



Andy Cooney & Larry Gatlin's Musical Tour of Ireland & Liverpool

May 16th to May 26th, 2022

\$3499 per person sharing
\$799 single supplement – limit 4 per tour
*subject to airline schedule



ITINERARY

MONDAY, MAY 16th - UNITED STATES TO DUBLIN

Depart JFK on **Aer Lingus flight 106** nonstop to **Dublin departing at 9.05pm**. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service as you start your vacation. For those of you booked on other airlines we'll meet you upon arrival at Dublin Airport.

TUESDAY, MAY 17th - DUBLIN ARRIVAL & CAVAN

After landing at Dublin Airport, complete customs and immigration formalities. Our drivers/guides will welcome you to Ireland and escort you and your luggage to the coach. We'll drive north to Navan to have breakfast at **Taylor's of Johnstown**. Continue north to Cavan where we'll spend two nights at **Crover House Hotel**, a 4 star hotel. Relax and explore the grounds before we meet for dinner in the hotel. **DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: CROVER HOUSE HOTEL (B,D)**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18th - CAVAN COUNTY MUSEUM

After breakfast we meet our driver/guides at 9:30am in the hotel lobby. Today, visit **Cavan County Museum** and is housed in the former Convent of St. Clare in Ballyjamesduff. The Museum was established to collect, conserve and display the material heritage and culture of County Cavan, over its 6000-year history, for the benefit of the people. The former convent building comprises the exhibition spaces and gardens. [The collections range from prehistoric to modern objects, including the Killycluggin Stone, the Lavey Sheela na gig, costumes in the Pighthouse Collection, and GAA paraphernalia. We'll have lunch at **Farnham Estate** near Cavan Town before returning to our hotel and relax before dinner at the hotel restaurant followed by a performance by Andy Cooney and friends.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: CROVER HOUSE HOTEL (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, MAY 19th - ROSCOMMON & GALWAY

After a hearty breakfast, we meet our driver/guides at 9:30am in the hotel lobby and our destination is **Strokestown House and Famine Museum**, an 18th century Palladian style mansion that has been restored to its original glory and The Famine Museum located in the original Stable Yards. The museum chronicles the great famine, regarded as the single greatest social disaster of 19th century Europe. We will stop in Roscommon town At Glesson's for lunch. Back on the bus, we travel through Athenry and onto Galway City where we'll be staying right in the heart of town on at **The Hardiman Hotel** for three nights overlooking Eyre Square. Join your fellow travelers for dinner in the hotel.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: THE HARDIMAN HOTEL, GALWAY CITY (B,D)

FRIDAY, MAY 20th - EXPLORING GALWAY CITY

After breakfast we will offer a walking tour with **Brian Nolan** at 10 a.m. as he wanders the streets of Galway recounting tales of war and conquest, joy and tragedy, emigration and slavery, success and folly. Walk in the footsteps of Irish revolutionaries and literary giants who have strolled the cobblestoned streets. After lunch step back in time and enjoy one of Galway's most popular heritage attractions. **Katie's** is a restored thatched cottage that depicts traditional life in one of Ireland's oldest fishing villages. After enjoying our authentic turf fire, with tea, scones or homemade Irish Guinness brack, step inside our specially curated design studio at the rear of the cottage to discover some of Ireland's best contemporary & vintage interior home accessories & unique 100% Irish gifts. With it's own superstitions and customs, visitors to this community of artists, musicians and crafters are guaranteed a little bit of magic and intrigue. Relax with a hot cup of tea and homemade scones in front of a roaring turf fire; or sit back and enjoy the revival of an ancient Irish tradition of telling stories and singing songs around an open hearth. Join your fellow travelers for dinner tonight at the hotel followed by entertainment by Andy Cooney & friends.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: THE HARDIMAN HOTEL (B,D)



SATURDAY, MAY 21st - 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 (11am visit)**, 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 (on your own) in the award winning cafe. Enjoy a **short catamaran cruise (2.30pm sailing)** of Killary Harbor. Our cruise starts at Nancy's Point, just West of Leenane Village, on the South side of the Killary. From there we set off towards the mouth of the Fjord. Take in the panoramic views of the surrounding landscape – hills rising steeply from the silvery sea, with frequent shifts in light and shadow creating different colors on the peaks and valleys. Deep green fields and occasional stands of trees contrast with heathery bogs. Return to your hotel and relax before dinner at a Galway City restaurant.

