



O'CONNOR COACH TOURS

1 & 2 Day Tours of Ireland
4 Day Tours of Northern Ireland
6 Day Tours of Scotland

TOUR OPERATOR'S LICENCE NO T.O.259



WELCOME

We at O'Connor Bus Hire, a family run business based in Kilbrittain, West Cork are delighted to welcome you to our new 2012 brochure. It is with great pleasure that we invite you once again to consider travelling with us in 2012.

Our attention to detail and high quality service has allowed us to grow in strength and size over the years while not losing the personal touch which is associated with our family run business. This year we are delighted to offer you a larger and more varied selection of tour options than we have done before. Due to the popularity of our Northern Ireland Tours over the last few years, we have a variety of options available to you again this year. Alongside this we are also introducing many new day tours and over night trips to a variety of locations throughout Ireland. Our newest venture this year is a series of week long tours to Scotland. This brochure will guide you through everything that our new extended range has to offer.

Our repeat business over the years is a testament to the personal, approachable and yet professional service we offer. We hope you will find a tour to suit your individual taste and interest in our new and extended range of trips this year.

O'Connor Bus Hire were selected as a finalist in the 2012 Fleet Bus & Coach Awards held in October at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Santry, Dublin, Fleet Bus & Coach Magazine pays tribute to the nation's bus and coach operators and O'Connor Bus Hire were proud to qualify for the final in the category .

Cormac O'Connor,

C/o O'Connor Bus Hire, Castlawn, Kilbrittain, Co. Cork

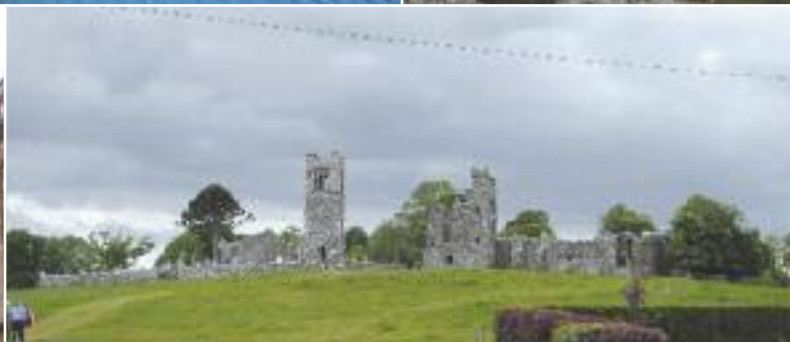
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www.oconnorbushire.com

O'Connor Bus Hire Ltd is licenced by the Commission for Aviation Regulation as a tour operator.
Tour Operator's Licence No. T.O.259





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INTRODUCTION

HOTELS

The hotels we have chosen for our tours have been carefully selected with you in mind. Our Donegal tour is based each night at the Abbey Hotel in the beautiful coastal town of Donegal and is ideally situated for exploring the rugged North west coast of Ireland. Our Belfast city & Ards Peninsula tour is based each night at the 4* Hillgrove Hotel in Monaghan town.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF OUR 2012 BROCHURE IS OUR SCOTTISH TOUR

Departing from Larne, Co. Antrim to Cairnryan in Scotland, we spend our first night at a Premier Inn Hotel and for the next four nights we are based at the same hotel in Dunblane close to Stirling. The hotel is set within 10 acres of private landscaped grounds and is a Victorian style hotel which offers breathtaking views of the Trossachs and is within a one hour drive from Scotland's two major cities Glasgow & Edinburgh.

(For passengers comfort it would not be possible to drive all the way the first night to our base the Hilton Dunblane Hydro Hotel)

Take time and enjoy browsing our 2012 brochure and do not hesitate to contact us if you need further information.

YOUR TOURING COACH

We pride ourselves in maintaining a modern, spacious and luxurious fleet of 2010/2011 Volvo coaches. O'Connor Coaches have successfully reached the required standards set out by Fáilte Ireland and have been awarded membership to the Fáilte Ireland National Quality & Standards Framework Coach Operator Accreditation Scheme for 2012. These coaches have been awarded five star approvals and feature the following extras:

- Three point seat belts
- Toilet & wash room
- Fridge
- Climate control air conditioning
- TV & DVD
- Reclining seats



SEATING

Seats will be allocated on a first come, first served basis (excluding the first two pairs on either side e.g. disability, a bad traveller) we will allocate a seat number when your tour deposit is received (from seat number nine to seat number fifty). Therefore it is important to book early if you require a seat towards the front of the coach. This seating arrangement only applies to our Northern Ireland and Scottish tours.

