

## Unforgettable Ireland - 9 Day Tour



### Highlights:

- Kiss the Blarney Stone
- Tour the Ring of Kerry
- Visit Muckross House
- See the famous Cliffs of Moher
- **OPTIONAL** : Medieval banquet at Bunratty Castle
- A Cruise on Lough Corrib
- Connemara Tour with visit to Kylemore Abbey
- Visit to Clonmacnoise monastery
- Dublin City Tour with visit to the Book of Kells
- **OPTIONAL** : Traditional Irish Night with dinner in Dublin

### Prices

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**April & October 2012**                      **\$1180**

**May – September 2012**                      **\$1370**

**Single room supplement**                      **\$390**

**Child Reduction**                                      **\$185 per child from 0 - 12 years old sharing a room with 2 adults**

### Guaranteed dates:

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**23 April - 1 May 2012**

**7 – 15 May 2012**

**28 May – 5 June 2012**

**18- 26 June 2012**

**9 - 17 July 2012**

**23 – 31 July 2012**

**20 – 28 August 2012**

**10 - 18 September 2012**

**24 September - 2 October 2012**

**8 - 16 October 2012**

### Prices include:

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- 7 nights accommodation at 4 star hotels, all rooms with private bath or shower
- Full Irish breakfast at hotel each morning
- Dinner at Hotels on day 2, 3, 6
- **VISITS**
  - Blarney Castle                                      Muckross House
  - Cliffs of Moher                                      Galway Cathedral
  - Kylemore Abbey                                      Clonmacnoise
  - Trinity College
- Ferry ride across the river Shannon
- Cruise on Lough Corrib
- Modern motor-coach with driver/guide included as per itinerary
- English speaking guide for ½ day Dublin City Tour
- Service charges and taxes at existing rates

\*Please note: There are two optional dinners on this tour. One a medieval dinner at Bunratty Castle and the other entertainment at Taylors Three Rock. Both will be booked thru your bus driver the first two days you are in Ireland and paid to your bus driver in Euros.

# UNFORGETTABLE IRELAND

## 9 DAY TOUR

### Day 1 – Overnight flight to Ireland

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### Day 2 - Welcome to Ireland

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Arrive at Dublin Airport

Transfers to hotel will be arranged at 08.00 am and 12.00 am. Arrivals after this time are under own arrangements.

You are free to explore the city at your leisure this afternoon. Your hotel will be within walking distance of the city centre.

Overnight, dinner, bed and full Irish breakfast at hotel in Dublin or region

### Day 3 – Ireland's Midlands, Blarney Castle & Kerry

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Today meet with your coach and English speaking driver/guide and depart Ireland's Capital and travel to County Kerry.

En route stop in the town of Blarney for a visit to **Blarney Castle**. Dating from 1446, the castle is a tower house built on solid limestone in wonderful grounds. At the top of the Tower you will find the legendary Stone of Eloquence. Kiss it and you'll never again be lost for words. But don't take our word for it – everyone from Sir Walter Scott to a host of American presidents, world leaders, and international entertainers has been eager to take advantage.

Enjoy some time for shopping at **Blarney Woollen Mills**

The presence of the Woollen Mills during the famine shielded Blarney from the worst effects of the famine, due to its employment of local workers. The success story at the mills continued until a disastrous fire in 1869. By August 1871, the mill was once again operational with a labour force of 222. In 1976 Chris Kelleher, himself a mill worker, bought the old mill property. Within a short period of time Chris and his family transformed the mill into what is perhaps the largest quality craft shop in Ireland.

Continue to your Kerry hotel

Overnight, dinner and full Irish breakfast at hotel in Kerry region

### Day 4 - Ring of Kerry

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Today you can enjoy a superb tour of the Iveragh Peninsula, which will give you the opportunity to discover the **Ring of Kerry**. Taking in spectacular scenery - mountains, peat bogs, lakes and magnificent views of the Atlantic Ocean. Leaving Killarney one passes through Killorglin, famous for its Puck Fair, then to Glenbeigh where the cliff road affords panoramic views of the Dingle Peninsula and Dingle Bay. Passing through the peat bogs one arrives at the sea town of Waterville. Continue to Sneem Village, famous because of its brightly coloured houses. The road continues through the mountains to Molls Gap and Ladies View with superb views of the famous Lakes of Killarney.

