

**Aer Lingus Classic
Notre Dame vs Navy
Game and Southern Tour of Ireland
Thursday, August 20 - Sunday, August 30, 2020**



Thursday, August 20th - Depart USA for your overnight flight to Ireland.

Friday, August 21st - Following your arrival at Shannon Airport, you will meet your driver/guide and will depart for a visit to **Cliffs of Moher**. Situated on the Atlantic Ocean and bordering the Burren region, the Cliffs of Moher are one of Ireland's most spectacular sights. Standing 230 metres above the ground at their highest point and 8km long, the Cliffs boast one of the most amazing views in Ireland. On a clear day, the Aran Islands are visible in Galway Bay as well as the valleys and hills of Connemara. The cliffs reach their highest point just north of O' Brien's Tower built by Cornelius O' Brien, a descendant of Brian Boru, to entertain his lady friends.

Visit Doolin Music House

Christy Barry and his partner Sheila have entertained friends and musicians at their home for many years, sitting around the fire playing music and telling stories. Although the pub sessions are extremely popular they realised that many of their visitors preferred to listen to traditional music in the intimate environment of their home. As a result, they open up their atmospheric home to visitors so they can experience local Irish music in the relaxed surroundings of their home. Christy talks and discusses the history of traditional Irish music and plays great tunes together with his friend James Devitt. You will enjoy the experience of visiting a local home, enjoying local company and listening to a good traditional music session around the fire. Sheila is an artist and her works surround the rooms in the house creating a truly art home atmosphere. Light lunch will be served during your visit – smoked salmon and brown bread, Irish cheeses accompanied by a glass of wine or a soft drink.

Overnight, bed and breakfast at your hotel in County Clare. **(L)**

Saturday, August 22nd - Today you will travel to County Kerry stopping at **Craggaunowen**. Situated on 50 acres of wooded grounds, Craggaunowen, the Living Past Experience, is one of Ireland's award winning cultural parks that interprets our pre-historic and early Christian eras. It tells the story of the arrival of the Celts in Ireland and features a stunning recreation of some of the homesteads, animals and artefacts which existed in Ireland over 1,000 years ago. Explore the Crannog, the Ring Fort, the Medieval Castle and the 'Brendan Boat' – a leather hulled boat built by Tim Severin. He sailed across the mid-Atlantic re-enacting the voyage of St. Brendan and the early Christian monks who were reputed to have discovered America centuries before Columbus. Craggaunowen Castle built by John MacSioda MacNamara in 1550 is also located in the park standing defiantly on a crag overlooking the lake. It is a typical example of a fortified Tower House, which was the ordinary residence of the gentry at the time. After the collapse of the Gaelic Order in the 17th century, the castle was left roofless and uninhabitable.

Continue south of Limerick to visit **Foynes Flying Boat & Maritime Museum**. From 1939 to 1945 Foynes was the centre of the aviation world, for air traffic between the United States and Europe. The Foynes Museum recalls this era with a comprehensive range of exhibits and graphic illustrations. The museum features the original Terminal Building, Radio and Weather Room (complete with transmitters, receivers and Morse code equipment). The exhibits feature an introduction to the first transatlantic passenger service and Foynes during the war years. Irish Coffee was invented in Foynes. Chef Joe Sheridan made the first in 1942 to warm up some damp and miserable passengers. Of course an original Irish Coffee is included in your tour. Explore the life and legacy of legendary Irish-American actress Maureen O'Hara. The exhibit is dedicated to this Hollywood icon, who starred in several classic films from the Golden Age of Hollywood. Her husband, famed aviator Charles Blair, flew flying boats into Foynes from 1942 to 1945. Maureen officially opened the museum on 8th July 1989, remaining its Patron until her death in 2015. View her Oscar and other awards, costumes, red carpet outfits, accessories, correspondence with celebrities and world leaders, passports, and other personal possessions and memorabilia.

Overnight, dinner, bed and full Irish breakfast at your hotel in County Kerry. **(B, D)**

Sunday, August 23rd - Enjoy a full day exploring the **Dingle Peninsula**. Some of the finest coastal scenery to be seen in Ireland can be found on the Dingle Peninsula. This peninsula is famous for its Celtic, pre-Christian monuments and Christian churches. It is also a 'Gaeltacht' (Irish speaking) area, where the Irish language and traditional ways of life are preserved. Dingle town itself is a thriving fishing town and offers plenty of opportunity for shopping or simply savouring the atmosphere of a typical country Irish town with plentiful pubs, narrow streets and a busy harbour.

Included in your tour of the Dingle Peninsula is a stop at the **Dingle Whiskey Distillery**. Dingle Distillery is not in the business of creating megabrands, nor do we distil for anyone else. Our scale is modest, our approach to what we make is essentially artisan and we have rekindled the tradition of independent distilling in Ireland. Two hundred years ago, this small island had over a hundred officially recognised distilleries; by the turn of this century there were two. When the first spirit trickled from the stills here in November 2012 it represented a milestone in the history of distilling in Ireland, and now our unique Dingle Whiskey continually matures in the mild, moist climate of Ireland's south-west coast while those first spirits are bottled into a magnificent single malt whiskey. You can also enjoy the fruits of our labours in the form of Dingle Original Gin and Dingle Distillery Vodka. Return to your County Kerry hotel. Dinner will be on your own this evening. **(B)**

Monday, August 24th - Today travel from Kerry to Cork stopping at the **Michael Collins Centre**. As soon as visitors arrive at the Michael Collins Centre, they are welcomed to the Cottage/theatre. A twenty minute audio/ visual explores the Michael Collins childhood, his family history, his school days and the important Collins' sites around Clonakilty. A guide then continues the presentation, using slides, large photographs or film clips, the visitor is taken through the 1916 rebellion, War of Independence, Treaty talks and the Civil War. The tragic death of Michael Collins at Beal Na Blath and his Legacy are also discussed. The presentation ends with a guided tour of the ambush trail, a life size replica of an ambush site complete with Crossley Tender and replica of Michael Collins, famous Rolls Royce Armoured Car, "Sliabh Na mBan". Here the events at Beal na Blath and the history of the vehicles in the Collins convoy are explained in more detail. Visitors can then return to the Cottage/ Theatre to view the exhibition of photographs and documents.

