



# Frankie Gavin & De Dannan Musical Tour to Ireland September 6th to September 16th 2017



\$2299 per person land only

\$499 single supplement - limit to 4 per coach

Contact us for airfare from your hometown to Shannon

## ITINERARY

Jump on our musical tour with **Legendary Frankie Gavin and DeDannan** as our friendly driver chauffeurs us around the Emerald Isle - from airport to hotels to cliffs to seashores, castles and city centers in search of 40 shades of green. The sun doesn't set in Ireland during the fall until close to 9pm. So be prepared for extended enchanting days and magical nights with Frankie Gavin and De Dannan.

### Wednesday September 6th - UNITED STATES TO SHANNON

Depart your hometown and take an overnight flight across the Atlantic. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service as you travel to start your vacation.

### Thursday September 7th - BANTRY & BANTRY HOUSE

After landing at Shannon Airport, complete customs and immigration formalities. Our driver/guide will welcome you to Ireland and escort you and your luggage to the coach. After you land we'll stop at the Bunnratty Castle Hotel and enjoy a full Irish breakfast before we continue on our journey to Bantry Bay for our three night stay at the Maritime Hotel. Some of you may decide to visit Bantry House, a charming, privately-owned mansion dating to the 1760s - a 10 minute walk from our hotel. It is set in a glorious location with magnificent Italian gardens and an electric collection of antiques and artefacts. Spend the afternoon at leisure, explore the local town before we have dinner as a group in the hotel tonight.

**OVERNIGHT: MARITIME HOTEL, BANTRY (B,D)**



### Friday September 8th - GARNISH ISLAND CHIEF O'NEILL TRADITIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL



After breakfast we depart for Garnish Island located in the sheltered harbor of Glengarriff in Bantry Bay, in Southwest Ireland. Garnish Island is a small island of 37 acres known to horticulturists and lovers of trees and shrubs all around the world as an island garden of great beauty. Its sheltered position nurtures luxuriant Mediterranean flowers such as fuchsia and arbutus. We'll have lunch in Glengarriff before returning to Bantry. Dine on your own tonight and explore the local restaurants and pubs in town. Frankie Gavin and De Dannan will perform tonight 8pm at St. Brendan's Church within walking distance of our hotel.

**OVERNIGHT: MARITIME HOTEL, BANTRY (B)**

### Saturday September 9th - KINSALE & CHARLES FORT

After breakfast we'll spend the day exploring Kinsale. Kinsale is one of the most picturesque, popular and fashionable resorts of the south-west coast of Ireland. Famous for its beautiful yachting, sea angling, gourmet restaurants and golf. Charles Fort, a popular attraction was constructed in the late 17th century on the site of an earlier coastal fortification. Charles Fort is a classic example of a starshaped fort and has five bastions. The two seaward bastions, the Devil's and the Charles' were for defending the harbor and both are casemated - that is, they have gun embrasures inside as well as on top of the walls. Desmond Castle, (French Prison) Cork Street, Kinsale, built as a custom house by the Earl of Desmond c. AD 1500. Desmond Castle has had a colorful history, ranging from Spanish occupation in 1601 to use as a prison for captured American sailors during the American War of Independence. Known locally as 'The French Prison' after a tragic fire in which 54 prisoners, mainly French seamen, died in 1747. The castle was also used as a borough jail from 1791 to the onset of the Great Famine when it was used as an auxiliary workhouse tending to the starving populace. We'll have some free time to explore Kinsale before we head back to Bantry and enjoy some music from the festival. Dine on your own tonight and explore the local restaurants and pubs in town.

**OVERNIGHT: MARITIME HOTEL, BANTRY (B)**



### **Sunday September 10th - MUCKROSS HOUSE KILLARNEY & TRALEE**

Spend the morning at leisure in Killarney, a little town that is famous for its ideal location beside Ireland's highest mountains. You'll have time to browse around the town, take a jaunting car ride through the Killarney National Park before arriving in Tralee for our two night stay at the Grand Hotel. We'll have dinner as a group in the hotel tonight.