1	5	9	13	17	Washroom Toilet	Steps	27	31	35	39	43	47	
2	6	10	14	18				28	32	36	40	44	48
3	7	11	15	19	21	23	25	29	33	37	41	45	49
4	8	12	16	20	22	24	26	30	34	38	42	46	50

BOOKINGS AND PAYMENTS

1. A deposit of €100 per person or €200 per couple is required to book a seat on our Northern Ireland tours.
2. A deposit of €150 per person or €300 per couple is required to book a seat on our Scotland tours.
3. Full payment for Northern Ireland is due three weeks before the tour departure date.
4. Balance of payment for the Scotland tours is due six weeks before tour departure date.
5. Please note money for the Scottish tour is non-refundable in the event of the passenger being unable to travel.
6. We advise all passengers travelling to Scotland to take out holiday insurance.
Contact Sharon at Campion Insurances (062) 64116
7. We advise all passengers travelling to Scotland to bring a passport or some form of photo identification.





Scotland Tour

TOUR DATES 2012

May 20th to May 25th

June 3rd to June 8th

July 1st to July 6th

July 8th to July 13th

July 22nd to July 27th

July 29th to August 3rd

September 2nd to September 7th



Scotland

SIX DAY TRIP



TOUR THE HEART OF SCOTLAND

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE:

- Full Irish Breakfast at Castlearms Hotel
- Lunch at the Carrickdale Hotel
- Ferry Crossing to Scotland
- One Night Accommodation and Breakfast at The Premier Inn Hotel
- Guided Cruise of Loch Lomond
- Lunch at Ardlui Hotel
- Four Nights Accommodation Bed & Breakfast and Four Nights Evening Meal at the Hilton Dunblane Hotel.
- Admission to Distillery at Glenturret, Crieff Visitor Centre, Caithness Glass Factory, Stirling Castle and a Guided Coach Tour of Edinburgh City.
- Return Ferry from Cairnryan, Scotland to Larne, Co. Antrim
- A Three Course Evening Meal at Carrickdale Hotel
- Luxury 5* Fáilte Ireland Approved Coach
- Onboard Blue Badged Tour Guide for Complete Tour

€620 per person sharing
€720 pp including single room supplement



ITINERARY - Tour to the Heart of Scotland

DAY 1 - SUNDAY

Travel from West Cork to Scotland

Coach pick up points:

Skibbereen 5am, Rosscarbery 5.15am, Clonakilty 5.30am, Bandon 6am, Cork City 6.30am, Fermoy 7am, Mitchelstown 7.15am.

We travel via Durrow to start the holiday with a "Full Irish Breakfast" at the Castle Arms Hotel, Durrow, Co Laois. With "comfort stops" along the way our coach will make one last stop at the Carrickdale Hotel, Co Louth to enjoy a light lunch and collect our regular "on-board" guide Barbara who will escort and guide us throughout the tour. We now travel on to Larne to catch the afternoon ferry (2 hour crossing time) from Larne to Cairnryan, Scotland. With free time on board you will have the opportunity to choose your evening meal, shop, enjoy the cinema or simply relax. (Please note that any refreshment on board the boat are not included in the package price.) From Cairnryan we make the short journey for a one night stop in the Premier Inn Hotel, Ayr, Scotland.

DAY 2 - MONDAY

Loch Lomond, The Trossachs, Callandar

After breakfast it's off to travel the "bonnie" banks of Loch Lomond, stopping along the way to enjoy the views. At the picturesque village of Tarbet we take a closer look at Loch Lomond with a 1.5 hr fully guided cruise on Loch Lomond finishing with lunch in the family run Ardlui Hotel situated right on the shores of Loch Lomond with panoramic views down the loch.

After lunch we enjoy the beauty of the glens and lochs of Scotland's National Forest Park -The Trossachs once home to Scotland's notorious Rob Roy Macgregor; with free time to enjoy the beautiful tourist town of Callandar.

Finish the day in the *Double Tree Hilton Dunblane Hydro Hotel & Leisure Complex set in the medieval town of Dunblane, 5 miles from Stirling City and home of the famous Scottish chef Nick Nairn Restaurant.

