

*** Fall Tour of Ireland / October 17 – 27, 2020 ***
Visiting Kinsale, Dingle and Ennis: Ireland's Triple Delight
The Irish Cultural Center's Rose Baker & Pat Baker to Host the Trip!
Please Join Us!



Tour the wild and beautiful West and South Coast of Ireland! Embrace Ireland's gems, Kinsale, Dingle and Ennis, on a leisurely paced fall tour through gorgeous countryside and charming towns. Multiple night stays in Kinsale, Dingle and Ennis allow you to immerse yourself in the beauty, hospitality and culture of Ireland's historic towns.

Total Cost: \$2,950 per person / double room occupancy; \$3,375 single room occupancy (limited availability)

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

Initial Deposit: \$1,300 to reserve your seat on the trip (see forms of payment on page 3). **Note: If you already secured your place on this trip by previously making a \$100 deposit, the initial deposit due is \$1,200.**

- Tour is limited (44 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:** **May 18, 2020. Balance due: \$1,650 per person / double room occupancy; \$2,075 single room.**
- **Travel Insurance:** Information available upon request.

The Irish Cultural Center ("ICC") Tour Includes:

- Round trip bus transportation from ICC to Boston's Logan Airport, including driver's tip
- Complimentary drink at the ICC's Trinity Pub and snacks prior to leaving for Boston's Logan Airport
- Round trip airfare from Boston to Shannon, Ireland via Aer Lingus
- Nine (9) Nights Top Rated Hotel Accommodations
 - Actons Hotel (Kinsale): www.actonshotelkinsale.com
 - Dingle Skellig Hotel (Dingle): www.dinglaskellig.com
 - Old Ground Hotel (Ennis): www.oldgroundhotelennis.com
- Full Breakfast and 8 Dinner Meals included
 - Full Irish breakfast daily
 - Eight (8) dinners, including Irish evenings at Kate Kearney's Cottage (Killarney, Co. Kerry) and Medieval Banquet at Bunratty Castle (Bunratty, Co. Clare)
- Admission to: Blarney Castle and Gardens, Bunratty Castle and Folk Park, Cashel Murphy Celtic Forts, Charles Fort, Cobh Heritage Centre, Foynes Flying Boat and Maritime Museum, Jameson Distillery, Walking Tour of Kinsale, and Horse-drawn Jaunting Cart Ride in Killarney
- Optional day trips (at no extra cost): Cobh, Midleton, Sleah Head Drive tour of Dingle Peninsula, Kilmalkedar Church, and Killarney
- Deluxe touring motor coach for all transportation and sightseeing with the services of a professional Irish driver/guide
- Portage 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,
October 17, 2020
- Depart by bus from the ICC in West Springfield to Boston's Logan Airport. Leave Logan at 6:55 pm aboard Aer Lingus Flight EI 134.
- Day 2:
Sunday,
October 18, 2020
- Arrive at Shannon Airport at 6:00 am local Irish time. Board coach for land transportation. Stop at the South County Pub in Douglas, Co. Cork for a tour sponsored Irish breakfast. Afterwards, we will make our way to Actons Hotel. Unpack and relax, or freshen up before a welcome get-together drink at 5:30 pm, followed by dinner at 6:30 pm in the Actons Hotel restaurant.
- Day 3:
Monday,
October 19, 2020
- After Actons Hotel breakfast, depart at 9:55 am for Charles Fort. Charles Fort is a classic example of a late 17th century star-shaped fort. As one of the largest military installations in the country, Charles Fort has been associated with some well-known events in Irish history. The most significant of these are the Williamite War of 1689-91 and the Civil War of 1922-23. From Charles Fort, you will also enjoy spectacular panoramic views of Kinsale harbor and the West Cork coast. After our visit to Charles Fort, we will stop at the Kinsale Garden of Remembrance established by a Kinsale woman (Kathleen Murphy) who worked as a nurse for over 30 years in New York City. After 9/11, Ms. Murphy provided a memorial on her land at Ringfinnan, Kinsale with a tree dedicated to the loving memory of each of the 343 firefighters who died heroically in the line of duty at the Twin Towers on 9/11, as well as one for their chaplain Father Mychal Judge. We will then return to town to meet a local guide for a one-hour walking tour around Kinsale's historic streets. Afterwards, the remainder of the day is free. There is a great selection of small shops, and if you are hungry a wide choice of lunch options. Kinsale is well-known as the gourmet capital of Ireland, so you have an opportunity for lunch to taste many local dishes along with a vast array of seafood plates. Dinner at Actons Hotel at 6:30 pm.
- Day 4:
Tuesday,
October 20, 2020
- After Actons Hotel breakfast, bus leaves at 9:30 am for an optional day trip to the Cobh Heritage Center. The exhibit depicts the story of emigration from Ireland during the Great Hunger, the famine of the mid 1840s; the exhibit also memorializes the Titanic's voyage from Cobh, the ship's last stop before its tragic end. We will then head to Middleton for a tour of the Jameson Experience, a journey through the story and making of Irish whiskey complete with a sample at the end. Afterwards, we will return to Kinsale and the remainder of the day is free. Dinner at Actons Hotel at 6:30 p.m.
- Day 5:
Wednesday,
October 21, 2020
- After Actons Hotel breakfast, depart Kinsale for Dingle at 10:00 am. We will make a stop at Blarney Castle. At Blarney, climb to the battlements of Blarney Castle to kiss the famous "Stone of Eloquence" or wander through the lovely gardens. 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 make our way to the Dingle Skellig Hotel in Dingle, Co. Kerry. Dinner at the Dingle Skellig Hotel at 6:30 pm.
- Day 6:
Thursday
October 22, 2020
- After Dingle Skellig Hotel breakfast, depart at 10:00 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. On our return to Dingle, we will stop at Dingle Goldsmiths. Jerry and Aileen Baker have fifty years combined experience 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 Dingle Skellig Hotel at 6:30 pm.
- Day 7:
Friday,
October 23, 2020
- After Dingle Skellig Hotel breakfast, bus leaves at 10:00 am for a visit to Brian De Staic's workshop and store. 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. Afterwards, we will head to Killarney (via Inch Strand and the small town of Milltown) to enjoy a traditional horse drawn jaunting cart ride through Killarney National Park. The Killarney National Park is internationally renowned both for its scenic beauty and scientific interest. Stop at the mighty Ross Castle to admire the unspoiled scenery all around. Afterwards, you are on your own to stroll through the streets of this quaint town to enjoy lunch or shopping or its great pubs. In the evening, we will drive to Kate Kearney's Cottage at 6:15 pm for dinner and music/dance entertainment. Following the show, we will return to the Dingle Skellig Hotel.

