



Itinerary

Prepared for: East & South West Whiskey & Gourmet Tasting Tour

Prepared by: Aidan Hanrahan

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Proposal number: 001

EXECUTIVE TOUR SUMMARY

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Day 1 - Dublin City Day Tour

Touring Trinity College, St Patricks Cathedral, National Museum of Archaeological & History, National Gallery of Ireland & Kilmainham Jail. Lunch @ Brazen Head & Dining @ Pearl Brassiere, Dublin

Day 2 - Touring Studs & Castles (Dublin to Waterford)

Touring National Stud & Japanese Gardens, Kilkenny Medieval City & Castle & Waterford Crystal. Lunch @ Zuni, Kilkenny & Dining @ House Restaurant, Cliff House Hotel.

Day 3 - Touring East Cork (Ardmore to Kinsale)

Touring Middleton Distillery, Cobh & Charles Fort. Lunch @ Ballymaloe House & Dining @ Finns Table, Kinsale.

Day 4 - Touring West Cork & Killarney National Park

Touring Franciscan friary of Timoleague, Clonakilty, Drombeg Stone Circle, Glandore, Union Hall, Bantry House & Gardens, Kenmare, Killarney National Park and Ladies View. Lunch @ Mary Ann's Bar, Castletownshend & Dining @ Rozzers, Killarney.

Day 5 - Touring Dingle Peninsula (Killarney to Dingle)

Touring Ross Castle, Murckross House & Gardens, Sleah Head Ring (Dunbeg Fort, Beehive Huts, The Blasket Centre, Gallurus Oratory & Kilmalkedar Church). Lunch @ The Stone House, Dingle & Dining @ The Chart House.

Day 6 - Touring Dingle & Adare (Dingle to Adare)

Touring Dingle Town (Dingle Crystal & Dingle Distillery), Conor Pass & Adare. Lunch @ Arches, Adare & Dining @ The Oak Room, Adare Manor.

Day 7 - Touring Cliffs of Moher & Burren

Touring Cliffs of Moher, The Burren Centre & Perfumery, Poul nabrone Portal Dolmen Tomb & Ashford Activities. Lunch @ Moran's on the Weir, Kilcolgan & Dining @ The Dungeon in Ashford Castle.

Day 8 - Touring Connemara National Park

Touring Killary Fjord, Leenane, Kylemore Abbey, Quiet Man Museum & Ashford Activities. Lunch @ Cullen's at the Cottage & Dining @ George V Room in Ashford Castle.

Day 9 - Touring Galway City & Clonmacnoise

Touring Galway City of Tribes (Shop Street, Quay Street & Spanish Arch) & Clonmacnoise. Lunch @ Ard Bia, Galway & Dining @ Patrick Guilbaud, Merrion Hotel.

Day 10 - Depart Dublin Airport

ACCOMMODATIONS

5 STAR ACCOMMODATION

2 x Nights @ The Merrion Hotel, Dublin. The Merrion, located in the heart of Dublin city centre, is the capital's most luxurious five star hotel, and a proud member of The Leading Hotels of the World. The Merrion is home to the 2-star Michelin Restaurant Patrick Guilbaud, The Cellar Bar, The Garden Room and the intimate No. 23 Cocktail Bar and has the second largest art collection in Ireland outside of the National Gallery of Ireland.

1 x Night @ Cliff House Hotel, Ardmore, Co. Waterford. This five-star luxury hotel in Waterford perched on a cliff above the Wild Atlantic Ocean, has got charming elegance with a magnificent ocean backdrop. The Cliff House Hotel has contributed to the reputation of Waterford being a gourmet cornucopia, with its fantastic House Restaurant holding a Michelin Star and Four AA Rosettes.

1 x Night @ Perryville House, Kinsale, Co. Cork. Perryville House, right in the heart of picturesque Kinsale, in the Gourmet Capital of Ireland. This 200 year old town house provides a touch of luxury combined with a homely charm. Decorated in tasteful muted shades it has evolved into a beautiful Guest House, overlooking Kinsale Harbour. Perryville House evokes the sense of old world elegance and relaxed intimacy you cannot help but fall in love with.

1 x Night @ The Park Hotel, Killarney, Co. Kerry. The Killarney Park Hotel is one of the finest luxury hotels Ireland has to offer, perfectly located in the very heart of Killarney town centre, set in mature grounds and framed by the legendary surroundings of Killarney National Park. A Condé Nast Traveller Award Winner, this proud family-owned Leading Hotel of the World offers a warm and welcoming retreat for guests in search of exceptional comfort with all of those little extra touches.

1 x Night @ Pax House, Dingle. If there is one place that embodies the serenity and physical beauty of Dingle, it's the luxury of Pax House. Set against an idyllic sea view backdrop, life at Pax House enjoys a pace, rhythm and calmness of its own. The smallest of pampering touches, thoughtful service and stunning art, creating the warmth, cosyness and friendliness of a bed and breakfast but also the professionalism of a boutique hotel. All topped with breathtaking views, described as one of the top ten views in Ireland. The result is a restful retreat full of spacious areas and only minutes from down town Dingle.

1 x Night @ Adare Manor Resort, Adare, Co. Limerick. Enjoy your stay at one of the most luxurious 5 Star hotels in Ireland. Newly refurbished be taken back in time by the opulence that is truly unique for quality, location, service and elegance at Adare Manor set in a 400 acre estate.

