



Escapades & Shenanigans Tour to Ireland

hosted by Liza Betz from Failte Irish Imports

September 22nd to October 1st 2020

\$3599 per person sharing - \$899 single supplement

ITINERARY

TUESDAY, September 22nd - US to Shannon

Depart Cincinnati on United flight 3676 at 6:35pm for Newark and arrive 8:30pm. Transfer to United flight 25 departing 10:25pm for Shannon. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service on your overnight flight.

WEDNESDAY, September 23rd - SHANNON ARRIVAL

After landing at Shannon Airport at 9:45am, complete customs and immigration formalities. Your Host **Liza Betz** and **Caddie Tours driver/guide Gerry McCarthy** will welcome you to Ireland and escort you and your luggage to the coach. Next, stop for breakfast at the **Bunratty Castle Hotel** with the group. Continue onto Galway for our two night stay at the **Park House Hotel**. Arrive lunch time or so with some free time to explore the city or take a nap before joining up with your fellow travelers for a welcome drink at 6pm followed by dinner at 7pm in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: PARK HOUSE HOTEL, GALWAY (B,D)



THURSDAY, September 24th – KYLEMORE ABBEY & CONNEMARA REGION

After breakfast relax and enjoy the scenery of the wild and wonderful Connemara region. Today's journey takes you to **Kylemore Abbey**, one of the most photographed locations in Ireland. Originally built in 1867, Kylemore Abbey and the surrounding mountains and lakes are steeped in history. Visit the famous walled Gardens and have lunch in the award winning cafe. Enjoy a short **catamaran cruise (2:30pm sailing) of Killary Harbor** before returning to Galway City to explore, relax, or discover the perfect spot for a pint of Guinness and dinner. We'll stop in the town of Moycullen to visit the Connemara Marble show room, a family business specializing in designs of the shamrock, Connemara marble jewelry and other gift items. Explore one of the many restaurants or pubs in town for dinner and lively music session.

OVERNIGHT: PARK HOUSE HOTEL, GALWAY (B)

FRIDAY, September 25th – CLIFFS OF MOHER AND KENMARE

After breakfast we'll drive through Ireland's stony place – **The Burren, County Clare**. You can find villages abandoned since famine times and green roads on which you can walk for miles without ever seeing a car. This is not the green Ireland of postcards. But there are wildflowers in spring, giving the 560-sq-km Burren brilliant, if ephemeral, color amid its ascetic beauty. Continuing on to the **Cliffs of Moher** here you will see astonishing impressive and staggeringly beautiful. The entirely vertical cliffs rise to a height of 203m, their edge falling away abruptly into a ceaselessly churning Atlantic. A progression of vast heads, the dark limestone marches in a rigid formation that's gob-smacking, no matter how many times you look at it. As you leave the cliffs you'll travel through the little village of Liscannor and just across the bay, you'll see the beautiful seaside village and golfers' mecca, Lahinch. Continue to Killmer and cross the Shannon Estuary by ferry to Co. Kerry and onto Kenmare for 3 nights. Join your fellow travelers for dinner tonight in the Great room.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: PARK HOTEL KENMARE (B,D)



SATURDAY, September 26th – FREE DAY TO EXPLORE KENMARE

Tucked away in the south of Kerry, known as the Kingdom county is a little town called Kenmare. One of the main routes to get to this little place is through the mountain pass from Killarney. From cute pubs to trawling through the musical delights at Soundz of Music, there is so much to discover in Kenmare, food, art, music and sightseeing.

Maybe enjoy the Samsas Spa at the Park Hotel. From its conception **SÁMAS**, as its interpretation from Gaelic implies, was designed to provide an Indulgence of the Senses. At SÁMAS you embark on a 3hr journey that incorporates Thermal, Holistic Treatment of your choice and Pure Relaxation. The SÁMAS Experience is without comparison leaving guests feeling totally rejuvenated. The foundation

of this approach is you and your mindset when you arrive in SÁMAS. Only then will you have to decide what treatment you would like resulting in a most focused approach to your body and minds needs at that time. Our treatments were specially designed for SÁMAS using techniques and traditions from the foothills of the Himalayas to the waters of Kenmare Bay. **Explore one of the many restaurants or pubs in town for dinner and lively music session.**

