



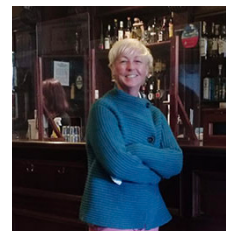
Back to my Roots Tour of Ireland

hosted by **Annette Foley**

September 22nd to October 1st 2023

\$3499 per person sharing Land only

\$1199 Single Supplement – limit 4 per tour



ITINERARY

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 22nd - DUBLIN ARRIVAL & JOHNNY FOXES

Cead Mile Failte –(literally ‘one hundred thousand welcomes’) Welcome to Ireland! After claiming your luggage and passing through Irish customs your Caddie Tours driver/guide will escort you to your luxury coach and transfer you to our hotel - The Royal Marine Hotel in Dun Laoghaire (Dun Leary). We will have transfers available from 7am-12 Noon based on your arrival time in Dublin. Enjoy the afternoon to relax, unwind and maybe enjoy a walk along the promenade. We'll meet in the lobby at 6pm and make our way to Johnny Foxes for some traditional Irish music from world famous singers and musicians with a lively performance of music, song and the very best of Irish dancing so prepare for a rip-roaring evening of traditional Irish song and dance accompanied by a delightful dinner.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: ROYAL MARINE HOTEL (B,D)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23rd – GAME OF THRONES STUDIO TOUR & BELFAST

After breakfast We travel north today to visit the Game of Thrones Studio Tour located at the authentic filming location of Linen Mill Studios in Banbridge, Northern Ireland, Game of Thrones Studio Tour invites you to step behind the scenes of The Seven Kingdoms and beyond. We will stop in Drogheda on our way north. Drogheda's name is derived from the Irish “Droichead Átha”, literally “bridge at the ford,” a name that encapsulates the reason for the settlement. There was a ford, and later a bridge, that formed part of the main North-South route on the East coast. It was a place for trade and defense. No wonder that two towns sprung up: Drogheda-in-Meath and Drogheda-in-Oriel. Finally, in 1412, the two Droghedas became one “County of the Town of Drogheda.” In 1898, the town, still retaining some independence, became part of County Louth. Prepare to experience the world of Game of Thrones like never before and explore how one of the world's greatest ever TV series was created and brought to life on screen. After lunch we will continue to Belfast, birthplace of the Titanic – (and once the second richest city in the British Empire!) We check in at the centrally located, The Grand Central Hotel. Join your fellow travelers later for dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: GRAND CENTRAL HOTEL, BELFAST (B,D)

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 24th - BELFAST CITY TOUR & TITANIC MUSEUM

After breakfast we will embark on a guided sightseeing tour of the city. Belfast is an attractive city today but has many remnants of its troubled past. Most notable are the impressive murals which depict the struggles as seen from the Republican and Loyalist sides but there is also an abundance of attractive pubs and restaurants and plenty of good shopping. Visit Titanic Belfast, this is a wonderful visitor attraction where you embark on a journey through the life of the Titanic, from her conception to her tragic end. It is located on the former site of Harland & Wolf Shipyard, where the Titanic was built and from where it set sail in 1912. There are several pubs and restaurants very convenient to the hotel and this is a night when you can go out and discover what the city has to offer.



OVERNIGHT: EUROPA HOTEL, BELFAST (B)

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 25th - BUSHMILLS DISTILLERY, GIANTS CAUSEWAY & DERRY

