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— TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO MEMORIES —

8 Day Ireland Golf & Culture What a Journey



Enjoy a trip around Ireland exploring some of the greatest golf courses not only in Ireland but in the world.

Dublin has long been a centre of art and culture. Stroll through the elegant Georgian streets of Merrion and Fitzwilliam Squares, shop in the elegant emporiums of Grafton Street and Powerscourt Townhouse, explore the collections of the National Museum and National Gallery, the Irish Museum of Modern Art, and many fine small private collections.

The range of art and artefacts is enormous, and you will have no problem spending many hours enthralled. The city is over a thousand years old, and many of the towns and settlements that surround it are equally ancient.

Successive centuries have left their distinctive overlays of character and architecture which means that Dublin has a wealth of historically significant and fascinating sights to explore such as Dublin Castle, where the Normans ruled from the 12th Century, St Patrick's Cathedral, of which Jonathan Swift was Dean, and Trinity College, famous for The Book of Kells and for its alumni who include Oscar Wilde and Oliver Goldsmith.

**CUSTOM ITINERARY – YOUR DATES – FLEXIBLE INCLUSIONS –
7-14 DAY ITINERARY**

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Day 1 Arrival Dublin: US - Dublin

Upon arrival in Dublin, meet your private professional VIP guide in the customs area where you will be escorted through customs and the airport to baggage claim, where you will meet your private Driver. He will transfer you to your hotel, The Shelbourne (TBD).

Upon arrival at the hotel, meet the concierge and enjoy a private VIP check-in. Your luggage will be taken and will be delivered to your accommodation. It will be waiting on your return.

Your Professional Local Guide will meet you and your driver in the lobby of the hotel to begin your walking tour of Dublin. Just the thing after a long flight to stretch out and get moving again.

This first half day will take you in the more central sites with the walking tour. Enjoy a 3-hour walking tour of Dublin, and discover the historic city's main sites, such as the bohemian Temple Bar district, and Dublin Castle. Immerse yourself in Irish history, and hear music and stories that make Ireland's capital city so unique. This is a leisurely tour and there will be several stops for breaks and refreshments.

You will enjoy Lunch in the city. Your guide will offer suggestions for dining in the area today.

After lunch you will be returned to the hotel, where you will be at leisure for the remainder of the day to relax in your room or enjoy your hotel. **Spa reservations can be made in advance if you want to rejuvenate with a massage, or other refreshing treatment.

Dinner is on your own this evening. See Celebration Escapes' Restaurant Collection for recommendations for dining in Dublin.

Day 2 Dublin: Dublin

Breakfast in your hotel. (included)

After breakfast, you will be met in the lobby this morning by your driver guide, who will transfer you to Portmarnock to play the fabulous Old Course.

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After your golf experience you will be returned to your hotel to freshen up. **Lunch is on your own.** See Celebration Escapes' Restaurant Collection for recommendations for dining in Dublin.

After lunch, you will meet your private driver and professional local guide in the lobby of your hotel to explore more of the city.

There are plenty of things to see & do in the Capital city. As a medieval city, most of the greatest attractions of Dublin city are to be found within easy distance of each other. However in the 18th century it became the second city of the British Empire and grew at an amazing rate. There are many attractions that are not within the central area. On this second day, you will head out and explore further sites and attractions to visit, such as:

- Guinness Storehouse
- Dublinia: Experience Viking and Medieval Dublin
- Kilmainham Gaol
- National Botanic Gardens
- Glasnevin Cemetery Museum

After your tour you will be returned to your hotel, where you will be at leisure for the remainder of the day to relax in your hotel or continue exploring on your own.

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Dinner is on your own this evening. See Celebration Escapes' Restaurant Collection for recommendations for dining in Dublin.

**Evening experiences can be arranged.

Day 3 Dublin: Dublin – Kinsale

Breakfast in your hotel. (included)

After breakfast, you will meet your private driver in the lobby of your hotel for a private transfer to Kinsale. En-route, you will be treated to some of Ireland's great sites and experiences as you make your way to Kinsale.



Your first stop is Kildare. Famous for its Japanese Gardens and The National Stud, home of the racing industry. You will have some time to explore and a short tour will be offered.

We make another stop at Emo Court, one of the finest neo-classical mansions in Ireland. While here you will be able to take a short tour of the mansion and walk through the grounds a little before heading on.

You will pass through the village of Abbeyleix, famed for Morrissey's bar, whose interior has not changed for over 100 years. Abbeyleix is also the village in which the carpets for the Titanic were manufactured. The gardens of the nearby Heywood House were designed by Luteyns, who also designed New Delhi. Your Driver guide will give you lots of details and show you the main sites here.

