



National Trust *for* Historic Preservation

National Trust Tours

**Ireland & Northern Ireland -
CIRCUMNAVIGATING THE EMERALD ISLE**
aboard the 72-stateroom *Exploris One*
May 20–30, 2026
(10 days)

Sail around the Emerald Isle at the height of spring, when gardens are in full bloom and the landscapes of Ireland and Northern Ireland are especially lush and green. Aboard the intimate 72-cabin *Exploris One*, explore UNESCO landmarks, coastal villages, and the wild beauty of the Atlantic coast with expert guides and warm Irish hospitality.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Customize your experience with a **menu of excursion options** in each port, including walking excursions to explore Ireland's natural wonders.
- Marvel at the beauty of **Ireland's celebrated gardens** including Powerscourt (considered top 3 garden in the world); the Mount Stewart Home and Gardens of the Londonderry family near Belfast, the charming Saltilly Gardens of County Donegal, and Kylemore Abbey with its beautiful Victorian walled garden, located in the heart of Connemara National Park.
- Dig deep into Ireland's **rich archaeological heritage** with visits to Dublin's National Museum of Archaeology, the 5,000-year-old tombs at Newgrange, the 3,000-year-old stone fort of Dun Aonghusa on the Aran Islands and the UNESCO Skellig Michael, ruins of an early Christian monastery.
- Experience the jewels of Ireland's famed Atlantic Coast including the dramatic **Cliffs of Moher** and the stunning mountains, and the bogs and grasslands of **Connemara National Park**.
- **Dock overnight in Belfast and Galway** for a chance to dine ashore and/or enjoy their lively atmosphere and famed music scene.
- Discover **Belfast's intriguing history** including a visit to Titanic Belfast, a state-of-the-art museum on the site of the yard where the ill-fated ship was built.
- Travel along the Northern Ireland's Antrim coast to the **World Heritage-listed Giants Causeway**, the site of some 40,000 hexagonal basalt column

CIRCUMNAVIGATING THE EMERALD ISLE

Ireland aboard *Exploris One*

EXPLORIS ONE

Previously known as the *Silver Explorer* and owned by Silversea Cruises, *Exploris One* began her new life with the French company Exploris Expeditions in 2023. Having known this vessel for many years, we know her to be ideal for small ship cruising; for our exclusive charter, we will be accommodating just 120 guests on board, including staff. The vessel's shallow draft will allow us to navigate in areas that larger ships would not be able to access and whilst cruising, the vessel benefits from spacious deck areas from where you can watch for passing wildlife and admire the beautiful scenery.

Exploris One, renovated in 2023, combines adventure and an exceptional level of comfort. The 60 staterooms and 12 suites are all outside and finished to high standards. Equipped with 12 zodiacs, all passengers disembark to explore the region at one time. Le Grand Restaurant and the Outdoor Grill offer refined French and International cuisine. The Grand Salon and Panoramic Lounge provide opportunities for breathtaking views. Additional onboard amenities include a dedicated conference room for lectures, hair salon, fitness center, massage room, sauna, and two hot tubs.



CIRCUMNAVIGATING THE EMERALD ISLE
Ireland aboard *Exploris One*

ITINERARY MAP



**Ireland and Northern Ireland
Springtime Circumnavigation of the
Emerald Isle aboard the 72-Stateroom
Exploris One**

May 20-30, 2026

ITINERARY:

WEDNESDAY–THURSDAY, MAY 20–21

HOME /DUBLIN, IRELAND

Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Dublin, Ireland. Upon arrival, transfer to the hotel with time to settle in or stretch your legs on an optional guided walking tour of this vibrant capital city. This evening attend a welcome orientation and reception at the hotel.

Hotel TBD (R)

FRIDAY, MAY 22

BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND

Begin the day with your choice of two exceptional excursions. Option one visits Hillsborough Castle & Gardens, the official Northern Ireland residence of the British monarch. Explore its elegant Georgian architecture and fascinating royal and political legacy, then enjoy a guided tour of the estate's remarkable gardens led by one of Hillsborough's expert gardeners. Option two takes you to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Newgrange, a Neolithic passage tomb that predates both Stonehenge and the Great Pyramids of Giza.

Afterward, continue to Belfast for lunch at The Morning Star, a beloved, award-winning pub and restaurant that has been family-owned since 1810. Board Exploris One later in the afternoon and gather for the Captain's welcome reception and dinner. End the evening with lively onboard entertainment featuring traditional Irish music and dance.