**OVERNIGHT: ROSE HOTEL, TRALEE (B,D)**

### **Monday September 11th - DINGLE PENINSULA**

After breakfast we depart for the Dingle Peninsula. The journey begins with some of the most magnificent scenery in all of Ireland. The little town of Dingle is straight out of a story book. The fishing boats in the harbor and tiny brightly painted pubs portray a time that has continued to stand still. The population of 1500 people and only 52 pubs are ready to welcome you this afternoon. Worth the wait is the native seafood chowder served up at lunch time with freshly baked brown bread. We continue on to Sleat Head. Along the way, we will see bee hive style huts, originally inhabited by 12th century monks, which overlook the rugged Blasket Islands. The awe inspiring beauty of this particular area is unmatched. There is no other landscape in western Europe with the density and variety of archaeological monuments as found on the Dingle Peninsula. Stop at the cozy South Pole Inn for an Irish coffee and learn about Tom Crean, an early explorer who braved the South Pole with "Scott of the Antarctic. Dine on your own tonight and explore the local restaurants and pubs in town.



**OVERNIGHT: ROSE HOTEL, TRALEE (B)**

### **Tuesday September 12th - FOYNES MUSEUM**

Visit the Foynes Flying Boat Museum, which recalls the early days of air travel, during the 1930's and early 1940's, when Pan Am Clippers used to land on the water. Walk through a replica of a Clipper and see memorabilia in the museum. Cross the Shannon Estuary by ferry to Co. Clare and finally to Bellbridge Hotel in Milton Malbay. Dinner tonight as a group followed by concert with Frankie Gavin and friends.

**OVERNIGHT: BELLBRIDGE HOTEL, MILTOWN MALBAY (B,D)**

### **Wednesday September 13th - GALWAY AND CLIFDEN**

After breakfast we'll depart for Galway city known as "The City of Tribes" - Here you'll have to some free time to explore the city, perhaps avail of the walking tour with my good friend Brian Nolan, or stroll down Shop St, have lunch, shop before we drive out to Clifden late afternoon before arriving at the Abbey Glen Castle Hotel for our 2 night stay in the heart of Connemara. Dinner in the castle tonight and an impromptu session with Frankie Gavin and friends.

**OVERNIGHT: ABBEY GLEN CASTLE, CLIFDEN GALWAY (B,D)**

### **Thursday September 14th - SKY ROAD & KYLEMORE ABBEY**



After enjoying your breakfast, we depart Clifden and head out on the Sky Road, an exhilarating 7-mile circular drive, which is justifiably famous for the views it affords. The route takes you up among the hills overlooking Clifden Bay and its offshore islands, Inishturk and Turbot. We'll then go onto the town of Letterfrack and visit Kylemore Abbey, a 40,000 square foot castle built in 1867 that took 100 men 4 years to complete and enjoy a tour of the elegant rooms in the mansion and the charming church and Victorian walled gardens all set beside a tranquil lake. After lunch at Kylemore we return to Clifden to explore the town before dinner tonight at Mitchell's - a wonderful seafood restaurant in town.

**OVERNIGHT: ABBEYGLEN CASTLE HOTEL, CLIFDEN (B,D)**

### **Thursday September 15th - CLIFFS OF MOHER & ENNIS**

After breakfast depart for the Cliffs of Moher, one of the country's most magnificent rock formations. Pass through the Burren Country, an area of rocky limestone hills where a number of unique flowers thrive. It is home to rare alpine plants, delicate wonders that grow in the thin soil and crevices - gentians, orchids and maidenhair ferns amongst others. The survival of both alpine and Mediterranean plants in this unusual habitat continues to arouse and to delight its visitors. Continue onto Ennis for some last minute shopping and explore this market town. Final farewell dinner and concert by Frankie Gavin and De Dannan

**OVERNIGHT: OAKWOOD ARMS HOTEL, SHANNON (B,D)**

### **Saturday September 16th - RETURN TO THE US**

Sadly, today your Irish vacation has come to its final day. Transfer to Shannon Airport in good time to check in for your flight. You may do some last minute shopping at the duty free stores before boarding your aircraft and flying across the Atlantic Ocean back to the United States

More information on the tour and follow us for updates of the trip:

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