



Dublin and Dingle, Ireland

June 13 - 22, 2018

The trip begins in Dublin with our City Days and ends after our Dingle Hiking Days when I get you to Shannon Airport. Following our 3 days in Dublin we will take a regional train to Tralee (4.5 hrs) where we will be met by a van for transport to Dingle. After the minimum of 10 reservations is reached, we will advise you to make your air travel reservations.

Trip Start: June 13, 2018 – Belvedere Hotel lobby in Dublin, Ireland 2:00PM

Trip Finish: June 22, 2018 – Shannon Airport – 9:30AM

Trip Length: 10 days, 9 nights

Trip Cost: \$2900 per person sharing a room
\$3,200 for a single room

(Trip cost does not include airfare, Dublin-Belvedere Hotel nights, meals indicated as on your own, beverages and tips.)

Day by Day Overview—Dublin City Days

Wednesday, June 13 – Meet in the Belvedere Hotel lobby at 2:00PM for a 3 to 4 hour walking tour of Dublin's sights including Trinity College, Grafton Street, Georgian quarter, Dublin Castle, Temple Bar.

<http://www.belvederehoteldublin.com/>

➤ Lunch and Dinner on your own

Thursday, June 14 – In the morning drive to Howth, a small fishing village north of Dublin for a 2 to 3 hour walk along the scenic Irish Sea coast. In the evening we will have dinner together at the Brazen Head, Ireland's oldest pub, while listening to some Irish folklore and music

➤ Lunch on your own. Dinner together.

Friday, June 15 – In the morning drive north to the Boyne Valley to visit Newgrange, a fascinating 5000 year old Passage Tomb.

➤ Lunch and dinner on your own.

Day by Day Overview—Dingle Hiking Days

Saturday, June 16 – We'll take a regional train from Dublin to Tralee (4.5 hours) where we will be met by a van for transport to Dingle (1 hour). We'll check in to our hotel in the late afternoon.

- Lodging: Greenmount House- <http://www.greenmounthouse.ie/>
- Dinner together.

Sunday, June 17 - Dunquin Wild Atlantic Way Walk - This is a lovely walk featuring a combination of coastal cliff walking and some old bog roads through the parish of Dun Chaoin, Ireland's most westerly parish and the heart of the west Kerry Gaeltacht. Expect lots of big skies and Atlantic and Blasket Island views. We will visit the fascinating Blasket Museum - recording the history of the Great Blasket Island, its residents, and their evacuation for good in 1954.

Distance: 6 miles; Elevation gain: 600'.

- Packed lunch; Dinner together.

Monday, June 18- Loch an Duin Bronze age Valley- This walk back in time is a wonderful combination of Bronze Age archaeology and beautiful nature as we explore the valley of the fortified lake. This valley now deserted and covered in bog contains dwellings, rock art, burial tombs and pre bog field walls from over three thousand years ago. And there is also the waterfall of course! Some rough ground, no major ascents.

Distance: 6-7 miles; Elevation gain: 600'.

- Packed lunch; Dinner on your own.

Tuesday, June 19 - Today is officially a "free day". There will be an option of a morning town walk. You're free in the afternoon to explore the town of Dingle.

- Lunch and Dinner on your own

Wednesday, June 20 - Cosan na Naomh - Following the old pilgrim path from Ventry beach to Gallarus Oratory. Dating back 1200 years the Gallarus Oratory, this small dry stone structure, is said to be the best preserved Christian Church in Ireland. The Pilgrims path is 17.7km long. We will walk approximately 10km, along quiet country roads, bothaireens (small roads) and farmland. This route is rich in archaeology from the early Christian period (5th - 12th century).

Distance: 6-7 miles; Elevation gain: 500'.

- Packed lunch; Dinner together.

Thursday, June 21 - We travel today to the western tip of the Dingle Peninsula to walk at Ballydavid Head, for one of the best walks in Kerry. We climb gently through moorland grass to reach a fine vantage point with expansive views of the surrounding hills, fields, mountains, sea and cliffs. This area could be described as a "photographer's paradise". We will take our time to take pictures, relax, and enjoy the views.

Distance 6 - 7 miles; Elevation gain 400'.

- Packed lunch; Dinner together

Friday, June 22 -

After a light breakfast we will have an early departure for Shannon Airport to arrive there by 9:30AM.

Total Drive Time 2 hrs 50 mins

Please Note: The above schedule is subject to change due to weather or other circumstances beyond our control.

Flight and Airport Info

Getting to Dublin: Fly from the U.S. to Dublin, take the Dublin Bus Airlink Express (#747) from Dublin airport to O'Connell Street/Parnell Square and walk 10 minutes to Belvedere Hotel (Great Denmark Street). After the Dublin city tour we will take a train from Dublin to Tralee and then a van on to Dingle to start the walking tour.

American Airlines and Aer Lingus offer flights into Dublin and out of Shannon. Notice that you are flying into Dublin and out of Shannon..

Meals

Packed lunches will be provided on our hiking days and dinners as indicated on the itinerary.

Weather: Mild spring weather with some rain/wind likely.

Helpful Websites:

Dublin Airport bus: <http://www.dublinbus.ie/en/Your-Journey1/Timetables/Airport-Services/>

Dublin Hotel: <http://www.belvederehoteldublin.com/>

Dingle Hotel: <http://www.greenmounthouse.ie/>

Dingle Peninsula: <http://www.dingle-peninsula.ie/>

Gallarus Oratory: <http://www.sacred-destinations.com/ireland/gallarus-oratory>

Reading:

Rick Steves Ireland has good information for travelers

A Brief History of Ireland - Richard Killeen (non-fiction) - 2012

How the Irish Saved Civilization - Thomas Cahill (non-fiction) - 1995

The Dingle Peninsula - Steve MacDonogh (non-fiction) - 1993

A Day in Our Life - Sean O’Crohan (non-fiction about Blasket Island) – 1992

The Immortal Irishman - 2016 book on Irishman who came to US & fought in Civil War

A Thread Across the Ocean—John S. Gordon

An Unsung Hero: Tom Crean, Antarctic Survivor

Movies filmed in Dingle (may be found at your library or on Netflix)

- *Ryan’s Daughter*
- *Far & Away*
- *Leap Year*
- *The Islandman*