2 x Night @ Ashford Castle, Cong, Co. Mayo. Enjoy your stay at one of the most luxurious 5 Star Castle hotels in Ireland and the world. Discover the exquisite interiors, delicious cuisine, passionate team, wealth of estate activities and state-of-the-art spa. As Ireland's top hotel destination and former home of the Guinness family, enjoy the activities of the 350 acre estate such as Equestrian, Clay shooting, Archery, Boat Cruising, Kayaking, Zip lining Golf and Fishing activities.

TRANSPORT

10 x Days Chauffeured Guided Tour & Transfers in Deluxe Mercedes Vehicle with leather trim, wifi and air con. Fuel, Tolls, Ferry crossings and driver/guide expenses all included. Your knowledgeable chauffeur will guide you to the best restaurants and local bars as well as informing you on all the historical facts and fables.

TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1 - Dublin City Day Tour

Arrive at Dublin Airport on morning flight arrival to be greeted by your chauffeured tour guide at arrivals in Airport. After a quick freshening up embark on a tour of Dublin City including Trinity College, St Patricks Cathedral, National Museum of Archaeological & History, National Gallery of Ireland, Kilmainham Jail.



Tour of **Trinity College** which is widely considered to be the most prestigious University in Ireland and amongst the most elite in Europe. It houses The Library and the Book of Kells. Trinity College boasts the most extensive Library in Ireland which is a legal deposit Library for Ireland and The United Kingdom containing over 6.2 million printed volumes and significant quantities of manuscripts. The Book of Kells is the centrepiece of an exhibition which attracts over 500,000 visitors to Trinity College in Dublin City each year. It is Ireland's greatest cultural treasure and the world's most famous medieval manuscript. Written around the year 800 AD, the Book of Kells contains a richly decorated copy of the four gospels in a Latin text.



Tour of the **National Museum of Ireland-Natural History**, on Merrion Street in Dublin, has galleries of animals from Ireland and overseas, as well as geological exhibits from a total collection of about two million scientific specimens. Just two years before Charles Darwin published his famous work, 'The Origin of Species', the Natural History Museum in Merrion Street was opened to the public for the first time in 1857. Now, as then, it educates and inspires, leaving us feeling small and humbled amidst the vast and wondrous diversity of life on display. Tour of the **National Museum of Ireland - Archaeology**, on Kildare Street in Dublin, which first opened its doors in 1890 and since then it has been filling in the blanks for us through its extensive archaeological collections. Take time at The Treasury which features outstanding examples of Celtic and Medieval art, such as the famous Ardagh Chalice, the Tara Brooch and the Derrynaflan Hoard. Gaze in wonder at the finest collection of prehistoric gold artefacts in Europe, which is to be found in Or, Ireland's Gold. Ramble through prehistoric Ireland and experience life at the same time of the Vikings in Viking Age Ireland. Medieval Ireland 1150-1550, documents life in Ireland in the age of cathedrals, monasteries and castles.

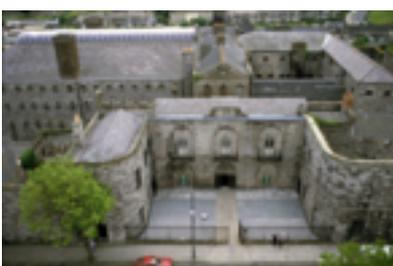
Lunch @ Brazen Head, Dublin

Dating back to 1198, The Brazen Head is officially Ireland's oldest pub. The Brazen Head has a well-deserved reputation for fine food, serving both traditional and contemporary dishes. Famed for its Irish traditional stews of beef and Guinness and Irish stew, these hearty dishes combine all the ingredients in one bowl.



Tour of **Saint Patrick's Cathedral** which has been part of Ireland's history for over 800 years and today is one of the most popular visitor attractions in Dublin. Built in honour of Ireland's patron saint between 1220 and 1260 Saint Patrick's Cathedral offers visitors a rich and compelling cultural experience and is one of the few buildings left from medieval Dublin. It is the National Cathedral of the Church of Ireland and is the largest Cathedral in the country. Guided tours of the Cathedral happen regularly throughout the day or a free App can be used for self-guide purpose.

Tour of the **National Gallery of Ireland** in Dublin boasts some 2,500 paintings and approximately 10,000 other works in different media including water-colours, drawings, prints and sculpture. Every major European school of painting is extensively represented. It also houses a renowned collection of Irish paintings, the majority of which are on permanent display. The gallery was established by an Act of Parliament in 1854 and first opened its doors to the public in January 1864.



Tour of **Kilmainham Gaol**, which is the Irish word for Jail. Before its closure in 1924, Dublin's Kilmainham Gaol held some of the most famous political and military leaders in Irish history such as Robert Emmet, Charles Stewart Parnell, the 1916 Rising leaders and Eamon de Valera. Leaders of the rebellions of 1798, 1803, 1848, 1867 and 1916 were detained here. The visit includes a guided tour and exhibition, it gives the visitor a dramatic and realistic insight into what it was like to have been confined in one of these forbidding bastions of punishment and

correction between 1796 when it opened and 1924 when it closed.

