

7 Days/6 Nights

Departs Daily from Dublin or Shannon



SCENIC SOUTHERN IRELAND (SELF-DRIVE) DUBLIN - WATERFORD - KILLARNEY - IRISH CASTLES

Explore Ireland at your own pace, stopping to experience and enjoy this ancient Celtic Culture as you go! Start in the vibrant capital city of Dublin. Discover Ireland's sunny southeast in the crystal city of Waterford. Then marvel at the spectacular scenery along the Ring of Kerry, an easy day trip from your base in Killarney. Learn about and experience the history of rural life in Ireland with a visit to Bunratty Castle & Folk Park then spend your final night at Dromoland Castle.

ACCOMMODATIONS

1 Night Dublin | 2 Nights Waterford | 2 Nights Killarney
1 Night Irish Castles

INCLUSIONS

- Private Walking Tour of Dublin with a Local 2.5 Hours
- Entrance to Waterford Crystal Visitor Centre
- 6 Day Compact Manual Car Rental
- Merry Ploughboys Traditional Irish Music, Dancing and Dinner in Dublin Roundtrip Transfers Included
- Entrance to Bunratty Castle and Folk Park
- Daily Breakfast



Discover Dublin on the east coast of Ireland! Experience this lively city by trekking on foot through many cobbled streets in neighborhoods like Temple Bar. Or take a stroll through St. Stephen's Green Park, which is in the heart of Dublin. Explore St. Patrick Cathedral, Dublin Castle, the many Catholic churches, and try a pint of Guinness at one of over 700 pubs within the city. Let Avanti book local culinary themed tours showcasing Irish food, whiskey distilleries, afternoon tea or the Guinness storehouse. Avanti can reserve full day trips out of Dublin city along the coast and through the countryside to the cliffs of Moher, or Belfast in Northern Ireland.

Day 1 ARRIVE DUBLIN:

Arrive in lively Dublin, the vibrant, cosmopolitan city home to Guinness and the Book of Kells, a city full of history and rich heritage. Today, after checking into your hotel, enjoy a private walking tour of Dublin. Your local guide will help you discover the neighborhoods through the eyes of a Dubliner. A great way to get to know the city on your arrival and understand the Irish culture. This evening you will get to immerse yourself even further in the culture of Ireland with a traditional music show. Enjoy live traditional music, song and Irish dancing accompanied with a hearty traditional Irish 3 course dinner in a vibrant and lively setting.

(Dinner)



Private Transfer - Dublin Airport to Dublin Hotel

Duration: 18mins



Dublin - The Alex - Standard

1 Nights ★★★★★

Style: Contemporary Location: City Center

Nearby Attractions: Trinity College, Merrion Square, Temple Bar, St. Stephen's Green, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Guinness Storehouse

Located on Fenian Street, off the south west corner of Merrion Square, The Alex Hotel is close to Dublin city's Georgian squares where business and culture meet as neighbors. Grafton Street, the flagship location for many shops, is only a short walk from the hotel. The Alex has an historical exterior, but the spacious rooms are contemporary The Alex features a restaurant specializing in international cuisine, a bar, coffee shop, and a shared work hub adjacent to the reception area. The hotel also offers guests 24/7 access to the fitness center at their sister hotel, The Mont (approximately 131 yards away). Located in central Dublin, The Alex is within walking distance of Merrion Square, Trinity College, Stephens Green, Grafton Street, O'Connell Street, and Temple Bar.



Private Walking Tour of Dublin with a Local - 2.5 Hours

Duration: 2 Hours 30 Minutes Category: Authentic/Local, City Tour Tour Type: Walking Tour

Enjoy a private walking tour and a good laugh with a local Dubliner.



