleanest beer lines in Ireland Award. Return to Kinnitty Castle where Andy Cooney will perform for the group after dinner in the Banquet Hall.



DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: KINNITTY CASTLE, OFFALY (B,D)

Friday, October 11th - FOYNES MUSEUM

After breakfast we depart for Limerick and onto Foynes to visit the Flying Boat Boat & Maritime Museum and see how these great machines changed the world of travel. Discover the story behind the Irish Coffee and sample this authentic drink. Continue on to Tralee for our three night stay at the Rose Hotel.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: THE ROSE HOTEL, TRALEE (B,D)

Saturday, October 12th - DINGLE PENINSULA

After breakfast we depart for the Dingle Peninsula. The journey begins with some of the most magnificent scenery in All of Ireland. The little town of Dingle is straight out of a story book. The fishing boats in the harbor and tiny brightly painted pubs portray a time that has continued to stand still. The population of 1500 people and only 52 pubs are ready to welcome you this afternoon. Worth the wait is the native seafood chowder served up at lunch time with freshly baked brown bread. We continue on to Sleat Head. Along the way, we will see beehive style huts, originally inhabited by 12th century monks, which overlook the rugged Blasket Islands. The awe inspiring beauty of this particular area is unmatched. There is no other landscape in western Europe with the density and variety of archaeological monuments as found on the Dingle Peninsula. We'll have some time to have lunch and explore the fishing village of Dingle. Return to your hotel and relax before dinner at the hotel restaurant with the group followed by a performance by Andy Cooney and friends.



DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: THE ROSE HOTEL, TRALEE (B,D)

Sunday, October 13th - FREE DAY IN TRALEE

Today we'll be a free day to explore the town of Tralee. It's known for the Rose of Tralee International Festival. A glass wall in Tralee Town Park bears the names of all the contestants in that festival's beauty pageant. The Kerry County Museum has galleries on local history and a re-creation of medieval Tralee. Although it's the county town, Tralee is down-to-earth and more engaged with the business of everyday life than the tourist trade, but a great museum and a wetlands centre make it well worth a stop. Founded by the Normans in 1216, Tralee has a long history of rebellion. In the 16th century the last ruling earl of the Desmonds was captured and executed here. His head was sent to Elizabeth I, who spiked it on London Bridge. The Desmond castle once stood at the junction of Denny St and the Mall, but any trace of medieval Tralee that survived the Desmond Wars was razed during the Cromwellian period. Elegant Denny St and Day Pl are the oldest parts of town, with 18th-century Georgian buildings, while the Square, just south of the Mall, is a contemporary open space.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: THE ROSE HOTEL, TRALEE (B,D)



Monday, October 14th - BLARNEY CASTLE & WOOLLEN MILLS

After breakfast we depart Dingle and head East towards Cork City. Our next stop Blarney Castle and its famous stone which legend has it will bequeath the "gift of eloquence" to all who kiss it. Shop at the historic woollen mills or have a quick pint in Christy's Pub! Continue on to Ballycotton with its golden, sandy, five-mile beach; the view of Ballycotton and its lighthouse, and the smiling faces at the Garryvoe Hotel will welcome you for our two night stay.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: GARRYVOE HOTEL, BALLYCOTTON (B,D)

Tuesday, October 15th - COBH HERITAGE CENTER

After breakfast we'll depart for Cobh (pronounced Cove), the last port of call of the Titanic and where many places associated with the liner exist. Visit the Cobh Heritage Center, which traces the history of emigration over a number of centuries from Ireland to North America. Visit St. Coleman's Cathedral - The Cathedral Church of St Colman, usually known as Cobh Cathedral, is a Roman Catholic Cathedral. It overlooks Cork Harbor from a prominent position. Construction began in 1867 and was not completed until over half a century later due to increases in costs and revisions of the original plans. The cathedral contains the only church carillon which, with 49 bells, is one of the largest carillons in Europe. An automated system strikes the hour and 15 minute intervals while it also rings the bells in appropriate form for Masses, funerals, weddings and events. The carillon is also played on special occasions and generally every Sunday afternoon by its current carillonneur Adrian Gebruers. Return to Garryvoe where Andy Cooney will perform for the group after dinner.



DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: GARRYVOE HOTEL, BALLYCOTTON (B,D)



Wednesday, October 16th - CAHIR CASTLE

After breakfast we'll depart for Dublin stopping to visit **Cahir Castle** - Once the stronghold of the powerful Butler family, the castle retains its impressive keep, tower and much of its original defensive structure. It is one of Ireland's largest and best preserved castles. It is situated on a rocky island on the River Suir. The castle's attractions include an excellent audio-visual show which informs visitors about the castle. You can lunch in town before we continue onto Dublin City for our two night stay at **Herbert Park Hotel**.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: HERBERT PARK HOTEL, BALLSBRIDGE

Thursday, October 17th DUBLIN CITY

After breakfast head out for an introductory tour of Dublin including O'Connell Street, St Stephen's Green, the seat of Government at Leinster House, and other buildings. Take a stroll through Trinity College to view the priceless 8th century Book of Kells, an illuminated manuscript of the four gospels. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure before we meet later and attend Taylor's Three Rock - an evening of traditional Irish song and dance accompanied by a great selection of quality Irish food to delight your palate.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: HERBERT PARK HOTEL, BALLSBRIDGE

Friday, October 18th - RETURN TO THE US

Transfer to Dublin Airport in plenty of time to check in for your flight to the US. You may do some last minute shopping at the duty free stores before boarding your aircraft and flying across the Atlantic Ocean back to the United States.