

## 11-Day Historical Tour of Ireland

### *An Immersive Small Group Journey Across Ireland's Inspiring Landscapes & Historic Cities*

**Start & End:** Dublin

**Duration:** 11 Days / 10 Nights

**Accommodation:** Exceptional Boutique Hotels with Scenic Settings

**Group Size:** Small & Personal (Maximum 16 Guests)

**Includes:** Knowledgeable Local Guides | Premium Transport | Daily Breakfast | Entry to Key Sites

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#### **Day 1: Welcome to Ireland – Dublin to Belfast**

Your adventure begins with a warm welcome in Dublin, where your experienced guide introduces you to the group. Travel northwards in comfort as the landscape unfolds into the dramatic coastlines and rolling hills of Northern Ireland.

Upon arrival in Belfast, take a guided tour of this dynamic and evolving city, steeped in industrial heritage and political history. Visit the extraordinary Titanic Belfast Museum, located on the very slipways where the iconic ship was built. Later, stroll through the vibrant Cathedral Quarter or enjoy a traditional Irish pub dinner.

##### **Highlights:**

- Scenic drive from Dublin to Belfast
  - Guided city tour of Belfast
  - Visit to Titanic Belfast
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#### **Day 2: The Antrim Coast – Giants, Castles & Sea Cliffs**

Today, we follow the Antrim Coast, a route regarded among the most beautiful drives in the world. Walk along the surreal Giant's Causeway, a UNESCO World Heritage site famed for its hexagonal basalt columns and legendary tales.

Continue to Dunluce Castle, dramatically perched above the sea, and enjoy the coastal scenery stretching toward the Scottish Isles

##### **Highlights:**

- Giant's Causeway exploration
  - Dunluce Castle visit
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### **Day 3: Into Donegal – Wild Landscapes & Celtic Spirit**

Cross the border back into the Republic of Ireland and enter County Donegal, a region defined by its rugged mountains, deep glens, and Atlantic drama. Drive through the spectacular Glenveagh National Park, stopping to admire its remote beauty and perhaps visit Glenveagh Castle. Then enjoy a catch up with a local Storyteller.

Enjoy the untamed charm of Donegal town, where traditional Irish crafts, seafood, and warm hospitality await.

#### **Highlights:**

- Scenic drive through Glenveagh National Park
  - Hear legends from a local Storyteller
  - Free time in Donegal town
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### **Day 4: Donegal to Westport – Atlantic Views & Cultural Heartlands**

Travel south along a wild and often overlooked section of the Atlantic coast. Stop in Sligo, the resting place of poet W. B. Yeats, and take in views of Benbulbin, Ireland's own table mountain.

Continue to Westport, a Georgian town full of charm and culture, set against the backdrop of Croagh Patrick, Ireland's holy mountain. A delightful place for music, craft shopping, and riverside walks.

#### **Highlights:**

- Benbulbin & Sligo Bay
  - Visit to Yeats' Grave at Drumcliffe
  - Guided walk in Westport
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### **Day 5: Connemara – Mountains, Lakes & Timeless Ireland**

Today, explore Connemara, often described as the most authentically Irish part of the country. Its moody mountains, mirrored lakes, and endless stone walls make for an unforgettable day of discovery.

Visit the fairytale-like Kylemore Abbey, nestled at the foot of a mountain on a tranquil lake.

**Highlights:**

- Guided visit to Kylemore Abbey
  - Connemara National Park drive
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**Day 6: To Galway – Music, Markets & Coastal Charm**

Make your way to Galway, a lively city that pulses with music, creativity, and youth. Upon arrival, your guide will lead a short walking tour through the Latin Quarter, Eyre Square, and the bustling Spanish Arch.

Spend the afternoon at your leisure — browse local boutiques, sample artisanal food, or simply soak in the city's vibrant atmosphere.

**Highlights:**

- Free time to explore shops and pubs
  - Traditional music in the evening (optional)
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**Day 7: The Burren & Cliffs of Moher – Otherworldly Beauty**

Depart Galway and journey through the Burren, a surreal limestone landscape dotted with ancient ruins and rare wildflowers.

Visit the awe-inspiring Cliffs of Moher, towering 700 feet above the Atlantic. Enjoy panoramic ocean views and, on a clear day, you might even spot the Aran Islands on the horizon. Continue to the coastal village of Doolin, known for its traditional music and windswept charm.

**Highlights:**

- The Burren National Park
  - Cliffs of Moher experience
  - Visit to Doolin village
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**Day 8: Doolin to Dingle – Ferries, Folklore & Ocean Roads**

This morning, take a scenic ferry across the Shannon Estuary, keeping an eye out for dolphins along the way.

Continue along the dramatic coastline of County Kerry, with optional photo stops and hidden gems en route. Arrive in Dingle, a Gaeltacht (Irish-speaking) town rich in culture, colour, and character.

**Highlights:**

- Ferry across the Shannon Estuary
  - Wild Atlantic Way coastal drive
  - Free time in Dingle town
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**Day 9: The Dingle Peninsula – Cinematic Beauty & Ancient Sites**

Explore the spectacular Slea Head Drive, a circular route offering some of the most breathtaking views in all of Ireland. Visit prehistoric sites, windswept beaches, and film locations from *Star Wars*. Pause for a walk along the golden strand at Coumeenole Beach.

**Highlights:**

- Slea Head Drive scenic tour
  - Coumeenole Beach
  - Blasket Island viewpoints
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**Day 10: South to Kinsale via the Ring of Kerry**

Embark on a journey through beautiful Kerry, showcasing Ireland's wild and romantic side. Stop in Killarney National Park, with time to explore Muckross House & Gardens or take a walk near the lakes.

Arrive in Kinsale, a colourful harbour town renowned for its gourmet cuisine and maritime history. Ideal for a relaxed evening of food and sea air.

**Highlights:**

- Drive through the Ring of Kerry
  - Visit to Killarney National Park
  - Leisure time in Kinsale
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## Day 11: Return to Dublin – Ancient Ireland & Farewell

Begin your journey back to Dublin with a stop at The Rock of Cashel, one of Ireland's most iconic and historic landmarks, perched high on a limestone hill.

Later, visit Clonmacnoise, a tranquil early Christian monastic site on the banks of the River Shannon, renowned for its ancient round towers and high crosses. Arrive in Dublin by late afternoon, with heartfelt farewells and lasting memories.

### Highlights:

- Rock of Cashel visit
  - Clonmacnoise Monastic Site
  - Return to Dublin by late afternoon
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### Why Choose Us?

- **Small Groups, Big Experiences** – Travel in comfort with no more than 16 guests
  - **Expert Guides** – Engaging, informed, and passionate about Ireland
  - **Handpicked Hotels** – Exceptional comfort with memorable settings
  - **Curated Itinerary** – A perfect blend of iconic highlights and hidden gems
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### Tour Includes:

- 10 nights in premium, hand-selected accommodation
- Daily breakfast
- All ground transport in a luxury Mercedes bus
- Entry to key sites and monuments
- Professional Irish driver-guide throughout

### Tour Excludes:

- Flights to/from Ireland
- Lunches and dinners (except select optional group meals)
- Optional excursions or activities