



Powerscourt Estate



Rock of Cashel

# Irish Traditions - from Dublin to the Wild Atlantic Way

September 19 to October 1, 2027 ♦ From \$8,600\* per person

Delve into the cultural heritage and rugged beauty of the Emerald Isle on this all-encompassing tour, from Dublin's Book of Kells to the Wild Atlantic Way's Cliffs of Moher. A land steeped in myth with centuries of stories just waiting to be uncovered, we learn about the fateful *Titanic*, discover the legend behind Blarney Castle's Stone of Eloquence and see what life was like aboard the Dunbrody Famine Ship. We also experience the traditional side of Irish life, including a jaunting car ride in Killarney, an immersion into long-standing traditions at Bunratty Castle and Folk Park plus a pony and trap ride on Inisheer, where the Irish language is still widely spoken and the verdant hills are peppered with ancient forts and cottages. This glimpse into the past is wonderfully contrasted with its modern cities, and, alongside aristocratic estates with beautiful gardens, offers a real taste of Ireland's southern region.

## What's Included

- ♦ Arrival/departure airport transfers from Dublin Airport\*
- ♦ 3 nights at the Dylan Hotel, Dublin
- ♦ 2 nights at the The Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny
- ♦ 2 nights at the River Lee Hotel, Cork
- ♦ 2 nights at the Europe Hotel & Resort, Killarney
- ♦ 2 nights at the Savoy Hotel, Limerick
- ♦ Welcome drink & canapés at your first hotel
- ♦ Full Irish/Continental breakfast each day
- ♦ 3-course dinner, usually served *table d'hôte* style, on 7 nights at the hotels (with after-dinner tea & coffee)
- ♦ Any additional meals as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Entrances to all excursions as listed in the itinerary
- ♦ Porterage where available
- ♦ Services of a tour manager

\*Supplement applies for transfers from all other airports and all other locations.

## Itinerary

**September 19: Depart your home city and arrive the next day in Dublin**

**September 20: Arrival**

Upon arrival at Dublin Airport, a private transfer will take you to our hotel, the Dylan Hotel in Dublin. We then join the group for a welcome drink and canapés in the evening, followed by dinner.

**September 21: Dublin City Tour, Trinity College & Dublin Castle**

A tour of Dublin is the perfect introduction to Ireland, as we discover several landmarks such as the old city wall, Temple Bar and the River Liffey.

Our tour continues with Trinity College, Ireland's oldest university, founded in 1592. The college's magnificent Old Library displays Ireland's greatest cultural treasure, the Book of Kells, written around 800 AD and containing the four Gospels in Latin.

We also see Dublin Castle, with a history stretching back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century, where highlights of our guided tour include the elegant State Rooms, the Chapel Royal and the beautiful gardens.

**September 22: Powerscourt Estate & Russborough House**

The beautiful Powerscourt Gardens awaits, designed from 1731 onwards and stretching over 47 acres. The estate includes formal walled gardens, distinctive Italian and Japanese gardens and more.

Today's other visit is glorious Palladian mansion of Russborough House. We learn about the history behind the magnificent artwork here on our guided tour, which extends to the walled garden. We also enjoy lunch here.



Aran Islands

**September 23: Dunbrody Famine Ship, Waterford & Mount Congreve Gardens**

Ireland's history is brought to life today with a guided tour at the Dunbrody Famine Ship, learning about the bravery of Irish people onboard an authentic replica of an 1840s emigrant boat. After weeks spent dangerously crossing the Atlantic, the emigrants arrived in North America and made up a quarter of the population in Boston, New York City, Philadelphia and Baltimore by 1850.

Afterward, enjoy some free time in the city of Waterford before we continue to Mount Congreve Gardens, a horticultural masterpiece of exotic plants. We are treated to a tour with the Estate Director.

