

Itinerary Prepared : St. Patrick's Festival

Date : February 10, 2010

Itinerary Reference : ICTS001127

Details

Your Itinerary runs from **13 Mar 2010** to **21 Mar 2010** for **4 Adults**.

Includes

- * Chauffeur Drive: 7 days Mercedes Luxury Touring Minivan, 7 days Your Professional Touring Driver Guide
- * Transfer: Hotel to Airport in Mercedes Minivan, Transfer to City with Orientation Tour
- * Day Touring: Bunratty Castle, Park & Dirty Nellys Pub, Cork City Centre & Old English Market, Dublin City Centre at Your Leisure, East Cork, Cobh & Middleton Tour, Kenmare Town, Waterfalls & Bay Tour, Kinsale Town, Charles Fort and Old Head, Muckross House, Gardens & Torc Waterfall, Newgrange, Knowth and Boyne Valley Tour, Orientation Tour of Dublin City Centre, Powerscourt Gardens, Sally Gap and Dublin Mountains Tour, Quintessential Ring of Kerry Coastline, South Tipperary and Rock of Cashel Tour, The Cliffs of Moher & Atlantic Edge Experience, Trim Castle, Kells & Hill of Tara Tour, West Cork Coastline Towns and Villages, West Limerick and Shannon Drive & Adare
- * Tour: St Patricks Week Tour of Ireland
- * Unescorted Tour: Cork City St Patricks Day Festival
- * 2 x nights at **Merrion Hotel Dublin** occupying 2 **Garden Wing Double Room/s** on a Bed & Breakfast basis
- * 1 x night at **Cashel Palace Hotel** occupying 2 **Classic Double Mews Room/s** on a Bed & Breakfast basis
- * 2 x nights at **Hayfield Manor Cork** occupying 2 **Manor House Double Room/s** on a Bed & Breakfast basis
- * 2 x nights at **Killarney Royal Hotel** occupying 2 **Superior Double Room/s** on a Bed & Breakfast basis
- * 1 x night at **Bunratty Castle Hotel** occupying 2 **Executive Double Room/s** on a Bed & Breakfast basis

Itinerary

Saturday, 13 Mar 2010

Tour - St Patricks Week Tour of Ireland for 4 person(s).

St Patricks Week Festival marks the beginning of the season festivities in Ireland. The Festival takes place all over Ireland with great varieties in entertainment and events to choose from in the big towns and small villages throughout the country. The highlight of the week of course is the St Patricks Day parade that takes place on March 17th. The parade is best experienced in one of the larger towns such as Dublin or Cork but the smaller events have their lucky charms too. There is no better place in the world to enjoy St Patricks Week than in the home of the festival, Ireland.



Transfer: Transfer to City with Orientation Tour for 4 person(s) collected from Dublin Airport at 10:00 - dropped off at Dublin City Centre at 12:00.



Day Touring - Orientation Tour of Dublin City Centre for 4 person(s) at 10:00.

Our Dublin Based Driver Guide will give you a Panoramic Tour of Dublin City's highlights based on your expressed interests. He will point out the major attractions and places of historical and cultural importance from the monuments of the Phoenix Park, Custom House, Millennium Spire and Trinity College in the City Centre. Once you are familiar with the city our driver will take you to your hotel to relax after your flight. You may also be dropped at any of the attractions in the city centre such as the Guinness Storehouse or Trinity and your luggage taken to your Hotel.



Day Touring - Dublin City Centre at Your Leisure for 4 person(s) at 12:00.

You are at your leisure to enjoy the sights and sounds of Dublin on foot or by an arranged city touring services. We recommend visiting St Patrick's Cathedral, Christchurch and Trinity College incorporating The Book of Kells today. All these attractions are located in the city centre within easy reach of your hotel. You may also enjoy Ireland's historic and cultural recourses at our world class museums on Kildare Street. There is also excellent shopping on Grafton Street and nearby Nassau Street as well as Dublin's European Style Boulevard of O Connell Street. In the evening we recommend the magnificent fine dining or theatre options in the city centre which we will be happy to recommend or reserve for you.