Visit the Rock of Cashel & enjoy lunch in Cashel town. Brother Hans and Stefan Matthia run Café Hans, a great little contemporary café. Bare-topped tables are laid café-style and a canny little menu offers just the kind of food that's needed during the day: colourful, sassy dishes including lots of salads - several versions of Caesar salad include a vegetarian one, and there's an irresistible house salad with pear Cashel Blue

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cheese (what else?) and Parma ham; open sandwiches come with home-made French fries.

Through the Golden Vale region of Ireland, famous for its butter, cheeses & dairy products. Visit to 16th Century Cahir Castle.

After your castle visit you will be on to the picturesque seaside town of Kinsale - Gourmet Capital of Ireland.

Upon arrival at Kinsale, you will go to your hotel, Perryville House. The concierge will meet you and you will enjoy a private VIP check-in. Your luggage will be delivered to your accommodation.

The remainder of the day is at leisure to relax in your hotel or explore a little on your own.

Dinner is on your own this evening. If you don't want to eat in the hotel, the concierge will offer suggestions for meals in town.

Day 4 Kinsale: **Kinsale**

Early Breakfast in your hotel. (included)

After breakfast, you will meet your private driver in the lobby of your hotel for your transfer to The Old Head Golf Course. An early start this morning to make your way to The Old Head Golf links.

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After you have returned to the hotel and refreshed, meet your private driver and professional local guide will meet you in the lobby of your hotel to take you onward on a tour of Kinsale.



Spend the rest of today enjoying the Gourmet Capital of Ireland – Kinsale. A visit to the Ballymaloe Cookery School with a tour of the water garden, orchard, meadow garden, & herb garden. There will be some tastings here to nibble on.

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The ethos here is simple – to spread the word on simple techniques, great ingredients that are home produced where possible and the style of cookery introduced by Myrtle Allen at Ballymaloe House all those years ago, long before Alice Waters opened Chez Panisse – slow food at its best.

Later take a tour of the Irish Whiskey distillery at Midleton, tasting is included after the tour.

Return to Kinsale via the English Market, a Victorian covered market, in Cork City for a **late lunch in the Market Café.**

Take a stroll around the town & then back to Kinsale.



This evening you will dine at Max's Restaurant. Run by a young couple, Olivier and Anne Marie Queva - the chef and restaurant manager respectively - Max's has a loyal following in the locality, and it's a happy find for visitors too. Olivier's seasonal menus change regularly and offer a pleasing balance of luxurious ingredients and the more homely; seafood from the pier is the main feature - langoustines and oysters (in

season), mussels, or black sole, less usual fish such as ling - with a balance of meats and poultry (roast rack of Irish lamb is a consistent favourite), and appealing vegetarian dishes offered too.

An informative wine list offers a range of house wines (available by the glass), an above average choice of half bottles and a range of aperitifs, dessert wines and ports. This is a lovely restaurant for an evening out.

Afterwards, you will be returned to your hotel where you will be at leisure for the remainder of the day.

Day 5 Kinsale: Kinsale – Ring of Kerry – Muckross Park

Breakfast in your hotel. (included)

After breakfast, check out of your hotel and meet your private driver in the lobby to continue your adventures in Ireland.

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Today we will Tour the infamous Ring of Kerry with overnight at Muckross Park.

The Ring of Kerry is a circular route around the Iveragh Peninsula. It is best to do it in an anti-clockwise direction - Killorglin, Glenbeigh, etc.

Killorglin situated on a hill overlooking the wide and graceful River Laune, a river offering salmon and trout angling. Dominating the landscape to the south are the MacGillycuddys Reeks. It is

the location of the famous "Puck Fair" festival.

The Bog Village is situated half way between Killorglin and Glenbeigh on the main Ring of Kerry route. It is a must for you to stop off and enjoy a step back in time to the early 18th century to recapture the way life would have been at that time. Peat, or turf as it is usually called in Ireland, is harvested from bogs and is still used as domestic fuel. The village is here to preserve the past for your enjoyment. This is a most worthwhile and historic visit to see the real Kerry life as it was, in the heart of Kerry's bogland.



Glenbeigh is a popular holiday base nestled at the foot of a well-wooded mountain and close to the head of Dingle Bay.

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It is dominated by the strange ruin of Wynn's Folly, or Hedley Towers, once home of the Winns, Barons Headley. The Title dated from 1797. Wynn's Folly was burnt down in 1922. The view from 'Wynn's Folly is superb, and provides a breathtaking view of the village and surrounds of Glenbeigh.

After Glenbeigh pass through Kells Bay where a local shepherd gives demonstrations of working sheep do. From Cahirciveen you can divert to Valentia Island. You will see The Slate Quarry, Glanleam Gardens and The Tetrapod Trackway –



In 1993 an undergraduate geology student (Iwan Stossel) made the discovery of a lifetime.

While examining rocks on the island's coast he came across a rock platform containing a set of ancient animal footprints.

The tracks have since been dated to almost 400 million years ago and are regarded as among the earliest footprints known to science, and certainly the oldest known footprints in Europe.