Dining @ Pearl Brassiere, Dublin

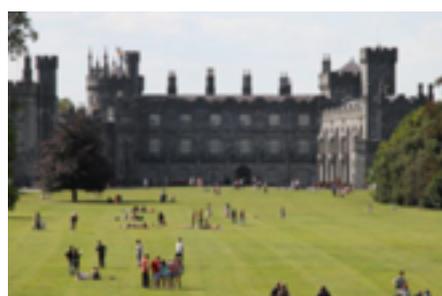
Pearl Brasserie opened its doors on the 7th of December 2000. Our first objective was to build a team with a hunger to learn and a passion for detail. The same hard work is being asked of our Irish and Continental suppliers, so we are able to get the best Irish and French produce on a daily basis. Culinary ingenuity and skill from the kitchen combines with warm, welcoming, professional service delivering one of Dublin's premier fine dining experiences. Recently awarded Chef of the Year 2017 in the Georgina Campbell Awards. Travelers Choice Awards 2017 – TripAdvisor's annual list of the top ten fine dining restaurants in Ireland. Pearl Brasserie is delighted to be included at No 5.

Accommodation: Merrion Hotel

Day 2 - Touring Studs & Castles (Dublin to Waterford)

Touring National Stud & Japanese Gardens, Kilkenny Medieval City & Castle & Waterford Crystal.

The **Irish National Stud** and Gardens symbolises all that is great about County Kildare, the beating heart of Ireland's thoroughbred horse industry. It is the home of equine royalty, immaculately-bred stallions who can be seen and admired alongside protective mares, frolicking foals and athletic yearlings. The Irish National Stud and Gardens in Tully is the only stud farm in Ireland open to the public and offering daily tours. Within the grounds are the world-famous



Japanese Gardens, the Horse Museum and St Fiachra's Garden, created to celebrate the Millennium. Visit the Japanese Gardens for a relaxing stroll—created between the years 1906 and 1910, they were laid out by Japanese craftsman Tassa Eida and his son Minoru. The gardens trace the passage of a soul from birth to death and beyond, at the same time providing a meeting place for the cultures of East and West. The Horse Museum brings the nation's love affair with horses to life and displays the skeleton of Arkle, a famous Irish Thoroughbred racehorse. The beautifully designed St Fiachra's Garden, it commemorates the patron saint of gardeners St Fiachra.

The magnificent **Kilkenny Castle** overlooks the River Nore and has guarded this important river crossing for more than 900 years. The gardens, with extensive woodland paths, rose garden and ornamental lake, create the setting for a beautiful stroll. Two wings of the castle have been restored to their 19th Century splendour and include a library, drawing room and the noted Long Gallery. A suite of former servants rooms now houses the Butler Art Gallery, which mounts frequently changing exhibitions of contemporary art. The Parade Tower is the Castle's conference venue.

Lunch @ Zuni, Kilkenny

It has been listed in the in the Bridgestone Guide top 100 restaurants in Ireland for the past 8 years and listed in the Michelin guide since 2001, a testament to its excellent food and ambience.

Travel to Waterford to visit the **House of Waterford Crystal** and watch the craftsmen at work followed by a visit to the opulent retail store, all located in the centre of the Viking city of Waterford. A unique highlight of a visit is the factory tour which gives an up close insight into the centuries old tradition of Waterford Crystal making. Feel the heat of the furnace and marvel at the skills of the craftsmen. The factory tour includes the following traditional production areas; wooden mould making, crystal blowing and furnace, crystal cutting and quality inspection and finishing. Yet more stages to creating this beautiful product include crystal sculpting, engraving and design inspiration. After the tour indulge your passion for the world's most famous crystal in a lavish retail store, which houses the largest collection of Waterford Crystal found anywhere in the world. An exhibition of sporting trophies and statement pieces is an absolute must see attraction.



Dining @ House Restaurant, Cliff House Hotel

This Michelin Star award-winning restaurant at Cliff House Hotel, Ireland, attracts foodies from all over the world to this seaside village in West Waterford. Both the main House Restaurant as well as our easy, unpretentious bar honour the great produce of Waterford, Cork, and the Irish Sea.

Accommodation: Cliff House Hotel, Ardmore

Day 3 - Touring East Cork (Ardmore to Kinsale)

Touring Middleton Distillery, Cobh & Charles Fort.

To visit the **Jameson Experience in Midleton**, East Cork is to take a leap through history. Step through the doors and you'll step back in time—carts are piled high with sacks of grain and you can smell the malted barley drying in closed kilns. Thousands of casks housing ageing whiskey are on show, as well as original kilns and the largest pot still in the world. You'll learn about "the angel's share" (the amount of alcohol that evaporates from the cask during maturation) and the fascinating story behind the creation of one of the most well-known Irish whiskeys in the world. Visitors are guided through the distillery scene, while selected volunteers are offered the chance to take part in a whiskey tasting that will demonstrate the differences between Scotch, American and Irish whiskey. After the tasting,



guests are rewarded with a much coveted Irish Whiskey Taster Certificate, as well as a complimentary glass of Jameson with a mixer of their choice.

Lunch @ Ballymaloe House

Myrtle and Ivan Allen opened Ballymaloe House, their home, to the public as a restaurant in 1964 and later as a guesthouse. This historic Irish country house is located in beautiful East Cork and is still managed by the Allen family and continues to be celebrated internationally as the home of Irish Country cuisine and warm hospitality. Set deep in a 300 acre farm, the menus are written daily around the seasonal vegetables grown on the farm just as Mrs Allen always did. Although times have changed, the essential spirit of Ballymaloe House is rooted in the relationship from the farm to the table which underlies the elegance of Irish Country House cooking.



