



## **Ireland: Splendors of the Emerald Isle**

9 days from - Limited to 18 guests

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Revel in the finest traditions of Irish hospitality on this indulgent luxury journey through Ireland. Thrill to magnificent scenery, including the Ring of Kerry, and enjoy heartfelt country welcomes as you take in a sheepdog demonstration, enjoy tastings of Guinness and whiskey, and stay at some of the country's best hotels.

### **Itinerary**

#### **DAY 1 ARRIVE DUBLIN, IRELAND**

Arrive in Dublin, where you are met and privately transferred to your hotel. Gather this evening for a welcome briefing, followed by dinner.

*The Marker Hotel | Meals: Dinner*

#### **DAY 2 DUBLIN | VIEWING THE BOOK OF KELLS**

Begin your day with a private, before-hours tour of the Long Room of the Old Library at Trinity College, home to the Book of Kells, one of the finest illuminated medieval manuscripts in existence. Then, tour the sights of Dublin, stopping for lunch at a traditional pub in the Temple Bar area, accompanied by live Irish music. Afterward, enjoy an afternoon at leisure, relaxing or exploring the city on your own.

*The Marker Hotel | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch*

**DAY 3 KILKENNY | RESTORED MEDIEVAL GRANDEUR**

Travel south to Kilkenny, ancient capital of Ireland, and tour the imposing Kilkenny Castle. Then, explore the town in more depth and stop for lunch at your leisure. Arrive at your country resort at Castlemartyr before dinner.

*Castlemartyr Resort | Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

**DAY 4 COBH & CORK | ENGLISH MARKET & IRISH WHISKEYS**

Today, visit Cobh, one-time point of embarkation for countless emigrants leaving for America and other far-off lands. Visit the Cobh Heritage Centre to gain insight into this exodus, and learn about the town's links with ill-fated 'Titanic.' Then, Ride Like a Local by train to nearby Cork to visit its famous English Market. After time for lunch at your leisure, explore Jameson's Distillery and enjoy a premium tasting of their classic Irish whiskeys. Later, relax at your resort before gathering for dinner at Ballymaloe House, one of Ireland's finest restaurants.

*Castlemartyr Resort | Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

**DAY 5 KENMARE | A PRIVATE VISIT TO BANTRY HOUSE**

Drive Ireland's wild southern shore through rugged West Cork. Enjoy a privately-guided tour of Bantry House followed by lunch in their tearooms. Later, stop for a treat at Lorge Chocolatier, in rural Bonane. Arrive in charming Kenmare, set on the banks of its namesake river, check in to your hotel and savor a Scenic Sundowner overlooking the water.

*Sheen Falls Lodge | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

**DAY 6 KENMARE | AROUND THE RING OF KERRY**

Cross through Killarney National Park, en route to the bustling town of Killarney. Ride in a traditional jaunting car to venture even closer to this natural beauty. Then, set out on the famed Ring of Kerry for a breathtaking coastal drive, where every turn in the road reveals new and ever-more-stunning vistas. Pause to peruse local handicrafts in the Gap of Dunloe, then enjoy a demonstration of Irish sheepdogs and see why they are indispensable for local farmers.

*Sheen Falls Lodge | Meals: Breakfast*

**DAY 7 NEWMARKETONFERGUS | LUNCH WITH A FARM FAMILY**

This morning, make a personal connection to Ireland when you visit a traditional family dairy farm. Hear about the rural life of the nation from family members, and then join them for a home-cooked farm lunch. Stop in Adare, often voted Ireland's most beautiful village, to take in its charms, before continuing to majestic Dromoland Castle.

*Dromoland Castle | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch*



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**DAY 8 NEWMARKETONFERGUS | THE TASTES OF GALWAY BAY**

Journey to busy Galway, gateway to western Ireland, and then on to small, coastal Clarinbridge, where a special tasting introduces you to the quintessential pairing of Guinness Stout with fresh Galway Bay oysters for lunch. Afterward, drive the coast of County Clare, stopping to stand atop the soaring Cliffs of Moher before returning to Dromoland. Tonight, join your fellow guests for an elegant farewell dinner.

*Dromoland Castle | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

**DAY 9 DEPART SHANNON**

After breakfast, transfer to Shannon airport and board your onward flight.