

# **IFHE 2024 IRELAND PRE-CONGRESS TOUR ITINERARY**

Itinerary and lodging locations subject to change!
Tour services provided by CIE Tours International
(Note included meals: B= Breakfast; L=Lunch; D= Dinner)

## SAT, JUNE 15 - UNITED STATES TO DUBLIN

Depart your hometown for the overnight flight to Dublin.

### SUN, SEPT 16 – DUBLIN ARRIVAL & CITY TOUR

After landing at Dublin airport, make your way to our hotel. Set off with a local guide who will show you around Dublin. Stop to visit the National Museum, including the <u>Decorative Arts & History branch</u> which houses a collection of decorative arts including silver, glassware, furniture, jewelry and coins, as well as a collection telling the story of Ireland's military history. In the evening, your group will gather for a wonderful welcome dinner in the hotel restaurant.

Overnight: Ashling Hotel, Dublin D

### MON, JUNE 17 – DUBLIN FOOD TOUR

Today, set off on a leisurely food tour through central Dublin. Enjoy frequent stops to sample authentic Irish Cuisine prepared in either the traditional or modern culinary style. Visit not only bakeries, delicatessens and food halls, but also a plethora of other locations. Head back to the hotel for some free time and dinner on your own.

Overnight: Ashling Hotel, Dublin B

#### TUES, JUNE 18 – ZWARTBLES FARM & KILKENNY

Leaving Dublin, you will travel to visit <u>Zwartbles Farm</u> for a tour to learn about Zwartbles Sheep and the products produced from them. Next, journey into <u>Kilkenny</u> and a guided walking tour of the town. The humorous and informative guide will show you many sites, which help make stories about the past come to life. Arrive at your hotel and enjoy some free time and dinner on your own.

Overnight: River Court Hotel, Kilkenny B

### WED, JUNE 19 - BLARNEY CASTLE

This morning, drive into Blarney, where you can climb the battlements of <u>Blarney Castle</u> and kiss the famous "Stone of Eloquence". Then visit the <u>Blarney Woollen Mills</u>, which has an excellent range of Irish products. You will also have time to browse around the village, charmingly set around a large village green. Continue your travel into Killarney and

check in to your hotel. Enjoy dinner in the hotel restaurant with your group.

Overnight: Great Southern Hotel, Killarney B/D

# THURS, JUNE 20 - RING OF KERRY/KENMARE LACE

After breakfast, set off to explore the Ring of Kerry which consists of over 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 snap photos. Continue on to visit Kenmare Lace and learn about this special needlepoint Irish Lace which began here in 1861 by the Nuns of Kenmare. Return to your hotel for a free evening and dinner on your own.

Overnight: Great Southern Hotel, Killarney B

### FRI, JUNE 21 – CLIFFS OF MOHER/ST. TOLA FARM

Departing Killarney, travel into Tarbert and take a short ferry ride across the River Shannon Estuary. Drive along the scenic coast of County Clare and stop to visit the Cliffs of Moher, one of Ireland's most beloved, natural landmarks. See magical vistas, overlooking the shimmering Atlantic Ocean along with Ireland's Western coastline. Then, continue on to visit the St. Tola Farm, producer of handmade goat cheese. At the farm, enjoy a tour followed by a wine and cheese tasting. Your day ends at the charming Inn at Dromoland for dinner with your group at the hotel restaurant and overnight.

Overnight: Inn at Dromoland, Shannon B/D

### SAT, JUNE 22 – CONNEMARA/GLEN KEEN FARM

Travel through the Connemara Region to admire the sweeping views of boglands, misty mountains and sheep grazing freely. Stop to visit the lovely Glen Keen Farm for an impressive sheepdog herding demonstration. At the farm, you'll enjoy a delightful lunch, followed by a spinning and dying demonstration (time permitting). Your journey today continues into Galway where you will check into your hotel and join your group in the hotel restaurant for dinner.

Overnight: Galmont Hotel, Galway B/L/D

### SUN, JUNE 23 – ARAN ISLANDS/DUN AENGUS

After breakfast, take a short ferry ride from Rossaveal to Inis Mor, the largest of the three Aran Islands (and home of the largest Aran Sweater Market)! These rocky islands are renowned for the hardy islanders who maintained traditional fishing and farming. Next, take a minibus ride to Dun Aengus, a huge pre-historic fortress perched on sheer cliffs, which fall away to the Atlantic Ocean below. Have a look around Kilronan before

heading back to your hotel in Galway. Enjoy the rest of the day and evening at leisure with dinner on your own.

Overnight: Galmont Hotel, Galway B

### MON, JUNE 24 - ON YOUR OWN

After breakfast at your hotel, enjoy the rest of the day on your own until your Congress events begin.



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