

# Ireland and the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock



## Day 01 Departure to Ireland

Overnight transatlantic flight to Ireland.

## Day 02 Arrival Dublin

Upon arrival in the quaint city of Dublin, you are met and transferred to your hotel. Panoramic overview of the city on route to our hotel. Remainder of day at leisure to relax after your flight. Dinner at our hotel.

## Day 03 Dublin

Tour **Dublin** with its beautiful Georgian Squares, **St. Patrick's Cathedral** and the famed library of **Trinity College**, home of the 8th century **Book of Kells**. Enjoy a Welcome Dinner and entertainment at a "shindig" evening at the Old Jameson Distillery, home of Irish whiskey. Upon arrival a welcome drink followed by good food and lively traditional entertainment. Overnight Dublin.

## Day 04 Dublin - Wicklow - Glendalough

Today make your way through the **Wicklow "Garden of Ireland"** - visit **Glendalough, ruins of St. Kevin's Monastery**, Powerscourt and the **Powerscourt Estate**, Ireland's most famous **House and Gardens**. Overnight Dublin with dinner at our hotel.

## Day 05 Dublin - Waterford - Rock of Cashel

After breakfast depart Dublin for Waterford to visit the world renowned *crystal factory* where you will see master craftsmen still at work in a centuries-old tradition of glass blowing. On route, visit **Rock of Cashel**, once the seat of the high kings of Munster. Spectacular group of medieval buildings including a round tower, Romanesque chapel, cathedral and restored vicars choral. Continue to **Waterford**. Enjoy a city tour with free time for shopping. Dinner and overnight in Waterford.

## Day 06 Waterford - Cork - Blarney

Depart Waterford for **Cork** taking the coastal route along the coast of Ireland via the scenic towns of **Donavan** and **Voughal**. on arrival in **Cork**, enjoy a panoramic tour of the city with its famous St. Finbar's Cathedral and St. Anne's Church Shandon, famous for its bells. Continue to **Blarney** for a visit to the famous **Blarney Castle**. Tradition says, kiss the Blarney Stone and you will be given the gift of eloquence. Time for shopping for Irish woolens and crafts. Overnight and dinner in Blarney.

## Day 07 Ring of Kerry

Today you will travel the road that winds around the Iveragh Peninsula and experience the beauty of the 180 km **Ring of Kerry**, covering some of Ireland's most spectacular scenery where mountains, valleys, lakes and sea all blend together to paint the most breathtaking picture... one you will remember always. Overnight and dinner in Kerry.

## Day 08 Bunratty Castle- Cliffs of Moher - Galway

Depart **Kerry** for **Bunratty Castle** and Folk Park. Lunch on your own-perhaps at famous **Durty Nelly's Pub**. Afternoon drive along the Clare coast and the spectacular **Cliffs of Moher** to **Galway**. Overnight Galway with dinner at our hotel.

## Day 09 Connemara - Knock - Galway

Explore the region of **Connemara** with its stone cottages and wild countryside, visit **Ballintuber Abbey**. Continue on to County Mayo to the **Shrine of Our Lady at Knock**. It is here on August 21, 1879 that the figures of Our Lady, St. Joseph and St. John with a lamb miraculously appeared on the south gable of the church to a group of 15 people. Time for prayer and meditation at this very special shrine visited by Pope John Paul II and Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Return to **Galway** for a farewell banquet at **Dunguaire Castle**-a night of food and entertainment. Overnight Galway

## Day 10

**Transfer to Shannon airport for our return trip home with peace in our hearts and love for a county so steeped in tradition.**

**Ireland Tour can be combined with England, Scotland and/or Wales. Call for Details!**