DINNER AND OVERNIGHT: HARDIMAN HOTEL, GALWAY (B,D)

SUNDAY, MAY 22nd – ATHLONE & DUBLIN

After breakfast we meet our driver/guides at 9:30am in the hotel lobby. For those wishing to attend Mass, there's a 10:30 service at Galway Cathedral. The Coach will drop those off wishing to attend. After Mass we will continue on our journey east to Athlone and visit one of the oldest pubs in Ireland – Sean's Bar. Situated in the Heart of Ireland, Sean's Bar plays host to visitors from all around the world. Whether absorbing the history, listening to music, visiting with friends and family or simply enjoying the perfect pint, the appeal is equally strong for everyone. Listed by Lonely Planet in both "25 of the Most Incredible Bars in the World" and "50 Bars to Blow Your Mind", a visit to Sean's is a must! Find out more about why Sean's Bar is not only the oldest, but one of the best-loved pubs in world. We continue onto Dublin and check into our hotel, The Royal Marine Hotel overlooking Dublin Bay. We'll meet in the lobby at **6pm** and make our way to Taylor's Three Rock "Traditional Irish Night" which features traditional Irish music from world famous singers and musicians with a lively performance of music, song and the very best of Irish dancing and comedy.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: THE ROYAL MARINE HOTEL DUBLIN (B,D)

MONDAY, MAY 23rd – LIVERPOOL

After breakfast I recommend taking a leisurely stroll along **Dun Laoghaire Harbour** which is a much-valued public amenity used by thousands of people each day for exercising and sight-seeing as well as the facilities provided for the sailing and yachting communities. The harbour is developed and maintained by Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council. We will depart the hotel at **11.30am** for **Dublin Airport** to catch the **Aer Lingus flight EI 208 to Manchester at 2.50pm**. Upon our arrival in Manchester at **4pm**, we will board the coach for the transfer to the **Hard Days Night Hotel** in Liverpool for our 3 night stay. Join your fellow travelers for dinner tonight at the hotel.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: HARD DAYS HOTEL LIVERPOOL (B,D)

TUESDAY, MAY 24th – MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR OF LIVERPOOL & THE CAVERN CLUB

After breakfast at 10am we will board **The Magical Mystery Tour** for a fun and fascinating 2 hour tour of Beatles Liverpool. You'll see all the places associated with John, Paul, George and Ringo as they grew up, met and formed the band that would take the pop world by storm.

The tour lasts 2 hours and includes the following locations with stops for photos on the way:

- Childhood home of Ringo Starr
- George Harrison's birthplace (passengers get off the bus here)
- Penny Lane (passengers get off the bus here)
- St Peter's Church Hall (where John and Paul met for the first time)
- Strawberry Field (passengers get off the bus here)
- John Lennon's childhood home
- Paul McCartney's childhood home (passengers get off the bus here)
- Former schools and colleges of John, Paul, George and Ringo including the Art College and the Liverpool Institute (now LIPA)



Many more Beatles locations will be pointed out as you travel around the city centre and suburbs. Liverpool is one of the best cities in the world when it comes to music and we're allowed to say that because it's definitely true! As a UNESCO City of Music and the birthplace of The Beatles we have our roots firmly grounded in the music scene 365 days of the year. A trip to Liverpool to explore our musical roots wouldn't be complete without a visit to The Beatles Story. Find the award winning attraction nestled into The Royal Albert Dock and dive into the history of the lives and career of The Beatles. You'll be taken on an immersive journey of Beatlemania as you enter into a recreation of The Cavern Club, see Lennon's piano and explore the band's famous trip to India. It's a must for any music fan! Join your fellow travelers for dinner tonight at the hotel.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: HARD DAYS NIGHT HOTEL LIVERPOOL (B,D)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25th - NORTH WALES SIGHTSEEING TOUR

Travel in air-conditioned comfort from Liverpool's Port passing under your ship as you cross the **Mersey River**. This fully narrated day tour will travel through the area known as the Wirral before cutting across the border into Wales where you will see your first glimpse of a castle or two as you make your way to **Conwy**. Arriving in Conwy, you will have free time to explore this beautiful and popular town, maybe go into the castle and listen out for the voices of those past in the narrow stairways that lead up to the top of the turrets. Or take a walk on the town's defensive wall to get another view of one of the finest examples of a Medieval Castle anywhere in the world. Moving on, head into **the National Park known as Snowdonia** where you can stretch your legs and build up an appetite for lunch as you walk into the Valley. Maybe even take a short hike up to where the water cascade over the rocks fed by the lake high in the mountains? Lunch time in **Betws-Y-Coed** offers a number of choices from fast food to table service and pub food (for that sneaky pint of Welsh Beer!). Take a short walk to visit the little **14th Century Chapel** that gave name to the town surrounded by a small wood. Some of the trees are over a 1000 years old! Finally, you will need to find a little bit of courage as you walk across the sky at the **Pontcysyllte Aqueduct** also known as "the stream in the sky". This superb piece of industrial engineering was constructed over 200-years ago and crosses the gorge that was cut out by the Dee River, 1000's of years ago. Finally, you will be whisked back to port, your head full of the stories that you heard throughout the day and your camera memory cards crammed with photos that you will look back on in future years with great fondness. Join your fellow travelers for your farewell dinner tonight at the hotel.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: HARD DAYS NIGHT HOTEL LIVERPOOL (B,D)

THURSDAY, MAY 26th – SAFE TRAVELS HOME!

Sadly our adventures are over and we're very sorry to see you go!! Our coach driver will get you to Manchester Airport in plenty of time for you to check in for your **Aer Lingus flight 45 nonstop to JFK** departing at 12.05pm and arrive 3.25pm local time same day. 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!