Travel onwards and visit the harbour town of **Cobh**. Cobh Heritage Centre presents the Emigration & Maritime Story a dramatic exhibition of the origins, history and legacy of Cobh. Retrace the steps of the two and a half million adults and children who emigrated from Ireland via Cobh on coffin ships, early steamers and finally on the great ocean liners. Explore the conditions on board the early emigrant vessels, including the dreaded coffin ship and experience life on board a convict ship leaving Cobh for Australia in 1801. You can also learn of Cobh's special connections with the ill fated Titanic, which sank on her maiden voyage, located in the original White Star Line Ticket Office in the centre of Cobh town (formally known as Queenstown), in what was the departure point for the final 123 passengers who boarded the Titanic. You can also relive the horror of World War I and the sinking of the Lusitania off Cork Harbour with the loss of 1,198 lives. Another attraction to visit in Cobh is the grandiose neo-Gothic building of St Colman's Cathedral. It took 47 years to build and finally opened in 1911. Its spire stands 100m tall and the tower houses 42 bells, comprising the largest carillon in Ireland.

Before arrival in Kinsale take a tour of **Charles Fort**. This star-shaped military fortress was constructed between 1677 and 1682, during the reign of King Charles II, to protect the town and harbour of Kinsale in County Cork. William Robinson, architect of the Royal Hospital in Kilmainham Dublin, and Superintendent of Fortifications, is credited with designing the fort. As one of the largest military forts in the country, Charles Fort has been associated with some of the most momentous events in Irish history. These include the Williamite War in 1690 and the Irish Civil War of 1922 - 23. Charles Fort remained garrisoned by the British army until 1922.



Travel onwards to final destination of Kinsale and sample the culinary and scenic delights of this harbour town.

Dining @ Finns Table, Kinsale

Finns' Table Restaurant was opened in 2013 by John & Julie Finn who are a husband and wife team in the picturesque medieval fishing town of Kinsale. Recommended by the Michelin Guide, John is the chef running the kitchen and Julie is your welcome at front of house. Their Kitchen has a refined Irish French style of cooking, where classic taste and scent combinations are given a modern twist. The cuisine is adventurous and imaginative without being precious. All the dishes are prepared with daily fresh local ingredients and all the beef, lamb and pork is supplied by John's parents who are the owners of Finn's Butchers in Mitchelstown (Est 1830) hence the meat is only the very best here. Obviously the fish is the freshest being so close to the water. Lobsters and Crab are caught locally, off the Old Head of Kinsale by Yammon O' Neill. Prime fresh fish such as Turbot, John Dory & Hake is sourced daily from trawlers in West Cork.

Accommodation: Perryville Guesthouse, Kinsale

Day 4 - Touring West Cork & Killarney National Park

Depart Kinsale and touring Franciscan friary of Timoleague, Clonakilty, Drombeg Stone Circle, Glandore, Union Hall, Bantry House & Gardens, Kenmare, Killarney National Park and Ladies View.



Tour of the **Franciscan friary of Timoleague** which was founded in the late-13th or early-14th century and today, extensive ruins remain in the village, which is located in County Cork, just 10km east of Clonakilty. Visitors can explore the long church, nave, transept, cloister and tower. They can also find a bullaun stone and fine windows. It's believed that either Donal Glas MacCarthy or William Barry founded the friary, which survived until it was burnt by English soldiers in 1642. Travel onwards to Clonakilty for a quick stop in this harbour town.

Travel to **Drombeg Stone Circle**, or as it is locally known as the Druid's Altar, which is located on the edge of a rocky terrace overlooking the sea about a kilometre away, in Glandore County Cork. This is a circle of 17 standing stones which on excavation showed that there had been an urn burial in the centre. It has been dated to between 153 BC and 127AD. Excavations in 1957 and 1958 revealed cremated bones in a deliberately broken pot wrapped with thick cloth and buried near the centre of the circle along with 80 other smashed sherds, four bits of a shale and a collection of sweepings from a pyre. After Drombeg travel onwards via the spectacular picturesque fishing villages of Glandore and Union League.



Lunch @ Mary Ann's Bar, Castletownshend

Castletownshend is one of west Cork's most picturesque villages and was home to Somerville and Ross, the two Victorian ladies who wrote *Tales of an Irish R.M.* - and it is also where you will find the lovely church of St Barrahanne famous for its Harry Clarke windows. Just up the road from the church is Mary Ann's, a quaint and welcoming pub that is as old as it looks, going back to 1846; since 1988 it has been in the energetic and hospitable ownership of Fergus and Patricia O'Mahony, who have been careful to leave its original character intact as refurbishments have become necessary. The O'Mahonys have built up a great reputation for food in both the old-world bar. Seafood is the star, of course, and a Platter of Castlehaven Bay Shellfish and Seafood is a speciality, usually including langoustine, crab meat, crab claws, and both fresh and smoked salmon.