Visit **Muckross House**, which was built in 1843 by the Herbert Family, in Elizabethan style. This house is one of the most sumptuous residences of Ireland. Muckross, surrounded by beautiful gardens, is in the heart of the Killarney National Park, the first to be opened in Ireland.

Tonight enjoy dinner on your own at one of Killarney's many pubs or restaurants

Overnight, bed and full Irish breakfast at hotel in Kerry region

## Day 5 – Burren & Cliffs

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Travel northwards to Tarbert and take a short boat ride across the mouth of the river Shannon to land on Clare's shore at Killimer

Travel along the coast to the **Cliffs of Moher**

The most majestic cliffs in Ireland rise from the Atlantic Ocean at 215 metres and extend for over seven kilometres long. On a clean day, you can admire the Aran Islands, the Connemara Mountains and the many sea birds that colonise this place to nest in spring.

Enjoy a tour of the **Burren Region**

The Burren is a strange and unique region in Europe. "Burren" means "large stones": in fact its name describes this impressive scenery perfectly well. Often described as lunar, the Burren is a high plateau of porous limestone situated in Northern Clare between Ballyvaughan and Kilfenora. No trees are growing here, no land is covering the stone, and the limestone is bare. But the Burren is not as deserted as we believe: the cracks allow different types of flowers to grow all year round, though spring would be the best season for the botanists to explore. The rocks hide many caves like Ailwee, as well as "Turloughs", an interesting phenomenon which transforms lakes into fields during the summer. You will also discover the testimonies of its rich history thanks to countless castles and monastic ruins. Continue to Limerick

**OPTIONAL Evening: Medieval Banquet at Bunratty Castle -Supplement of 50 Euros per person**

Bunratty Castle was built in the 15th century by the Earl of Thomond and stands on the banks of the Raithe River in County Clare. From here The Earl ruled over his Chiefdom and was known for his generosity and his lavish entertainment and banquets. For over 40 years the ladies of Bunratty castle, aided and abetted by the Earl's Butler, have welcomed guests from the four corners of the globe to join them at The Earl's Banquet. The entertainment today is provided by the superb Bunratty Singers and is a fitting compliment to the lively mead reception, a four-course meal and of course good wine. Guests are invited to enjoy an unforgettable evening in the splendour of this magnificent castle. A true step back in time to Medieval Ireland.

Overnight, bed and full Irish breakfast at hotel in Limerick or region

## Day 6 – Galway City & Lough Corrib Cruise

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This morning travel to Galway

On arrival enjoy an **orientation tour of the city**

Galway City is a delight with its narrow streets, old stone and wooden shop fronts, good restaurants and busy pubs. The city has attracted many musicians and artists, which add so much to the character of the city. A visit can start at Galway's modern Cathedral, which was built in 1965.

Visit **Galway Cathedral**

The Cathedral is one of the largest and most impressive buildings in Galway City. Built between 1958 and 1965, it stands on the site of the old city jail. The architecture of the Cathedral draws on many influences. The dome and pillars reflect a Renaissance style. Other features, including the rose windows and mosaics, echo the broad tradition of Christian art. The Cathedral dome, at a height of 145 ft, is a prominent landmark on the city skyline. Cardinal Richard Cushing of Boston dedicated the cathedral in 1965. The exterior design may not be to everybody's taste, while the interior, with its high curved arches and central dome, has a simple but solid elegance.

Enjoy a **cruise on Lough Corrib**

This journey on the Corrib Princess takes passengers along the Majestic River Corrib and onto the lake, providing visitors with wonderful views of the historic monuments and scenery, which make this one of the most spectacular waterways in Ireland. The visitors will see unsurpassed views of the historic monuments and natural amenities that make this one of the most spectacular waterway in Ireland. The cruise lasts 90 minutes and sails from Woodquay in the heart of Galway City.

## Enjoy the rest of your afternoon at leisure

Overnight, dinner and full Irish breakfast at hotel in Galway of region

## Day 7 – Connemara

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Today travel through the beautiful **Connemara Region**

Connemara is a land of lakes and rivers, bogs and mountains. A land of small villages where Gaelic is still the spoken language and where little has changed since the beginning of time. It is without a doubt the wildest and the most romantic part of Ireland. Connemara is a vast peninsula bordered by the arid and rocky coastline of Galway Bay in the south ~ a land characteristic for its stone walls and thatched cottages. On its northern shore the land is harsher and more secret, with spectacular views of the Ocean, the fjord of Killary Harbour, as well as the steep mountains overlooking numerous lakes and large bog areas. Connemara is a real paradise for Nature lovers and those in search of strong emotions.