Merry Ploughboys Traditional Irish Music, Dancing and Dinner in Dublin Roundtrip Transfers Included

Duration: 3 Hours Category: Food And Drink, Tour Type: Show / Theatre Tickets

The Merry Ploughboys Pub hosts a highly entertaining night of Irish music, song, and Irish dancing. The show itself is a highly entertaining performance of live traditional Irish Music, Song and Irish Dancing. From start to finish, this is a show based on a living traditional culture and fantastic interaction between performers and the audience. Enjoy a 3 course dinner followed by the entertainment from Dublin's longest running show.

Day 2 DUBLIN TO WATERFORD:

After breakfast, pick up your rental car in downtown Dublin and head out to your next destination, Waterford. Enjoy the drive and perhaps stop on the way in the pretty town of Kilkenny. One of Ireland's best preserved medieval cities with 800 years of history and home to Kilkenny Castle which is well worth a visit.

(Breakfast)



Waterford is a quiet port town in southern Ireland with an impressive history and Viking origin. Primarily known for its crystal, it manages to conquer the hearts of many with its small town feel, small museums and cheerful pubs. Choose to stay between hotels in its charming old town or historical properties in the surrounding area. After a short drive east, you will find yourself in front of elegant Waterford Castle. Built on a private island, it will offer you the privacy and luxury you deserve.

Day 2 WATERFORD:



Waterford - Waterford Castle - Standard

2 Nights ★★★★★

Style: Traditional *Location:* 5 minutes from the Ardkeen area of Waterford City which includes grocery stores, restaurants, banks, post office, petrol station and more.

Nearby Attractions: Waterford Crystal Visitors Center, Waterford Greenway, Waterford Museum of Treasures, Comeragh Mountains, Mount Congreve Gardens, Tramore Beach, UNESCO Copper Coast, Dunmore East Village, Hook Lighthouse

The Waterford Castle is built on a private island, offering an escape from the modern world. A jewel in Ireland's Ancient East, the resort offers the very best of Irish hospitality on the most beautiful and spacious surroundings imaginable. This historic 16th century luxury castle hotel combines the gracious living of an elegant past with every modern comfort and conveyance. With just 19 guestrooms, Waterford Castle is the ideal place for an intimate getaway. The castle itself is 800 years old and traditionally decorated. Once inside, you'll be enchanted with the carved stone and wood paneled Hall, with its Jacobean style antiques and intricate original tapestries.

Day 3 WATERFORD:

Waterford in south east Ireland on the River Suir (pronounced Shure) was founded by Vikings in the 9th century then captured by Anglo Norman invaders of the 12th century leading to years of conflict between the English and Irish. In 1783 George and William Penrose founded a glass factory that produced what we know today as Waterford Crystal, the area's main attraction. Waterford Crystal Visitor Centre Explore over 200 years of glass making through exhibits of luxury pieces.

(Breakfast)



Entrance to Waterford Crystal Visitor Centre

Category: Art and Culture *Tour Type:* Entrance Tickets

The highlight of any visit to Waterford, the Factory Tour gives you an up close and personal insight into the centuries old tradition of Waterford Crystal making. You'll feel the heat of the furnace and marvel at the skills of our craftsmen. After your Tour, indulge your passion for the world's most famous crystal in our lavish Retail Store housing the largest collection of Waterford Crystal found anywhere, while our exhibition of Sporting Trophies and Statement pieces is an absolute must see attraction.

Day 4 WATERFORD TO KILLARNEY:

After breakfast, you have ample time to stop in Cork to visit Blarney Castle and the Blarney Stone (kiss only if you dare), or stop for lunch at the world famous "Fishy Fishy Caf" in Kinsale, County Cork for lunch on your own.

(Breakfast)



Explore the town of Killarney, one of Ireland's most popular destinations on the shore of Lough Leane, near Killarney National Park and the Ring of Kerry drive. This town is surrounded by beauty and full of activities, history and hospitality.

Day 4 KILLARNEY:



Killarney - Muckross Park Hotel and Spa - Standard

2 Nights ★★★★★

Style: Luxury *Location:* Just outside of Killarney

Nearby Attractions: Killarney National Park, Muckross Abbey, Killeegy Church, Ross Castle

Muckross Park Hotel & Spa perfectly balances 18th century style with 21st century splendor.