EXPLORIS ONE (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, MAY 23

BELFAST

Begin the day with a morning lecture, then set out on a guided tour of Belfast, Northern Ireland's capital. Visit the Titanic Museum, an engaging exhibition located on the site where the famous ship was built, offering powerful insight into its history and legacy.

In the afternoon, choose from three curated experiences. Option one is a visit to Mount Stewart House and Gardens, a stately home with some of the most renowned gardens in Northern Ireland. Option two is a whiskey-focused excursion to one of Belfast's top distilleries, where you'll learn about the heritage and process of Irish whiskey-making, followed by a guided tasting. Option three invites you to explore Belfast's complex political past on a Black Cab tour led by local guides, featuring the city's iconic murals and peace walls.

This evening, enjoy dinner aboard Exploris One or take the opportunity to dine ashore and experience Belfast's vibrant restaurant scene or traditional pub culture.

EXPLORIS ONE (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, MAY 24

LISAHALLY

From our berth in Lisahally, choose between two enriching morning excursions. The first takes you to the UNESCO-designated Giant's Causeway, where you'll stroll among over 40,000 hexagonal basalt columns shaped by ancient volcanic activity, an awe-inspiring natural wonder steeped in legend. Explore both the science and folklore of this dramatic coastal site at the visitor center, then take in the rugged cliffs and crashing waves.

Alternatively, discover the historic city of Derry-Londonderry, Ireland's only fully intact walled city dating back to the 17th century. Walk along its ramparts for sweeping views and delve into the city's rich past. Highlights include St. Columb's Cathedral, a landmark since 1633, and the Tower Museum, which features interactive exhibits illuminating the area's heritage.

Afterward, return to the ship for a leisurely afternoon at sea while our lecture series continues.
EXPLORIS ONE (B,L,D)

MONDAY, MAY 25
KILLYBEGS, IRELAND

Today is a full day in County Donegal, a captivating region in Ireland's northwest known for its stunning landscapes, rich history, and vibrant culture. You may choose between two excursions. The first is a visit to Glenveagh National Park, where majestic mountains, pristine lakes, and lush valleys surround a 19th-century castle and its woodland gardens. The second option is a scenic drive through the Glen Colmcille area, featuring visits to the Folk Museum and Salthill Gardens. Located just 200 yards from the sea, this historic walled garden has been carefully transformed by master gardener Elizabeth Temple into a truly special retreat.

EXPLORIS ONE (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, MAY 26
INISHMORE ARAN, ISLANDS/GALWAY

After a morning lecture, go ashore on remote Inishmore, the largest of the Aran Islands, inhabited since the Stone Age. Gaelic remains the native language here, and many ancient traditions continue. Explore the island's windswept limestone landscape, visit a local goat cheese farm for a tasting, and tour Dún Aonghasa, a dramatic prehistoric cliffside fort overlooking the Atlantic.

This afternoon, arrive in Galway, known for its seaside setting, traditional music, cobbled streets, festivals, and vibrant cultural scene. Enjoy a guided orientation of the city, then take free time with the option to dine ashore independently or experience Galway's lively traditional music venues.

EXPLORIS ONE (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27
GALWAY, (CONNEMARA NATIONAL PARK & CLIFFS OF MOHER)

Today, immerse yourself in the landscapes and stories of western Ireland with a choice of two unforgettable full-day excursions.

One option takes you deep into the heart of Connemara, where you'll visit the stunning Kylemore Abbey to explore its beautifully restored interiors and Victorian walled gardens. Continue to the stately Ballynahinch Castle, where a picnic lunch, guided tour, and time to roam the idyllic grounds offer a relaxing and scenic afternoon.

Alternatively, journey to Kiltumper, the private garden of acclaimed Irish writer Niall Williams, whose work beautifully reflects the spirit of Ireland's countryside.) After a local lunch, head to Burren National Park, where rare wildflowers, ancient tombs, and otherworldly limestone formations reveal a landscape shaped by both nature and history.

Return to the ship in the late afternoon and gather on deck for a special sundowner cruise along the Cliffs of Moher, watching the sunlight fade across one of Ireland's most iconic coastlines.