**Set within 10 acres of private landscaped grounds, this impressive mansion built in the nineteenth century to facilitate ladies and gentlemen wishing to drink or bath in the medical values of the spring water of Dunblane, has today been rejuvenated into a luxury elegant hotel. This will be your bed in Central Scotland for the next 4 nights.*

DAY 3 - TUESDAY

Distillery at Glenturret, Crieff Visitor Centre, Caithness Glass Factory

An easy going day with a short travel through the Perthshire countryside to discover Scotland's oldest Distillery at Glenturret home of The Famous Grouse Whisky. En route we stop in at the nearby Crieff Visitor Centre where you have free time to enjoy

the wide range of shops, garden centre, licensed restaurant, gallery & antiques and history of the Highland Cattle Drovers exhibition. Not to be missed here is the world famous Caithness Glass Factory where, from the viewing gallery, you can see glass making in progress!

Our next stop will be our distillery tour where after seeing the age old process of milling, mashing, fermenting and distilling this single malt whisky and where visitors are introduced to The Taste Experience! Time also to enjoy the restaurant and shop on site.

We finish the day with free time in the historical town of Pitlochry (Baile-Chloichrig).

Evening music after dinner in the hotel

DAY 4 - WEDNESDAY

Stirling and Edinburgh

Today we travel out to discover the history & folklore of Scotland's cities - Stirling and Edinburgh

Firstly we stop in for a tour of Stirling Castle perched some 250 feet above the town. From here the monument of Scotland's national hero William Wallace will also be visible.

On then crossing over the historical Forth Road Bridge to Edinburgh City - The Capital of Scotland for a guided coach tour of the city's historical landmarks after which the rest of the day is free time for you to explore Edinburgh at your leisure.

DAY 5 - THURSDAY

Highlands, Pass of Killiekrankie, Fort William

A trip through the highlands through the Pass of Killiekrankie, picturesque Glen Garry and Glen Spean and over to enjoy the well loved Scottish landmark town of Fort William. We travel back home by the shores of Loch Linnhe and Glencoe - well known for the TV series Monarch of the Glen.

Farewell Scottish Evening - Special menu of traditional Scottish foods followed by an evening of local music.

DAY 6 - FRIDAY

Travel Home

Today we travel back to catch the ferry at Cairnryan, Ayrshire. We stop along the route to enjoy the coastal views and tea/coffee breaks.

Following our ferry crossing to Larne we travel the same route home with a stop at the Carrickdale Hotel, Co Louth (just outside Newry City) for our 3 course evening meal.

The coach continues on route to the various allocated "set down" places along the way home.



BOOKING FORM

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS ONLY

Name: _____

Address (Full postal): _____

E-mail: _____

Phone No: _____

Mobile: _____

Double or Single Room: _____

Pick up Point: _____

Tour Date: _____

Additional requirements (Special diet etc.): _____

Do you have travel insurance? _____

Do you have a passport? _____

(name on booking form must correspond with name on passport)

Deposit € _____ enclosed

**Make cheque payable to - O'Connor Bus Hire Ltd.
Post to: Cormac O'Connor, Castlelawn, Kilbrittain, Co. Cork**

Booking Form - SCOTLAND TOURS





Northern Ireland Tours

TOUR DATES 2012

- Tour 2 - May 1st to May 4th
- Tour 2 - May 15th to May 18th
- Tour 2 - August 14th to August 17th
- Tour 2 - August 21st to August 24th
- Tour 1 - August 28th to August 31st
- Tour 2 - September 11th to September 14th



Tour 1

FOUR DAY TRIP



BORDER REGIONS, BELFAST CITY, MOURNES & ARDS PENINSULA

This is a 4 day all-in-package tour of Northern Ireland and the border regions, stopping at Newgrange visitor centre, Monasterboice Crosses, Hill of Slane, Saint Patrick's burial site, Belfast City, Mount Stewart House on the Ards Peninsula, the mountains of Mourne with accommodation at the 4* Hillgrove Hotel Leisure & Spa in Monaghan town.

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE:

- Luxury 2011 approved Fáilte Ireland coach
- On-Board accredited guide/Courier for the complete tour
- 3 nights accommodation & evening meal in 4* hotel
- Full Irish breakfast in the Castle Arms Hotel Dурrow on way to the North and 3 course evening meal in Dурrow on the way home
- Admission to Newgrange Bru Na Boinne exhibition centre
- Strangford Lough ferry crossing
- Guided tour of Mount Stewart House & Gardens
- A musical evening in the hotel

This complete tour will be fully guided by local guide Barbara Ferguson. Barbara is an experienced approved Fáilte Ireland and Blue badge guide.