Experience luxury from breakfast through to bedtime. Charming, modern and magnificently elegant, a warm welcome and award winning service awaits you just 2.5 miles from Killarney town center. Set amongst 25,000 acres of the pristine Killarney National Park, everywhere you look is bathed in a sea of the Emerald Isles famous greenery.

Day 5 KILLARNEY:

After breakfast you have your day free to explore the Ring of Kerry, or any of the many local attractions. Please note, during the summer months, the 105 mile Ring of Kerry loop is heavily congested, so be sure to leave early, or consider doing as the Irish do and explore the Dingle Peninsula just to the north.

(Breakfast)

Day 6 KILLARNEY TO DROMOLAND:

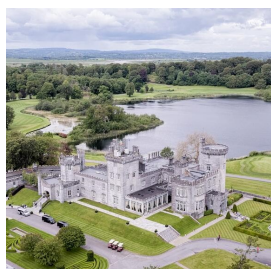
After breakfast you're off to Dromoland Castle by way of Bunratty Castle and Folk Park. Your last evening is at the Dromoland Castle in Newmarket on Fergus, one of the most famous castles in Ireland and ancestral home of the O'Briens, a native Gaelic family who are descendants of Brian Boromhe (pronounced: Boru), 11th century High King of Ireland. Entrance to Bunratty Castle and Folk Park Built in 1425, Bunratty Castle is the most authentic medieval fortress in Ireland. Furnished with over 450 items of medieval furniture and artifacts. Bunratty Folk Park is a living reconstruction 19th century Ireland, with a village street, Ireland school, doctor's house, pawnbrokers, pub, drapery, printworks, grocery, hardware shop, pottery and a post office.

(Breakfast)



Whether we venture in search of our heritage or just visiting for the countless splendors, we should all visit Ireland at least once in a lifetime. Come along on a journey to the most beloved islands of them all and fulfill your dream of sojourning in one of the renowned Irish Castles. Centuries old architectural feats filled with history and tales of the great figures that resided within them are ready to welcome you as one of their own. The legendary Ashford castle, home of the Guinness family, Waterford castle, secluded on the quaint private island and the beloved Dromoland castle are only a few of the historical treasures that Ireland hosts. Walk in the footsteps of Gaelic royalty and spend the night at one of these estates, almost untouched by the passing of time. A once in a life time experience that will give a whole new perspective on your Irish endeavor.

Day 6 IRISH CASTLES:



Newmarket-on-Fergus - Dromoland Castle - Queen Anne

1 Nights ★★★★★

Style: Luxury *Location:* Set on 450 acres estate about 10 minutes from Shannon Airport

Nearby Attractions: Dromoland Golf Course

Nobility and hospitality are in Ireland's most magical address, Dromoland Castle. which has been welcoming guests since the 16th century. The ancestral home of the O'Briens of Dromoland, the lineage dates back 1,000 years to Gaelic Royalty, direct descendants of Brian Boru, one of the last High Kings of Ireland. Approached by a meandering drive that passes acres of magnificent lawns, and seamlessly blending Old World elegance with contemporary luxuries, Dromoland's tradition of delivering impeccable, unobtrusive service is never compromised.



Entrance to Bunratty Castle and Folk Park

Duration: Flexible/Self Guided *Category:* Eco/Nature *Tour Type:* Walking Tour

The Bunratty Castle is the most complete and authentic medieval fortress in Ireland. Built in 1425 it was restored in 1954 to its former medieval splendour and now contains mainly 15th and 16th century furnishings, tapestries, and works of art which capture the mood of those times. Today, the castle stands peacefully in delightful grounds.

Day 7 DEPART DROMOLAND CASTLE:

After breakfast, drive to Shannon airport to return your car before your flight, or start on your next Avanti adventure.

(Breakfast)

*** Itinerary and inclusions are subject to change*