



Embracing the Emerald Isle Tour

May 21 - June 5, 2018

This Exclusive Departure to Ireland includes:

**Transfers to/from Pearson International
Round Trip Economy Class Airfare Toronto - Dublin
Modern Touring Coach , Hotel Porterage,
First Class Hotel Accommodation for 14 Nights,
14 Full Irish Breakfasts,
8 Table d'hote Dinners,
Special Medieval Dinner at Bunratty Castle
Farewell Dinner at The Merry Ploughboy Pub
All Tour Gratuities**



Pricing

Double Occupancy: \$5,295.00
Single Supplement: \$ 900.00

Includes Taxes & Gratuities



Terms and Conditions

A deposit of \$750.00 per person is due at time of booking plus any insurance requirements. Final payment is due 60 days prior to departure (March 21, 2018). All payments are non refundable. We carry a full line of travel insurance coverage.

258 King Street East
Bowmanville, Ontario L1C 0N3
Phone - (905) 623-1511
Toll Free - (800) 387-5914
Email: info@lakeshoretours.ca
Website: www.lakeshoretours.ca



5 - 18 Cambridge Street South
Lindsay, Ontario K9V 3B6
Phone - (705) 324-2777
Toll Free - (877) 343-7773
Email: info@cardinalcoachtours.ca
Website: www.cardinalcoachtours.ca

Ireland

**Embracing the Emerald Isle and all it's Beauty
Escorted by Jim & Bev Knight**



May 21 - June 5, 2018

A First Class 16 Day Tour of the Emerald Isle

Join us on this exclusive tour to the Emerald Isle. Variety is the hallmark of this itinerary which ensures it will appeal to many different interests. We'll visit all those familiar places that we've heard about in songs and legends; Cork, Blarney, Kerry, Killarney, Derry, Dingle, the Giant's Causeway, Dublin and Belfast. You will see magnificent scenic landscapes, attractions of historic significance, as well as experience cultural delights. Free time has been created in several locations to enable you to pursue individual interests, mingle with locals and savour the unique Irish foods. If Ireland is on your bucket list, we invite you to join this fulfilling tour!

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Proposed Itinerary



Spring in the Emerald Isle - May 21 - June 5, 2018



Monday May 21 – Day 1 **Home Town to Dublin** **Inflight Meals**
 We embark upon our exciting journey to Ireland today with included transfers to Pearson International Airport where we will board an Air Transat flight to Dublin. Pick up times and locations will be advised closer to our departure date.

Tuesday May 22 - Day 2 **The National Stud - Dublin** **B, D**
 We meet a local professional Irish city guide and private motor coach for transfer to the beautiful Irish National Stud and Japanese Gardens. Lunch is available here. Then we're off to our central Dublin hotel for two nights. Check in with dinner at the hotel to follow.

Wednesday May 23 – Day 3 **In Dublin's Fair City** **B**
 After our first Irish breakfast we meet our local city guide for a morning panoramic tour of Dublin with admission included to St Patrick's Cathedral and Trinity College to see The Book of Kells. This afternoon we visit the Guinness Storehouse for a tour and tasting. The remainder of the afternoon and evening are at leisure. You will be given a selection of things to see and do at your own pace.

Thursday May 24– Day 4 **Dublin – Wicklow Mountains - Wexford** **B, D**
 We bid farewell to Dublin this morning as we visit Powerscourt Estate with free time to explore the extensive gardens. We continue into the Wicklow Mountains and visit the early monastic site of Glendalough and then leisure time in Avoca where you can explore the local weavers. After lunch we travel the coastal road for a scenic drive to our hotel in Wexford. Dinner tonight at the hotel in Wexford.

Friday May 25 – Day 5 **Wexford - Waterford - Cork** **B, D**
 This morning we head for New Ross where we will follow in the footsteps of a group of Famine emigrants as we board the Dunbrody. A ticket is issued as if it were 1849, and this ticket allocates your space and food rations for the voyage ahead. Afterwards we move on to Waterford where we visit the House of Waterford Crystal where we tour the crystal factory. After lunch we travel to Cobh and the Queenstown Story and then onto Cork to check into our hotel for two nights. Dinner this evening in the hotel.

Saturday May 26 – Day 6 **Cork - Blarney Castle - Free time in Cork** **B**
 This morning we visit Blarney Castle with the opportunity to kiss the 'stone of eloquence' and free time to visit the village and the Blarney Woollen Mills. The afternoon and evening is yours to explore Cork.

