



# For An Unforgettable Adventure Irish Society of North Alabama Presents...

## IRELAND October 2-12, 2013

Land & Air Price: \$2782 per person, based on twin occupancy (Minimum 20 passengers traveling)

Land Only Price: \$1740 per person, based on twin occupancy (Minimum 20 passengers traveling)

Single Room Supplement: \$575

*Air departure tax, fuel & surcharges are subject to change until entire group is confirmed and ticketed.*

### *Tour Includes:*

- Round trip flights aboard Delta Airlines between HSV and DUB via Atlanta.
- Exclusive transport by luxury motorcoach with a driver/guide (one man) for 10 days.
- Meet and greet service upon arrival and departure at the airport.
- Hotel accommodation based on twin bedded rooms with private bath as listed for 9 nights.
- Full breakfasts (10) including breakfast upon arrival.
- Dinners (8):
  - Table d'hôte dinners (7)
  - Dinner and entertainment at the Abbey Tavern
- Passage on the Tarbert Ferry.
- Sheepdog Trials on the Ring of Kerry.
- Guided walking tour of Kinsale.
- 'Titanic' walking tour of Cobh.
- Tea and Scones in an Irish Farmhouse.
- **Visits and admission fees to:**
  - Glasnevin Cemetery
  - Guinness Storehouse
  - Clonmacnoise
  - Kylemore Abbey
  - Connemara Celtic Crystal
  - Cliffs of Moher
  - Charles Fort
  - Blarney Castle & Woollen Mills
  - Rock of Cashel
  - St Patrick's Cathedral
  - Kilmainham Jail
- Hotel portorage, service charges and government taxes.
- Flight bags, ticket wallets, baggage tags and identifying strap.

**For more information Contact: Drama Breland**

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# IRISH SOCIETY OF NORTH ALABAMA —OUTLINE ITINERARY

**WED, OCT 2—UNITED STATES TO DUBLIN**

Depart your hometown and take an overnight flight across the Atlantic.

**THU, OCT 3—DUBLIN ARRIVAL & GUINNESS STOREHOUSE**

Your CIE Tours driver/guide will welcome you to Ireland and escort you and your luggage to the coach. Stop for breakfast at Glasnevin Cemetery, the largest cemetery in Ireland which opened in 1832. It has acted as Ireland's National Cemetery and is the final resting place of those who have helped shape modern Ireland. After breakfast, visit the Guinness Storehouse to see exhibits on how this world famous stout was first created and why it is so popular today. Finish your visit in the roof-top bar, Gravity, overlooking the city center where you can sample a draft Guinness and enjoy the view of the city. Check into your hotel where the remainder of the day and evening are at your leisure to explore Dublin's sights, restaurants and pubs.

OVERNIGHT: BURLINGTON HOTEL, DUBLIN

**FRI, OCT 4—CLONMACNOISE & GALWAY**

Depart Dublin and journey across the rolling pastures of Ireland's heartland to visit Clonmacnoise. This monastic settlement was founded in 545 AD by St. Ciaran and is delightfully set on the banks of the River Shannon. Then continue your drive to Galway and embark on a panoramic tour to see the principal sights of the city. A drive around will take you to the large modern cathedral set on an island on the River Corrib. See the Spanish Arch in the Claddagh area, formerly a fishing village, the City Museum, National University of Galway and the Cathedral of Our Lady, which is built on the site of the former county jail. Then check into your hotel and enjoy the remainder of the afternoon at leisure.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: MEYRICK HOTEL, GALWAY

**SAT, OCT 5—CONNEMARA, KYLEMORE ABBEY & CELTIC CRYSTAL**

Today tour Connemara and admire the sweeping views of boglands and misty mountains. Stop in the quaint village of Spiddal, which retains the Irish language and many traditional lifestyles. As you drive along you will see many sheep that graze freely and also tracts of bogland where some people hand-cut peat for home heating. Stop to visit Kylemore Abbey, a 19th century neo-Gothic mansion overlooking Kylemore Lake. Originally a private residence, it is now a prestigious girls' school. Visit the chapel and the restored Victorian gardens, which have won awards. After your visit continue your drive to the town of Moycullen to visit the Connemara Celtic Crystal Factory. This family business specializes in designs based on the shamrock, Claddagh ring and harp, often in colored crystal. Return to Galway and enjoy some time at leisure before dining in your hotel.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: MEYRICK HOTEL, GALWAY

**SUN, OCT 6—CLIFFS OF MOHER & KILLARNEY**

Drive around Galway Bay and through the Burren Country, a unique region of limestone hills renowned for its flora and prehistoric stone monuments. Stop to view the majestic Cliffs of Moher, a rocky wall that rises nearly 700 feet above the foaming Atlantic Ocean. Take a short ferry ride across the River Shannon Estuary to the mountainous countryside of Kerry. Arrive in Killarney and check into your hotel.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: KILLARNEY PLAZA HOTEL, KILLARNEY