** While great care has been taken in planning this tour there are steps and walks which maybe unsuitable for those with poor mobility**

€340 per person sharing
€385pp including single room supplement



ITINERARY - Border Regions, Belfast City, Mourne & Ards Peninsula



DAY 1

Newgrange Centre, Monasterboice Crosses & Hill of Slane

Coach pick up points:

Clonakilty 7am Bandon 7.30 am, Cork 8.10 am, Mitchelstown 9.05 am, stop for breakfast at castle arms hotel in Durrow Co. Laois at 10.30am approx, and depart at 11.30am.

Travel through the historical & sacred Boyne valley region situated in Louth/Meath. A stop at the Bru Na Boinne visitors' centre Newgrange to view the exhibits, visit the restaurant and the souvenir shops, our tour will not be visiting the Mound but the centre will provide an excellent opportunity to view the Mound in comfort. We travel on to view the finest high crosses in Ireland at Monasterboice. On then to visit the hill of Slane. Here we follow in the footsteps of St. Patrick taking the short walk up hill to capture the panoramic views and where today the ruins of an old monastery still stands.

Overnight & evening meal at the elegant 4* Hillgrove Hotel Leisure & Spa in Monaghan town.

DAY 2

County Down's "Ards Peninsula" St Patrick's Burial Place & One of Ireland's Renowned Houses & Garden, "Mountstewart"

Travelling into the rolling hills of County Down in the footsteps of St Patrick we stop in at Down Cathedral in Downpatrick to discover the said burial place of Saint Patrick, we move through St Patrick's country with views of Saul church and Slieve Patrick – time for those energetic pilgrims on board to climb this short route to the tall granite statue of St Patrick. Tour then travels over to Strangford where we board the ferry for the 15 minute journey across Strangford Lough to Portaferry on the Ards Peninsula. A scenic drive up the edge of Strangford Lough takes us to one of Northern Ireland's renowned period houses – Mount Stewart House & Gardens. We will enjoy a fully guided tour of Mount Stewart House with time to walk the gardens, lunch in the restaurant and peruse the souvenir shop.

Overnight & evening meal at the elegant 4* Hillgrove Hotel Leisure & Spa in Monaghan town.

DAY 3

Belfast City & 100 Year Commemorations Of Titanic "Built In Belfast"

Belfast the capital of Northern Ireland and home of Harland & Wolff Shipyard where the world famous Titanic ship was built. 2012 in Belfast sees the opening of the impressive Titanic Centre and numerous activities linked to the birth of Titanic in Belfast 100 years ago. An exclusive "Tour of the Titanic Quarters" will be part of your day tour to Belfast.

A guided coach tour of the City of Belfast taking in the murals on the Falls & Shankill; Stormont; Queen's University; City Hall and more.....with our resident onboard guide Barbara.

The afternoon in the City will be free for shopping, visiting museums, take a tour of the City Hall, or simply enjoy the local chat in one of the many bars and restaurants.

Overnight & evening meal at the elegant 4* Hillgrove Hotel Leisure & Spa in Monaghan town.

DAY 4

Armagh Cathedrals, Mountains of Mourne & Down Coastal Route

A visit of the cathedrals of Armagh the Christian capital of Ireland will uncover the beauty and history of this ancient city.

Leaving Armagh city behind we pick up the "brandy trail" as we travel into the beauty of the Mourne mountains. The melody and words "Where the Mountains of Mourne sweep down to the sea" of the popular song written by Percy French in 1896 have made the Mourne the best known mountains in Ireland. An area of outstanding natural beauty the Mourne Mountains were the inspiration for the writer C. S. Lewis magical land Narnia. In this compact range 15 miles long and 8 miles wide, only a dozen of the sixty or so individual summits rise above 2,000ft with Slieve Donard at 2,796ft, the highest peak in Ulster.

After a lunch/shopping break at the seaside town of Newcastle the scenic route will follow the County Down coastal panoramic route. Tour travels around the harbour of Kilkeel on route with a photo stop in Warrenpoint where views of Carlingford Bay and the Cooley Mountains can be enjoyed.

In Newry we say farewell to our on-board guide Barbara and Northern Ireland.

Evening meal at the Castle Arms Hotel in Durrow, Co. Laois, our last stop before we make our way home.



Tour 2

FOUR DAY TRIP



HIGHLIGHTS OF DONEGAL, INNISHOWEN PENINSULA, GLENVEIGH NATIONAL PARK & ENNISKILLEN

This is a four-day all inclusive package tour of Donegal, Innishowen Peninsula, Glenveigh National Park and Enniskillen.