**September 24: Kilkenny Castle & Rock of Cashel**

Kilkenny Castle is a majestic fortress that has stood since the 12<sup>th</sup> century. We explore the period rooms and learn more about the significant events witnessed here during our guided tour.

Lunch is served at a traditional Irish pub in Kilkenny before a guided tour at the Rock of Cashel, one of Ireland's top archaeological spots.

**September 25: Cork & Titanic Exhibition Cobh**

Spend some free time in Cork before we head to Cobh. As the last port of call for the *Titanic*, our guided tour at the Titanic Experience offers a unique insight into the lives of the passengers who boarded the ship here.

**September 26: Blarney Castle & Kinsale**

We visit the medieval Blarney Castle, built nearly 600 years ago by a powerful Irish magnate. Millions have flocked here to kiss the legendary Stone of Eloquence but there is so much more to see.

The rest of the day is spent at leisure in Kinsale, a pretty harbor town in County Cork.

**September 27: Ring of Kerry**

Our tour manager takes us on a scenic guided tour of the Ring of Kerry, journeying through an untouched landscape of tranquil lakes and rolling hills.

**September 28: Killarney National Park & Bunratty Castle and Folk Park**

We head to pretty Killarney, famed for its jaunting cars (horse-drawn carts) operated by the local jannies. We experience it for ourselves before heading to Bunratty Castle and Folk Park, Ireland's most complete castle. Admire the extensive great hall, atmospheric dungeons and fairytale towers before discovering the surrounding Folk Park, offering a glimpse into 19<sup>th</sup>-century Irish village life. We also enjoy lunch here.

**September 29: Aran Islands & Cliffs of Moher Cruise**

We catch the ferry to the smallest of the Aran Islands, Inisheer. This charming island is renowned for its rich cultural heritage, pristine beaches and beautiful landscapes, peppered with ancient stone forts and traditional cottages, where the Irish language is still widely spoken. We are treated to a pony and trap tour to take in the highlights of this delightful isle, the old-fashioned way.

We also enjoy a leisurely cruise along the magnificent Cliffs of Moher, enjoying the geological wonders from below, admiring the views of the Aran Islands, listening to the onboard commentary and spotting colonies of cliff-nesting seabirds.

**September 30: Limerick & Irish National Stud**

We spend some free time in Limerick, then combine the world of horses with serene Japanese gardens with a guided tour at the Irish National Stud. This evening, we enjoy a farewell dinner together at the hotel.



**October 1: Departure**

A private transfer will take you back to Dublin Airport for your return flight home.

*Please note: the order of excursions is subject to change and guided tours are subject to restrictions.*

\*Single supplement applies: \$2,150.

## Key Highlights

- ♦ Stroll through a range of lovely gardens, including Powerscourt, Russborough, Mount Congreve and Irish National Stud
- ♦ Enjoy plenty of free time to explore attractive towns such as Cork, Kinsale and Waterford
- ♦ Uncover historic stories such as the Dunbrody Famine Ship and Titanic Exhibition Cobh, the *Titanic*'s last port of call
- ♦ See the 'Book of Kells' at Trinity College Dublin
- ♦ Relax at a mix of historic and modern hotels, well located for those who like to explore independently

# Frequently Asked Questions

## How do I make a booking?

Call National Trust Tours at 888-484-8785 to register by phone (preferred method) Monday - Friday from 9am to 5pm (EST) or register online at [www.nationaltrusttours.com](http://www.nationaltrusttours.com).

Please note: featured prices are inclusive of the National Trust membership discount. If you are not a National Trust Member, please visit [savingplaces.org/membership-benefits](http://savingplaces.org/membership-benefits) to sign up. Thank you for your support.

## When are payments due?

When you confirm your booking with us, a non-refundable deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to secure your place. The final balance payment must be paid to us no later than 120 days prior to the tour departure date. Of course, full payment can be made at the time of booking if you prefer and for bookings made less than 8 weeks before the tour departs this will be a requirement.

