



THE CONNACHT BAND TOUR OF IRELAND

THE BEST OF THE WEST TOUR

September 23rd to September 30th, 2025

\$3,299 per person sharing land only



*Air Fare TBA. Single Supplement \$799 per person (Limited to 4 per tour)

ITINERARY



TUESDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER – ARRIVAL

Upon your arrival at **Shannon Airport**, you'll be warmly welcomed by our driver and guide, who will accompany you to our private coach. As we journey towards the charming town of **Westport, Co. Mayo**, we'll stop for breakfast or lunch (included) at the **Pier Head** in **Kinvara, Co. Galway**. After checking into the **Castle Court Hotel**, we will visit and tour to **Westport House**, a splendid estate revered as one of Ireland's most treasured homes. Join your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner followed by a lively session at the hotel tonight.

OVERNIGHT AT THE CASTLECOURT HOTEL (B, L, D)

WEDNESDAY 24th SEPTEMBER – EXPLORE ACHILL ISLAND

Start your day with a hearty breakfast at the hotel before setting off to explore the wild beauty of **Achill Island**. Known for its rugged mountains, expansive peat bogs, and towering sea cliffs, Achill is also home to some of Ireland's cleanest beaches. We'll make a stop at **Keem Bay**, often hailed as one of Ireland's most stunning beaches. We will stop at **Keel Beach**, a popular spot for water sports. We invite you to join **The Connacht Band** and **Marin Ui Cheide Keady** at **Matt Molloy's** famous Irish Music Pub to experience a traditional Irish pub and session. Our hotel is located just a short, five-minute walk away.



OVERNIGHT AT THE CASTLECOURT HOTEL (B)

THURSDAY 25th SEPTEMBER – KILLARY FJORD CRUISE & KYLEMORE ABBEY



Enjoy breakfast at the hotel, followed by check-out. As we leave Westport behind, we'll travel through the scenic routes of **Louisburgh**, **Doo Lough**, and **Delphi**, making stops at the breathtaking **Aasleagh Falls** and the village of **Leenane**. Then, board the **Connemara Lady** for a cruise of **Killary Fjord**, Ireland's only fjord, with lunch served on board. Afterwards, we'll visit **Kylemore Abbey**, a historic estate that has been home to a Benedictine order of Nuns for over 100 years. Wander through its magnificent walled gardens, the largest in Ireland.

The longest running community arts festival in Ireland, **Clifden Community Arts Festival**, will take place from September 19-29. Audiences can expect a very high-quality artistic program with superb literary, musical, and visual art content which again will have the community arts of Clifden and the surrounding hinterland as a central focus with creative writing, music, theatre, and film workshops and performances taking place in the local schools for the duration of the festival. Join your fellow travelers for group dinner at the hotel followed by an evening of music by **The Connacht Band**.



DINNER & OVERNIGHT AT THE CLIFDEN STATION HOUSE (B, L, D)

FRIDAY 26th SEPTEMBER – TRIP TO INIS BO FINNE & CLIFDEN ARTS FESTIVAL

Today, we'll take a ferry from **Cleggan** to **Bofin**, or 'Inis Bo Finne' (Island of the White Cow), located seven miles off Connemara's coast in the **Atlantic Ocean**. The island boasts a rich history dating back to 8000 – 4000 B.C. Explore its looped walking trails at your own pace, and later, The Connacht Band will join Joanie Madden and Cherish the Ladies on stage at the festival tonight.

OVERNIGHT AT THE CLIFDEN STATION HOUSE (B)

SATURDAY 27th SEPTEMBER – DAY TO EXPLORE BALLYCONNELLY



Discover the charm of **Ballyconnelly**, where Michael's father is from, and pay a visit to the **Connemara Smokehouse**, the oldest of its kind in Connemara. Here, only the finest wild and organic salmon, tuna, mackerel, trout, and herring from the wild Atlantic Ocean are smoked to perfection. In the afternoon, enjoy live music at **Keogh's**, arranged by our group leader. We'll also visit the historic **Marconi Radio Station** in **Mannin**, the first commercial transatlantic wireless telegraphy station in the world.

DINNER A LOCAL RESTAURANT

OVERNIGHT THE CLIFDEN STATION HOUSE (B, D)



SUNDAY 28th SEPTEMBER – WALKING TOUR OF GALWAY CITY

After breakfast, we'll depart from **Clifden** and head towards **County Clare**, with a stop in the vibrant **City of Galway**. Enjoy a special **walking tour** of Galway's medieval streets with **Brian Nolan**, who will bring the city's rich history to life with tales of war, conquest, joy, and tragedy. We have arranged a busking session in Galway while out on our walking tour with Brian Nolan. You'll have some free time to explore Galway before we continue to **Ennis**.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT AT THE OLD GROUND ENNIS

MONDAY 29th SEPTEMBER – EXPLORE THE ISLAND OF INNIS OIRR & THE CLIFFS OF MOHER



Embark on a day trip from **Doolin** to **Inis Oirr**, the smallest of the three **Aran Islands**, with a local guide. After exploring the island, we'll return to Doolin and visit the iconic **Cliffs of Moher**, rising majestically 700 feet above the wild Atlantic Ocean. The views from the Cliffs are truly breathtaking, stretching as far as **Galway Bay** and the **Aran Islands**.

Return to Ennis to relax and freshen up before we drive to **Bunratty**. Experience a truly unique entertainment and dining experience in the iconic setting of the world famous **Bunratty Castle**. The lifestyle of medieval Ireland is recaptured at the Castle with their medieval banquet nights. Once the preserve of the nobility who resided in these fortresses, it can now be experienced by everyone. We will then enjoy our last evening of music with The Connacht Band.



DINNER THE MEDIEVAL BANQUET BUNRATTY
OVERNIGHT THE OLD GROUND ENNIS (B, D)

TUESDAY 30th SEPTEMBER - FAREWELL & SAFE HOME



, our adventures are over and we're very sorry to see you go! Your coach driver will get you to **Shannon Airport** in plenty of time for you to check in for your flight and clear customs and immigration, 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 once again with your vacation and we certainly hope you had a great time.



Inclusions

- Group Arrival Transfer from Shannon Airport to Westport
- 2 Nights Hotel accommodation in Westport
- 3 Nights Hotel accommodation in Clifden
- 2 Nights Hotel accommodation in Ennis
- Breakfast each day, including arrival day
- 5 dinners
- Porterage at each hotel
- Program of activities as per the provisional schedule including entrance fees
- Westport House
- Killary cruise with lunch included
- Kylemore Abbey
- Ferry to Inishbofin
- Connemara Smokehouse
- Marconi Radio Station
- Walking tour of Galway with Brian Nolan
- Ferry to Inis Oirr
- Guide on Inis Oirr
- Internal Transport as per the Program of Activities by private motorcoach with driver/ guide
- Group Departure Transfer from final hotel to Shannon Airport
- ***Activities are provisional and subject to change***

Exclusions

- International Travel to Ireland
- Medical, Accident & Travel Insurance (highly recommended and can be facilitated by Caddie Tours)
- Single room supplements
- Meals & activities not stated in itinerary
- Gratuity To Driver (minimum of €5 per day / per person recommended)

Payment Schedule

- A deposit of \$500 is due at the time of booking. Second payment of \$1,250 due by March 23rd 2025.
- Final Payment is due June 28th 2025.
- Credit cards subject to 3.5% service fees. Checks or ACH no fees.