Day 8:
Saturday,
October 24, 2020
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. **Tonight, enjoy dinner on your own.** *Catholic Mass is held at St. Mary's Church on Green Street at 8:00 pm.

Day 9:
Sunday,
October 25, 2020

After Dingle Skellig Hotel breakfast, depart Dingle at 9:45 am for Ennis, Co. Clare. Before making our way to Ennis, we will stop at the Foynes Flying Boat and Maritime Museum ("Foynes Museum"). At Foynes Museum, view a detailed history of transatlantic flight. As the last port of call on the eastern shore for seaplanes, Foynes was the biggest civilian airport on the continent during World War II. This aviation and maritime station was famous for the invention of Irish coffee, which was prepared in the 1940s to comfort cold and weary passengers. Since then, Irish coffee has become one of the most popular welcoming drinks in the world. We will tour the interactive museum exhibits, and step on board the only full-scale replica of the B314 Yankee Clipper. You can travel back in time and see for yourself what it was like to be a passenger in one of these wonderful flying boats. Also, check out the Maureen O'Hara exhibit that includes a display room of her memorabilia, including the honorary Oscar she received. At Foynes Museum, enjoy a tour-sponsored Irish coffee. Following our visit to Foynes Museum, we will make a stop in the beautiful village of Adare. Afterwards, we will make our way to the Old Ground Hotel in Ennis. Dinner at the Old Ground Hotel at 6:30 pm.

Day 10:
Monday,
October 26, 2020

After Old Ground Hotel breakfast, the morning is free to explore the lovely town of Ennis. The bus departs at 12:30 pm for Bunratty. At Bunratty, we will visit the acclaimed 15th century castle and 19th century folk park, where you are invited to look into Ireland's medieval past and wander through the medieval courtyard and folk park. While at Bunratty, you may visit the Bunratty Mills shopping village or stop by the famous pub called "Durdy Nelly's." At 5:30 pm, we will have a medieval-style banquet with traditional songs and stories at Bunratty Castle.

Day 11:
Tuesday,
October 27, 2020

After Old Ground Hotel breakfast, depart at 8:30 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 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 Fall 2020 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 €20 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:

Rose Baker at 413-519-2135 or rbaker2811@yahoo.com

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

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



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