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE:

- Luxury Approved Fáilte Ireland 5* Coach
- Onboard Accredited Guide/Courier for Complete Tour
- Three Nights Accommodation, Breakfast and Evening Meals
- Full Irish Breakfast in Ennis
- Lunch in Gateway Hotel Buncrana
- Three Course Evening Meal in Castlearms, Durrow
- Admission to Ireland's Biggest Irish Night
- Tour of Doagh Famine Village
- Admission to Glenveigh National Park

€340 per person sharing
€385pp including single room supplement



ITINERARY - Donegal, Innishowen, Glenveigh & Enniskillen



DAY 1 - TUESDAY

Travel Day with Breakfast at Clare Inn Hotel, Ennis and Visit Yeats, Co. Sligo

Coach pick up points:

Skibbereen 6.20am, Clonakilty 7am, Bandon 7.30am, Blarney 8.15am, Mallow 8.45am, Buttevant 9am, Charleville 9.15am.

With all on board we make our way up to Clare Inn for breakfast at 10.15am approx and depart again at 11am approx. Our tour will continue up the west coast and into County Sligo – Yeats County. We will stop off in Yeats Tavern for lunch just outside Sligo town. Here we pick up our regular on-board guide Barbara and visit Yeat’s country at Drumcliff. Leaving County Sligo behind we travel into County Donegal and Donegal town arriving at The Abbey Hotel, Donegal town at approx 5 pm. The Evening dinner at 6 pm and “Slice of Ireland” show in the hotel at 8.30 pm. This is Ireland’s biggest Irish night an exciting production with the backup of Donegal Bay will include Haunting ballads, Irish airs from the piano, Violin, Uilleann Pipes, Bag-pipes, Whistle, Bodhran and Irish dance.

DAY 2 - WEDNESDAY

Tour of County Donegal’s Innishowen Peninsula & The Famine Village

After breakfast we travel out of Donegal town and through the scenic Barnesmore Gap picking up the Innishowen Peninsula at Burnfoot. We make a stop in at the Innishowen Gateway Hotel Bunrana for a light lunch before making our way over to the The Famine Village on Doagh Island, Innishowen. This is a traditional Irish Village in Donegal where the lifestyle of the Province of Ulster down through the years from the Famine of 1847 to the present day is reproduced in village layout. Before having a fully guided tour of the village we will enjoy traditional Irish homemade bread and tea in the kitchen.

Our tour continues right up to the most northerly peak of Ireland for a stop off at Malin Head (weather permitting). Many will have been to Mizen Head – now you travel to Malin Head. We travel across the penninsula to pick up the scenic route along Lough Foyle and home to The Abbey Hotel, Donegal Town.

DAY 3 - THURSDAY

Glenveigh National Park & Donegal’s West Coast

This is our day to discover more of County Donegal. We set out from our hotel and our first stop is at Killybegs, Ireland’s leading fishing port. Passing on through Ardara and the pretty village of Glenties we follow the Derryveagh Mountains and through the beauty of Glenveigh National Park (16,000 hectares) where we stop at the Visitors’ Centre and enjoy lunch here before taking the scenic shuttle bus ride to Glenveigh Castle for a group tour of the castle. After castle tour there will be free time to enjoy the various well laid out gardens surrounding Glenveigh Castle and the panoramic views of the lake or simple enjoy time in the tea rooms.

Leaving Glenveigh Visitors’ Centre we continue to tour around by Mount Errigal over to Gweedore set in The Rosses area where the well known song “Homes of Donegal” was composed. Over to the town of Dunglow we follow the coast road back to Ardara and through the Blue Stack Mountains back to our hotel in Donegal town.

Evening meal and music at the hotel.

DAY 4 - FRIDAY

Home Via Fermanagh Lakes, Enniskillen & The East Coast

Our travel home takes us across through the small town of Belleek in Northern Ireland along the banks of Lower Lock Erne, Fermanagh and into Enniskillen, County Fermanagh where free time to do a spot of shopping and some lunch. We cross Ireland onto the East coast and pick up the M1 through to Dublin with a comfort stop along the way to a group evening dinner in the Castle Arms Hotel, Durrow Co Laois. (Note after meal we travel home via motorway passing Mitchelstown, Fermoy and into Cork city)







Day Tours

Enclosed in this brochure is a choice of 11 different day tours and 3 different overnight tours which we are promoting for 2012. If your group size is not less than 18 people and not more than 50 people, you can avoid all the hassle involved in organising a day out for your club. Just leave us know the date which suites your club and we will organise the rest for you.

