

* Springtime Tour of Ireland / May 18 – 28, 2019 *

Visiting Killarney, Dingle and Galway - Ireland's Three Gems

The Irish Cultural Center's Rose Baker & Pat Baker to Host the Trip!
Please Join Us!



Tour the wild and beautiful West Coast of Ireland! Embrace Ireland's gems, Killarney, Dingle and Galway, on a leisurely paced springtime tour through gorgeous countryside, charming towns, and bustling cities. Multiple night stays in Killarney, Dingle & Galway allow you to immerse yourself in the beauty, hospitality and culture of Ireland's Historic West Coast Towns.

Total Cost: \$2,925 per person / double room occupancy; \$3,475 single room occupancy (limited availability)

What You Need To Do! Deposits, Payments and Application:

- **Initial Deposit:** \$1,000 to reserve your seat on the trip (see forms of payment on page 3).
Tour is limited (41 passengers) and will be filled on a **first come, first serve basis**.
- **Application:** Your Initial Deposit must accompany a **completed reservation application** and **copy of your passport**.
- **Final Payment Due:** February 8, 2019. Balance due: \$1,925 per person / double room occupancy; \$2,475 single room.
- **Travel Insurance:** Information available upon request.

The Irish Cultural Center Tour Includes:

- Round trip bus coach transportation from the Irish Cultural Center to Boston's Logan Airport, including driver's tip
- Round trip airfare from Boston to Shannon, Ireland via Aer Lingus
- Nine (9) Nights Top Rated Hotel Accommodations
 - Killarney International Hotel: www.killarneyinternational.com
 - Dingle Skellig Hotel: www.dingleskellig.com
 - Jurys Inn Galway: www.jurysinns.com/hotels/galway
- Full Breakfast and Dinner Meals included
 - Full Irish breakfast daily, except day of arrival
 - Tea, coffee and scones at Meadowlands Hotel in Tralee on day of arrival
 - Seven (7) dinners, including Irish evenings at Kate Kearney's Cottage (Killarney, Co. Kerry) and Foley's Pub (Inch East, Co. Kerry)
 - One (1) lunch: Gus O'Connor's Pub in Doolin, Co. Clare
- Admission to: Blarney Castle, Blasket Centre, Cliffs of Moher, Horse-drawn Jaunting Cart Ride in Killarney, and Trad on the Prom Show. Admission to Dingle Harbor Cruise or Dingle Distillery – your choice!
- Optional day trips (at no extra cost): Day trips to Blarney, Kenmare, Sleat Head Drive tour of Dingle Peninsula, Kilmalkedar Church, trip to Spiddal and Moycullen for shopping at Celtic Crystal and Connemara Marble
- Deluxe touring motor coach for all transportation and sightseeing with the services of a professional Irish driver/guide throughout
- Porterage of one (1) suitcase per person
- Tips & taxes while in Ireland (Note: Gratuity to the driver/guide in Ireland is included in tour cost)

The ICC reserves the right to make changes to the itinerary as needed, due to weather or other circumstances.

