

IRISH PUB & FOLK TOUR

September 3 - 11, 2010

Air & Land Price: \$2403.00 per person sharing twin room

Single Room Supplement: \$428.00

Airline Departure Taxes: \$285.00 *subject to change until paid in full and ticketed*

Travel Protection Plan (optional but highly recommended): \$159 per person

Tour Includes:

- Group transfers on arrival and departure
- Sightseeing by luxury coach throughout
- Dublin open-top bus tour
- Visit and a drink at Guinness Storehouse
- Services of a professional Irish driver/guide
- First class hotels with private bath/shower for 7 nights
- 7 full Irish breakfasts (B)
- 6 dinners (D) including
 - Food, Folk and Fairies dinner/show at the Brazen Head Pub
 - 5 table d'hote dinners
- Welcome get-together drink
- Tour of Dublin with a local guide
- Tour and tasting at the Old Jameson Distillery
- Sheepdog trials on Ring of Kerry
- Foynes Flying Boat Museum and an Irish Coffee
- Catamaran cruise of Killary Fjord (Mar 26 – Oct 22 departures)
- Visits and admissions to Irish National Stud & Japanese Gardens, Blarney Castle, Blarney Woollen Mills, Essence of Kerry AV show, Skellig Experience and Cliffs of Moher
- Deluxe flight bag, ticket wallet, luggage tags & strap
- All local taxes, hotel service charges & portorage for one suitcase per person

For more information

Bridgette Scanlan

Jean Melcher Travel

239-498-4298.

jean@jeanmelchertravel.com www.jeanmelchertravel.com

OUTLINE ITINERARY

Day 1 – Fri: Depart U.S. for Dublin

Board your aircraft for an overnight trip across the Atlantic. Enjoy inflight entertainment and meals.

Day 2 – Sat: Dublin Tour & Old Jameson Distillery

Land at Dublin Airport early this morning. After customs formalities and luggage reclamation, head to the CIE Tours desk in the Arrivals Hall to arrange a group transfer to your hotel between 7:00 am and 12:00 noon. Passengers arriving later will transfer to the hotel at their own expense. In the afternoon get together with a Dublin guide to tour Dublin city center to see elegant Georgian squares with the famous colorful doorways and the peaceful St. Stephen's Green. Cross the River Liffey to O'Connell Street and view the General Post Office where the 1916 Rebellion started and pause to view the somber figures of the Famine Memorial. Visit the Old Jameson Distillery to learn about the many stages involved to create a smooth whiskey and, at the end of your tour, try one for yourself. Back at your hotel enjoy a welcome drink and discuss your itinerary with your tour group and guide. You are free for dinner and Ryan's of Parkgate Street, a traditional Victorian pub, is close to your hotel with a full restaurant and informal pub grub.

Day 3 – Sun: National Stud & Medieval Kilkenny

Depart Dublin and stop in Kildare to visit the Irish National Stud. Horseracing is a passion for the Irish and you will see some of the finest stallions and learn about breeding. Walk through the charming Japanese Gardens, created to symbolize life from birth to death. Arrive in Kilkenny and check in to your centrally-located hotel. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure – Kilkenny is a fun place to explore on your own. You may like to tour Kilkenny Castle, first built in 1192 and constantly added to and changed until the 19th century. You may visit the Kilkenny Design Workshop near the castle or Kyteler's Inn, a tavern established in 1324 and reputedly owned by a witch. (B, D)

Day 4 – Mon: Blarney Castle & Killarney

Stop for photos at the Rock of Cashel, a magnificent limestone outcrop high above the surrounding countryside before continuing south to Blarney, just outside Cork. Visit Blarney Castle and climb to the ramparts to kiss the well-known "Stone of Eloquence." Enjoy some time for shopping at the Blarney Woollen Mills or take a break in the pub hidden between the shops! Travel through County Cork to Macroom and stop for a brief look at the imposing castle, which was the boyhood home of William Penn. Continue your drive to Killarney and check in to your hotel in the center of the town. In the evening you may like to explore some of the cozy pubs where traditional Irish music is played. (B, D)

Your Hotels

Stay at the following (or similar):
 Ashling Hotel, Dublin (1 night)
 Hibernian Hotel, Kilkenny (1 night)
 International Hotel, Killarney (2 nights)
 Harbour Hotel, Galway (2 nights)
 Jurys Christchurch Inn, Dublin (1 night)