### Visit **Kylemore Abbey**

Kylemore Abbey is located in the Kylemore Pass in Connemara. A Mitchell Henry built the House in 1868, after having spent his honeymoon in the area. The architecture is best described as neo-gothic and the house still displays all the characteristics of that period. One of Kylemore Abbey's most famous features is its miniature cathedral, built in 1870 and known locally as the Gothic church. Today, the Abbey is home to the Irish order of Benedictine nuns. They bought the house in 1920, having fled their convent in war-torn Belgium in 1914.

Overnight, bed and full Irish breakfast at hotel in Galway of region

## Day 8 - Galway – Dublin's Fair City

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Depart Galway for Dublin via Clonmacnoise.

Situated in the wilds, on the banks of the Shannon, sixth century **Clonmacnoise** is nowadays partly in ruins. You visit the Visitor Centre where the original Celtic crosses are exhibited, followed by a tour of the site where you will see high towers, the eleventh century cathedral and the wonderful reproductions of the High Crosses.

Continue to Dublin to discover Dublin's Fair City. The north side of the River Liffey offers great striking monuments such as the **GPO (General Post Office)** on the city main thoroughfare, **O'Connell Street**, or the **Custom House** along the quays, as well as the **Phoenix Park**, the largest public park in Europe.

The south side appears more sophisticated with its vast **Georgian squares**, such as **Merrion Square** where **Oscar Wilde's House** can still be found (today owned by an American College), its colourful doors, along with Grafton Street and its quality shops. Not so far from St. Stephen's Green, in Kildare St., you will see **the house of Bram Stoker**, the author of Dracula. This part of the city is also dominated by the students of **Trinity College**, where the famous book of Kells is permanently exhibited in its library. The university is facing the medieval district where **Dublin Castle** and the two **Anglican Cathedrals** can be found.

Visit **Trinity College**, the oldest University in Ireland, which was founded in 1592 by Elizabeth 1<sup>st</sup>. Within its walls, you will be able to admire Parliament Square and its 18<sup>th</sup> Century edifices. The visit of the ancient library, containing over twenty thousand manuscripts, is often surprising by its splendour. The ninth Century Book of Kells, famous for its precious illuminations, is exhibited in these premises.

Some time at leisure for some last minute souvenir shopping

Overnight, bed and full Irish breakfast at hotel in Dublin of region

### **OPTIONAL EVENING ENTERTAINMENT AT TAYLORS THREE ROCK OR SIMILAR - Supplement of Euro 47.00 per person**

Taylor's Three-Rock is a lively pub located in Rathfarnham 30 minutes from Dublin City Centre. It hosts a fine restaurant and an excellent Irish night of music and dance.

Guests are encouraged to dine early and be ready for the music, which starts at 9pm. A ballad group (4 musicians typically) will regale visitors with ballads both happy and sad and will (after a few pints) have visitors singing along with them. The music is interrupted for a short while to allow guests to catch their breaths and enjoy the best of Irish Dancing ~ guaranteed to get feet tapping. A final song or two from the musicians' will send the visitors into the night with fond memories of a memorable night in a Dublin Pub.

### **Day 9 – Farewell**

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After a final Irish breakfast transfer to Dublin Airport for your departure flight home

Transfers will be arranged at 06.00 am and 09.30 am

### **Technical Notes on Programmes**

- **Blarney Castle:** You are unlikely to fall at this site, since there is someone there to hold you but a word of warning about general safety is in order. The spiral staircases are narrow and the one at the back has no handrail.

**Harrigan Holidays Unforgettable Ireland**  
**REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

An initial deposit of \$200 per person, airfare, and optional travel insurance, call 717.818.3024 or email Kathy@harriganholidays.com for pricing. Final payment is due 60 days before departure. Full or partial payments will be accepted at any time.

Please note that the travel insurance is optional but highly recommended and must be purchased when making deposit. Please see cancellation terms and insurance information at end of document.

Full or partial payments on this trip will be accepted at anytime.

