

# Splendors of Ireland 9 Day Luxury Package

## Day 1: Depart for Ireland

We begin our adventure to the Emerald Isle with an overnight flight to Dublin, Ireland. Sit back, rest and enjoy the in-flight service.

### Day 2: Welcome to Ireland

Arrive at Dublin Airport. Transfer to your Dublin hotel under own arrangements. This afternoon you will meet with a local guide and enjoy a walking tour of Dublin. Have some time at leisure before meeting with the rest of the group for a welcome drink at your hotel before dinner.

Overnight: Dublin (Dinner, bed & breakfast)

#### Day 3: Dublin's Fair City

First this morning you will visit Trinity College, Irelands oldest University, founded in 1592 by Elizabeth 1st. Visit the ancient library, containing over 20,000 manuscripts & is home to the 9th century Book of Kells. Next board your coach and tour County Wicklow. Enjoy lunch at Ballyknocken House. This charming Victorian farmhouse offers four star accommodation and is home to TV chef and food writer, Catherine Fulvio. Before returning to Dublin, visit Russborough House, built in 1740, this Palladian mansion is often referred to as 'the most beautiful in Ireland'. Overnight: Dublin (Bed & breakfast)

#### Day 4: Dublin to Kerry

Today you will depart Dublin with your driver and travel to Kerry. Stop at the Irish National Stud & Japanese Gardens. The Irish National Stud is the only stud farm in Ireland that is open to the public and set within the same site are the magnificent Japanese Gardens of Tully which were created between the years 1906 and 1910. Next visit the Rock of Cashel, which towers over the town of Cashel from its perch on a 200-foot high outcrop of limestone. Continue to Killarney and check into your hotel. Overnight: Killarney (Dinner, bed & breakfast)

#### **Day 5: Kerry Sightseeing**

Today you will tour the famous Ring of Kerry. Visit the Skellig Experience, which is a heritage center dedicated to life on the Skellig Islands. The Skellig Islands are found 12km off the coast of

Kerry. The larger island, Skellig Michael, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was a monastic site occupied from the 6th until the 12th century. More recently the island has been used to shoot scenes for the Star Wars film, The Force Awakens. Continue along the Ring of Kerry until you are back in Killarney. Visit Muckross House & Gardens. Muckross House is a magnificent Victorian mansion built in 1843 and is one of Ireland's leading stately homes beautifully situated amidst the spectacular scenery of Killarney National Park. Next today enjoy a pony and trap ride (also known as a Jaunting Car).Relax aboard a jaunting car as your Jarvey [driver] takes you through the magnificent scenery of the National Park.

Overnight: Killarney (Bed & breakfast)

#### Day 6: Kerry to Galway

This morning travel northwards to Tarbert & take a short boat ride across the mouth of the river Shannon to land on Clare's shore at Killimer. Travel along the coast to Doolin where you will take a ferry to view the Cliffs of Moher, the most majestic cliffs in Ireland which rise from the Atlantic Ocean & extend for over 7km. Return to the mainland and continue to the Burren Smokehouse, learn about the smoking process, you will also have the opportunity to sample some smoked salmon before departing. Continue to your hotel in Galway. Tonight you will have dinner aboard a restored train at your hotel.

Overnight: Galway (Dinner, bed & breakfast)

#### Day 7: Connemara

Today you will tour the Connemara Region. Connemara is a land of lakes and rivers, bogs and mountains. Visit Dan O'Hara's Cot-



tage for a bread making demonstration. Next visit Kylemore Abbey. One of Kylemore Abbey's most famous features is its miniature cathedral, built in 1870 and known locally as the Gothic church. Return to Galway where you will have the evening at leisure. There will be a return coach transfer into the city center this evening.

Overnight: Galway (Bed & breakfast)

# Day 8: Galway to Dublin

This morning you will enjoy a walking tour of Galway with a local guide followed by some free time in the city. Depart Galway and stop in Offaly to visit Tullamore Dew Distillery. Enjoy a guided tour which blends audio-visual and traditional storytelling and then raise a glass of complimentary Tullamore D.E.W. Irish Whiskey. Travel to your hotel in Dublin and check in. Tonight you will join for a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight: Dublin (Bed & breakfast)

## **Day 9: Farewell**

Transfer to Dublin Airport under own arrangements for return flight home.

# **INCLUDED IN TOUR PRICE**

5 star lodging, full Irish breakfast daily, 1 lunch, 4 dinners, entrance admissions, transportation, and driver/guide.

# NOT INCLUDED IN TOUR PRICE

Flight departures (low cost fares available nationwide), 6 lunches, 3 dinners, gratuities.

# PRICE PER PERSON: BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

# From \$2,375

Many departures throughout the year.

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