Overnight dinner, bed and breakfast at your County Cork hotel. **(B, D)**

Tuesday, August 25th - Today explore **Kinsale** starting your day with a visit to **Charles Fort**. Overlooking Kinsale harbour and located approximately 3 km from Kinsale town, Charles Fort is a classic example of a late 17th Century star-shaped fort. William Robinson, architect of the Royal Hospital in Kilmainham, Dublin is credited with designing the fort. As one of the largest military installations in the country, Charles Fort has been associated with some of the most momentous events in Irish history. The most significant of these are the Williamite War 1689-91 and the Civil War 1922-23. Charles Fort was declared a National Monument in 1973.

Later, enjoy a **Kinsale Food Walking Tour**. Learn about the history of the Norman walled Town that thrived as a fishing port, once known as 'Ceann tSáile' which means 'Head of the Sea'. The 2hr/2hr 30min walking tour is a gentle stroll that winds through the colorful seaside town. Enjoy samples of local food at each eatery and hear the stories of the culinary creations.

Return back to your hotel. Dinner is under your own arrangement this evening. **(B)**

Wednesday, August 26th - This morning we will depart County Cork. First visit of the day is **Jameson Distillery Midleton**. Whiskey has been distilled in the town of Midleton, County Cork since the early 9th Century. The Jameson Distillery Midleton was founded by the Murphy brothers in 1825. The 45 minute guided tour of the distillery commences with a short audio-visual, after which visitors are taken on a tour of the old distillery by local guides. Follow the old distillery trail through mills, maltings, stillhouse, warehouses and kilns and view the largest pot still in the world - some of these buildings date back to 1795. The tour ends in the Distillery pub, where all are invited to enjoy a glass of Irish Whiskey. During the visit a number of volunteers are selected to take part in a tasting session to compare a Jameson whiskey with a Scottish Whisky and American bourbon. Participants will receive a diploma for their achievement!

Continue to the **Bru Boru**. Brú Ború (translated as “The Palace of Boru”) is a national heritage centre at the foot of the Rock of Cashel. This cultural and interpretative village is designed around a village green and is home to the study and celebration of Irish music, song, dance, storytelling, theatre and Celtic studies. Located at the foot of the historic Rock of Cashel, Brú Ború is an affiliate of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann, the Irish cultural movement which has over 400 branches worldwide. The Teach Ceoil (house of music) comes alive with the sound of Irish traditions; from singing a song, to dancing a step, playing an air or telling a story. The Sounds of History exhibition takes place in subterranean chambers, seven metres underground, which echo to the story of Ireland from ancient times to the present day. Through the passage of time, the journey is marked by milestones of achievement, conflict and renewal. A recent state-of-the-art extension has been added, where visitors can explore 3000 years of Ireland’s rich cultural heritage.

Overnight, dinner, bed and breakfast at your TBD hotel this evening. **(B,D)**

Thursday, August 27th - Off to Dublin En-route you will visit **The Irish National Stud & Japanese Gardens**. The Stud is a thoroughbred breeding facility and is the home of equine royalty, immaculately-bred stallions who can be seen and admired alongside protective mares, frolicking foals and athletic yearlings. The gardens are renowned throughout the world and the finest of their kind in Europe, are far more than simply a treat for the eye. They also provide comfort to the soul, achieving exactly the objective that was set out when the gardens were created between 1906 and 1910.

Upon arrival, enjoy a **panoramic tour of Dublin**. First discover the north side of the River Liffey. This area 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. 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.

Overnight, bed and breakfast at your Dublin area hotel. All dinners in Dublin are under your on arrangement. **(B)**

Friday, August 28th - Free day in Dublin to pursue your personal Dublin discoveries. Harrigan Holidays will be happy to make recommendations. There will also be pre-game activities today. **(B)**

Saturday, August 29th - Game Day! Overnight, bed and full Irish breakfast at your hotel in Dublin **(B)**

Sunday, August 30th - **(B)** Depart to Dublin Airport for your return flight to the USA

Price per person sharing a twin/double room is \$3100 per person land only Price is subject to change based on value of currency, fuel surcharges, or taxes. Single Supplement \$899

What’s Included?

9 nights accommodations in 3 & 4* hotels Irish breakfast daily, 1 Lunch and 3 Dinners (B,L,D)

Visits and admissions to the following:

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| Cliffs of Moher | Doolin Music House | |
| Craggaunowen | Foynes Flying Boat Museum | Dingle Peninsula |
| Dingle Distillery | Michael Collins Centre | Jameson Distillery |
| Bro Boru Heritage Centre | National Stud & Gardens | Kinsale Food Tour |
| Charles Fort | Panoramic Tour of Dublin | |

Notre Dame vs Navy tickets will be available

Not included:

Optional Travel Insurance

Airfare

Personal Expenses

Meals not included on itinerary

Gratuity for Driver/Guide

Contact Harrigan Holidays at 717-818-3024 or by email kathy@harriganholidays.com