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Valentia is an island of unique scenic beauty, tropical vegetation, breathtaking cliffs and magnificent seascapes. The Skellig Experience is located here. This is where the story of the Skelligs is told. The themes include the monastic settlement, the lighthouse, the bird and underwater life.

Head on to Ballinskelligs via St Finans Bay. Look out for the Skelligs Chocolate Company – some of the best chocolates in Europe.



In Ballinskelligs is the Cill Rialaig Centre - once a deserted and almost forgotten pre-famine village of thatched stone cottages situated on the Bolus road near Ballinskelligs, it is now an international artists' retreat.

Day 6 Ring of Kerry: Muckross Park – The Burren - Adair

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Breakfast in your hotel. (included)

After breakfast, check out of your hotel and meet your private driver in the lobby to continue your adventures in Ireland.

Your first stop is the The Cliffs of Moher.



The Cliffs of Moher, - a sheer precipice 8 km long and rising to a height of 203m, one of the most impressive stretches of the coast in the West of Ireland, remarkable especially at nesting seasons for the quantity and variety of seabirds there. Lisdoonvarna is a spa town with an excellent salmon smoke house. September was, and still is, the peak month of the matchmaking season here and with the harvest safely in bachelor farmers flock to Lisdoonvarna in search of wives.

The Spa Well also continues to attract the crowds. The Doolin Craft Gallery as well as selling treasures from all around Ireland is also worth visiting for its scrumptious food and stunning gardens - a plantsman's paradise.

Lunch is on your own today en-route.

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You will then visit Lahinch Golf Course, famous for its impenetrable rough and its goats. After your golfing experience, you will visit a very special area of Ireland.



The Burren - Words simply cannot do justice to this eerie, peculiar 193-square mile area of ancient seabed that suffered glacial activity during its long history.

The Burren, is a bare lunar like landscape of a limestone plateau dotted with stone age forts and megalithic tombs.

In the narrow crevices that criss-cross this pavement flourish orchids, gentians and other rare flora, an amazing mix of arctic, alpine, temperate, and tropical vegetation growing side by side. Twenty-two varieties of orchids thrive here, nourished by underground rivers and rich soil.

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Today we see treeless meadows of limestone karst that forms natural pavement interspersed with lush flora.

Scholars of history can scour the Burren for tombs, chambers, and dolmens (two stones that support a horizontal slab), traces of Stone Age inhabitants.

To the north the Burren is bounded by Galway Bay with the fishing port of Ballyvaughan, a noted centre for oysters, while to the west the Aran Islands stand out against the broad expanse of the Atlantic Ocean.



Arrive at Adair Manor and check into your hotel. **Dinner is on your own at the hotel this evening.**

Day 7 Adair Manor: **Adair Manor**

Breakfast in your hotel. (included)

After breakfast, meet your private driver in the lobby of your hotel for a morning of golf. Today you have a choice for courses to play.

Option to Play Ballybunion or Adare Golf Course with overnight at Adare Manor.

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Ballybunion Golf Course: Hailed for its excellent links courses, Ballybunion is recognised for its fine development of the natural terrain. Ballybunion, lying directly on the spectacular North Kerry coast, between the Mouth of the Shannon and Kerry Head, offers the golfer an exciting round of golf and can hardly be surpassed with regard to its scenic beauty, the tranquillity of its surroundings, the excellent condition of the course and the variety of challenge presented by its 36 championship holes.



Adare Golf Course is certainly a dramatic golf course. It opened for play in 1995 and was designed Robert Trent Jones Snr. It's a classic Trent Jones design, stretching out a massive 7,453 yards from back tees to a more modest 5,082 yards from the forward tees.

The course bears all Trent Jones's hallmarks - cloverleaf bunkers, American-styled mounding, and lots of water. The result is extremely exciting and challenging,

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additionally there are plenty of natural features and hazards, including the stately trees and the River Maigue, which meanders nonchalantly through the course.

Lunch is on your own today.



Snuggled in a wooden and lush countryside setting, Adare Village is widely regarded as being Ireland's prettiest and most picturesque village. Situated on the river Maigue, a tributary of the Shannon river, Adare (Gaelic name: "Ath Dara" - the "ford of the oak" - from the combination of water and woodland) dates back, at least, to the early 13th century.

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The bridge by which you enter the village, in the shadow of the ruined Desmond Castle, was built in 1329.

Two groups of world famous ornate, thatched cottages line part off the village's broad main street, punctuated with beautiful stone buildings, medieval monasteries and ruins.

Dinner is on your own tonight in the Village or at Adair Manor.



Day 8 Adair Manor: **Adair Manor - Dublin**

Breakfast in your hotel. (included)

After breakfast, meet your private driver in the lobby of your hotel for your transfer to Dublin Airport to meet your International flight for the US

& Home.

End of Services.

Ready to plan your journey? Contact us today ! 678-500-9548

Schedule Your Creative Planning Session Now!