## How can I pay?

We accept debit and credit cards for deposits and full payment.

## What paperwork will I receive?

When your booking is confirmed, we will email you a booking confirmation document along with a copy of our full Terms and Conditions and the reading list. Approximately 28 days prior to the tour, we will prepare and send you our Travel Pack with your finalized information and tour itinerary details.

## Do I need travel insurance?

Yes, this is essential; we can only accept a booking on the basis that you have taken out a full and comprehensive travel insurance policy to cover the full duration of your trip. We will ask you to confirm this to us. If you choose not to take out travel insurance, this is done so against our advice and at your own risk; we will ask you to sign a declination form indemnifying us from any responsibility or cost in the event of medical emergency or repatriation. National Trust Tours makes travel insurance available to its customers through USI Travel Insurance Services. Information will be sent to you upon request or with your confirmation letter from National Trust Tours.

## Do I need a passport and visa?

It is your responsibility to ensure you have a full passport and we recommend that it is valid for 6 months after the return date of your trip. Tourist visas are not required for US citizens visiting the UK or Republic of Ireland, however for travel to the UK a new Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) will now be required.

Electronic Travel Authorisations (ETA) are being introduced for visitors to the UK who currently do not require a visa for short stays, they are digitally linked to a traveller's passport and ensure more robust security checks are carried out before people begin their journey to the UK, helping prevent abuse of immigration systems.

An ETA costs £10 and permits multiple journeys to the UK for stays of up to 6 months at a time and is valid for 2 years or until the holders passport expires — whichever is sooner.

An ETA does not permit entry to the UK — it authorises an individual to travel to the UK.

British & Irish citizens do not need an ETA.

## Apply for an ETA

Applications can done via a smartphone app — UK ETA app or on line at Apply for an electronic travel authorisation (ETA) — [GOV.UK](http://GOV.UK) ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))

This is a simple process, and decisions are usually communicated within 3 days.

It remains your responsibility to ensure you have the correct travel documentation for your trip.

## Are there single traveler room supplements?

Yes, all our featured hotels charge single supplements and prices are shown on the tour pages. Please book early as single rooms sell fast.

## Are room upgrades available?

All of the hotels on these tours have been handpicked for their high quality of accommodation and service. However, in some instances room upgrades are available and we would be happy to assist you to arrange these should you be interested.

## Can you arrange extra hotel nights?

Yes, if you decide to arrive a few days before the start of the tour or leave a few days after the end of the tour, we are happy to arrange extra nights' accommodation. However, this service is only available at our featured hotels and a \$35 administration fee is charged.

## Are meals included?

All breakfasts are included on all tours. Certain lunches and dinners are also included and you should study the tour itinerary in this brochure to determine what meals are included on your chosen tour. Meals not mentioned are not included and all beverages are at your own expense throughout the tour.

## What do I do about any dietary requirements?

Please inform us at the time of booking, we will pass your information on to the hotel, property or restaurant who will do their best to accommodate your requirements.

## How many passengers will be in the Albion Journeys tour group?

Typically, between 10 and 30.

## What is the role of Tour Directors?

Our friendly Tour Director will meet you for a welcome dinner at the beginning of each tour. Their role is to facilitate the smooth organization of all operational aspects of the tour. If you have any queries or experience any issues during the tour, they are there to assist you.

## Will the excursions change?

Please note that we plan our tours far in advance and the order and availability of excursions may be subject to change. In the event of a property not being available to visit, we will substitute with a similar visit,

and you will be informed of the full details. Note also that tours described as being led by property owners, curators and head gardeners are always subject to availability of the individuals concerned.

## How much walking will there be on these tours?

Any included guided tours will operate at a fairly relaxed pace, but with many historic houses you may experience some uneven flooring along the way, and some rooms and levels may be inaccessible other than by stairs. You will, however, usually have the option to explore any venue by yourself at your own pace. Due to the distances covered, garden tours and guided city walking tours will often require slightly higher standards of mobility. It is essential that you inform us of any concerns at the time of booking, so that we can assess the suitability of your chosen tour in line with your specific requirements.