Travel onwards to tour **Bantry House & Gardens**, which is the ancestral home of the Earls of Bantry which is situated overlooking Bantry Bay in West Cork. The title lapsed in 1891 but the house is still owned and lived in by the direct descendants of the 1st Earl of Bantry. Since 1946 the House and Garden has been open to the public. The House has an important collection of art treasures mainly collected by the 2nd Earl of Bantry on his Grand Tour. The garden was inspired by travels of the 2nd Earl. It is laid out in the Italian style over seven terraces, with the house sitting on the third terrace. A Parterre facing south surrounding a wisteria circle which again surrounds a fountain was also created. From there rise the famous Hundred Steps, a monumental staircase built of local stone, set amidst azaleas and rhododendron.



Travel onwards to the beautiful town of **Kenmare** on the Ring of Kerry. Nestling peacefully at the mouth of the Kenmare Bay is Kenmare one of Ireland's loveliest Heritage Towns. From its origins in 1678 the town of Kenmare, Co Kerry, was special. Kenmare is a haven of tranquillity, gourmet food, superb accommodation and breathtaking scenery, in one of the most natural, unspoilt environments in Europe. Tour Kenmare Art Gallery to see how this innovative gallery focuses on contemporary Irish art and, in particular, on the artists of the Beara Peninsula. Visit the Kenmare Lace and Design Centre which hosts an antique lace exhibition, lacemaking demonstrations, lace for sale, lacemaking materials and general haberdashery. Depart Kenmare and travel over the McGillicuddy Reeks Mountains and into **Killarney National Park**, with its 25,000 acres of woodland and magical mountains, with spectacular views of the Lakes of Killarney. Travel to **Ladies' View**, made

famous by Queen Victoria's ladies in waiting in 1831, which has spectacular views of Killarney national park from its perch on the Ring of Kerry. Travel onwards to your final destination in Killarney.

Dinning @ Rozzers, Killarney

Rozzers Restaurant is truly a must-visit dining experience when in Killarney. Head Chef Paul O'Gorman and his team have carved out an enviable reputation for the sheer quality of the food they produce to a consistently high standard. Geraldine and Michael and all their wonderful staff will go the extra mile to provide their guests with a memorable night out.

Accommodation: Park Hotel, Killarney

Day 5 - Touring Dingle Peninsula (Killarney to Dingle)

Touring Ross Castle, Murckross House & Gardens, Sleah Head Ring (Dunbeg Fort, Beehive Huts, The Basket Centre, Gallurus Oratory & Kilmalkedar Church).



Travel to Killarney National Park on the shores of Muckross Lake is the 15th century tower house **Ross Castle**. It is a typical example of the stronghold of an Irish chieftain in the Middle Ages and is fully restored and furnished with period oak furniture. It is typical of its style, with square bartizans on diagonally opposite corners and a thick end wall containing a tier of chambers and winding stairs. **Muckross House & Gardens**, once visited by Queen Victoria, is situated on the shores of Muckross Lake within the stunning surroundings of Killarney National Park. This magnificent Victorian mansion is one of Ireland's leading stately homes. The elegantly furnished rooms portray the lifestyles of the landed gentry, while downstairs in the basement you can experience the working conditions of the servants employed in the House back in the day. Muckross House is also home to a number of skilled craftworkers, who can be seen using skills in the crafts of weaving, pottery and bookbinding. Many exotic trees and shrubs flourish in the mild climate and sheltered location of the Muckross gardens. Attractive features include a fine collection of rhododendrons and azaleas, an outstanding rock garden on a natural rock outcrop and beautiful tree-fringed lawns. Depart Killarney and travel onwards to the picturesque village of Adare.



Depart Dingle and travel to Mount Eagle on the Dingle peninsula to view **Dunbeg Fort** which is an impressive promontory stone fort. The fort has suffered a lot of damage due to erosion but is still very impressive. Inside the fort is a circular Beehive hut or Clochan with a square interior. The fort has four outer defensive banks and a souterrain about 16 metres long, leading from the front of the outer defenses to the interior. Travel onwards via the Wild Atlantic Way along the Sleah Head Drive. Stop to tour the **Beehive Huts**, the most common surviving house type in Corca Dhuibhne during the Early Medieval period was the clochán (or Beehive Hut as known locally), a round house built using local stone, and roofed either in stone, using the corbelling technique. Many examples can be found in the Ceann Trá area, particularly near Sleah Head and they date from the 6th to the 10th or 11th centuries AD. These structures are found either singly, conjoined or three together. These were the houses in which people lived, be they of moderate or even high status, or monks within monasteries. Sometimes underground passages known as souterrains are found associated with them.

Lunch @ The Stone House, Dingle

The cuisine at the Stonehouse could be best described as Bistro mixed with Irish Traditional. Here you will find exciting, mouth-watering dishes made from the finest local produce. The menu features fresh, locally caught fish; delicious West Kerry breed meats as well as a host of other exciting options. Home-made soups, Seasonal Salad, Dingle Bay Mussels, Goat's Cheese Salad, Dingle Bay Crab Salad and Ballydauid Smoked Salmon offer the perfect meal.



Travel onwards to the **Blasket Centre**. This is a fascinating heritage & cultural centre/museum honouring the unique community who lived on the remote Blasket Islands until their evacuation in 1953. The Centre details the community's struggle for existence, their language and culture, folklore & customs, and their extraordinary literary legacy – with classics such as 'The Islandman', 'Twenty Years A-Growing' and 'Peig'.