**MON, OCT 7—RING OF KERRY TOUR & SHEEPDOG DEMONSTATION**

Today explore the Ring of Kerry - 100 miles of marvelous scenery consisting of the highest peaks in Ireland on one side and a coastline scattered with golden beaches and rocky headlands on the other. Enjoy plenty of stops to view the scenery and take photos. Travel through Glenbeigh and Cahirciveen and on to Waterville and the colorful village of Sneem. Stop at Moll's Gap for a view of the three lakes of Killarney with the mountains and the town in the background. Stop on route at Brendan Ferris' farm to view the art of herding sheep with the assistance of his talented sheepdogs. Return to Killarney for some free time to look around the town before dining in your hotel.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: KILLARNEY PLAZA HOTEL, KILLARNEY

**TUE, OCT 8—GLENGARRIFF & KINSALE**

Leaving Killarney travel south through lovely mountain scenery to Glengarriff and Bantry Bay where the mild climate allows sub-tropical vegetation to thrive. Continue along the coast through peaceful fishing towns to Kinsale, nowadays a popular yachting center. Upon arrival take a brief walking tour with a local guide to learn the history of Kinsale. The town traces its origins back to 1177 when the Anglo-Normans founded a town in a small walled area close to the water. It grew as a port town during the 18<sup>th</sup> century and today the harbor is favored by yacht owners. The town has steep, narrow streets with many fine Georgian houses. Today it is renowned as "the gourmet capital" of Ireland as there are so many award-winning restaurants and pubs. Visit Charles Fort, which was constructed in the late 17th century on the site of an earlier coastal fortification. Then check into your hotel and enjoy some free time to settle in before joining your group for dinner.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: ACTONS HOTEL, KINSALE

**WED, OCT 9—BLARNEY CASTLE & TITANIC WALKING TOUR**

This morning travel north through the rich farming country of Cork to Blarney and stop to climb to the battlements of Blarney Castle to kiss the famous "Stone of Eloquence." Also visit the Blarney Woollen Mills, which has an excellent range of Irish products of all types. They will ship and insure goods for you. You will also have time to browse around the village, charmingly set around a large village green. Then drive a short distance to the east of Cork to Cobh, the harbor town for large ships. Enjoy a guided walking tour, the *Titanic Trail*, which will show you around the streets of Cobh, revealing locations and incidents directly connected to the Titanic and many other aspects of the port's history. The actual building in which the White Star Line Office was will be visited as well as the very pier where Titanic passengers departed from. St. Colman's Cathedral, the Holy Ground, and the site of the landing of Lusitania victims are all pointed out to the visitor and interspersed with a multitude of emigrant, military and maritime history. Return to Kinsale and relax before dining in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: ACTONS HOTEL, KINSALE

**THU, OCT 10—ROCK OF CASHEL & DUBLIN**

Depart Kinsale this morning and travel northeast via the outskirts of Cork city and into County Tipperary to reach Cashel. Stop at the Rock of Cashel for a guided tour of these majestic church ruins which are clustered high on a limestone outcrop overlooking the surrounding countryside. After your visit, head over to a local farmhouse to sample freshly-baked scones with tea. You will have an opportunity to chat to the owners and learn how Irish farms are run. Then board the coach and drive through the midland region where you will see many farms and marketing towns. Your route will take you past the towns of Portlaoise and Kildare and into the metropolitan area of Dublin. Upon arrival check into your hotel and enjoy some time to settle in before dinner.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: TRINITY CAPITAL HOTEL, DUBLIN

**FRI, OCT 11—DUBLIN HIGHLIGHTS**

Set off with a local guide who will show you around the prominent historic buildings and monuments of Dublin. Dublin is an ancient settlement, founded by the Vikings in the 9<sup>th</sup> century. The city has been molded through the centuries with many architectural styles, reflecting the economic, political and artistic influences. Stop to tour St. Patrick's Cathedral, which is almost as old as the city itself and is famous for its connections with the brilliantly eccentric Dean Jonathan Swift. Visit Kilmainham Gaol to see what punishment was like during its years of operation from 1796 to 1924. Learn about political prisoners, especially from the 1916 Rising, detained here because of their efforts to shape Ireland's history. The afternoon is free for independent activities, sightseeing, shopping, pubs and much more. This evening head to the Abbey Tavern for dinner and a traditional ballad session. The drive to Howth, a suburb on the north side of the city will give you great views of Dublin Bay. Built on the site of an old abbey, this pub has been in business for over 200 years.

OVERNIGHT: TRINITY CAPITAL HOTEL, DUBLIN

**SAT, OCT 12—RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES**

Transfer to Dublin Airport in plenty of time to check in for your flight.

**For reservations complete the coupon below with your deposit of \$125 per person, due at the time of booking.**

*\$400pp due June 4th. Land tour balance due Jul 19th. Balance due Aug. 19th. Optional Trip Protection Insurance is available upon request.*

**Make checks payable to: Sterling Travel Mail to: 720 Madison Street, Huntsville, AL 35801**

Full Name of passenger Must Match Passport: \_\_\_\_\_

Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_ Passport Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Passport Issuing Authority: \_\_\_\_\_ Passport Issue Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Passport Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Inbound Flight Arrival Details: \_\_\_\_\_ Outbound Departure Details: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Room:  Twin  Single If TWIN room, provide name of roommate: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Gender  M  F  I am enclosing a deposit check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  I am paying via credit card. Please charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  Visa  Mastercard  American Express  Discover

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact : \_\_\_\_\_

Group Booking#: 274858