



Escapades & Shenanigans Tour to Ireland

hosted by Liza Betz from Failte Irish Imports

September 29th to October 9th 2022

\$2999 per person sharing - \$799 single supplement

ITINERARY

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH - US to SHANNON

Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service on your overnight flight.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH - SHANNON ARRIVAL

After landing, complete customs and immigration formalities. Your Host Liza Betz and Caddie Tours driver/guide will welcome you to Ireland and escort you and your luggage to the coach. Next, stop for breakfast at the Inn at Dromoland with the group. Continue onto Galway for our two night stay at the Hardiman Hotel. Arrive lunch time or so with some free time to explore the city or take a nap before joining up with your fellow travelers for a welcome drink at 6pm followed by dinner at 7pm in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: THE HARDIMAN HOTEL, GALWAY (B,D)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1ST – DAY TRIP TO THE ARAN ISLANDS

After breakfast we will travel to Rossaveal and board the Aran Island Ferries (10:30am departure) to visit the largest of the Aran Islands - Inis Mor. (meaning big island) As its name suggests, it is the largest of the three Aran Islands, and the simple act of stepping off the ferry takes you back in time into the magical world of island life on this remote rocky outcrop, where islanders speak Irish as their first language. It is also home to Gabriel Faherty, a man who has lived a colorful life, dividing his time between 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, and he leads visitors on a fun adventure that include a visit of 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.

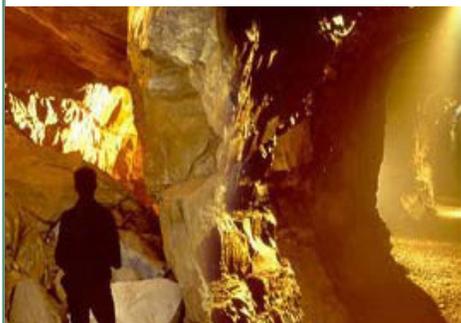


Highlights include: Island Life | relaxed pace of life | Irish language | Irish culture | community | music and dance • World Heritage Site | Dún Aonghus is the largest of the prehistoric stone forts of the Aran Islands • History | hear about the fascinating history of the islands | historical sites • Scenery | breathtaking landscapes and seascapes of the Wild Atlantic Way • Local Guide | Gabriel's family have lived on Inis Mór for generations | native Irish speaker. Explore one of the many restaurants or pubs in town for dinner and lively music session.

OVERNIGHT: THE HARIDMAN HOTEL, GALWAY (B)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2ND – CLIFFS OF MOHER AND AILWEE CAVES

After breakfast we'll drive through Ireland's stony place – The Burren, County Clare. You can find villages abandoned since famine times and green roads on which you can walk for miles without ever seeing a car. The Burren is a place full of wonder, beauty and discovery. Let the staff at **AILWEE** welcome you to the dramatic underworld of this area. Expert guides will accompany and inform you during your leisurely tour. The tour consists of a 30-minute stroll through the beautiful caverns – over bridged chasms, under weird formations and alongside the thunderous waterfall which sometimes gently sprays the unsuspecting visitor! Marvel at the frozen waterfall and explore the now extinct brown bears' bones (*ursos arctos*). The guides will bring you back to the outside world where you can browse and shop in a distinctly different gift shop which is housed in the award-winning complex that guards the entrance to



the Burren underground. See the dynamic flying displays of the Birds of Prey. Continuing on to the Cliffs of Moher here you will see astonishing impressive and staggeringly beautiful. The entirely vertical cliffs rise to a height of 203m, their edge falling away abruptly into a ceaselessly churning Atlantic. A progression of vast heads, the dark limestone marches in a rigid formation that's gob-smacking, no matter how many times you look at it. As you leave the cliffs you'll travel through the little village of Liscannor and just across the bay, you'll see the beautiful seaside village and golfers' mecca, Lahinch. Continue to Spanish Point for the overnight at the Armada Hotel. Join your fellow travelers for dinner tonight in the hotel.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: THE ARMADA HOTEL SPANISH POINT (B,D)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3RD – KILLARNEY & KENMARE

After breakfast drive to Killmer and cross the Shannon Estuary by ferry to Co. Kerry and onto Killarney where we will enjoy a **traditional horse-drawn jaunting car** through Killarney National Park to Ross Castle, set on the magical shores of Lough Leane. There will be some time to grab lunch and shop before we depart for Kenmare. Tucked away in the south of Kerry, known as the Kingdom county is a little

town called Kenmare. One of the main routes to get to this little place is through the mountain pass from Killarney. From cute pubs to trawling through the musical delights at Soundz of Music, there is so much to discover in Kenmare, food, art, music and sightseeing. Upon hotel check in at the **Brooklane Hotel**, there will be some free time to explore before dinner at the hotel.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: BROOKLANE HOTEL, KENMARE (B,D)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4th WALKING FOODIE TOUR OF KENMARE.