Name\* \_\_\_\_\_  
as it appears on passport                      expiration                      date of birth

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I want single room, I understand this is \$390 additional \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate's Name \*

\_\_\_\_\_ as it appears on passport                      expiration                      date of birth

*(If you do not have a passport we recommend applying for one as soon as possible to avoid booking problems)*

**Accommodation Type:** (can not guarantee but every effort will be made to accommodate you)

Smoking Room \_\_\_\_\_ Non Smoking \_\_\_\_\_ King Bed \_\_\_\_\_ Two Twin Beds \_\_\_\_\_

**Travel Insurance:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I am including travel insurance and understand it must be paid with deposit

\_\_\_\_\_ I have been offered travel insurance and have elected not to purchase it

**Dietary Restrictions/Allergies:**

**Air Preferences:** (can not guarantee but every effort will be made to accommodate you)

\_\_\_\_\_ Aisle    \_\_\_\_\_ Middle    \_\_\_\_\_ Window

If I do not have a copy of your passport, please send me a copy with your deposit.

Checks should be made payable and sent to:

HARRIGAN HOLIDAYS

66 McCandless Drive

East Berlin, PA 17316

For questions or additional information you may contact:

**Kathy Harrigan @ 717.818.3024 or kathy@harriganholidays.com**

**\*\*Please note – the itinerary is subject to change.**

*Travel insurance gives travelers coverage for unforeseen problems, from a cancelled flight to a serious illness—or in rare cases, even an act of terrorism or the financial default of a travel supplier. If an illness, accident, or other covered unforeseen circumstance forces a traveler to cancel or interrupt their plans, they face two major financial losses—money invested in nonrefundable pre-payments, and medical expenses that in many instances may not be covered by health insurance. In addition to trip cancellation and interruption, the plan will also cover emergency medical expenses; emergency medical transportation, when ordered by a doctor, to the nearest adequate medical facility; reimbursement for accommodations and expenses incurred due to travel delays; reimbursement for the purchase of essential items if baggage is delayed; and coverage against lost, stolen or damaged baggage, including passports.*

Basic travel insurance will cover you in case you cancel due to illness of yourself, travel companion, family member. Cancel for any reason will cover 75% of your non-refundable trip cost if you would just decide to not go or were not able because of a non-covered reason.

Cancellations must be submitted **in writing** by the participant (and /or parent/guardian if he/she is a minor) and cannot be accepted over the telephone. Please note that cancellation dates referred to below pertain to the postmark date of your cancellation notice to Harrigan Holidays.

Because the operation of international tours requires extensive long-term planning, cost is incurred long before the actual departure. Many suppliers require deposits in advance of travel in order to secure low rates. With this in mind Harrigan Holidays has created the following Tour Cancellation and Refund Policy.

61+ days from departure  
60 days from departure

Full refund less airfare and travel insurance  
No refund can be made

The purchase of the optional travel insurance will help defer the loss incurred in case of cancellation. Travel insurance is not a refundable cost.

**Responsibility statement/conditions:**

**RESPONSIBILITY** Harrigan Holidays gives notice that services provided in connection with these tours are rendered by suppliers acting as independent contractors and not as agents or employees of Harrigan Holidays. All tickets, vouchers and coupons issued by them and all arrangements for transport, car rental or conveyance or for the hotel or guesthouse accommodations made them, are made upon the express condition that neither they nor their owners or employees shall be liable for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned either by reason of defect in any vehicle or through the acts or default of any company or person engaged in conveying or providing transportation or services to the passenger throughout the arrangements of the tour, or otherwise in connection therewith. The airlines, steamship lines and other transportation companies whose services are featured in these tours are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board their conveyance. The passage contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and purchaser of these tours and/or passenger. The aforesaid Harrigan Holidays and/or their agents and representatives can accept no responsibility for losses expenses due to delay or changes in schedules, strikes, war, quarantine or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be paid by the passengers. If for operational reasons it becomes necessary to delete a feature of this tour, any refund due is strictly limited to the cost of that feature. The right is reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of any tour or to cancel or alter the tours. If at the sole discretion of the tour operator it is deemed to be in the best interest of the group to remove a passenger from the tour, the tour operator's liability is limited to a refund for the unused portion of the tour. The terms of this agreement cannot be changed or amended, except in writing, signed by an authorized officer of Harrigan Holidays. Full or partial payment for trip reservation constitutes agreement to all the provisions in this brochure.