



AOH Cunningham Division Tour to Scotland & Ireland

September 25th to October 5, 2019

\$3649 per person sharing



ITINERARY

Wednesday, September 25th - UNITED STATES TO EDINBURGH

Depart Dulles on **United 146 nonstop** to Edinburgh at 10:10pm. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service as you start your vacation.

Thursday, September 26th - EDINBURGH ARRIVAL

Welcome to Scotland. Upon arrival, you will be met and transferred to the Hilton Grosvenor Edinburgh hotel for your 3 night stay. Remainder of the day is at leisure. In the evening, enjoy a savory dinner with your fellow travelers at the hotel.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: GROSVENOR HOTEL, EDINBURGH (B,D)

Friday, September 27th - EDINBURGH - HOP ON HOP OFF TOUR

After breakfast, venture through Edinburgh with ease on this **City Sightseeing hop-on-hop-off bus tour**. Use your 24 hour pass to board the open-top double-decker bus at any stop. Travel the entire route in one hour, or hop off at any of the 14 stops to explore the city on your own. You'll get to know the 15th century capital of Scotland and its dramatic skyline with onboard commentary about the sights. Edinburgh bus tour highlights include **Edinburgh Castle, Palace of Holyrood House, the historic Royal mile** and much more. Explore the one of the restaurants or pubs in the city for dinner tonight.

OVERNIGHT: GROSVENOR HOTEL, EDINBURGH (B)

Saturday, September 28th - LOCH LOMOND & STIRLING CASTLE

After breakfast, enjoy a full day tour of **Stirling Castle and Loch Lomond**. Stirling Castle is one of the largest and most important castles in Scotland, both historically and architecturally. Explore its three main enclosures, and then admire the refurbished Royal Palace - childhood of **Mary Queen of Scots**. It has seen many royal dramas and witnessed the lives and deaths of almost every Scottish monarch up to the Union of the Crowns in 1603. Then, visit the famous lake in southern Scotland, Loch Lomond. The area is a haven for wildlife and is home to more species of fish than any other lake. In 2002, Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park was established in recognition of the value of preserving the beautiful area. Return to Edinburgh and explore the one of the restaurants or pubs in the city for dinner tonight.

OVERNIGHT: GROSVENOR HOTEL, EDINBURGH (B)

Sunday, September 29th - BELFAST ARRIVAL.

After breakfast, you will be transferred to Edinburgh Airport. **British European flight 683 departs for Belfast at 10:25am and arrives 11:20am.** A trip to Belfast would not be complete without a visit to the renowned **Titanic Belfast Visitor Attraction** which uses full-scale reconstructions and innovative interactive features for us to explore the Titanic story from her conception in Belfast in the early 1900s, through her construction and launch, to her infamous maiden voyage and catastrophic demise. In the evening, enjoy a savory dinner with your fellow travelers at the hotel.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: EUROPA HOTEL, BELFAST (B,D)

Monday, September 30th - CARRICKFERGUS CASTLE & GIANTS CAUSEWAY

After a hearty Irish breakfast we continue our journey north past **Napoleon's Nose** (which inspired Jonathan Swift to write Gulliver's Travels) and on to nearby Carrickfergus. Here, on the shore of Belfast Lough, stands the impressive **Carrickfergus Castle**. We will have an extensive tour of the castle which was built in 1177 and is in excellent condition. Continue along the beautiful coast road enjoying the lovely views of mountains, valleys and into the Nine Glens of Antrim. Continue onto the **Giant's Causeway**, a world heritage site. Stand on the hills and you'll

look down on thousands of basalt columns tumbling down into the Atlantic Ocean. It's an epic sight, with a whopping 40,000 hexagonal-shaped pillars, formed during a volcanic age almost 60 million years ago. Stop at the cliff-top ruins of **Dunluce Castle** for a photo stop and learn the history of this former medieval stronghold.

Arrive at Bushmills Inn, a delightful 4 star hotel in the center of Bushmills, the village which gives its name to the famous whiskey.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: BUSHMILLS INN, BUSHMILLS (B,D)

Tuesday, October 1st - ULSTER AMERICAN FOLK PARK

After breakfast, we visit the **Ulster American Folk Park**, which is located on their farm of Thomas Mellon. Visit the cottage home and many other cottages, a school, a church and farms to see the rural way of life for the past centuries. We'll have lunch at the Sperrin Restaurant down the road before we continue to Donegal before checking into **Harvey's Point**, named Ireland's Top hotel yet again for 2017 and located right on the shores of beautiful Lough Eske.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: HARVEY'S POINT DONEGAL (B,L,D)

Wednesday, October 2nd - SLIEVE LEAGUE & DONEGAL TOWN

Following breakfast, we drive through the fishing village of Killybegs and Teelin and travel to The **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 Glencolmcille onto the town of **Ardara** for lunch and a visit to the **Triona Design Tweed Center** 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: HARVEY'S POINT DONEGAL (B,D)

Thursday, October 3rd - DRUMCLIFF & KNOCK SHRINE

After breakfast depart for **Drumcliff** - burial ground of one of Ireland's famous poets - **William Butler Yeats**. Continue on to Knock. The Story of **Knock** began on the **21st August, 1879** when, at approximately 8 o'clock in the evening, fifteen people from the village of Knock in Co. Mayo, witnessed an Apparition of Our Lady, St. Joseph, St. John the Evangelist, a Lamb and cross on an altar at the gable wall of the Parish Church. The witnesses watched the Apparition in the pouring rain for two hours, reciting the Rosary. Although they themselves were saturated not a single drop of rain fell on the gable or vision. There were fifteen official witnesses to the Apparition, most of whom were from the village of Knock and surrounding areas and ranged in age from just 5 years old to 74 years old. Each of the witnesses gave testimonies to a Commission of Enquiry in October 1879. Continue on the bustling town of Westport in Co. Mayo. Join your fellow travelers for dinner tonight at the **Tavern Bar & restaurant** just outside the town..

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: WYATT HOTEL, WESTPORT (B,D)

Friday, October 4th - CLIFFS OF MOHER

After breakfast we drive south through **Mayo, Galway and through the Burren Region**, an area of rocky limestone hills where a number of unique flowers thrive to view the **Cliffs of Moher**, one of the country's most magnificent rock formations. We'll stop for lunch at **Moran's on the Weir** located in Kilcogan - home of the famous Guinness Oyster festival every year. After the Cliffs, We'll travel onto our final hotel, **The Old Ground**, located on the main shopping street of Ennis in the market town in County Clare. Enjoy the afternoon on your own visiting the many shops and caf  s. Join your fellow travelers for the farewell dinner tonight at the hotel.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: FALLS HOTEL, ENNISYMON (B,D)

Saturday, October 5th - RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES

Sadly our time together is over and we will transfer to Shannon Airport in plenty of time to check in for **United flight 24** departing at **12:30pm for Newark arriving at 2:45pm Terminal C**. Transfer to **United flight 1139** departing at **5pm and arriving at Dulles 6:14pm**. The beauty of flying from Shannon Airport is that you will clear customs and emigration there. There is no Duty Free on board the return flight however but there is ample shopping and duty free stores in the airport.