



**SHAMROCK CLUB OF COLUMBUS
CUSTOM GROUP ITINERARY
SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 7, 2024**



Fri, Sep 27

USA-DUBLIN

Depart Columbus on an overnight flight to Dublin. Enjoy an overnight flight across the Atlantic Ocean and grab some rest as you prepare for your Irish adventure.

Sat, Sep 28

DUBLIN ARRIVAL

Land at Dublin Airport, complete customs and immigration formalities before meeting your driver/guide, who will welcome you to Ireland. Transfer from the airport to Dublin city center to begin your exciting day. Your driver will replicate the Hop on/Hop off city tour, allowing you to see many of Dublin's sites like The Georgian Doors, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin Castle, St. Stephen's Green and the General Post Office. Visit Guinness Storehouse and experience the history of Ireland's most iconic beer. Enjoy a self-guided tour of the seven storey visitor attraction, finishing with a pint of Guinness or soft drink in the Gravity Bar. Traverse Ireland's Ancient East on your way to your overnight accommodations in the medieval heart of Kilkenny. Check in and join your group for a welcome dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: HOTEL KILKENNY, KILKENNY

Sun, Sep 29

JAMESON EXPERIENCE

Enjoy a full Irish breakfast at the hotel and an independent morning perhaps with a stroll along Kilkenny's Medieval Mile. Begin your journey towards Cork. Stop in Midleton, a town in south-eastern County Cork for lunch. Next, visit the Jameson Experience at the Old Midleton Distillery. Come face to face with original kilns and pot stills dating back as far as the 1800s. Explore warehouses that have matured whiskey for more than two centuries. Enjoy a signature drink of Jameson at the end of the tour. Continue to Cork City where you'll spend the next two nights. Cork is the second largest city in Ireland, known for its lively cultural scene, English Market, and distinctive local pride. Enjoy a panoramic tour of Cork and learn the history of Ireland's third city also known as the Rebel City. Check in and prepare for dinner with your group in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: CLAYTON HOTEL CORK CITY, CORK

Mon, Sep 30

COBH / KINSALE

After a full Irish breakfast at your hotel, prepare for another exciting day. Travel to Cobh, a picturesque harbor town situated on the south coast of Ireland in Cork Harbor. Visit The Titanic Experience Cobh, a unique experience located in the historic White Star Line Building - the same place from where Titanic's last passengers departed. Take a guided tour and retrace the footsteps of the passengers. Next, spend a little free time in this scenic and historic town. Relax and enjoy stunning views of Cork Harbour at John F. Kennedy Park or stroll over to the magnificent St. Colman's Cathedral, constructed in the beautiful French Neo-Gothic Revival style, taking 47 years to build. Afterward, enjoy a picturesque drive to the charming town of Kinsale. Known as the "Gourmet Capital of Ireland", Kinsale was once a major fishing village but has now become an important destination for foodies, sailors, and art lovers. Wander around Kinsale Town this afternoon. You may wish to dine at one of Kinsale's delectable restaurants for lunch, such as Fishy Fishy or Jim Edwards before returning to Cork for an evening on your own.

OVERNIGHT: CLAYTON HOTEL CORK CITY, CORK

Tue, Oct 1

BLARNEY CASTLE

This morning, after breakfast, visit Blarney Castle and Gardens. Climb the winding stairs and kiss the famous "Stone of Eloquence" or stroll the gardens. Head west through rugged countryside to your Killarney accommodations for the next two nights. Your afternoon is free to explore Killarney. Tonight enjoy the hospitality of Kate Kearney's Cottage, known for its traditional Irish cultural nights with a delicious dinner, traditional music and costumed dancers.

OVERNIGHT: THE BREHON, KILLARNEY

Wed, Oct 2

DINGLE PENINSULA

Wake up refreshed and enjoy a traditional Irish breakfast at your hotel. Discover the beauties of the Dingle Peninsula, once described by the National Geographic Traveler as “the most beautiful place on earth.” Drive along the south shore of the peninsula for plenty of vistas of heathery mountains, sandy stretches of beach, stunning green landscapes and rocky headlands. Pause at strategic locations to admire the views and take photos. You will have the opportunity to view the early medieval stone built round houses (Clocháns or Beehive huts) dating from over 1000 years ago, check out the set location where Star Wars was filmed on The Dingle Peninsula, and walk on one of the most iconic beaches on The Dingle Peninsula, Coumeenole Beach.