OVERNIGHT: PARK HOTEL, KENMARE (B)

SUNDAY, September 27th - GARNISH ISLAND WITH LUNCH IN GLENGARRIFF

We travel to **Glengarriff** to board a ferry that takes us to Garnish Island. Garnish Island or Illnacullin is a small island consisting of 37 acres known to horticulturists and lovers of trees and shrubs all around the world as an Island garden of great beauty. Along the ferry ride through the sheltered harbour, we'll observe the local colony of seals and other marine life including ducks, swans, herons, swallows and the occasional dolphin or porpoise. We will have lunch at the **Bistro in the Glengarriff Park Hotel** before returning to Kenmare. We'll then make our way back to the Park Hotel. Kenmare is a market town so dinner tonight is on your own to indulge in the unbelievable variety of restaurants within walking distance of the hotel. We'll arrange to meet up at a local pub for some music in town tonight!

OVERNIGHT: PARK HOTEL KENMARE (B,L)

MONDAY, September 28th – BLARNEY CASTLE

After breakfast we'll depart for **Blarney Castle** - Here you'll have an opportunity to climb the steps of the fortress and kiss the world famous Blarney Stone to gain the gift of eloquence, wit and wisdom. Just a stone's throw away we'll also visit the **Blarney Woolen Mills**, the largest emporium of Irish crafts in the country where we can browse the finely woven Irish woolen products. Continue onto Cork City for our 2 night stay at the Imperial Hotel. Join your fellow travelers for dinner tonight in the hotel.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: IMPERIAL HOTEL CORK CITY (B,D)



TUESDAY, September 29th – BALLYMALOE COOKING SCHOOL

Free time in the morning to explore Cork City and maybe the English Market before we depart at 12:30pm for Ballymaloe Cookery School. With sustainability as one of our guiding principles, we are committed to producing as much organic produce as we can on our 100 acre organic farm. As we are a world renowned cookery school, teaching a diverse range of cuisines, we must guarantee that our students have the very best and widest range of ingredients with which to work. When we cannot source something from our list of local and national suppliers, we work with a network of carefully selected international suppliers.

2:00pm - Arrival at Cookery School for Tea, Coffee and homemade biscuits

2:15pm - Guided Tour of Organic Farm and Gardens, including a visit to our Dairy, our food gardens and our glasshouses.

3:00pm - Back to Cookery School to watch a short demonstration of all the dishes from one of our senior tutors.

4:00pm - Into the kitchen to cook up a delicious 3 course meal with one of our tutors. We have a selection of delicious menus to choose from.

6:00pm - Finish up, and sit down to a delicious early supper that you have cooked with a welcome glass of wine. Return to the Imperial Hotel.

OVERNIGHT: IMPERIAL HOTEL, CORK CITY (B)



WEDNESDAY, September 30th – TRAVEL DAY TO DUBLIN

After breakfast we will drive north to visit **Rock of Cashel**, County Tipperary, silhouetted against the sky, rising above the lush green fields of the surrounding countryside, the Rock is home to over 1,000 years of history, right at the heart of Ireland's Ancient East. Cashel is reputed to be the site of the conversion of the King of Munster by St. Patrick in the 5th century. The Rock of Cashel was the traditional seat of the kings of Munster for several hundred years. Continue onto Dublin for our farewell night at the Iveagh Garden Hotel. Join your fellow travelers for dinner tonight at **Fallon & Byrne**.

OVERNIGHT: THE IVEAGH GARDEN HOTEL DUBLIN (B D)

THURSDAY, October 1st – SAFE TRAVELS HOME!

Sadly our adventures are over and we're very sorry to see you go!! Our coach driver will get you to Dublin Airport in plenty of time for you to check in for your **United flight 127 to Washington Dulles departing at 12:25pm and arrive 3:45pm local time. Transfer to United flight 6034 for Cincinnati departing at 5pm and arrive 6:35pm local time.** You will clear customs and emigration avoiding the long lines that you can meet you in America. There is ample duty free shopping available at the airport for any last minute gifts or mementos. Thank you for trusting us with your vacation and we certainly hope you had a great time