Travel onwards to **Gallarus Oratory**, which is the best preserved early Christian church in Ireland. Gallarus Oratory, was built between the seventh and eighth century and is the best preserved early Christian church in Ireland. It represents the apogee of dry-stone corbelling, using techniques first developed by Neolithic tomb makers. The stones were laid at a slight angle, lower on the outside than the inside to allow water to run off. Travel onwards to tour **Kilmalkedar**. Kilmalkedar is a spectacular early-Christian and medieval ecclesiastical site. The ruins are spread across an area of 10 acres. Among them, visitors will enjoy examining the fine 12th-century Hiberno-Romanesque church and several fascinating artefacts, such as an alphabet stone, holed Ogham stone, sundial and large stone cross.

Dining @ The Chart House

At the Chart House they strive to deliver a memorable dining experience, and for our loyal and regular customer each visit to the Chart House needs to be better than the last. The reason the Chart House has won so many awards and is one of Dingle's best restaurants is that they recognize what happens front of house is equally as important as what happens on the plate. Of course, achieving "Best Restaurant in Dingle and Kerry" is about the food, and Head Chef Noel Enright and his team source only the finest local produce and create menus to reflect what is in season. They firmly believe that when our seafood and meat are prepared and cooked with little fuss and complication and accompanied with appropriate garnish and undertones of exquisite sauces that you have the best results.

Accommodation: Pax House, Dingle

Day 6 - Touring Dingle & Adare (Dingle to Adare)

Touring Dingle Town (Dingle Crystal & Dingle Distillery), Conor Pass & Adare



Dingle Crystal are a family business specialising in hand-cut Irish crystal. Each piece is handmade by master craftsman Sean Daly at his workshop in Dingle, Co. Kerry. Sean's unique celtic designs are inspired by the rich heritage and breathtaking landscape of Ireland's west coast. All of our crystalware is designed, cut and polished by hand, using traditional techniques. With every step of the production process being carried out in Ireland, Dingle Crystal is a true embodiment of Irish craft. No two pieces are exactly the same and each piece is personally signed by Sean. This is how Sean guarantees a unique and individual piece of Irish crystal to each of his customers. The **Dingle Whiskey Distillery** is not in the business of creating megabrands, nor do they distil for anyone else. Their scale is modest, their approach to what they make is essentially artisan and they have rekindled the tradition of independent distilling in Ireland. Two hundred years ago, this small island had over a hundred officially recognised distilleries; by the turn of this century there were two. The Dingle Distillery welcomes visitors to enjoy a tour of their facility where the entire production process, for all their products, are explained and a gin/vodka sample is provided. The distillery tour will give you an introduction into Irish whiskey and into the Dingle Distillery.

Travel over the spectacular Conor Pass and travel onwards to the picturesque town of Adare.

Lunch @ Arches, Adare

The Arches is the perfect family-friendly restaurant in Adare village. This is a cosy old-world dining delight with a quirky modern feel. The relaxed staff create a lovely atmosphere and will make your experience one that you won't easily forget. Serving everything from the roast of the day, mouth watering salmon, steak and chips there's something for everyone on their international menu. Delicious dishes served with a smile!



Desmond Castle was erected with an ancient ring-fort, around the early part of the 13th century. It became a strategic fortress during the following turbulent years. It was the property of the Earls of Kildare for nearly 300 years until the rebellion in 1536, when it was forfeited and granted to the Earls of Desmond who gave the castle its present name. Travel onwards to your destination of the luxurious Adare Manor Resort. Partake in some activities

Dining @ The Oak Room, Adare Manor

For freshly brewed coffee or light bites to enjoy alongside a glass of champagne or an aperitif before dinner, The Drawing Room is a luxurious setting overlooking the beautiful formal gardens. Experience a gracious evening of fine-dining by candle light in The Oak Room, where Head Chef Michael Tweedie's tasting menu has distilled the essence of Ireland's best artisan ingredients, paired with Head Sommelier Jurica Gojevic's lovingly curated wine collection. Whatever you might be in the mood for, the talented and passionate culinary team at Adare Manor has perfected a menu to match.

After dinner connoisseurs of fine spirits and imaginative libations will find a warm welcome in The Tack Room, where a menu of savoury snacks and sharing platters are the perfect companion to a world-class whiskey collection and specialty cocktail list.

Accommodation: Adare Manor Resort

Day 7 - Touring Cliffs of Moher & Burren

Depart Adare touring Cliffs of Moher, The Burren Centre & Perfumery, Poul nabrone Portal Dolmen Tomb.

Travel onwards to Ireland's most visited natural attraction, the **Cliffs of Moher**. They stretch for 8km (5miles), as the crow flies, along the Atlantic coast of County Clare in the west of Ireland and reach 214m (702feet) at their highest point at Knockardakin just north of O'Brien's Tower. At the southern end of the Cliffs of Moher stands Hags Head a natural rocky promontory that resembles a seated woman when viewed from the north.



In the ancient Gaelic language, the word Mothar means "ruined fort" and a 1st century BC fort stood where Moher tower now stands. Therefore the Cliffs of Moher means the cliffs of the ruined fort and although there is no trace remaining of this two thousand year old fort it has given name to the cliffs which are visited annually by almost one million visitors. The Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience is located almost midway along these spectacular cliffs and is home to; an environmentally friendly visitor centre set into the hillside, O'Brien's Tower – a 19th century viewing tower, and 800metres of protected cliff side pathways, viewing areas and steps.