EXPLORIS ONE (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, MAY 28
VALENTIA/ SKELLIG ISLANDS

As our lecture series continues this morning, the ship makes its way to Valentia Island, located off the scenic Kerry Peninsula. Upon arrival, choose between two morning excursions. One option offers a guided stroll through Glanleam Gardens, a rare subtropical haven where plants from New Zealand, Chile, and the Himalayas flourish in the mild climate created by the Gulf Stream. The other option features a guided walk to Bray Head, rewarding hikers with sweeping views of the Atlantic, the Skellig Islands, and dramatic coastal cliffs.

Both excursions allow time to explore the village of Knightstown, known for its picturesque harbor, colorful buildings, and welcoming local character.

This afternoon, arrive near The Skelligs, tiny islands just off the dramatic Dingle Peninsula coast, to view Skellig Michael, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and early Christian monastery.

EXPLORIS ONE (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, MAY 29

COBH

This morning, you'll arrive in Cobh, a picturesque harbor town steeped in history as the final departure point for countless Irish emigrants. Choose from three enriching experiences:

Option 1: Visit Fota House, Arboretum & Gardens - a magnificent Regency estate celebrated for its elegant architecture and sprawling grounds filled with rare and exotic plant species. Stroll through beautifully designed landscapes that reflect generations of botanical care.

Option 2: Explore the vibrant coastal town of Kinsale, renowned for its brightly painted buildings and reputation as Ireland's culinary capital. Enjoy a guided walk that includes tastings of local delicacies, followed by free time to discover the town's charming shops and cafés.

Option 3: Stay close to the port and discover the maritime heritage of Cobh. Walk directly from your ship to the Titanic Experience, delving into the town's rich history.

In the afternoon, return to the ship for a leisurely sail and take in the coastal views before gathering for the Captain's farewell reception and dinner.

EXPLORIS ONE (B,L,R,D)

SATURDAY, MAY 30

DUBLIN/ HOME

After breakfast, disembark Exploris One in Dublin for flights home or join the Kilkenny post-trip extension.

(B)

PRE-TRIP EXTENSION IN DUBLIN

POST-TRIP EXTENSION IN KILKENNY

Tour Rates:

Premium Stateroom , Deck 3, 156-168 sq ft, two portholes, shower, double occupancy.....	\$8,990
Ocean Stateroom , Deck 3, 194 sq ft, picture window, shower, double occupancy.....	\$9,990
Superior Stateroom , Deck 4, 173-190 sq ft, picture window, shower, double occupancy.....	\$10,790
Deluxe Stateroom , Deck 4, 194 sq ft, large picture window, shower, double occupancy.....	\$11,590
Balcony Stateroom , Deck 5, 171-180 sq ft, floor to ceiling glass door, French balcony, shower, double occupancy.....	\$12,590
Navigator Suite , Deck 7, 312 sq ft, floor to ceiling glass door, 86 sq ft private balcony, tub & separate shower, double occupancy.....	\$13,990
Discovery Suite , Deck 5, 388 sq ft, bedroom, living room with sitting area, floor to ceiling glass doors, two French balconies, tub & separate shower, double occupancy.....	\$15,990
Grand Suite , Deck 7, 527 sq ft, bedroom, living room with sitting area, floor to ceiling glass door, 86 sq ft private balcony, tub & separate shower, walk-in closet, double occupancy.....	\$17,490
Owner's Suite , Deck 7, 560 sq ft, bedroom, living room with sitting area, floor to ceiling glass door, large 160 sq ft private terrace, tub & separate shower, walk-in closet, double occupancy.....	\$18,990

Single Rates:

Premium Stateroom , Deck 3, single occupancy.....	\$13,990
Ocean Stateroom , Deck 3, single occupancy.....	\$15,990
Superior Stateroom , Deck 4, single occupancy.....	\$17,290

PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE:

All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary, including nine breakfasts, eight lunches, eight dinners, one hotel night and eight nights aboard Exploris One • Comprehensive program of briefings, lectures and presentations • Group transfers on group arrival and departure dates • Baggage handling • Gratuities to porters, waitstaff, guides and drivers • Gratuities to shipboard personnel • Port charges • Entrance fees • Welcome wine reception in Dublin • Welcome and farewell receptions & dinners aboard Exploris One • House wine, beer, and soft drinks with all group lunches and dinners and onboard Exploris One • Filtered water on motorcoaches • Professional tour manager throughout the program

PROGRAM RATES DO NOT INCLUDE:

U.S. domestic and international airfare • Passport/visa expenses • Medical expenses and immunizations • Private airport transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure days • Travel and trip cancellation insurance • Excursions that deviate from the scheduled tour options • Airline baggage charges • Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; premium alcoholic drinks • Laundry or dry cleaning • Telephone, fax, Internet and email charges • Room service • Other items of a personal nature

AIR ARRANGEMENTS

U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at 877-376-1754 or by e-mail at tourflights@vwti.com. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice. Further information about making flight arrangements will be sent to confirmed participants.