In late morning, join Irish food blogger **Karen Coakley** for a walking food tour. Artisan food is produced by local shopkeepers and traders alike, from locally roasted coffee to organically grown veg, there is much to explore and even more to taste. The rest of the day is free to explore Kenmare with plenty of restaurants or pubs in town for dinner and lively music session.

OVERNIGHT: BROOKLANE HOTEL, KENMARE (B)

WEDNESDAY , OCTOBER 5th BLARNEY CASTLE & COBH HERITAGE CENTER

After breakfast, we'll depart for the world-famous **Blarney Castle and Woolen Mills**. Kiss the Blarney stone or do some shopping at their wonderful establishment. Situated just 5 miles from Cork City, this historic castle is most famous for its stone, which has the traditional power of conferring eloquence on all who kiss it. The word Blarney was introduced into the English language by Queen Elizabeth I and is described as pleasant talk, intended to deceive without offending. The stone is set in the wall below the battlements, and to kiss it one has to lean backwards (grasping an iron railing) from the parapet walk. After lunch continue to visit the **Cobh Heritage Center**, which traces the history of emigration from Ireland to new worlds. Learn about the conditions for the many Irish emigrants on early sailing ships and steam vessels. Check in to the **Garryvoe Hotel** for our 2 night stay. Join your fellow travelers for dinner tonight in the hotel.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: THE GARRYVOE HOTEL BALLYCOTTON (B D)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6th – BALLYMALOE COOKING SCHOOL

Free time in the morning before we depart at 12:30pm for Ballymaloe Cookery School. With sustainability as one of our guiding principles, we are committed to producing as much organic produce as we can on our 100 acre organic farm. As we are a world renowned cookery school, teaching a diverse range of cuisines, we must guarantee that our students have the very best and widest range of ingredients with which to work. When we cannot source something from our list of local and national suppliers, we work with a network of carefully selected international suppliers.

- 2:00pm - Arrival at Cookery School for Tea, Coffee and homemade biscuits
- 2:15pm - Guided Tour of Organic Farm and Gardens, including a visit to our Dairy, our food gardens and our glasshouses.
- 3:00pm - Back to Cookery School to watch a short demonstration of all the dishes from one of our senior tutors.
- 4:00pm - Into the kitchen to cook up a delicious 3 course meal with one of our tutors. We have a selection of delicious menus to choose from.
- 6:00pm - Finish up, and sit down to a delicious early supper that you have cooked with a welcome glass of wine.



Return to the our Hotel.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: THE GARRYVOE HOTEL BALLYCOTTON (B D)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7th – SALLY GAP & GLENDALOUGH

After breakfast we travel north to Co. Wickow known as the Garden of Ireland. Explore the **Sally Gap** and the Wickow mountains to **Glendalough**. It was established in the 6th century, the Celtic monastic site of Glendalough is magnificently situated in a glacial valley between two lakes. Glendalough is one of the most popular hiking and walking locations among the locals. Check into the **Powerscourt Hotel** overlooking the Sugarloaf Mountain, Powerscourt offers 47 acres to explore, formal gardens sweeping terraces, ornamental lakes as well as a stunning house. This evening drive to the town of Rathfarnham to Taylors Three Rock for dinner followed by a lively show of traditional Irish songs, dancing and music.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: POWERSCOURT HOTEL. ENNISKERRY B D)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8th – FREE DAY TO EXPLORE DUBLIN

In Dublin we say "Don't just sightsee, Explore!"... and there's no better way to explore Dublin city than on the famous green Hop on Hop off tour bus (included). We've been bringing visitors to all of Dublin city's top attractions since 1988 and we're masters at showing you the best Dublin city has to offer. Of course most visitors to Dublin city want to visit the big bus tour attractions like the Guinness Storehouse, Trinity College and the Book of Kells, Kilmainham Gaol, The Wax Museum and Dublin Zoo, but in Dublin we also like to show you the city's hidden gems like the Little Museum of Dublin, EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum, The Irish Rock and Roll Museum Experience, the Jeanie Johnston, Teeling Whiskey Distillery, Marsh's Library beside St. Patrick's Cathedral, and many more.

OVERNIGHT: POWERSCOURT HOTEL ENNISKERRY(B)

SUNDAY, October 9th – 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 flights to the US. You will clear customs and emigration 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.