Sunday May 27 – Day 7 **Cork - Ring of Kerry - Killarney** **B, D**
 First stop this morning is Muckross House with free time to explore the gardens and traditional farms. Ever westward we follow the magnificent route known as the Ring of Kerry. Our first stop will be the Bog Village of Glenbeigh, which will give us a fascinating insight into how people lived and worked in Ireland in the 18th Century. Two nights in Killarney.

Monday May 28– Day 8 **Dingle Peninsula** **B**
 We begin the day with a morning excursion around the beautiful Dingle Peninsula. At the Blasket Islands Centre we'll learn about conditions that caused the eventual evacuation in 1953. We will spend time in quaint Dingle to get a feel for Irish village life. En route we will see Beehive Huts, a hallmark of the area, and visit the Galarus Oratory, a place of worship for farmers since about 700 AD. Before we return to our hotel in Killarney we will experience the Torc Waterfall in Killarney National Park. Evening at leisure.

Tuesday May 29– Day 9 **Killarney – Foynes - Adare - Limerick** **B, D**
 Before we begin our trek north, we will visit the Kingdom of Kerry Museum followed by the unusual Foynes Flying Boat Museum where we also enjoy an authentic Irish coffee. As we make our way to Limerick we visit Adare, known as one of the prettiest towns in all of Ireland. We check into our hotel and prepare for a wonderful evening where we enjoy a Medieval banquet at Bunratty Castle. Overnight in Limerick.

Wednesday May 30 – Day 10 **Limerick - Cliffs of Moher - Galway** **B, D**
 This morning we travel to the Cliffs of Moher one of the most photographed scenes in the world. While there we visit the Visitor Experience Centre. Travelling through the Burren region we make stops at various coastal towns along the way. This afternoon we continue to Galway where we enjoy a walking tour with some leisure time at the end. We check into our Galway hotel. Dinner at the hotel this evening.

Thursday May 31 – Day 11 **Galway - The Bodhran - Westport** **B, D**
 Today we experience the wilds of Connemara National Park, beginning with a stop at the Connemara Marble Visitor Centre. At Roundstone we'll see how the ancient Irish Bodhran is made. Then we are off to the stunningly beautiful Kylemore Abbey. We overnight in Westport.

Friday June 1 – Day 12 **Westport - Castlebar - Sligo** **B, D**
 Today begins with a visit to Westport House and Gardens, one of Ireland's best loved attractions. Next is Ballintubber Abbey and the Celtic Furrow where we learn of the early Christian era and the pilgrimages that began here. We then travel to Castlebar for lunch and some free time before continuing to Tobernalt Holy Well - a place of reflection and nurturing serenity. It predates the advent of Christianity to Ireland in the fifth century. Overnight and dinner in Sligo.

Saturday June 2 – Day 13 **Sligo - Drumcliff - Londonderry** **B**
 This morning we will pay our respects to W. B. Yeats, whose grave we will visit at Drumcliff. Leaving Drumcliff our drive hugs the coastline of Donegal Bay and leads us to Beleek where we enjoy a tour of this most distinguished pottery manufacturer to see a demonstration and the exhibition. Before making our way north we'll pop in to Donegal for lunch. We arrive at Derry (Londonderry) for a guided tour of the city walls. We overnight in Londonderry.

Sunday June 3 – Day 14 **Londonderry - Giant's Causeway - Belfast** **B, D**
 This morning we travel along the coast and come to the internationally famous Giant's Causeway where you can marvel at this natural phenomenon. Next stop we enjoy a tour and tasting at Old Bushmills Distillery. From here we follow the Antrim Coast road with its spectacular scenery and the famed Glens of Antrim on our way to Belfast.

Monday June 4 – Day 15 **Belfast - Dublin** **B, D**
 We begin today accompanied by a Belfast city guide for a morning city tour including Titanic Belfast, opened in 2012. Leaving Belfast we make a stop in the town of Hillsborough to visit the only Royal residence in Northern Ireland. We then travel to Dublin to check into our hotel and enjoy our Farewell Dinner at the Merry Ploughboy Pub.

Tuesday June 5 – Day 16 **Dublin - Homeward Bound** **B, Inflight Meals**
 Our tour ends after a final hearty Irish breakfast in our hotel and transfer to Dublin airport for our return flight home. Upon arrival at Pearson International Airport we will be met by our coach which will return us to our original points of embarkation where we bid farewell to our fellow travellers with pleasant memories of the Emerald Isle.