Overnight at Merrion Hotel Dublin

2 Garden Wing Double Room/s on Bed & Breakfast basis

Merrion Hotel, a five star Manor Hotel is our preferred hotel in Dublin City Centre and quite simply one of the very best hotels in Ireland. It combines the convenience of location, a wonderful choice of restaurants and the finest private art collection in Dublin. The hotel has a quiet and refined sophistication with large drawing rooms, an enclosed garden as public areas. On the doorstep are some of Ireland's finest restaurants and music pubs on the lively and fashionable Baggot Street. The Merrion has some excellent dining options, notably Restaurant Patrick Guilbauds, considered by many to be the best restaurant in Ireland. The Cellar Bar and restaurant are also excellent dining options. For those wishing to unwind there is the option to get pampered in the Tethra Spa.



Sunday, 14 Mar 2010

Pick up 4 person(s) in 1 x Mercedes Luxury Touring Minivan at 10:00 from Dublin City Centre.

Mercedes Viano is a superb, all-round, multi-purpose chauffeur vehicle. Our models are all extra long wheel base for extra leg room, comfort and luggage requirements. The windows are slightly tinted with privacy glass to enjoy the beautiful scenery without any glare. The seats are individual and leather with reclining options. Vehicles have air conditioning and music players as standard. This is the ideal transportation for a small group on a tour of Ireland.

Pick up 4 person(s) in 1 x Your Professional Touring Driver Guide at 10:00 from Dublin City Centre.

All of our driver guides are experts on the areas you will be visiting on your tour of Ireland. We bring experienced driving skills, expert touring routes as well as knowledge and insight into the places you will be visiting and staying on your tour. We will also recommend places to shop, have a drink, and dine in the various towns and villages and cities of Ireland. Your driver guide will also arrange all kinds of activities, events and generally show you Ireland in such depth and quality is only possible using a local expert.



Day Touring - Newgrange, Knowth and Boyne Valley Tour for 4 person(s) at 10:00.

Newgrange is quite simply one of the great wonders of western ancient civilization that need to be seen close up to be fully appreciated. Dating from before the Pyramids it is a complex chamber that is perfectly aligned to catch the morning sun on the winter solstice. There are two other major tombs at Knowth and Dowth, both equally impressive and different in character. Nearby is the River Boyne where the famous Battle of the Boyne took place. The land here is lush and full of ancient and medieval ruins that are testaments to Ireland's great heritage.



Day Touring - Trim Castle, Kells & Hill of Tara Tour for 4 person(s) at 14:00.

County Meath is a historical wonderland which has many attractions dating from ancient to medieval times. The Hill of Tara stands in the centre of this fascinating county with commanding views in all directions this was the seat of the ancient Kings of Ireland. Little remains but the outline of their kingdom, a church and a small cafe. Trim Castle to the west however is almost perfectly intact and one of Ireland's most interesting castles.

many film sets including Braveheart the castle sits proudly on the banks of the Boyne and has many ruins in the area that make an interesting walk.

Overnight at Merrion Hotel Dublin

2 Garden Wing Double Room/s on Bed & Breakfast basis

There are many excellent gourmet dining options in the city centre of Dublin. Over a short few days the problem would be to select the best option. Among the most noteworthy are One Pico, Chapter One, L'Ecrivain, Shanahans on the Green, Thornton's. For a less formal dining experience try Temple Bar or Dame Street for Bistros and Brasseries that serve the best of cosmopolitan Dublin. We will be happy to recommend and make your dinner reservations based on your preferences for dining style and location you wish to dine in.

Monday, 15 Mar 2010

Day Touring - Powerscourt Gardens, Sally Gap and Dublin Mountain for 4 person(s) at 10:00.

Powerscourt is a majestic Estate and Gardens in the Wicklow Mountains overlooking the Sugarloaf Mountain. The Gardens provide a fascinating interplay between the manicured local environment and the wild and beautiful backdrop of the Mountains. The village of Enniskerry is a pretty rural hamlet on the edge of the estate. Further along the Dublin Mountains which are famed for their views over Dublin Bay and beyond is Johnny Foxs pub, which is reputed to be the highest in Ireland. The seafood, memorabilia and good times are what make this pub famous.

Day Touring - South Tipperary and Rock of Cashel Tour for 4 person(s) at 14:00.

South Tipperary is renowned for its rustic castles and ancient abbeys and lush farming landscapes. The World Heritage town of Cashel lies at the foot of the world famous Rock of Cashel. This towering monument has a unique collection of medieval buildings including a Fortified Castle, atmospheric Cathedral, Romanesque Chapel and Round Tower. The town of Cahir is famous for its Norman fortification, Cahir Castle as well as the associated Hunting Lodge, known simply as the Swiss Cottage. Also in the immediate area there are the remains of once thriving monasteries at Cashel, Holy Cross and Attassel. Tipperary is also associated with evergreen valleys and mountainscapes of the Glen of Aherlow and the Vee Valley Drives.