WHAT TO EXPECT:

This is a moderately strenuous program that can be physically demanding and full of activity at times. Participants should be in good health, physically fit, and able to keep pace with the group without assistance from tour staff. To make the most of each destination, many shore excursions will be active and involve extended time off the ship. These full, adventure-filled days are balanced with opportunities to relax on board while cruising—enjoying coastal scenery, onboard amenities, and enriching lectures.

On land, travel will be by comfortable, air-conditioned motorcoaches, with the longest drives lasting about an hour. Daily excursions may involve up to two miles of walking (sometimes more on optional hikes), often over uneven ground, grassy areas, unpaved trails, or cobblestoned streets. Some historic sites may lack elevators or handrails on stairs. While Exploris One is equipped with an elevator serving all passenger decks, it is not designed for wheelchair-dependent guests and does not offer accessible cabins or chair lifts. Guests should feel confident navigating the ship in choppy seas.

This journey promises not only unforgettable sights, but also meaningful cultural encounters and time to unwind. As with any travel experience, flexibility, curiosity, and a spirit of adventure will go a long way. While participation in each activity is optional (aside from essential group transfers), we hope you'll take full advantage of this thoughtfully designed program. Please note that all travelers will be asked to follow safety and health guidelines set by Criterion Travel, the ship's crew, local staff and host country laws.

GROUP SIZE

This program is limited to 118 participants, including travelers from National Trust Tours, Harvard Alumni Travels, American Horticultural Society, & Williams Alumni Travel Study.

A NOTE ABOUT RATES

Tour rates are based upon current fuel prices, currency values, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed rates, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

National Trust Tours strongly recommends the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to covered illness or accident. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. USI Travel Insurance Services offers a plan designed specifically for National Trust Tours travelers, providing coverage for Trip Cancellation, Trip Interruption, Emergency Medical, and more. Plus, you can upgrade your plan with Cancel For Any Reason (CFAR) coverage for the utmost flexibility. CFAR allows you to cancel your trip for ANY reason at all and be reimbursed up to 75% of your pre-paid, non-refundable trip costs (conditions apply, see plan for details). To purchase travel insurance today, call: (800) 937-1387. For additional information, please contact National Trust Tours at (888) 484-8785. Complete Terms and Conditions including a Statement of Responsibility will be made available at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed "Terms & Conditions, Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Clause" is required from each applicant prior to participation on the tour.

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS:

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve space on this program. If you have questions, or to register using a credit card, please call (888) 484-8785 or email info@nationaltrusttours.com. Final payment deadline is January 20, 2026. For those who register on or after January 20, 2026, full payment is due upon registration. Final payment may be made by check, wire transfer or credit card (credit card payments will incur a processing fee of 2%).

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS

Upon payment of the \$1,000 per person deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be in effect until they are received in writing and confirmed by Criterion Travel. Deposits are refundable (less a \$250 per person admin fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of booking; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. For cancellations after the January 20, 2026, final payment deadline: All payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. NOTE: Neither the National Trust for Historic Preservation nor Criterion Travel, the tour operator, accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalties incurred with the purchase of non-refundable tickets.

ITINERARY CHANGES

The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Criterion Travel. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the tour operator reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

ELIGIBILITY

National Trust for Historic Preservation tours are open to members only. Membership dues for 2025/2026 are \$30 for family and \$20 for individual membership. The minimum age limit for the program is 14. Children must pay the full price, and those under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. There is no maximum age limit. PLEASE NOTE: Participants must be in excellent health and able to participate in tour activities. Any physical condition that may require special medical attention must be reported at the time of your reservation. If you have any doubt about your ability to participate fully due to health conditions or disabilities, contact the National Trust at (888) 484- 8785 or (202) 588-6300. The National Trust for Historic Preservation and Criterion Travel reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of this tour at any time. In such case, the refund will be limited to the recoverable cost of unused tour services.

California Seller of Travel
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