

Enchanted Ireland: A Pilgrimage of Heritage and Faith

Suggested Pilgrimage #1 (8 nights/10 days)

Day 1

Depart via scheduled air service to Dublin

Day 2

Dublin

(D)

Arrive in Dublin

Meet your Faith Journeys Tour Manager who will assist the group to awaiting chartered motorcoach to Dublin's city center

Enjoy a panoramic tour of Dublin's highlights including O'Connell Street, Phoenix Park, Trinity College, and Christchurch Cathedral

Late afternoon check-in at the hotel

Evening Welcome Dinner and overnight

Day 3

Dublin / Cashel / Cork

(B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

This morning, we will travel to County Cork stopping for a heritage tour and sheepdog demonstration at Jerpoint Park. Continue to the Rock of Cashel, also known as St. Patrick's Rock. This historic site is one of the most photographed in Ireland. Only a few remnants of the early structures survive from the 5th century

Lunch, on own

Continue to Cork for evening dinner and overnight

Day 4

Cork / Blarney / Gougane / Killarney (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Enjoy a panoramic tour of beautiful Cork, a major Irish seaport.

Visit Blarney Castle, one of Ireland's oldest and most famous castles. At the top of the castle, lies the Blarney Stone. Those who visit Blarney Castle may hang upside-down over a sheer drop to kiss the stone, which is said to give the gift of eloquence.

Lunch, on own

Continue to Killarney stopping en route in Gougane Barra, whose name derives from St. Finbarr, who was said to have built a monastery here during the 6th century. Enjoy a stroll through Gougane's Forest Park

Continue to Killarney for evening dinner and overnight

Day 5

Killarney / Dingle Peninsula

(B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Begin in the town of Dingle with its thriving fishing harbor, shops, pubs, and narrow streets. On our drive along the Peninsula, we will admire scenic Iveragh Peninsula, Rossbeigh Beach, and the Basket Islands.

Lunch, on own

Continue to the excavated monastery at Riask to see the ruins of a 6th century monastery and 7th century cross slab of St. Mura, the patron saint of Fahan

Explore the impressive Gallarus Oratory, an early Christian monument built in the shape of an upturned boat dating from 7th century. It was part of a



larger monastic site and was used as a place for prayer and reflection
Continue to the Kerry area for evening dinner and overnight

Day 6 **Burren Region / Cliffs of Moher / Galway** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

This morning we will travel to County Clare, rich in Christian history and contains many abbeys and priories whose ruins date back to the 6th century. As we drive along the coast, we will behold the majestic Cliffs of Moher

Lunch, on own

Continue to Galway through the Burren Region, a high plateau of porous limestone. Visit Corcomroe Abbey and three early Christian Churches
Continue to Galway for evening dinner and overnight



Day 7 **Connemara** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Visit the Connemara Region, famous for its scenic lakes and mountains. See Lough Corrib (the second largest lake in Ireland) then proceed through Maam Cross to the village of Leenane and Kylemore Abbey

Lunch, on own

Explore Kylemore Abbey, a monastery founded in 1920 for Benedictine Nuns who fled Belgium in World War I. A craft shop, pottery studio, restaurant, and gardens also surround the Abbey

Return to Galway for evening dinner and overnight



Day 8 **Galway / Clonmacnoise / Dublin** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Enjoy a panoramic tour of Galway including Lynch's Castle and St. Nicholas' Collegiate Church before returning to Dublin via Clonmacnoise.

Lunch, on own

Explore Clonmacnoise to see the large round tower built in 1124, ruins of churches, and remarkable Cross of the Scriptures which dates from 900 AD

Continue to Dublin for evening dinner and overnight



Day 9 **Boyne Valley** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

This morning we will visit the Boyne Valley, a complex of tombs, standing stones, hinges, and other prehistoric enclosures predating the Egyptian pyramids. Visit St. Peter's Church in Drogheda and the shrine of St. Oliver Plunkett

Lunch, on own

Visit Mellifont Abbey, the first Cistercian abbey to be built in Ireland which served as a model for other Cistercian abbeys in Ireland

Return to Dublin for Farewell Dinner and overnight



Day 10 **Depart for home** **(B)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Dublin Airport for return flight

This is a very flexible itinerary. Except for confirmed appointments, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable

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