

# In Partnership with CIE Tours International 2025 IRELAND "SHEEP-TO-SHAWL" TOUR ITINERARY

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

#### **SAT, SEPT 13 - UNITED STATES TO DUBLIN**

Depart home for your overnight flight to Dublin!

### SUN, SEPT 14 – DUBLIN ARRIVAL AND LEISURE DAY

Make your way to our hotel on your own after arrival. (The Fiber Garden will help coordinate with other travelers arriving on your flight.) The rest of the day is yours to explore Dublin using your Hop on Hop off pass to transport you around the city. Visit museums, shop, hunt down the yarn shops...you choose! This evening, we will gather as a group for a short walk to Nancy Hands Restaurant to enjoy an authentic Irish dinner together to kick off our Irish adventure!

Overnight: Ashling Hotel, Dublin

# MON, SEPT 15 – DUBLIN TOUR and TUNISIAN CROCHET TRUNK SHOW

This morning we meet our driver/guide and a local guide will lead us through Dublin. The city has been molded through the centuries by economic, political and artistic influences that has shared its architecture. We stop to visit <a href="EPIC Ireland">EPIC Ireland</a> which celebrates the story of the spread of Irish culture around the globe. Our next stop will be a local venue where you will meet <a href="Aoibhe">Aoibhe</a> <a href="Millip Ireland">Ni</a> for a Tunisian crochet trunk show. Her work will leave you spellbound!

Overnight: Ashling Hotel, Dublin

# TUES, SEPT 16 – ZWARTBLES FARM & CUSHENDALE WOOLLEN MILLS

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

Dinner & Overnight: River Court Hotel, Kilkenny

# WED, SEPT 17 – BLARNEY CASTLE & WOOLLEN MILLS; HEDGEHOG FIBERS

This morning, we depart Kilkenny for Blarney to visit the famous castle and the "Stone of Eloquence". We will also visit the Woollen Mills with its excellent range of Irish products. There will be time to browse around the village. Our journey then continues into Cork to visit Hedgehog Fibers. Our day ends in the beautiful town of Killarney where we will enjoy a festive Irish evening of dinner and entertainment at Kate Kearney's Cottage which is situated at the entrance of the Gap of Dunloe.

Overnight: Killarney Towers Hotel, Killarney

#### THURS, SEPT 18 – RING OF KERRY

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. After returning to Killarney, we embark on a horse-drawn jaunting car ride through the grounds of the Killarney National Park.

Dinner & Overnight: Killarney Towers Hotel, Killarney

# FRI, SEPT 19 – APPLEOAK FIBREWORKS & MCKERNAN WOOLLEN MILLS

This morning we are off to visit <u>Appleoak FibreWorks</u>, a natural dyeing company of yarn and fabrics. We will enjoy a studio tour and see the natural dyeing process. Then we journey to the <u>Mckernan Woollen Mills</u> for a tour followed by time for shopping! We will head to a local pub for a traditional Irish lunch and then continue on to Shannon to check into our charming Inn.

Overnight: Inn at Dromoland, Shannon

#### SAT, SEPT 20 – ARAN ISLANDS

After breakfast, we are off to the <u>Aran Islands</u>! We travel into Doolin and take a ferry to Inis Orr, the smallest of the three Aran Islands. We will enjoy an Aran knitting class and lunch with <u>Una McDonagh</u>. We ferry back to the mainland and head to Galway to our hotel and dinner.

Dinner & Overnight: Ardilaun Hotel, Galway

#### SUN, SEPT 21 – GALWAY SIGHTSEEING

Today begins with a local guide for a gentle walking tour of <u>Galway</u>. See the medieval city walls, <u>Lynch's Castle</u> and the narrow streets. Then we head to a local venue to learn how to bake a traditional Irish Brown Bread followed by a tasting of what you just helped to prepare. Return to our hotel to enjoy a free evening.

Dinner & Overnight: Ardilaun Hotel, Galway

### MON, SEPT 22 – KILLALA WOOLCRAFT to DONEGAL

Leaving Galway, we journey into Ballina to visit Killala Woolcraft, a craft studio dedicated to teaching traditional techniques of wool spinning and weaving. Enjoy a weaving demonstration here. We continue our drive into Donegal and settle into our hotel before a group dinner.

Dinner & Overnight: Harveys Point Hotel, Donegal

### TUES, SEPT 23 – STUDIO DONEGAL & SLIEVE LEAGUE SEA CLIFFS

We're off to <u>Studio Donegal</u> which manufactures hand woven wools. The Mill Experiences takes us behind the scenes of the working mill to learn the process of creating their handmade goods. Next we travel to the <u>Slieve League Sea Cliffs</u>, which are the highest cliffs in Europe. The cliffs drop straight down to the wild Atlantic waves and where you'll see marvelous vistas.

We'll enjoy an Irish coffee together while we're there. Then it's back to Donegal for a free evening.

Overnight: Harveys Point Hotel, Donegal

### WED, SEPT 24 – HANDWOVEN BY LIZ CHRISTY & THE LACE GALLERY

Departing Donegal, we head for a visit with <u>Liz Christy</u> and her busy handweaving studio. Then it's on to visit <u>The Lace Gallery</u> to view delicate hand-stitched lace work done by lacemaker, Mary O'Neill, using the traitional Carrickmacross lace method which originated in the early 1820's. We end our day in Cavan for dinner together.

Dinner & Overnight: Farnham Estate Hotel, Cavan

#### THURS, SEPT 25 - CRAFTS OF IRELAND

This morning we're off to <u>Crafts of Ireland</u> to take part in a fiber workshop learning the art of wool painting as you create your own landscape picture. This evening we gather for a wonderful farewell dinner celebrating our travel together through Ireland.

Dinner & Overnight: Farnham Estate Hotel, Cavan

#### FRI, SEPT 26 - 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:** \$5,150 per person, double occupancy; \$6,675 single occupancy. Please review the tour flyer for details as to what the price includes.

For complete information visit <a href="https://fibergarden.com/travel/2025ireland">https://fibergarden.com/travel/2025ireland</a>.

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.

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