



Keegan Celtic Tour's 10th Anniversary Cruise

The Historic Irish Emigration Trail Itinerary

Princess Cruises | Round-Trip from New York City | October 8–16, 2027

This special anniversary sailing marks ten years of Colm Keegan's journey as a storyteller of song, history, and heritage. Aboard a Princess Cruises ship, guests will follow the historic Atlantic routes taken by Irish, Scottish, and Scots-Irish emigrants, sailing from New York City through the storied ports of New England and Atlantic Canada at the height of autumn color.

Blending spectacular coastal scenery with carefully curated cultural experiences, this cruise is designed for travelers who value music, meaning, and connection. Each port reflects a chapter of the Celtic diaspora story, while days at sea offer space for reflection, conversation, and music that brings the past vividly into the present.

October 8, 2027

Optional Pre-Cruise Gathering | New York City

Guests arriving early are invited to an optional evening concert in New York City where millions of Irish, Scottish, and Scots-Irish immigrants first passed into a new life. Final venue details and ticket availability will be shared once confirmed.

New York City Celtic & Emigration Points of Interest

- Ellis Island – Primary gateway for Irish immigrants in the late 19th and early 20th centuries
- St. Patrick's Cathedral – Symbol of Irish faith and perseverance
- Five Points – Historic Irish neighborhood
- South Street Seaport – Maritime heart of early Atlantic crossings

October 9

Depart New York City

The ship departs New York Harbor, sailing past the Statue of Liberty and into the Atlantic. This moment mirrors the emotional departure experienced by generations who left familiar shores behind.

Onboard Experience

- Welcome gathering and sail-away moment
- Opening reflections on emigration, memory, and music
- Evening conversation with Colm on the stories behind the songs

October 10

Newport, Rhode Island

Newport's sheltered harbor and maritime traditions made it an important Atlantic port, shaped in part by Irish labor and seafaring communities.

Celtic & Historical Points of Interest

- Fort Adams – Built largely by Irish immigrant labor
- Cliff Walk – Rugged Atlantic scenery reminiscent of Ireland's west coast
- Newport Historical Society – Maritime and immigrant history exhibits
- Newport Harbor – Active reminder of Atlantic trade routes

October 11

Boston, Massachusetts

Boston stands as one of the most influential centers of Irish immigration in North America. The city's neighborhoods, politics, and music were profoundly shaped by those who arrived during and after the Great Famine.

Celtic & Historical Points of Interest

- Boston Irish Famine Memorial
- Irish Heritage Trail
- Fenway–Kenmore – Historic Irish neighborhoods
- The Black Rose – Long-standing Irish music venue

October 12

Portland, Maine

Portland's rocky shoreline, lighthouses, and working harbor feel unmistakably Celtic, echoing the landscapes of Donegal and western Scotland.

Celtic & Coastal Points of Interest

- Portland Head Light – Iconic Atlantic lighthouse
- Maine Historical Society – Immigration and maritime archives
- Casco Bay – Island-studded seascape tied to fishing and folklore
- The Snug – Traditional Irish pub culture

October 13

At Sea

A full day at sea offers time to absorb the journey so far while enjoying the ship's amenities and curated onboard programming.

Onboard Cultural Programming

- Acoustic music sessions and informal sing-alongs
- Talk with Colm: Music as Memory in the Celtic World
- Scenic ocean views recalling ancient seafaring traditions
- Open Q&A and storytelling discussions

October 14

Halifax, Nova Scotia

Halifax is one of the most significant ports in the history of Irish and Scottish emigration to Canada, particularly during the famine years.

Celtic & Emigration Points of Interest

- Pier 21 – Canada's primary immigration gateway
- Halifax Citadel – Strong Scottish military heritage
- Maritime Museum of the Atlantic – Seafaring and migration history
- Halifax Waterfront – Living center of Celtic culture

October 15

At Sea

The final day at sea provides a reflective close to the voyage.

Onboard Highlights

- Closing music gathering with Colm
- Group photo and farewell remarks
- Story circle focusing on legacy, memory, and shared heritage

October 16

Return to New York City

The ship returns to New York Harbor, bringing the journey full circle—home again, enriched by shared experience, music, and history.

Onboard Celtic History & Storytelling with Colm Keegan

Throughout the voyage, Colm will lead informal sessions and conversations on topics such as:

- The Great Irish Famine and Atlantic crossings
- Irish, Scottish, and Scots-Irish migration to North America
- Celtic ballads as historical record
- Seafaring myths and Atlantic folklore
- Music as identity within immigrant communities
- Faith, family, and resilience in diaspora life

These sessions are designed to be conversational and inclusive, inviting reflection, questions, and shared stories.

Reserve Your Place

This anniversary sailing is a limited-capacity celebration created for Colm's audience and community. Guests are encouraged to reserve through Princess Cruises and sign up on this page to receive updates, special announcements, and onboard programming details. An unforgettable journey through music, memory, and the Celtic Atlantic.