Northwestern | ALUMNI



Duration
11 days

Activity Level
Moderate

Journey Type
Land

Riches of the Emerald Isle

September 5-16, 2027

Ennis, Killarney, Dublin & Beyond | Starting from $6,545/pp

From storytelling and traditional sheepherding to thrilling Dublin, experience the best of Irish culture, traditions and food on this heartwarming, 10-night adventure featuring stays in Ennis, Killarney and Dublin. Soak up history at the Dingle Peninsula and admire the breathtaking Cliffs of Moher . A journey to the unspoiled Aran Island of Inishmore offers a special treat while thoughtfully curated experiences — such as a whiskey tasting and an evening of Irish music — will add to your journey. Plus, experience Killarney National Park by horse-drawn carriage and boat! Cap it all off in Dublin , brimming with dynamic energy and culinary heritage.





Day-by-Day Itinerary

Riches of the Emerald Isle

Ennis, Killarney, Dublin & Beyond

Air Program: 12 days/ 11 nights (includes 1 air night)

Land Program: 11 days/ 10 nights

Breakfasts: 10 | Lunches: 5 | Dinners: 4 | Receptions: 2

B | L | R | D denotes included breakfasts, lunches, receptions and dinners.

A special note about air: If you have purchased only the Land Program, please book flights that arrive on Day 2, the first day of the Land Program. The date is listed at the top of your Reservation Confirmation.

This itinerary is subject to change due to operational conditions.

Activity Level ratings indicate each excursion's physical expectations. To make the best personal choice, please evaluate each excursion's rating and your ability to meet the tour's physical demands. Excursions on this program require: walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths or uneven surfaces; and getting on/off motor coaches and boats.

- Mild – Walk under 1 mile on mainly flat terrain; navigate under 50 stairs; stand under 1 hour
- Moderate – Walk 1–3 miles on flat/uneven terrain; navigate 50–100 stairs; stand 1–2 hours
- Active – Walk 2+ miles on flat/uneven terrain, including up and down inclines; navigate 100+ stairs; stand 3+ hours

Depending on the excursion, more leisurely alternatives may be available.

Day 1 | Depart gateway city

AHI FlexAir passengers depart for Shannon, Republic of Ireland. Please check your luggage from your gateway city to your arrival city. Your claim checks should have the following airport code: SNN.

Day 2 | Shannon, Republic of Ireland | Ennis

Old Ground Hotel

R | D

Arrive at Shannon International Airport. Proceed through immigration to the baggage claim area and retrieve your luggage. After completing customs, AHI FlexAir passengers traveling on flights that qualify for the group arrival transfer and Land Program passengers who have purchased seats on the group transfer should exit the baggage claim area and proceed to the designated meeting spot, where an AHI Travel representative will meet you. The meeting location will be provided with your final documents.

Transfer to Ennis and check in to the Old Ground Hotel. Please note, if you arrive before check-in time, your room may not be immediately available.

Ennis Walking Tour. Founded in the 11th century, this lively market town has a historic yet cosmopolitan character. Discover its unique charms as you wander along winding lanes and cross over the River Fergus that flows through the middle of town. From tales of banshees to the famous local witch, hear how this area is steeped in legend and folklore. You'll also learn how some of Ireland's most influential political figures were connected to Ennis. (Moderate)

At the hotel this evening, gather for a Welcome Reception and Dinner, followed by a spirited performance by local musicians and dancers.

Day 3 | Ennis | Cliffs of Moher & Burren

Old Ground Hotel

B | L | D

Each day of your journey begins with a hearty breakfast buffet at the hotel.

Enrichment: Irish Seanchaí. Seanchaí, Ireland's venerable storytellers, were the bearers of old Celtic lore and the caretakers of this oral tradition. Listen as Eddie Lenihan, Ireland's premier folklorist/seanchaí, relates stories and tales in the time-honored style. An author, storyteller, lecturer and broadcaster, Lenihan has been described as a "national treasure" and is well known for his tales of folk heroes, mythology and the supernatural.

The Cliffs of Moher & The Burren. Together designated as a UNESCO Global Geopark, these natural wonders sit on Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way, a stunning coastline of cliffs, sea caves and inlets. Marvel at sweeping views of the majestic Cliffs of Moher that rise 700 feet above the Atlantic Ocean and hear the waves crashing below. After a pub lunch in the area, continue to Poulnabrone Dolmen, Ireland's most photographed portal tomb, dating from 2,500-2,000 B.C., that rests on the stark limestone pavement. Next, appreciate the arresting landscape of the Burren, a rocky plateau of karstic limestone formations. Take in an audio/visual presentation at the Burren Centre and see the famous high crosses at Kilfenora Cathedral. Then, take an exclusive guided walk with local expert Tony Kirby through the Burren, a fascinating experience rich with geological, archaeological and botanical insights. (Moderate)

Join your group for dinner this evening at the hotel.

Day 4 | Ennis

Old Ground Hotel

B

Free Time: The entire day in Ennis is yours! Craft your own agenda around town or in the surrounding area. Your Travel Director can offer suggestions on sightseeing, dining and shopping options.