ADVANTAGES OF THESE PACKAGES ARE THE FOLLOWING:

- You do not have to worry about people dropping out at the last minute
 - Fixed prices for 2012
- Everything is organised for you this is the total cost for the day
- Your evening meal is included (choice of starter, main course, dessert, tea or coffee)
 - Luxury coach provided
- Price is for all pick ups in Co Cork

INDIVIDUAL BOOKINGS

Service Run will operate for Tour J only on Tuesday June 12th
Leaving St Patrick's, Quay Cork at 8.30am
For full itinerary - See page 33



Tour A

DAY TRIP

LISMORE

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE:

- Luxury Coach
- Morning Coffee/Tea and Scones
- Short Film
- Lunch at Lismore House Hotel
- Guided tour of Lismore Gardens
- Barron's Bakery
- Melleray Abbey
- 4 Course Evening Meal at Corbett Court Hotel



27 to 50 people = €69 per person
18 to 26 people = €79 per person



We will depart from the base meeting point at 9am and travel directly to the acclaimed Elm Tree Bar where we will stop for tea/coffee and scones. We will spend approximately one hour here before travelling on to Lismore Heritage Centre. A warm welcome awaits you at the centre where a short film will introduce you to this picturesque heritage town and its fascinating history. Lunch will be served in the elegant Georgian style Lismore House Hotel from a menu which is guaranteed to cater for all tastes. Enjoy a guided tour around the gardens of Lismore Castle before visiting the contemporary art gallery known as Lismore Castle Arts which is located in the castle's west wing. Our next stop will be Barron's Bakery where Barron's famous crusty bread is baked daily using the original 19th century Scotch brick ovens. We will then visit Mount Melleray Abbey which is home to a community of Cistercian monks. This working monastery is a wonderful place to visit especially for a moment of quiet reflection. From Melleray your coach will bring you on a scenic drive through the Knockmealdown Mountains to the sweeping views of the Vee Gap before turning in the direction of Corbett Court Hotel where your evening meal will be served. We will arrive here at approximately 7-7.30pm where you will be presented with three different menu options from which to choose. At approximately 9pm we will then return to the coach for a relaxing drive back to the base centre.



Tour B

DAY TRIP

LISMORE

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE:

- Luxury Coach
- Breakfast at Corbett Court Hotel
- Melleray Abbey
- Lunch at Lismore House Hotel
- Guided tour of Lismore Gardens
- Lismore Castle Arts
- Short Film
- 4 Course Evening Meal at Lismore House Hotel
- The Booley House



27 to 50 people = €73 per person
18 to 26 people = €83 per person



Courtesy of Failte Ireland



Courtesy of Failte Ireland



Departing from our base meeting point at 9am we will travel to Corbett Court Hotel for breakfast. Your coach will then take you on a scenic journey over the Knockmealdown Mountains towards the Vee Gap where breathtaking views await you. The community of Cistercian monks who live, work and pray at Mount Melleray Abbey invite you to visit them and enjoy a quiet moment of reflection in their rural retreat. Our next destination is the beautiful heritage town of Lismore. Here we will enjoy lunch Lismore House Hotel. The Irish residence of the Duke of Devonshire, Lismore Castle, rises in fairytale splendour over the River Blackwater. You will enjoy a guided tour of the castle's magnificent gardens before paying a call to Lismore Castle Arts. This is a contemporary art gallery found in the castle's west wing. We will then visit the town's heritage centre to view 'The Lismore Experience'. This is a short film explaining the town's significant history and its present day attractions. Your evening meal will be served in the genteel surroundings of Lismore House Hotel where you will be presented with a number of menu options. The day concludes with a trip to The Booley House, a highly acclaimed Irish music and dance show featuring stories from the resident seanchai, brush dancing, step and set dancing alongside performances from a host of talented musicians and singers. We will then prepare for a relaxing journey back to our base meeting point.



Courtesy of Failte Ireland



Courtesy of Failte Ireland

Tour C

DAY TRIP



MILLSTREET COUNTRY PARK & KILLARNEY

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE:

- Luxury Coach
- Morning Coffee/Tea and Scones
- Guided Tour of Millstreet Country Park
- St John's Holy Well
- Lunch in Scotts Hotel, Killarney
- Tour of the National Park using the Jaunting Cars
- Tour of Lough Leane using the Water Bus
- 4 Course Evening Meal at Mill's Inn, Ballyvourney



