



Lucky Enough III Tour to Ireland

May 16th to 23rd 2022

\$2,299 per person sharing – land only
\$599 single supplement – limited 4 per tour

Caddie Tours will be happy to organize flights from any US city to Ireland



ITINERARY

MONDAY, MAY 16th – SHANNON ARRIVAL & GALWAY

After landing at Shannon Airport, complete customs and immigration formalities. The group will meet at Shannon Airport at 10am where you will be welcomed by your hosts **Scott Kirby and Gabriel Donohue** along with your coach driver. Continue on to Gort and visit **Coole Park Estate** which was once the home of Lady Augusta Gregory, who was pivotal to the Irish literary revival and co-founded the Abbey Theatre. Coole House was a focal point for many meetings about Irish literature which were attended by George Bernard Shaw, J. M. Synge, Seán O'Casey, and William Butler Yeats. Coole Park was often referred to in stories and poems; for example, W. B. Yeats was so inspired by the beauty and tranquility here that he wrote a poem called "The Wild Swans at Coole." Relax and enjoy the rest of the day in Galway before joining your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner tonight at the hotel.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: PARK HOUSE HOTEL GALWAY (D)

TUESDAY, MAY 17th – ARAN ISLANDS DAY TOUR

After breakfast we will travel to Rossaveal and board the **Aran Island Ferries (10.30am departure)** to visit **Inis Mór** (meaning 'Big Island') which, as its name suggests, is the largest of the three Aran Islands. Step off the ferry into the magical world of Inis Mór, a small Irish-speaking island off the coast of Galway on the Wild Atlantic Way that is home to **Gabriel Faherty**. Having lived a colorful life that includes being a farmer, a pony-and-trap driver, and deep sea fisherman who has sailed all over the world, Gabriel has crafted the art of being a brilliant storyteller. Through unforgettable tours, he leads visitors on a fun adventure that includes a visit to his goat farm with roaming Nubian and Saanen goats, a demonstration of how he makes his award-winning cheese, and remarkable insights into the customs and traditions of an island that has been home to his ancestors for as long as time can remember.



Highlights, cont'd:

Aran Islands Goats' Cheese | meet and pet the goats | cheese demonstration | taste the cheeseSeaweed | learn the history and tradition behind seaweed foraging | taste a variety of seaweedsCraft Village | stop off at Kilmurvey Craft Village | meet the locals| Celtic-inspired craftsFood Champion| Gabriel is a Fáilte Ireland Food Champion and avid promoter of local food producers.

Explore one of the many restaurants or pubs in town for dinner tonight before returning to the hotel for entertainment in the Residents Lounge by Gabriel, Scott, and guests.

OVERNIGHT: PARK HOUSE HOTEL, GALWAY (B)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18th – CARROWMORE & LISSADELL HOUSE

After breakfast, we drive north to Sligo and visit **Carrowmore Megalithic Cemetery**, the largest cemetery of megalithic tombs in Ireland. It lies just southwest of Sligo town, right at the heart of the Cúil Írra Peninsula, an area alive with prehistoric significance. Packed together at Carrowmore are more than 30 stone tombs, many of which are still visible. Most are passage tombs and boulder circles. There are various forts and standing stones in the area too. The origins of these monuments reach far into prehistory – the most ancient among them is close to 6,000 years old. We then visit **Lissadell House**, famous as the childhood home of Constance Markievicz, her sister Eva Gore-Booth, and her brother Josslyn Gore-Booth. Constance was one of the leaders of the 1916 Rising and was the first woman to be elected to Dáil Éireann, where she served as Minister for Labour (thus becoming the first female minister in a modern Western European democracy) and was also the first woman to be elected to the House of Commons at Westminster, London (where she declined to take her seat). Eva was a poet of distinction and an active suffragist, clashing with the young Winston Churchill over barmaids' rights in 1908. Josslyn created at Lissadell one of the premier horticultural estates in Europe. This horticultural enterprise has now been recreated at Lissadell. The great poet W. B. Yeats was friendly with the Gore-Booth sisters and stayed at Lissadell in 1892 and 1893. He immortalized Lissadell and the Gore-Booth sisters in his poetry. Pause to view his grave in **Drumcliffe Churchyard** before driving to Donegal. Join your fellow travelers for dinner tonight in the restaurant.