Day 5 | Inishmore | Ennis

Old Ground Hotel

B | L

Aran Island of Inishmore (Inis Mór). From Ennis, take a scenic drive and then board a ferry to sail across Galway Bay to Inishmore, the largest of the Aran Islands. As you explore on a minibus, listen as your local guide tells entertaining stories about life on this picturesque island, where Gaelic is the first language. Like the Burren, the Aran Islands' striking karst landscape is created by limestone. People have lived here since approximately 3,000 B.C., and Stone Age monuments can still be seen. The area is also famous for stone forts, which date from the Bronze Age. See the most famous, Dun Aengus (Dún Aonghasa). If you'd like to take the more active walk up to the fort, admire the spectacular view of the Atlantic Ocean from its clifftop location. While in the area, pause for lunch with the group before your return ferry. (Moderate)

AHI Connects | Music in Doolin. Soulful Irish music is beloved around the world. In Ireland, the village of Doolin is synonymous with music because of the number of musicians who live in the area. Visit the home of a local musician and listen to traditional songs and musical lore while sipping a glass of wine.

Free Time: Make your own plans this evening.

Day 6 | Killarney

Aghadoe Heights Hotel & Spa

B | L | D

Check out of the hotel this morning and travel to Killarney, where you'll pause for lunch in town.

Killarney National Park. Set on the Ring of Kerry, this tranquil oasis of oak woodlands and shimmering lakes is Ireland's first national park, encompassing more than 25,000 acres and part of the Kerry UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Ramble through the park on a leisurely ride in a traditional, horse-drawn carriage called a jaunting car. These two- or four-wheeled horse-drawn carts were built as a mode of

personal travel in the 1800s to the mid-20th century. Your jarvey, or driver, will share local lore and history as you make your way to see the 15th-century Ross Castle. Next, glide aboard a cruiser across the serene Lakes of Killarney, the park's three connected lakes. (Moderate)

Return to Killarney and check in to your hotel, where you'll dine tonight with your fellow travelers.

Day 7 | Ring of Kerry

Aghadoe Heights Hotel & Spa

B | L

Ring of Kerry. Located on the Iveragh Peninsula in a pastoral region of Ireland seemingly untouched by time, the circular drive of the Ring of Kerry is among the most beautiful coastal drives in the world. Meet a local shepherd who will demonstrate, with the help of loyal border collies, how to move sheep around a pasture. Afterward, there will be time to ask questions about the dogs and the flock. Stop for lunch in Waterville and relish the wonderful views of the Atlantic Ocean as you dine. Next, drive through the villages of Caherdaniel and Sneem to the scenic vantage points of Windy Gap and Ladies View. (Moderate)

Free Time: Back in Killarney later today, enjoy dinner on your own.

Day 8 | Dingle Peninsula | Dingle | Killarney

Aghadoe Heights Hotel & Spa

B

Dingle Peninsula. Following breakfast, depart for the captivating Dingle Peninsula. Visit the Blasket Centre, a museum that honors the rich heritage of the people who lived on the remote Blasket Islands until the mid-1900s and the extraordinary literary legacy that they left behind. Learn about the islands' history, the everyday activities of the residents and the challenges that the islanders faced. Browse interactive displays, exhibitions and audiovisual presentations. (Moderate)

Free Time: Travel to the colorful town of Dingle, and make lunch plans of your own. Explore its pubs, craft galleries, bookstores and other shops.

Afterward, return to the hotel in Killarney.

Whiskey Tasting. Taste the unique flavors of local whiskeys paired with appetizers, and learn about Irish whiskey production. The rules of Irish whiskey production originated in the 1880s, and all Irish whiskey must be aged in barrels for a minimum of three years.

Day 9 | Kildare | Dublin

Iveagh Garden Hotel

B | L

After breakfast today, check out and head toward Dublin through rolling emerald-green hills, and stop for photos in the charming village of Adare.

Irish National Stud & Gardens. Enjoy a visit at this unique attraction noted for its racehorse breeding program and lovely Japanese Gardens. Begin with a delicious lunch, then take a guided tour. The central goal of the facility is to breed champion Irish thoroughbreds. Admire these graceful horses, especially the frisky foals! Meander afterward in the serene gardens, which were established in the early 1900s.

Arrive in Dublin and check in to the hotel.

Free Time: Spend the evening at leisure. Choose from Dublin's many restaurants, or consult your Travel Director for recommendations and assistance with reservations.

Day 10 | Dublin

Iveagh Garden Hotel

B

Enrichment: Irish Literature. Ireland has produced four Nobel Prize winners in Literature, and Dublin is a UNESCO City of Literature. Learn about the key figures who have shaped Dublin's literary heritage.