OVERNIGHT: THE BREHON, KILLARNEY

Thu, Oct 3

CLIFFS OF MOHER

After breakfast, you'll depart Killarney, travel into Tarbert, and take a short ferry ride across the River Shannon Estuary. Next, drive along the coast of scenic County Clare and stop to view the Cliffs of Moher, one of Ireland's most beloved, natural landmarks. See magical vistas, overlooking the shimmering Atlantic Ocean along with Ireland's western coastline. Continue to Galway City. See the Spanish Arch, located on the left bank of the Corrib, where Galway's river meets the sea, City Museum, National University of Galway and the Cathedral of Our Lady, which is built on the site of the former county jail. Check into your hotel and prepare for dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: PARK HOUSE HOTEL, GALWAY

Fri, Oct 4

CONNEMARA SIGHTSEEING

This morning, enjoy a full Irish breakfast before setting off to explore some of the beautiful countryside of Connemara, with its rolling hills, flowing rivers and coastal landscapes. Connemara is a wild and beautiful region of mountains, lakes, tumbling streams, undulating bog, unspoiled beaches and panoramic views. Visit Kylemore Abbey, the only home of the Benedictine nuns in Ireland. Set in the heart of Connemara, this unique Abbey offers the warmth and hospitality of its peaceful environs. Its enchanting history is interpreted in detail in rooms at the Abbey. The Gothic Church, set in the grounds of the Abbey, is the jewel in the crown of Kylemore. It has been lovingly restored and any visit would not be complete without seeing it. Walk through the magical 6 acre Victorian walled garden, where Victorian varieties of flowers and vegetables are grown. Visit the picturesque market town of Clifden, nestled between the Twelve Bens mountains and the Atlantic Ocean, also known as "The Capital of Connemara". Depart on a scenic drive back to Galway via South Connemara. Take in the beautiful coastal drive passing through Inverin, Spiddal, and Bearna. The remainder of the day is free for independent sightseeing and dining.

OVERNIGHT: PARK HOUSE HOTEL, GALWAY

Sat, Oct 5

WESTPORT

After a wholesome Irish breakfast, travel to Westport. On the way, stop in Cong, an attractive village straddling the borders of County Galway and County Mayo. Cong was the filming location for the 1952 movie "The Quiet Man" with John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara. Continue towards Westport. Stop at the National Famine Memorial, located at the foot of Croagh Patrick. Take a moment at the bronze memorial that depicts a Famine Ship encompassing the magnitude of the suffering and loss endured by the people of Ireland during the famine. Across the street you can view the conical mountain of Croagh Patrick, which is a popular place of pilgrimage where people can climb to the summit. Next, spend some time exploring the attractive town of Westport, a heritage town with riverside walks, tree-lined promenades and lovely stone bridges, at your leisure. The design for the town was laid out in 1780 in the Georgian architectural style. This afternoon, take a tour around the stately Westport House, an 18th century home complete with its original contents including portraits, furniture, silver and porcelain. Learn about the many hidden secrets and stories of Westport House and explore the darkness of the dungeons buried beneath. Join your group for dinner at the hotel before exploring Westport's endless number of pubs. We suggest a visit to Matt Molloy's (of the Chieftains) for some live traditional music.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: CASTLECOURT HOTEL, WESTPORT

Sun, Oct 6

KNOCK SHRINE

Today, drive to the pilgrimage town of Knock to visit Knock Shrine, one of the world's leading shrines where the Virgin Mary appeared to 15 people on August 21, 1879. A guided walking tour will highlight the key points of interest throughout the Shrine grounds. Visit Knock Museum where you will discover the fascinating story of Knock - covering 140 years of history. Next, travel to Athlone, a town in the heart of Ireland's Midlands. On a drive around town, you'll see the medieval Athlone Castle and the Church of Saints Peter & Paul. Stop in Sean's Bar for a pint. This pub dates back to 900 AD and is the oldest in Europe, according to the Guinness Book of Records. Continue your journey into Enfield and check into the beautiful Johnstown Estate. Spend the balance of the afternoon free to relax or enjoy the amenities the Estate offers. This evening, join your group for a wonderful farewell dinner in Johnstown Estate's fine restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: JOHNSTOWN ESTATE, ENFIELD

Mon, Oct 7

DUBLIN-USA

You will be transferred to the Dublin Airport for your return trip home to Columbus. You'll arrive in plenty of time to check in, enjoy some last minute duty free shopping, and clear U.S. Customs & Immigration prior to departure.