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



THURSDAY, MAY 19th – 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 2,000-foot 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 and the Glengesh Pass** onto the town of Ardara for lunch at the **Nesbitt Arms Hotel** and a visit to **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 return to our hotel stopping in Donegal Town for a stroll through the town before dinner. Gabriel, Scott, and guests will entertain you after dinner in the garden suite.

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

FRIDAY, MAY 20th – ULSTER AMERICAN FOLK PARK & SEAMUS HEANEY HOMEPLACE

After breakfast, we depart Harvey's Point, driving east to visit the **Ulster American Folk Park**. This is an open-air museum which tells the story of three centuries of Irish emigration to America with an emphasis on those leaving the northern province of Ulster. Walk in the footsteps of the bold migrants who set sail for the New World in the 18th and 19th centuries. Wander the well-trodden pathways of rural Ulster at your leisure, complete with a bustling street and welcoming farmhouses, before boarding the *Brig Union* ship and emerging in the New World to marvel at life on the American Frontier. Learn about people's daily routines and activities in both the Old and New Worlds and discover historic buildings, including the famous Mellon Homestead, as well as buildings from America, which have been relocated to the museum. Continue on the journey east towards Belfast to visit the **Seamus Heaney homeplace**. Discover how Seamus Heaney's formative years in the Bellaghy area shaped his life and were a source of inspiration throughout his career. The exhibition is packed with poetry, photographs, and stories that take you to the heart of Heaney's life and work. Browse the library, where you will see on display hundreds of books donated by the Heaney family from Seamus Heaney's own collection, or immerse yourself in an exploration of the poet's words, rhythm, and rhyme. Check in to our hotel, the **Grand Central Hotel**, for the next two nights. Join your fellow travelers for dinner tonight in the Seahorse restaurant.

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

SATURDAY, MAY 21st – CARRICKFERGUS CASTLE, DARK HEDGES, & GIANT'S CAUSEWAY

After a hearty Irish breakfast we continue our journey north past Napoleon's Nose (which inspired Jonathon 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. *Game of Thrones* has been filmed extensively in County Antrim and we will visit where Arya Stark made her escape down Kings Road – known locally as **The Dark Hedges**. On to 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. Return to Belfast to explore one of the many restaurants or pubs in town for dinner tonight.



OVERNIGHT: THE GRAND CENTRAL HOTEL BELFAST (B)

SUNDAY, MAY 22nd – BELFAST PANORAMIC TOUR & VAN MORRISON TRAIL

After breakfast we embark on a guided sightseeing tour where we visit notable sights including the Peace Wall and other landmarks that give us an inside look into the history of the Northern Ireland troubles followed by the **Van Morrison Trail**. This will take you on a journey through the east Belfast of Van's youth. The Trail is a wonderful opportunity for you to visit some of the places that Morrison knew as a child growing up in this part of east Belfast. Many of these places, and the people who lived here, were to shape the character and values of "Van the Man." You will discover on your journey that some of them are referenced in his lyrics and music. We will travel south down to the **Grand Hotel in Malahide** for our last night of the tour. Enjoy a two-hour dinner cruise (**8pm-10pm**) that takes in a beautiful stretch of the Grand Canal. Savour some drinks up on deck whilst enjoying the wonderful views before making your way down to our dining saloon for a delicious three-course meal. All of the dishes are freshly prepared by an expert team of on-board chefs who are happy to cater to dietary requirements on request. The eco-friendly barge is battery-operated allowing us to cruise silently and smoothly along the canal with no fumes emitted. Between courses, why not spend some time up on deck chatting with the crew and watching as they cruise through the canal's centuries-old locks, which are still operated by hand. Entertainment on board by Gabriel and Scott.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: THE GRAND HOTEL, MALAHIDE (B & D)

MONDAY, MAY 23rd – 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 emigration, avoiding the long lines that 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 once again with your vacation and we certainly hope you had a great time!

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