Discover the unique magic of this 'Bhoireann' or 'stony place' region in the **Burren Centre**. This visitor centre lies at the heart of the historic village of Kilfenora. It boasts a fantastic exhibition, an audio-visual theatre, local crafts shop and tea room. The audio visual film, narrated by famous environmentalist Eamon de Buitlear, traces the formation of the Burren 320 million years ago and explains why Alpine, Arctic and Mediterranean plants grow side by side in this unique limestone world. Understand how ancient man left his mark on the landscape in the form of the Dolmen Tombs and burial chambers, which still stand today as stone sentinels to the Burren's heritage. Travel onwards to visit the famous **Poul nabrone Portel Dolmen Tomb**. Travel through the rugged Burren landscape towards Galway and onto your final destination today of the magnificent Ashford Castle Estate.

Lunch @ Moran's on the Weir, Kilcolgan

Moran's is a Family Business dating back more than 250 years. In the 1800's it did a flourishing trade when the Weir was a prosperous little port. Today, thanks to the tremendous upsurge of interest in Seafood, Moran's is a must for anybody with an interest in sampling the crustaceous delights of Galway Bay. Moran's serves smoked salmon, crab, prawns, crab claws, Galway Bay oysters and lobster all day. Moran's is famous for Guinness & Fresh Oysters and their famous 7 generation Chowder soup recipe.



Travel onwards to your destination of Ashford Castle. For hundreds of years, the grounds of **Ashford Castle** have provided a vast playground for its owners and their friends. Successive generations of the de Burgo, Bingham, Browne and Guinness families have created one of the finest sporting estates in all of Ireland, if not the world – which is proudly continued to this day. The expansive 350 acre Ashford Estate lends itself perfectly to a range of activities, from country classic pastimes such as horse riding, fishing, falconry and shooting, to more modern activities such as golf, cycling and kayaking. So whether you are the active type or prefer to relax and soak up the scenery, make use of this morning to engage in an activity at Ashford Castle.

Dining @ The Dungeon in Ashford Castle

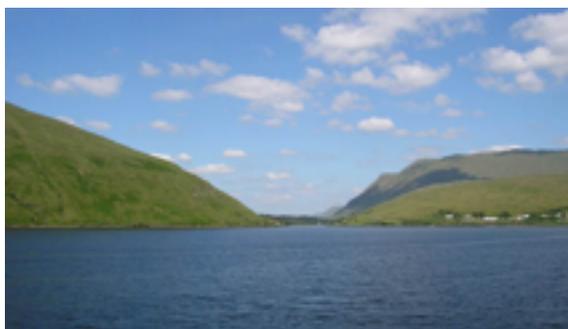
Creative Irish cuisine, inspired use of the finest seasonal ingredients from the West of Ireland and an extensive wine cellar make any stay at Ashford Castle a gourmet's delight. Chef Philippe Farineau, gives fine expression to the dishes offered in the four main dining rooms.

After Dinner, head to the Billiards room at the Castle to sample some of Ireland's finest whiskey's. Providing the perfect match for your whiskey and Cigar pairing.

Accommodation: Ashford Castle, Cong, Co. Mayo

Day 8 - Touring Connemara National Park

Touring Killary Fjord, Leenane, Kylemore Abbey & Quiet Man Museum.



Travel to the glacial fjord of **Killary**, which acts as a natural border between the two bastions of traditional Ireland County Galway and Mayo. It is 16 kilometres long and in the centre over 45 metres deep. It is one of three glacial fjords that exist in Ireland, the others being Lough Swilly and Carlingford Lough. On its northern shore lies the mountain of Mweelrea, Connacht's highest mountain, rising to 814 metres. To the south rise the Maumturk Mountains and the Twelve Bens. The area contains some of Ireland's most awe-inspiring and dramatic scenery. The

picturesque village of **Leenane** (Leenaun on Irish signposts) sits at the mouth of Killary harbour, almost dwarfed by the Connemara Mountains surrounding it. Leenane became famous in 1989 when it starred in the film adaption of John B Keane's play *The Field*. Gaynor's pub was the spot where much of the action took place.

Travel onwards to **Kylemore Abbey** and Victorian Walled Garden which is a great destination for a day out in majestic Connemara to rank as an unforgettable memory. The dramatic landscape and iconic image of a gothic castle reflected in a Connemara lake has made Kylemore Abbey world-famous and it is now the largest tourist attraction in the west of Ireland. The Benedictine nuns invite visitors to experience the Victorian atmosphere of the Abbey's restored rooms, miniature gothic church, head gardener's house and garden boy's house. Learn of the tales of tragedy and romance, the engineering initiatives, model farms, royal visits and the Abbey's former role as a girls boarding school.



Lunch @ Cullen's at the Cottage

This traditional thatched cottage, which used to be Cong Cinema, (showing films on Tuesday's and Thursday's, and was the first place to show *The Quiet Man* even before it was shown in Hollywood), today provides a relaxed dining experience with a casual dress code in which to enjoy international and local dishes inspired by our owner Beatrice Tollman, including our delicious signature dish 'Chicken Peri Peri'. It is slow cooked in our rotisserie oven in the main dining area, so mouth-watering aromas greet you as soon as you enter the restaurant.