Overnight at Cashel Palace Hotel

2 Classic Double Mews Room/s on Bed & Breakfast basis

Cashel Palace Hotel is the former residence of the Archbishops of Cashel, nestled in a wooded walled demesne below the Rock of Cashel in the lush countryside of Tipperary. The rooms are of a distinctly royal nature in the Main House with four poster beds and Victorian Baths. The Mews Rooms are located in a converted Coach House on the grounds of the hotel. There is a beautiful private walkway to the Castle known as the Bishops Walk. A Legendary tale is that the first Pint of Guinness was brewed here by Arthur Guinness; the evidence is the hop tree which is still stands in the garden.



Tuesday, 16 Mar 2010

Day Touring - East Cork, Cobh & Middleton Tour for 4 person(s) at 10:00.

East Cork is an often unexplored and region but has a lot of treasures waiting to be uncovered. Among these is visiting the Heritage town of Cobh, last port of call of the doomed Titanic with a Heritage Centre and St Coleman's Cathedral dominating the skyline. There is also the Middleton Distillery where Jameson is produced and a tour of the distillery with complimentary tasting is a must. The region also has some fine coastal villages from Ballycotton to Youghal.



Day Touring - Kinsale Town, Charles Fort and Old Head for 4 person(s) at 14:00.

Kinsale Town has the enviable position in one of the most beautiful regions of Ireland protected on all sides by a meandering harbour. Charles Fort on the hillside outside the town was designed just for the purpose of protecting this colourful trading town. Around the town there are many beautiful beaches as well as the wonderful Old Head Golf Links which is at the tip of the peninsula.

Overnight at Hayfield Manor Cork

2 Manor House Double Room/s on Bed & Breakfast basis

Hayfield Manor Hotel is Cork City's only five Star Hotel located in the leafy and tranquil University Region. The hotel is positioned in mature gardens with fine oak trees, a private garden and an aviary. The hotel has a wonderful fine dining restaurant which we highly recommend as well as a newer bistro style venue for more informal dining options. Hayfield Manor is celebrated for Corks most spacious and luxurious rooms ranging from Manor House to Executive Suites. There is also a swimming pool and spa for those who wish to really relax and unwind after a day's touring. The city centre is ten minutes walk through the university quarter and along the banks of the River Lee.



Wednesday, 17 Mar 2010

Day Touring - Cork City Centre & Old English Market for 4 person(s) at 10:00.

Cork City is the vibrant and independent southern capital of Ireland where locals enjoy the wonderful natural resources on their doorstep. The city is located on an archipelago of small islands created by the tidal River Lee. The centre is populated with some of Ireland's finest gourmet restaurants and a trip to the English Market, the heart of the city is a must see. Here local artisans have been trading local delicacies under charming Victorian decor for almost two centuries. There are two magnificent cathedrals either side of the river and many excellent galleries from the Glucksmann at UCC and Crawford in the town centre.

Unescorted Tour - Cork City St Patricks Day Festival for 4 person(s) at 14:00.

Cork's harbour is one of the largest in the world, and the city has been shaped by the many that have sailed to and from our shores. In celebration of this the theme for 2010 is Ships to Shore, celebrating Cork's rich maritime culture. It will include a three day food and crafts market, free street entertainment and will culminate in the parade on March 17th. The Parade will flow through the centre of Cork City and the aptly named St Patricks Street will be the highlight of the day. Music, street entertainment, colourful floats, will be the order of the day. Of course there will be the odd green beer and perhaps some traditional Irish grub.

Overnight at Hayfield Manor Cork

2 Manor House Double Room/s on Bed & Breakfast basis

The city of Cork has the best selection of gourmet dining outside of Dublin in Ireland. The eclectic and lively food culture centres around a number of city centre establishments most notably Les Gourmandise, Jacques, Ivory Tower, Jacobs on the Mall and Augustine. For live music we recommend Sin E or the Cornerhouse. Sophisticated evening entertainment is found at the Cork Opera House and there are many stand alone events during the year most notably the Jazz Festival in October.

Thursday, 18 Mar 2010

Day Touring - West Cork Coastline Towns and Villages for 4 person(s) at 10:00.