Dublin Walking Tour . In this bustling and vibrant city, medieval, Georgian and Victorian architecture and lush gardens intertwine to form a captivating atmosphere. Visit historic Trinity College and see the famous hand-illuminated Book of Kells, created by monks in the ninth century. Stroll past St. Patrick's Cathedral, named for the patron saint of Ireland, and the fashionable shops and boutiques of Grafton Street. (Moderate)

Free Time: Spend the afternoon at leisure in Dublin. Rich with cafés, art galleries, museums, parks and gardens, Dublin offers something for everyone. For a taste of local life, sip a pint of Guinness at a pub and relish the "craic," Irish for "a good time." Later, dive into Dublin's diverse food culture tonight for dinner on your own. You can find Michelin-starred restaurants, fish and chips, and simple cafes.

Day 11 | Dublin

Iveagh Garden Hotel

B | R | D

Dublin Food Tour. On a culinary walking tour, sample quintessential Irish flavors and taste local finger foods as you make your way through Dublin's thriving food scene. (Moderate)

Free Time: Pursue your own interests in Dublin this afternoon.

At this evening's Farewell Reception and Dinner at the hotel, raise your glass and toast "Sláinte" to your fellow travelers as you celebrate your Riches of the Emerald Isle adventure!

Day 12 | Depart for gateway city

B

After breakfast, AHI FlexAir passengers traveling on flights that qualify for a group transfer and Land Program passengers who have purchased seats on the group transfer depart for Dublin Airport for your return flights home. Your Travel Director will provide the details.





What's Included

Program Overview

- Small group: Sized just right at 28 guests.
- 4 nights in Ennis, Republic of Ireland, at the first-class Old Ground Hotel.
- 3 nights in Killarney at the deluxe Aghadoe Heights Hotel & Spa.
- 3 nights in Dublin at the first-class Iveagh Garden Hotel.
- AHI Connects: Local immersion.
- AHI Sustainability Promise: We strive to make a positive, purposeful impact in the communities we visit.
- Complimentary travel mementos.

Meal Program

- 10 breakfasts, 5 lunches and 4 dinners.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions and Dinners to mingle with fellow travelers.
- Tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

On-site Features

- Deluxe motor coach transfers during the Land Program with baggage handling.
- Enrichment by expert speakers enhances your insight into the region.
- Engaging excursions showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- Free time to pursue your individual interests.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.





FlexAir Travel Program

Need assistance booking your travel arrangements? Our experts are here to help. Our air program offers the following benefits.

Trip Transportation

- Assistance in the event of schedule changes or delays
- Arrival and departure transfers on group dates

Price Guarantee

- Price guarantee to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase

Travel and Hotel Accommodations

Old Ground Hotel

This former manor house blends the warmth of a country home with the style of a luxury hotel. Located in the heart of Ennis, it's convenient to area attractions such as the Cliffs of Moher. Gather in the front courtyard to observe the local bustle or chat with travel companions. The hotel features a Residents Library and three dining areas, including a traditional Irish pub. Wi-Fi is complimentary.



Tripadvisor

Aghadoe Heights Hotel & Spa

Indulge in the beautiful Irish landscape at this 75-suite resort overlooking the Lakes of Killarney. Located near the stunning MacGillycuddy's Reeks Mountain range, the property offers a tranquil escape and Irish luxury. Enjoy local cuisine at the two onsite restaurants and tasty cocktails and afternoon tea at The Heights Lounge and Piano Bar. Relax in your spacious room with inviting views. During your free time, treat yourself to rejuvenating wellness treatment at the award-winning spa, a stand-alone complex with an indoor pool and fitness center.



Iveagh Garden Hotel

Feel a part of the lively Dublin scene at this elegant hotel steps from the verdant Iveagh Gardens in the heart of the city center. Its prime location puts you close to Dublin's best spots, including St. Stephen's Green and bustling Grafton Street, the pedestrian shopping area. Enjoy welcoming, attentive service from the professional staff and tastefully decorated public spaces. Unwind at Elle's Bar & Bistro in the chic, cozy bar area or on the lovely terrace. The inviting, comfortable guest rooms feature convenient amenities including complimentary Wi-Fi.

Pricing

$500 Full Payment Discount expires April 8, 2027
$250 Special Savings expires January 18, 2027

Trip Price (USD)

Base Price	**$6,545**
Special Savings (Expires January 18, 2027)	**-$250**
Full Payment Discount *	**-$500**
Special Price	**$5,795**
You Pay	**$5,795 per person**

Package rates are per person based on Double occupancy from Land Only. Prices include all service charges; port charges when applicable; U.S. government taxes and fees. The minimum deposit is $1000.00 per person. To view Program Terms and conditions please click here. Some airlines may impose additional charges if you choose to check any baggage. Please contact your airline or refer to its website for detailed information regarding your airline's checked baggage policies.

*Full Payment Discounts are only available at the time of booking with initial payment 150+ days prior to departure. This offer only applies to full payment at the time of reservation. Details on how to qualify for this savings will be included when your reservation request is confirmed.


NORTHERN IRELAND
Atlantic Ocean
Irish Sea
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND
Dublin
Aran Islands
Cliffs of Moher
Ennis
Shannon
Listowel
Dingle Peninsula
Killarney
Celtic Sea
Ring of Kerry