In 1951 John Ford's greatest movie '**The Quiet Man**' starring John Wayne, Maureen O'Hara and Barry Fitzgerald was made in the west of Ireland. Much of the film centred around the village of Cong on the Mayo-Galway border. Located by the river at Circular Road, Cong, between actual locations used for the filming, the



thatched cottage's ground floor has been designed as an exact replica of 'White-o-Morn' Cottage. Painstaking effort has ensured that all the furnishings, artefacts, costumes etc are authentic reproductions. The four poster bed, tables and chairs, treasured by Mary Kate Danaher, thatched roof, emerald green half-door and whitewashed front combine to charm visitors. The Quiet Man Cottage Museum is a novel concept which will give the visitor a total Quiet Man experience as if they were actually on the movie set. Partake in Ashford Castle activities for rest of the afternoon.

Afternoon Tea @ The Connaught Room in Ashford

Afternoon Tea is served on glorious, ornate silver stands. Upholding the tradition that dates back to 1868 at Ashford Castle, indulge in a delicious Afternoon Tea served in The Connaught Room with magnificent views across the gardens and Lough Corrib. Head Pastry Chef, Paula Stakelum, Winner of the Valrhona Pâtisserie Championship 2017, delights guests daily with a selection of tempting treats.

Dining @ George V Room in Ashford Castle

Creative Irish cuisine, inspired use of the finest seasonal ingredients from the West of Ireland and an extensive wine cellar make any stay at Ashford Castle a gourmet's delight. Chef Philippe Farineau, gives fine expression to the dishes offered in the four main dining rooms.

Accommodation: Ashford Castle, Cong, Co. Mayo

Day 9 - Touring Galway City & Clonmacnoise

Touring Galway City of Tribes (Shop Street, Quay Street & Spanish Arch) & Clonmacnoise.



Travel to Galway City of Tribes for a Tour of the City. Strolling **Shop Street and Quay Street** is part of the Galway experience. Entertaining talented buskers and mimics, shops of all types, restaurants, cafes, pubs and people watching galore. Art and entertainment surround you as you explore these streets. The **Spanish Arch** was built in 1584, and is located on the banks of the river Corrib, and on the site more commonly known as Ceann na Bhalla (The Head of the Wall). It was originally an extension of the famous city walls, designed to protect the quays. In the past, it was known as The Blind Arch. Situated behind the famous **Spanish Arch**, Galway City Museum houses exhibitions which explore aspects of the history and heritage of Galway City. Ongoing exhibitions included Routes to the Past (Prehistoric Galway); Galway Within the Walls (Medieval Galway); Pádraic Ó Conaire: the Man and the Statue, The Galway Hooker and SeaScience. Among the Museum highlights are the Galway Civic Sword and Great Mace. The Civic Sword dates from the Charter of King James I in 1610, which granted authority for the carrying of such a weapon before the Mayor. The Great Mace, a massive piece of ornamental silverwork crafted in Dublin in 1710, was presented to the town by Edward Eyre, Mayor of Galway, in 1712.

Lunch @ Ard Bia, Galway

One of Galway's most enduring restaurants, housed in one of the city's most iconic restaurant spaces, Ard Bia has always placed as much emphasis on community experiences and aesthetic stimulation as on serving great food in a fun environment. They believe in having roots in a place whilst having an identity that transcends location and takes inspiration from around the world.

Travel to one of the most famous monastic sites in Ireland, **Clonmacnoise** located along the River Shannon near the village of Shannonbridge, Co Offaly. It became a world-renowned centre for learning in the 9th century and was visited by Pope John Paul II. A walk amongst the peaceful stone ruins of this famous place will conjure images of the saints and scholars of Ireland's renowned Golden Age of learning. Founded by St Ciaran in the mid-6th century, it became a great centre of religion and learning, visited by scholars from all over the world. Many historical manuscripts, including the 11th century Annals of Tighernach and the 12th century Book of the Dun Cow, were written here. The beautifully preserved structures of Clonmacnoise Cathedral, Temple Doolin, Temple Hurpan and Temple Melaghlin will impress and leave those who visit Clonmacnoise with an authentic sense of the history of Ireland. Travel onwards to Dublin City.



Dinning @ Patrick Guilbaud, Merrion Hotel

Restaurant Patrick Guilbaud, Ireland's only Two Star Michelin restaurant, is situated in the luxurious surroundings of The Merrion 5 star hotel, with magnificent views overlooking the hotel's classical gardens. Restaurant Patrick Guilbaud's pursuit of perfection is evidenced in cuisine that is as sophisticated as it is immaculately presented. Delicious and innovative dishes are prepared from the finest ingredients, while service is impeccable, combining efficient French decorum with discreet Irish charm.

Accommodation: Merrion Hotel

Day 10 - Depart Dublin Airport

Depart from Dublin Airport

Terms & Conditions

Costs may fluctuate upon the time of year and availability cannot be guaranteed on all accommodations.

25% Deposit required to secure the booking of Accommodation and Transport. Non refundable upon payment.

Full payment of tour required 1 month in advance of the tour date. Non refundable upon payment.

Please note Accommodation includes Bed & Breakfast only.

All lunch and evening meals are not included in costs.

Activity costs are not included unless requested.

It is advised to take out travel insurance to cover every eventuality.

Tips are not included but encouraged.