After a hearty Irish breakfast we continue our journey north to Ballymena, along the Antrim coast to Cusendall before we arrive in Bushmills to visit the famous distillery. In 1608, in Bushmills, a legend was born. In that year, King James I granted a very particular license to this small village, just a few miles inland from Northern Ireland's rugged north coast. The license gave Bushmills the right to distil whiskey. Today, Bushmills is home to the oldest licensed whiskey distillery in the world. Over 400 years later, they're still making whiskey in Bushmills. They're still using Irish barley - and the unique water from their own stream too. Four centuries' worth of craft and experience ensure that these whiskeys are amongst the most celebrated and the most savored in the world. But as master distiller Colum Egan says, ‘we're not good because we're old, we're old because we're good'. After lunch it's a short distance to visit the Giants Causeway – N. Ireland's premier tourist attraction. Geologists explain that these hexagonal columns were formed 60 million years ago when lava solidified but Irish mythology claims that Finn McCool was paving his way across to Scotland - hence the name. End your day at the Roe Park Resort in Limavady 15 miles west of the City of Derry. End your day at the newly opened Hotel Ebrington overlooking the river Foyle.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: HOTEL EBRINGTON DERRY (B, D)

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 26th – WALKING TOUR OF DERRY & WALLED CITY BREWERY

After breakfast we depart for the walled city of Derry. We'll take part in guided walking tour to give us a brief history with over fifty natural and built attractions in the region, such as Derry's Walls, The Bogside, The Peoples Gallery (Murals) The Bloody Sunday Story, The History of the Apprentice Boys, and The Marching Season Traditions. The tour has been listed by many as one of the best experiences they have had on their travels anywhere. Doire, aka Derry, aka Londonderry has 1,500 years of history and culture enclosed within Ireland's only completely walled city. From the sixth-century monastic settlement to the vibrant European city of the twenty-first century, no visit to Ireland is complete without a visit to Derry. We will walk across the Peace Bridge to have lunch at the Walled City Brewery. The Peace Bridge has become an integral part of Derry City's infrastructure and has changed the way local people use and view their city with over 3 million people having crossed it so far and many of the locals using it daily. Popular 24/7 it is never empty and while it certainly tells the local story of triumph over adversity it is nonetheless a universal symbol of peace that locals and visitors alike can relate to and resonate with, this bridge has become a kind of modern day place of pilgrimage. There is something very special indeed about it that sends shivers down your spine and is difficult to explain. It is one of those places you just have to go and see for yourself. There are even seats along it where people watch the river go by or stop and chat or even play music. The Walled City Brewery, a small gastropub on providing a uniquely local experience to all of our guests, from our one-of-a-kind craft beer, to our bold yet delicious menu, each and every experience shows what our little town truly has to offer. Return to our hotel and relax before joining your fellow travelers for dinner tonight in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: HOTEL EBRINGTON DERRY (B, D)

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 27th – GLENVEAGH NATIONAL PARK & DONEGAL

Leaving Derry, we continue to Glenveagh National Park that lies in the heart of the Derryveagh Mountains in northwest Donegal. The park covers 40,000 acres, a remote and hauntingly beautiful wilderness of rugged mountains, deep glens, pristine lakes, and a resident red deer herd. The centerpiece of the park is the 19th century Glenveagh Castle with its ornate gardens. The Visitors Center provides an audio-visual display and exhibit its the history of the park. We'll also see the highest mountain in Donegal, Mount Errigal on our way to Gweedore in the heart of the Donegal Gaeltacht and onto Leo's Tavern for lunch, the ancestral home of Clannad, Enya and Moya Brennan. We'll travel down through the Blue Stack Mountains through Dunloe before checking into The Mill Park Hotel in Donegal Town. Join your fellow travelers for dinner tonight in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: MILL PARK HOTEL DONEGAL (B,D)



THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 28th – SLIEVE LEAGUE & DONEGAL TOWN

Following breakfast, we drive through the fishing village of Killybegs and Teelin and travel to Slieve League Sea Cliffs, one of Ireland's best-kept secrets and a signature point of interest along the Wild Atlantic Way. Take in the astounding panoramic views of Slieve League swooping down from the mountain with a staggering 2000 feet drop into the swirling Atlantic Ocean below with amazing vistas. This stunning sight is three times higher than the Cliffs of Moher! We'll travel through gorgeous Glencolmille onto the town of Ardara for lunch and a visit to the Triona Design where we'll watch the fine art of hand weaving tweed at the loom woven with the same traditional skills that have been used for centuries. We then cross the Glengesh Pass stopping in Donegal Town for a stroll through the town before dinner.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: MILL PARK HOTEL DONEGAL (B, D)