## What are the arrangements for luggage?

The standard luggage allowance is one item of hand luggage and one suitcase per person restricted to a maximum weight of 20kgs (44 pounds). Unless stated otherwise we do provide portage at each of the hotels used on our tours, however, as with all things of a personal nature, it is your responsibility to ensure your suitcase is loaded onto the vehicles we use throughout the tour.

## What clothing should I bring?

Comfortable leisurewear is recommended for the daytime. In the evening many participants prefer to wear smarter dress for dining. While gentlemen may choose to wear a jacket in the restaurant in the evening, at most hotels this is not obligatory, we will of course inform you if any hotel does have a dress code. It is advisable to bring layered clothing and a light waterproof jacket. We recommend sturdy footwear when visiting gardens as the ground may be soft underfoot. Many historic properties request ladies do not wear high heels which may damage flooring.

## Can you arrange my flights to the UK?

Albion Journeys do not arrange your air travel for our tours; this is your responsibility and gives you the flexibility to decide on your own routing.

## What should I budget for tipping?

While it is not compulsory, it is customary to tip the coach driver and Tour Director as well as offering a small gratuity to the transfer drivers to acknowledge the services they have provided. As a guideline we suggest a rate of £5 (about \$6.50 as of this printing) per day for your coach and transfer drivers and £10 (about \$13 as of this printing) per day for your Tour Director. Gratuities for hotel staff and the tour guides you may meet at properties are at your discretion.

*All tours offered subject to availability. Terms and conditions apply. Errors and omissions except. All dates are subject to change.*



Holkham Hall



Hever Castle



Bodnant Garden



Tower of London

# Terms & Conditions Extract

It is important that you read the following booking conditions extract and the full booking conditions shown on our website at [albionjourneys.com/terms-and-conditions](http://albionjourneys.com/terms-and-conditions). These online booking conditions form the basis of your contract with us. Please read them and the extract below carefully as they apply to all bookings you make with us unless otherwise specified.

**1. VACATION PAYMENT:** When you make a booking you must pay a deposit for every person named on the booking. Deposits per person and the balance due date (the period before the departure date on which your full balance normally becomes due) are:

Deposit	Balance due date
\$1,000 (USD)	120 days before departure

If you cannot make a payment by card at the time of booking, please speak to one of our Reservations staff to discuss other options. You can make payments against your balance anytime between making the booking and the balance due date. If the balance is not paid on time we reserve the right to treat your booking as canceled by you and apply cancellation charges as set out in clause 3 below. For bookings made after the balance due date, the full amount is due at the time of booking.

**2. OUR AGREEMENT:** A contract is formed when we issue to you the booking confirmation document and terms and conditions. It is important you read through these and any other documents you receive and advise us of any inaccuracy within 14 days of the document date. By accepting the booking is correct you agree to our terms and conditions.

We regret we cannot accept any liability if we are not notified of any inaccuracy in any document within 14 days of our sending it out. This contract and all matters arising out of it will be governed by English law and will be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales.

**3. VACATION CANCELLATION BY YOU:** If you want to cancel your booking after we have confirmed it with you either verbally, over the telephone or by email, you can do so over the phone or in writing. The following cancellation charges will apply:

121 days or more prior to departure	\$1,000 (USD)
120 days or less before departure	100% of the program cost is non-refundable

If any member of your party is prevented from traveling, that person may transfer their place to someone else (introduced by you) providing we are notified no less than two weeks before departure.

*Full terms and conditions will be provided with your booking confirmation. They are also available on request or via our website: [albionjourneys.com/terms-and-conditions](http://albionjourneys.com/terms-and-conditions).*

*Bookings are accepted on the basis that you have read and understood them.*