27 to 50 people = €75 per person
18 to 26 people = €85 per person



Leaving from your base meeting point at 9am we will travel towards Millstreet. A rural gem located in the heart of the South West of Ireland, Millstreet Country Park provides a truly unique spectacle. Nestled at the foot of the Musheramore Mountains, in an environment which boasts an abundance of native wonders and spectacular breathtaking views, this 500 acre estate showcases an array of historical and archaeological sites dating back thousands of years. On arrival a park guide will meet us at the entrance gates and hop on board to welcome us with an information pack including a map of the grounds. As we approach the main car park and visitors centre the guide will provide us with an introduction to the grounds and highlight many points of interest. We will take some time for tea/coffee and scones in the Millstreet café which overlooks the beautiful lakes and surrounding gardens before enjoying a safari type tour around the site. With over sixty natural features and attractions our visit to Millstreet Country Park is sure to be a memorable one. As we prepare to depart Millstreet Country Park we will avail of the opportunity to visit St John's Holy Well in the local area. Otherwise known as Tobair Na Faithni this well is steeped in history and tradition. According to legend the holy water from the well is believed to have healing properties and has been especially successful in curing warts!

At approximately 12.30 we will begin to travel towards Killarney in County Kerry. Passing through the picturesque town of Rathmore, our first stop will be Scotts Hotel in Killarney town centre. Here we will take some time out to enjoy lunch. After this we will be collected from the hotel entrance by the famous jaunting cars of Killarney for an hour long tour of the National park. The distinctive combination of mountains, lakes, woods and waterfalls under ever changing skies gives this area a very special scenic beauty. The native red deer which inhabit the park are unique in Ireland with a presence in the country since the last Ice Age. Our next destination is the 15th century Ross Castle. From here we will take a peaceful cruise on a water bus. This scenic tour which lasts for approximately one hour takes place on Killarney's largest and most picturesque lake known as Lough Leane. At approximately 5pm we will return to the centre of Killarney town for a shopping spree sampling all which the Killarney retail industry provides. At approximately 6pm we will set out for Ballyvourney where our evening meal awaits at the Mill's Inn. Here you will enjoy a four course meal which allows you to choose from a number of different options to suit all tastes. We will then prepare for the journey back to our base meeting point after a busy day of sightseeing, shopping and touring.

Tour D

DAY TRIP

KILLARNEY

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE:

- Luxury Coach
- Morning Coffee/Tea and Scones
- Muckross House and Gardens
- Muckross Traditional Farms
- Lunch at Scotts Hotel
- Water Bus Trip on Killarney's Lough Leane
- 4 Course Evening Meal in the Mill's Inn, Ballyvourney



Courtesy of Fáilte Ireland

27 to 50 people = €75 per person
18 to 26 people = €85 per person



Departing from your base meeting point at 9am we will travel towards the picturesque town of Ballyvourney where we will visit the Mill's Inn for tea/coffee and scones. After this rest stop we will progress on towards Killarney. Our first visit of the day will be to Muckross House and Gardens situated among the mountains, lakes and woods of the National Park. This impressive mansion is one the most popular tourist destinations in the area with many aspect of the building having been restored to its original Victorian splendour. We will then pay a visit to Muckross Traditional Farms which are situated adjacent to Muckross House. These working farms recreate and portray the traditional farming methods and way of life of a typical rural community of the 1930s. After enjoying all that Muckross House and farms has to offer we will then return to the centre of Killarney town for lunch at Scotts Hotel. After this we will be ready to move on with our tour. The Killarney water bus tours offer a relaxing trip around Killarney's largest lake, Lough Leane. We will board the water bus near the 15th century Ross Castle and for approximately one hour explore the many scenic views of Killarney in a unique and memorable way. When we return to land we will move back towards Killarney town centre. For two hours you will have the opportunity to explore all which the Killarney retail industry provides. Ranging from clothes to gift shops and traditional music stores Killarney can provide everyone with something to remember their trip by. We will then prepare to travel back again to the Mill's Inn in Ballyvourney for our evening meal. This will consist of a four course meal with a number of options available to suit all tastes. The final part to our journey is then a relaxing coach journey back to your base meeting point.



