



Ireland with Alison 2020



September 4th to 12th 2020

\$2,299 (airfare not included)

***Single Supplement \$599 – limited to 4 per tour**

This tour is perfect for regular walkers, some days terrain will be varied with some rough and rugged footpaths with ascent and descent. A reasonable level of fitness will be required.

Alison Talks & Tours©

ITINERARY

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH - USA TO DUBLIN, IRELAND

Depart from your chosen US city and enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service on your overnight flight.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH - DUBLIN ARRIVAL – GUINNESS STOREHOUSE

Upon arrival your Tour Leader **Alison Kelly** and **Caddie Tours Driver/Guide** will welcome you and escort you and your luggage to the coach. We will travel to Alison's hometown, the lovely seaside town of Dun Laoghaire, to **The Royal Marine Hotel** where a full Irish breakfast will be ready upon arrival. After breakfast we will travel to Dublin City to visit the **Guinness Storehouse** Ireland's most popular tourist attraction. At the end of your tour enjoy your free pint of Guinness in the world-famous rooftop **Gravity Bar** with an unmatched view of Dublin City and surrounding mountains and bay. Afterwards we will return to our hotel for some downtime, or a stroll along the seafront and the beautiful **East Pier of Dun Laoghaire Harbour**. Join your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner at the hotel.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: ROYAL MARINE HOTEL DUBLIN (B,D)



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH – GLENDALOUGH & FAMINE SHIP, WEXFORD

After breakfast we will travel south through the majestic **Wicklow Mountains**, to **Glendalough National Park**, a place of stunning natural beauty and home to a 1,500-year-old ancient monastic settlement founded by Saint Kevin in the 6th century. Enjoy exploring the monastery ruins and breath-taking scenery and trails. Afterwards we will travel to the little village of **Avoca**, home to the famous **Avoca Hand weavers** a hand-weaving mill dating back to 1723. We will stop for lunch and an opportunity to do some gift shopping. We will then travel south to **New Ross, Co. Wexford** to visit the **Dunbrody Emigrant Ship**, a replica of the vessel used during the 1840s famine to transport starving people to the U.S and Canada. Join your fellow travelers for dinner tonight at the hotel and afterwards enjoy an evening exploring the village and local pubs.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: TOWER HOTEL WATERFORD (B,D)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH – VIKING TRIANGLE

After breakfast we will explore **The Viking Triangle** during a walking guided tour (1 hour) of Ireland's oldest city, including the Viking Boat replica, the Viking Sword and Reginald's Tower, followed by an Irish coffee in the Munster Bar. You are free to explore Waterford's many attractions for the rest of the day/evening. The Waterford Crystal Factory and Showrooms as well as the Medieval Museum are just two of the recommended places to visit. Enjoy the evening sampling local food and lively music in one of the many local restaurants and pubs.

OVERNIGHT: THE TOWER HOTEL WATERFORD (B)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH – JAMESON DISTILLERY AND COBH HERITAGE CENTER

After breakfast we will follow the coastal route to Middleton and the home of **Jameson Irish Whiskey**. Walk through the old buildings and see the largest pot still in the world while your guide explains how whiskey is made. At the end of your tour, enjoy a sampling of the finished product and enjoy a leisurely lunch. We will continue onto the beautiful seaside town of **Cobh** and enjoy a visit to the **Cobh Heritage Center**, which traces the history of emigration from Ireland to new worlds. Our boutique hotel **The WatersEdge** is a stroll away from all that Cobh has to offer. Join your fellow travelers for dinner in **Jacob's Ladder**. The restaurant sits facing the majestic **Cork Harbor**.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: THE WATERSEDGE HOTEL COBH (B,D)



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH – BLARNEY CASTLE & KILLARNEY

After breakfast we'll depart for **Blarney Castle** - Here you'll have an opportunity to climb the steps of the fortress and kiss the world-famous Blarney Stone to gain the gift of eloquence, wit and wisdom. Explore the beautiful gardens of the Castle. Visit the **Blarney Woolen Mills**, the largest emporium of Irish crafts in the country where we can browse the finely woven Irish woolen products. Lunch is available at several restaurants/pubs. We will continue onto **Killarney** for our two-night stay at the **Great Southern Hotel**. Join your fellow travelers for a wonderful dinner with a menu especially prepared for our group.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: GREAT SOUTHERN KILLARNEY (B,D)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH - JAUNTING CAR & LAKES OF KILLARNEY After breakfast we will be picked up from the hotel by horse-drawn jaunting cars and enjoy a tour through **Killarney National Park**, past **Muckross House to Ross Castle**. We will then take a cruise on Killarney's most picturesque lake, **Lough Léin**. Our captain will share stories of local heritage attractions including O'Sullivan's Cascade and the monastic ruins of Innisfallen Island, Bricin Bridge and the Copper Mines. We will have the afternoon and evening free to explore the many sights, shops, cafés and pubs in Killarney town and enjoy the entertainment provided by Irish musicians and singers.

OVERNIGHT: THE GREAT SOUTHERN KILLARNEY (B)



FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 11TH – FLYING BOAT MUSEUM & BUNRATTY CASTLE After breakfast we depart for the town of **Foynes**, home of the original Irish Coffee and fascinating **Flying Boat & Maritime Museum**. See how these great machines changed the world of travel and the important role Foynes played as the biggest European civilian airport in WWII. Discover the story behind the Irish Coffee and sample this authentic drink with our group lunch at the museum. After lunch we will continue on to **Bunratty Castle Hotel**. In the evening we will join the **Earl of Thomond** for a glorious evening banquet at the majestic 15th century Bunratty Castle. The Earl's butler welcomes guests from the four corners of the world toasting an era of great Irish taste with excellent food, fine wine and honey mead.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: THE BUNRATTY CASTLE, BUNRATTY (B, L & D)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH - RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES

After breakfast we will take our final coach trip to Shannon Airport to check in for your return flight. There is ample duty-free shopping available at the airport before your take off.