Day 5 – Tue: Ring of Kerry Tour

Explore County Kerry's popular scenic region with Ireland's highest mountains on one side and a varied Atlantic coastline on the other. As you drive, every turn will reveal new vistas of mountains, cliffs and beaches and there will be plenty of photo stops. Stop at Kells to meet a local farmer, Brendan Ferris, for a taste of farm life with a sheepdog demonstration of herding flocks and see different breeds of sheep. Cross to Valencia Island by bridge to visit the Skellig Experience. Learn about early Christian monks who braved a harsh existence on the rocky offshore islands. Continue your trip through the remote villages of Cahirciveen and Waterville at the western end of the peninsula. Stop in the colorful village of Sneem and pause at Moll's Gap for a look at the Lakes of Killarney. (B, D)

Day 6 – Wed: Irish Coffee & Cliffs of Moher

Drive north through Listowel and along by the River Shannon to Foynes to visit the Flying Boat Museum, which recalls the early days of air travel, during the 1930's and early 1940's, when Pan Am Clippers from the United States and Europe landed here. Irish Coffee was first created here to warm frozen, weary travelers and you will learn how to make a perfect one and then savor it. Travel through the outskirts of Limerick and have a look around Bunratty Village before viewing the Cliffs of Moher that rise to heights of almost 700 feet above the churning Atlantic swells. Continue through the Burren and around the shores of Galway Bay to Galway. Check in to your hotel, which is near all the shops, cafés and pubs in Shop and Quay Streets. (B, D)

Day 7 – Thu: Clifden & Killary Fjord Cruise

Today's route takes you through the heart of Connemara and along the Inagh Valley to see the granite hills of the Twelve Bens and sparkling lakes on the way to Leenane. Embark on a short cruise of Killary Harbour, a 9-mile fjord (Mar 26 – Oct 22 departures) to enjoy views of hills where traces of pre-Famine "lazy beds" of potato ridges can still be seen. Keep an eye out for seabirds as you pass mussel and salmon farms. Rejoin your coach and drive south to the town of Clifden, known as the "Capital of the West." Stop for a look around the shops and pubs before heading back to Galway for dinner and a second overnight stay. (B, D)

Day 8 – Fri: Guinness & 12th Century Brazen Head Pub

This morning travel from the west coast back to Dublin on the east coast and check in to a different city-center hotel, close to the lively Temple Bar area. The afternoon is free for you to use your open-top bus voucher to take you all around the city center. Use your voucher to go to the Guinness Storehouse and explore the many levels, ending in the rooftop bar for a view over the city while you sip a creamy pint of stout. Head out for a great evening to end your Irish vacation. The Brazen Head Pub is Dublin's oldest, dating back to 1198 and is one of Dublin's best live music venues. Enjoy an evening of "Food, Folk and Fairies" where you'll learn about life in Ireland in times past through a varied program of song and stories. (B, D)

Day 9 – Sat: Dublin to U.S.

Complimentary group transfers are provided to Dublin Airport to arrive at 6:00 am, 9:00 am or 12:00 noon. After check-in, you'll have time to shop at the duty-free stores before U.S. Immigration pre-clearance and boarding your flight for the journey home. (B)

For more information

Bridgette Scanlan

Jean Melcher Travel

239-498-4298.

jean@jeanmelchertravel.com www.jeanmelchertravel.com

Name(s) of passenger(s) *Must match passport(s)* _____ Number of Passengers _____

_____ Type of Room Twin Sin- gle

I (we) wish to purchase the Optional Travel Protection Plan YES NO
 Premium of \$159 per person must be included with deposit

I am enclosing a deposit check for \$ _____
 \$200 per person + \$159 per person for the Travel Protection Plan if purchased

Street Address: _____

I am paying via credit card. Please charge \$ _____ to this card:

City/State/ Zip: _____

Visa Mastercard American Express Discover

Daytime Phone: _____

Name on Card _____

Evening Phone: _____

Card # _____

Email: _____

Exp Date _____ / _____ Security Code _____

This tour is subject to CIE Tours' booking guidelines and cancellation penalties. Refer to General Conditions on website (cietours.com) or back cover of current brochure.