The eternal West Cork coastline is among the most indented, varied and lush in Ireland. Among the highlights of this tour is the ancient Drombeg Stone Circle, the quaint fishing villages of Glandore and Union Hall as well as a possible detour to Ireland's most southerly peninsula, Mizen Head. There are also the pretty seaside towns of Baltimore with its islands and Schull with lots of nice shops and cafes to browse through. Glengariff is located at the foot of the Cahah Mountains that separate Cork from Kerry. It is a dense lush sub tropical valley that is famous for its Bamboo Park, seal colony and Italian Gardens visited by boat from The Blue Pool in Glengariff. Bantry Town is Ireland's deepest port and has a beautiful town square which hosts markets daily in summer time. There are also lovely walks in the forest and for the more adventurous there are mountain lakes that can be hiked to. Inland from here is the solitary chapel on an island by the lake at Gougane Barra, one of Irelands most romantic locations.

Day Touring - Kenmare Town, Waterfalls & Bay Tour for 4 person(s) at 14:00.

Kenmare is renowned as one of Irelands prettiest towns nestled between the imposing Ring of Kerry and the Ring of Beara on the Kenmare River. The town has numerous shops that specialize in all kinds of fine antiques, laces & linen, gourmet and fine arts. Close to the town is Kenmare Stone Circle, an unusual egg shaped circle and one of the oldest and largest in the South West. In summer boats trips from the pier that tour the magnificent Bay of Kenmare can be arranged. On the outskirts of the town are the pretty waterfalls on the Sheen River, where the Sheen Falls Hotel is located.

Overnight at Killarney Royal Hotel

2 Superior Double Room/s on Bed & Breakfast basis

Killarney Royal Hotel is a superb four star boutique hotel located in the centre of Killarney. It is well-known for its cosy lounge areas, opulent decor and luxury rooms. One of Killarney finest restaurants is open year round and the hotel bar often has live traditional music in summertime. Fine dining and excellent wines are a specialty of this luxury four star hotel. You will also enjoy the very personal attention given to you by the friendly locals who greets visitors with open arms.



Friday, 19 Mar 2010

Day Touring - Muckross House, Gardens & Torc Waterfall for 4 person(s) at 10:00.

Muckross House and Gardens formerly the home of The Lord Kenmare is the finest Victorian Mansion in Ireland. Its position overlooking the Lakes of Killarney becomes impossibly romantic when the Rhododendrons are in full bloom. The estate can be walked on foot or admired from the many jaunting cars which are about. Close to the estate is the Torc Waterfall located in an enchanted wooded area which makes a small hike into the National Park very rewarding.

Day Touring - Quintessential Ring of Kerry Coastline for 4 person(s) at 14:00.

The Ring of Kerry Tour is Ireland's quintessential driving tour encompassing lakes, islands, rugged coastline, ancient history and a collection of villages, monuments and vistas that are both picturesque and timeless. The highlights of the tour include the villages of Waterville, Caherdaniel and Sneem which are all small romantic outposts. On a historical level the ancient Staigue Fort and more recent Derrynane House are well worth visiting. The tour can be accomplished clockwise or counter clockwise depending on the starting point and the time of year.

Overnight at Killarney Royal Hotel

2 Superior Double Room/s on Bed & Breakfast basis

The town of Killarney is famous for its excellent choice of restaurants, pubs and evening entertainment. In the town we recommend dining at Gaby's Seafood Restaurant or Foleys Townhouse. The best bars for live music are the Danny Mann where there is a nightly session. For something more low-key try The Failte or Laurels Singing Pub. The NEC has quality live shows in summer time and nearby Siamsa Tire in Tralee can be booked on request.

Saturday, 20 Mar 2010

Day Touring - West Limerick and Shannon Drive & Adare for 4 person(s) at 10:00.

Adare Village is among the most picturesque in Ireland with its own historic Castle, Cathedral, Abbey and Five Star Manor House and Grounds. West of Adare the Shannon Estuary flows all the way to the Atlantic close to Ballybunion which forms a very scenic coastal drive. On the Shannon Estuary Coastal Drive are medieval Askeaton, the Flying Boat Museum at Foynes where a replica of the Yankee Clipper and the invention of Irish coffee. Just below Ballybunion is the historic Romanesque cathedral at Ardferf, one of the early monasteries associated with St Brendan, the Navigator.



Day Touring - The Cliffs of Moher & Atlantic Edge Experience for 4 person(s) at 14:00.

The Cliffs of Moher in Co Clare are simply one of Ireland's most beautiful and must see natural attractions.