Trip Details and Itinerary

- Day 1:
Saturday, May 18 Depart by coach from Irish Cultural Center in West Springfield to Boston's Logan Airport. Leave Logan at 7:15 pm aboard Aer Lingus Flight EI 134.
- Day 2:
Sunday, May 19 Arrive at Shannon Airport at 6:15 am local Irish time. Board coach for land transportation. Stop at Meadowlands Hotel in Tralee, Co. Kerry for tour-sponsored coffee, tea, and scones around 9:30 am. Arrive at Killarney International Hotel around 2:00 p.m. Unpack and relax, or freshen up before a welcome get-together drink at Hannigans Pub at 5:30 pm followed by dinner at 6:30 pm in the Killarney International Hotel restaurant.
- Day 3:
Monday, May 20 After Killarney International Hotel breakfast, enjoy a traditional horse-drawn jaunting cart ride to experience the hidden delights of Killarney. Afterwards, the bus will leave at 11:30 am for an optional day trip to Kenmare with time to explore this picturesque County Kerry town with its unique charm and inherent beauty. This town has been officially recognized for its historical, cultural, and environmental significance and has been bestowed the title of Kerry's first Heritage Town in Ireland by the Ireland Tourist Board. On our return journey to Killarney, we will travel part of the Ring of Kerry through the picturesque Molls Gap with its sweeping views of the MacGillycuddy Reeks mountain range, which includes Carrantuohill, the highest mountain in Ireland. We will arrive back in Killarney by mid-afternoon with the remainder of the afternoon free. In the evening, we will drive to Kate Kearney's Cottage for dinner at 6:30 pm and traditional Irish entertainment with songs and step dancing. Bus will depart at 6:00 pm from the Killarney International Hotel for Kate Kearney's Cottage.
- Day 4:
Tuesday, May 21 After Killarney International Hotel breakfast, bus leaves at 9:45 am for an optional day trip to Blarney Castle. We will drive through the rich farming county of Cork. At Blarney, stop to climb to the battlements of Blarney Castle to kiss the famous "Stone of Eloquence." Also visit the Blarney Woolen Mills where you can find quality Irish-made goods of all types. You will also have time to browse around the village, charmingly set around a large village green. Lunch is on your own in Blarney. After our visit to Blarney, we will return to Killarney for dinner at the Killarney International Hotel for 6:30 pm.
- Day 5:
Wednesday, May 22 After Killarney International Hotel breakfast, bus leaves at 9:45 am for Dingle. We will travel via Inch Strand to Dingle with lovely scenery along the way. We will stop at Brian de Staic's workshop and store in Dingle. Brian de Staic has been designing and handcrafting jewelry for 40 years, with one of the largest workshops in Ireland. Treat yourself or that special someone to a piece of jewelry made on the Peninsula. After checking into your hotel room, the remainder of the afternoon is free for you to discover the many charms that this town has to offer. Following our visit to Brian de Staic's, you will have a choice for your afternoon activity: Dingle Harbor Cruise to see Dingle's most famous resident, Fungie the Dolphin, or the Dingle Distillery (i.e., whiskey, gin and vodka tour). Following our afternoon activity, we will make our way to the Dingle Skellig Hotel. After checking into your hotel room, the remainder of the day is free for you to discover the many charms that this town has to offer. Dinner at the Skellig Hotel at 6:30 pm.
- Day 6:
Thursday, May 23 After Dingle Skellig Hotel breakfast, depart at 9:45 am for an optional tour around the scenic Dingle Peninsula. We will drive past little harbors and wide stretches of sandy beaches, leading southward to Slea Head. This is the most westerly point in Europe, "Next Parish America" and off this coast many an Armada was lost. The awe-inspiring beauty of this particular area is unmatched. We will make a stop (weather permitting) to visit an ancient Celtic settlement dating back to 500 B.C. along the Slea Head drive. We will also enjoy a visit to the Blasket Centre where you will learn about life on the Blasket Islands, inhabited until 1953, and about the families who immigrated directly to Springfield, MA. You are on your own for lunch at the Blasket Centre. We will also visit Kilmalkedar Church, a spectacular early-Christian and medieval ecclesiastical site. On our return to Dingle, we will stop at Dinglegoldsmiths. Jerry and Aideen Baker have fifty years combined making handcrafted jewelry and are masters of the trade. Treat yourself or that special someone to a piece of jewelry made on the Peninsula. Dinner at 6:30 pm at Foley's Pub in Inch with a special evening of Irish music. Bus will depart Dingle Skellig Hotel at 6:00 pm.
- Day 7:
Friday, May 24
FREE DAY! After Dingle Skellig Hotel breakfast, the day is free to relax or explore Dingle and the surrounding area. Tour hosts will provide suggestions to make sure you experience the best of Dingle. Stroll around town and enjoy one or more of Dingle's 52 pubs. Your choices are many as you savor your time in this colorful and charming harbor town. Dinner at the Dingle Skellig Hotel at 6:00 pm.
- Day 8:
Saturday, May 25 After Skellig Hotel breakfast (7:00 am), depart Dingle for Galway at 8:15 am. We travel to Tarbert in Co. Kerry to board a ferry (weather permitting) for the short ride across the River Shannon Estuary to Killimer, Co. Clare. We will make our way (weather permitting), to the amazing Cliffs of Moher, which rise some 700 feet above the unforgiving Atlantic coastline. Afterwards, we will visit Gus O'Connor's Pub in Doolin for a

tour-sponsored lunch. We then continue through the Burren region to Galway City. Upon arrival to Galway City, we will enjoy a brief panoramic city tour. Afterwards, we will check into our hotel, the Jurys Inn Galway. Dinner at the Jurys Inn Hotel at 7:00 pm.

Day 9:
Sunday, May 26
After Jurys Inn Galway breakfast, leave at 12:30 pm to travel to scenic Connemara to visit Celtic Crystal and Connemara Marble in Moycullen. Tonight, enjoy dinner on your own. Return to the hotel at 7:40 pm to board the bus to the Leisureland Theatre in Salthill, Co. Galway to attend Trad on the Prom (show starts at 8:30 pm) for a magnificent evening of Irish entertainment. This show is sure to delight!

Day 10:
Monday, May 27
FREE DAY!
After Jurys Inn Galway breakfast, enjoy a free day in Galway City to shop and independently explore the “City of the Tribes.” Galway is a delightful city with narrow streets, old stone and wooden shop fronts, bustling restaurants and busy pubs. The city has attracted many musicians and artists, which add to its unique character. Tour hosts will provide suggestions to make sure you experience the best of Galway. Tonight, enjoy dinner on your own.

Day 11:
Tuesday, May 28
After Jurys Inn Galway breakfast, depart at 7:20 am for Shannon Airport. Enjoy last minute shopping at Shannon’s Duty Free Shop. Our Aer Lingus Flight EI 135 departs at 12:00 pm, arriving in Boston’s Logan Airport at 1:50 pm local time. We will arrive by coach back at the ICC in West Springfield around 5:00 pm.

Forms of Payment

- **Check:** made payable to the Irish Cultural Center, or Cash.
Mail payment, Reservation Application and copy of passport to the Irish Cultural Center at 429 Morgan Road, West Springfield, MA 01089.
- **Credit Card:** visit the Spring Tour page on our website at www.IrishCenterwne.org to pay online with a credit card through PayPal. A charge of 2.2% and \$0.30 per transaction fee will be added to credit card payments. Mail Reservation Application and copy of passport to the Irish Cultural Center at 429 Morgan Road, West Springfield, MA 01089.
- Patrons in good standing of the Irish Cultural Center are entitled to a refund of €25 to be provided by the tour hosts upon arrival in Ireland.

For more information or reservations

Visit the ICC website at www.IrishCenterwne.org or contact:

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Pat Baker at 413-348-3263 or pkbaker@verizon.net

ICC office at 413-333-4951 or irishcenterwne@gmail.com



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