

# In Partnership with CIE Tours International 2019 Ireland "SHEEP-TO-SHAWL" TOUR ITINERARY

Itinerary is subject to change! These tour stops are still pending!

### THURS, OCT 10 - UNITED STATES TO DUBLIN

Depart your hometown for the overnight flight across the Atlantic.

# FRI, OCT 11 - DUBLIN ARRIVAL AND TOUR

Your CIE Tours local guide will meet you at the airport to welcome you to Ireland and escort you to the motor coach for a tour around the city. Enjoy a stop at <a href="Trinity College">Trinity College</a> to see the <a href="Book of Kells">Book of Kells</a> and Old Library, and then visit the <a href="Museum of Decorative Arts">Museum of Decorative Arts</a>. Then drive to the hotel to check in and relax before the evening.

<a href="Dinner & Overnight: Camden Court Hotel">Dublin</a>

### SAT, OCT 12 – WORKSHOP AT CONSTANT KNITTER

Today we will participate in a workshop at <a href="The Constant Knitter">The Constant Knitter</a>, the perfect opportunity to get to know each other a bit better as we relax together and enjoy learning. We will also visit <a href="Winnies Wool Wagon/Craft Cafe">Winnies Wool Wagon/Craft Cafe</a> and have an authentic Irish lunch and knitting discussion. After returning to our hotel, the rest of the day is at your leisure to explore.

Overnight: Camden Court Hotel, Dublin

## SUN, OCT 13 – CUSHENDALE WOOLLEN MILLS

After a wholesome Irish breakfast, we head out on another day full of fibers! On today's itinerary is a visit to <a href="Zwartbles Farm">Zwartbles Farm</a> where we will meet Suzanna and learn about her farm and wool production. Then we're on to <a href="Cushendale Woollen Mills">Cushendale Woollen Mills</a>, one of the oldest operating mills in Ireland, and the mill that Suzanna partners with to produce the products from her sheep. <a href="Overnight: River Court Hotel">Overnight: River Court Hotel</a>, <a href="Kilkenny">Kilkenny</a>

# MON, OCT 14 – BLARNEY CASTLE & WOOLLEN MILLS

This morning we drive into Blarney to visit the <u>famous</u> <u>castle</u> and kiss the "Stone of Eloquence". We will also visit the <u>Woollen Mills</u> with its excellent range of Irish products. There will be time to browse around the village. Our journey then continues through Ireland's green pastures and into the beautiful town of Killarney where we will check into our hotel and enjoy dinner. **Dinner & Overnight:** The Brehon Hotel, **Killarney** 

# TUES, OCT 15 – RING OF KERRY & KENMARE LACE

Today we set off to explore the Ring of Kerry, which consists of more than 100 miles of marvelous scenery. See some of Ireland's highest peaks on one side of the road and a coastline scattered with golden beaches and rocky headlands on the other. There will be plenty of stops to take-in the scenery and get photos. We will visit Kenmare Lace to learn about this special needlepoint Irish Lace. Finally, we visit Kerry Woollen Mills before returning to the hotel for a free evening. Overnight: The Brehon Hotel, Killarney

# WED, OCT 16 – KNITTING CLASS WITH UNA MCDONAGH

After breakfast, we are off to the <u>Aran Islands</u>! We travel into Dollin and take a ferry to Inis Orr where we will participate in an Aran knitting class with <u>Una McDonagh</u>. Following, we will enjoy a panoramic tour of the island. Our day will conclude in the beautiful town of Ennis where we will check into our hotel and enjoy the remainder of the day and evening at your leisure. *Overnight*: Old Ground Hotel, *Ennis* 

# THURS, OCT 17 - CLIFFS OF MOHER, GALWAY

A day of spectacular scenery! Today we drive along the coast of County Clare to visit the <u>Cliffs of Moher</u> with its magical vistas, overlooking the Atlantic Ocean and Ireland's Western coastline. We continue our drive through Ireland's rolling hills and into the bustling city of Galway where we will join a local guide for a gentle walking tour of Galway. We will see the medieval city walls and <u>Lynch's Castle</u>.

Dinner & Overnight: Harbour Hotel, Galway

# FRI, OCT 18 – SPIDDAL CRAFT VILLAGE & GLEN KEEN FARM

Todays fiber adventure will lead us to <u>Spiddal Craft</u> <u>Village</u> and Café in Connemara on the edge of the Atlantic Ocean. Then, we visit <u>Glen Keen Farm</u> to learn about the Irish farm life and see the sheepdogs working in their natural environment, as well as a wool spinning demonstration. Enjoy a free evening to explore or relax. *Overnight: Harbour Hotel, Galway* 

### SAT, OCT 19 – MUSEUM OF COUNTRY LIFE

Tour the <u>Museum of Country Life</u>, an eye-opening exhibition portraying the lives of ordinary people who lived in rural Ireland in the period 1850-1950. At Drumcliff Churchyard, stop to view <u>W. B. Yeat's</u> grave. Then we continue our drive into Stranorlar to check into our hotel and enjoy dinner together.

Dinner & Overnight: Kees Hotel, Stranorlar

# SUN, OCT 20 – COUNTY DONEGAL & EDDIE DOHERTY

We will spend our day sightseeing around County Donegal, renowned for woolen production and the famous Donegal Tweed. <u>Kathleen Meehan</u> will give us a knitting demonstration in Kilcar. Then we will pay a visit to <u>Eddie Doherty</u> in Andara to get up close and personal with Donegal Tweed!

Dinner & Overnight: Kees Hotel, Stranorlar

### MON, OCT 21 – DONEGAL CRAFT VILLAGE

Today, in Donegal Town, stop to visit the <u>Donegal Craft Village</u>, a showcase for contemporary arts and crafts in Ireland. Meet the artists in their workshops, which are clustered around a central courtyard. We will stop at <u>Liz Christy's Handwoven in Ireland</u>, then travel through many market towns and into Kingscourt. After we settle into our castle hotel, we will gather for a traditional Irish dinner at the hotel restaurant and enjoy our last evening together in Ireland!

Dinner & Overnight: Cabra Castle Hotel, Kingscourt

# TUES, OCT 22 - RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES

Our tour has come to an end and it's time to head home to enjoy and share the good memories. We will have an early morning group transfer to the Dublin airport for our flights back across the Atlantic to the United States. Home Sweet Home!

**Cost:** \$3,500 per person, double occupancy; \$4,335 single occupancy. Please review the tour flyer for details as to what the price includes. Air is NOT included in this price and will be coordinated through the Fiber Garden or on your own.

For complete information visit <a href="http://www.fibergarden.com/travel/">http://www.fibergarden.com/travel/</a>.

This tour requires a deposit of \$250 per person, due when the minimum group size of 20 is reached <u>and before</u> <u>March 1, 2019</u>. Bookings requested after March 1, 2019 will be made on a space available basis. Please be aware that this tour is expected to fill well before the deadline. Early reservations are recommended to insure your space.

Please be advised that travel in Ireland can involve uneven terrain, rough walking surfaces, and some stairs which can be challenging for those with mobility issues. Please contact the Fiber Garden if you have any concerns.

Criminal Convictions: You may be denied entry into your chosen destination as a result of any prior criminal convictions.

It is your responsibility to check with the appropriate embassy to assess your situation.

