



KDavisTravels

Dingle, Ireland **June 2 - 9, 2024**

The trip begins in Dublin Ireland. Please arrive in Dublin, Ireland by June 1. After I receive 10 reservations I will advise you about Dublin hotels and Dublin-Tralee train reservations.

Trip Start: June 2, 2024 – Dublin-Heuston Train Station
Trip Finish: June 9, 2024 – Tralee Train Station – 9:00AM
Trip Length: 8 days, 7 nights
Trip Cost: \$3,100 per person sharing a room
\$3,500 for a single room

(Trip cost does not include June 1 (hotel & meals) in Dublin, airfare, meals indicated as on your own, beverages and tips.)

Day by Day Overview

Sunday, June 2 – Travel Dublin-Heuston train station to Tralee Train Station (3.5-4 hrs.). The Dingle Shuttle van will meet us at Tralee Train Station and transfer us to Dingle. We'll check in to our Dingle hotel mid-afternoon and meet our guide for a town walk.

- Dingle Lodging: Greenmount House- <http://www.greenmounthouse.ie/>
- Lunch—bring bag lunch to have on train journey.
- Dinner together.

Monday, June 3 - 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.

Tuesday, June 4 - 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 KDavis Travels – August 2023

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

Wednesday, June 5 - Today is officially a “free day”. There will be an option of a short morning walk along Dingle Bay. You’re free in the afternoon to explore Dingle town on your own.

- Lunch on your own
- Dinner together

Thursday, June 6 - 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

Friday, June 7 – Weather dependent, we will take a boat trip to the Blasket Islands and begin our walk from the harbor. We have had these islands in sight all week on our coastal walks. The Great Blasket Island was inhabited by Irish people from 1841 until 1953, when the inhabitants were forced by local government to abandon the island. The living conditions were harsh. The island reached its population peak of 150 in 1840 but decreased to 100 following the Great Famine. The Great Blasket is known for its gifted Irish language writers who have written several books describing their way of life. Today’s walk is a trip back in time! (As getting to Blasket Islands is weather dependent, this day may move to a different day in the schedule.)

- Snack lunch
- Dinner on your own

Saturday, June 8 – Following the Dingle Way around Smerwick Harbor, we come to the fishing village of Baile nan Gall. We have stunning views of the Three Sisters in the shadow of Mount Brandon. We have some lovely beach walking today through areas named Beal Ban and Cul Dorcha and Tra an Mhuiriosh. We end our day at Tigh Pub (TP’s pub). There has been a pub on this site for over 100 years. Take a look at the family photos on the wall! Distance – 5 miles; Elevation gain 325’.

- Packed lunch.
- Dinner together.

Sunday, June 9 - After a light breakfast we will have an early departure for Tralee Train Station to arrive there for the 9:00AM train. Total Drive Time: about 1 hr. Train journey Tralee to Dublin 3.5-4 hrs.

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

Flight and Airport Info

Getting to Ireland: Fly from US to Dublin to arrive by June 1. You may like to spend some days exploring Dublin on your own. We will take train from Dublin to Tralee (about 3 hrs) where the Dingle shuttle will meet us to transfer us to Dingle (about 1 hr)

Meals – Packed lunches will be provided on our hiking days and dinners as indicated (“dinner together”) on the itinerary.

Weather: Generally mild with mix of sun and rain; Average temps for daytime 65-70F- and night 50-55F

Helpful Websites:

Dingle Hotel: <http://www.greenmounthouse.ie/>
Dingle Peninsula: <http://www.dingle-peninsula.ie/>
Gallarus Oratory <http://www.heritageireland.ie/en/south-west/gallarusoratory/>
Blasket Museum: <http://www.heritageireland.ie/en/south-west/ionadanbhascaoidmhoir-theblasketcentre/>

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
Ireland – Frank Delaney (fiction) – 2005
The Immortal Irishman – Timothy Egan - 2016 book on Irishman who came to US & fought in Civil War (biography)
A Thread Across the Ocean—John S. Gordon (non-fiction)
An Unsung Hero: Tom Crean, Antarctic Survivor
A Day in Our Life – The Last of the Blasket Islanders – Sean O’Crohan (non-fiction)
This is Happiness - Niall Williams (fiction)

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

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