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 29th – THE SHED DISTILLERY & SEANS BAR

After breakfast, we depart Donegal Town, driving south through Sligo to Co. Leitrim to visit the award winning. Shed Distillery – home of Gunpowder Gin, Drumshanbo Single Pot Still Irish Whiskey and other remarkable creations from the curious mind of PJ Rigney. A fully-guided experience including an expert tasting their Single Pot Whiskey and finishing off with a refreshing Gunpowder Gin and tonic at the Honey Badger Bar in the majestic botanical glasshouse. We will have lunch here also before we continue our way south Athlone to visit one of the oldest pubs in Ireland – Sean's Bar. Situated in the Heart of Ireland, Sean's Bar plays host to visitors from all around the world. Whether absorbing history, listening to music, visiting with friends and family or simply enjoying the perfect pint, the appeal is equally strong for everyone. Listed by Lonely Planet in both "25 of the Most Incredible Bars in the World" and "50 Bars to Blow Your Mind", a visit to Sean's is a must! Find out more about why Sean's Bar is not only the oldest, but one of the best-loved pubs in world. Join your fellow travelers for dinner in the hotel.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: HODSON BAY HOTEL ATHLONE (B,L,D)

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 30th – GUINNESS STOREHOUSE & PEARSE LYONS DISTILLERY

After breakfast, we will visit the Guinness Storehouse at 11am. Immerse yourself in 7 floors of fun and excitement as we explore the story

of Ireland's most iconic beer. Enjoy the panoramic views from the famous Gravity Bar, dive into the history of Guinness and experience the unique taste of Guinness. With over 20 million visitors, we are Ireland's number one attraction. After lunch on your own at the brewery, we visit Pearse Lyons Distillery nearby. Born in Dublin, and raised in Dundalk, Pearse Lyons comes from a lengthy line of ancestry involved in the brewing and distilling business. Lyons hailed from five generations of Irish coopers, on his mother's side. Dunne's Cooperage was in Smithfield, Dublin 7 and made barrels for distilleries and breweries across Ireland. Margaret Dunne, daughter of Robert Dunne, was the first registered female cooper in Ireland. In 2012, Pearse's dream to have a distillery in Ireland began to take place. He and his wife Deirdre discovered St. James' Church in the Liberties district of Dublin 8. An old and dilapidated church would become the new home to Pearse Lyons Distillery. Little did they know that Pearse's grandfather, John Hubert Lyons, was born on Echlin Street in Dublin 8, adjacent to the distillery. The project, which was a labor of love, began in 2013 and restoration took more than 4 years to complete.



Pearse Lyons Distillery opened its doors in 2017 and produces a line of award-winning Irish Whiskeys. The Pearse 5-Year-Old Single Malt was the first to be produced by a new distillery in Ireland in more than 25 years, marking a historic milestone in the re-evolution of the Irish Whiskey industry. In 2019, the distillery began making single pot still whiskey, the traditional style of distilling in Ireland. To date, our distillery experts continue to innovate with new releases and exciting barreling programs. We return to our hotel to freshen up and to join for a farewell group dinner at Sandyford House where Annette's brother is the Group General Manager

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

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1st - SAFE TRAVELS HOME

Sadly, our adventures are over and we're very sorry to see you go!! Our coach driver will get you to Dublin Airport in plenty of time for you to check in for your flight and clear customs and immigration, avoiding the long lines that you can meet you in America. There is ample duty-free shopping available at the airport for any last-minute gifts or mementos. Thank you for trusting us with your vacation, and we certainly hope you had a great time and will think of joining us again on another one of our adventures! We wish you a safe journey home! Slan Abhaile!