Courtesy of Fáilte Ireland

Tour E

DAY TRIP



KENMARE SHOPPING AND CRUISE

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE:

- Luxury Coach
- Morning Coffee/Tea and Scones
- Cruise along Kenmare Bay
- Entry to Star Seafoods Smokehouse
- Lunch in Con's Bar and Restaurant
- 4 Course Evening Meal at Mill's Inn, Ballyvourney



27 to 50 people = €69 per person
18 to 26 people = €79 per person

We will depart from your base meeting point at approximately 9am and travel directly to the Mill's Inn in Ballyvourney. Here we will stop for morning coffee/tea and scones. We will then travel towards the Cork/Kerry boundary lines and pass through the scenic village of Kilgarvan before reaching the town of Kenmare. On our arrival in Kenmare we will make our way to the Star Outdoor Adventure Centre which is located on the Castletownbere road just ten minutes outside Kenmare town. The salmon factory, Star Seafoods Smokehouse, is our first stop here where we will see how the town's famous fish products are produced. From filleting and salting, to smoking, cutting and preserving we will see the traditional methods in practice which have created fish products of the highest quality that can be found on the world market today. We will then be served lunch in Con's Bar and Restaurant. After this we will take a one hour cruise of the beautiful Kenmare Bay surrounded by the Caha Mountain Range. During this cruise on the 'Star of Kenmare', a luxury fifty seater passenger boat with two decks, you will be able to enjoy spectacular views of the Beara Coast, Dinish Island, Kenmare Bay, McGillicuddy Reeks and Ireland's highest mountain Carrantuohill. We plan to depart the centre at approximately 3.45pm and make our way back through Kenmare town. We will spend approximately two hours in the town allowing you to explore the natural beauty of the area and perhaps do some shopping. Alternatively you could visit the Kenmare Lace & Design Centre, Cromwell's Bridge, Kenmare's Stone circle or Holy Cross Church all of which are located around the town. At approximately 6pm we will then head back towards The Mill's Inn in Ballyvourney for an evening meal. This will consist of a four course meal with a variety of choice on the menu. We will depart from the Mill's Inn at approximately 9.30pm for a relaxing coach journey back to your base meeting point.



Tour F

DAY TRIP



KENMARE SHOPPING AND MOLLY GALLIVAN'S COTTAGE

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE:

- Luxury Coach
- Morning Coffee/Tea and Scones
- Entry to Molly Gallivan's Cottage
- Lunch at Con's Bar and Restaurant
- Tour of the Salmon Factory
- 4 Course Evening Meal in the Mill's Inn, Ballyvourney



27 to 50 people = €69 per person
18 to 26 people = €79 per person



We will begin our trip by departing from your base centre at 9 am and making our way directly to the Mill's Inn Hotel in Ballyvourney. Here we will enjoy morning coffee/tea and scones. We will spend approximately one hour here before departing for Molly Gallivan's Cottage. At Molly Gallivan's you will experience simple country lifestyle in rural Ireland before the days of electricity and modern conveniences. Your visit begins with an audio-visual presentation depicting the life and times of Molly Gallivan while giving a general history of the surrounding area. Next you will visit Molly's unique cottage which is over 200 years old. Then you will have the opportunity to stroll through Molly's Traditional Farm where you will witness in real life the farming methods and traditions of the not too distant past. Her farm is complete with animals and traditional farm machinery. We will depart here at approximately one in the afternoon and make our way towards the Star Outdoors Adventure Centre. Our first port of call here will be Con's Bar and Restaurant where we will be served lunch. After this we will visit the Star Seafoods Salmon Factory. Here you will be guided through the factory in order to see the traditional fish treating and preparation methods which create fish products of the highest quality that can be found on the world market. After departing from the centre we will go directly to Kenmare town. Here you will have the opportunity to spend two hours exploring this picturesque town and visiting many of the local shops. Alternatively you could visit the Kenmare Lace & Design Centre, Cromwell's Bridge, Kenmare's Stone Circle or Holy Cross Church all of which are located around the town. We will depart from Kenmare at approximately 6pm and begin the coach journey back to Ballyvourney for an evening meal at the Mill's Inn. This menu will provide a number of options for you to choose from. After enjoying this four course meal we will begin our coach journey back to your base meeting centre.



Tour G

DAY TRIP



SKIBBEREEN & MIZEN HEAD

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE:

- Luxury Coach
- Morning Coffee/Tea and Scones
- Skibbereen Heritage Centre
- Lunch at the West Cork Hotel
- Mizen Head Visitors Centre and Lighthouse
- 4 Course Evening Meal at The West Lodge Hotel



Courtesy of Fáilte Ireland

27 to 50 people = €73 per person
18 to 26 people = €83 per person

We will depart from your base meeting point at 8.30am and travel towards The Celtic Ross Hotel in Rosscarbery for tea/coffee and scones. From here we will travel on towards Skibbereen where we will visit the Heritage Centre. Here we will be able to tour the centre and discover all about the history of this picturesque town. When we leave the centre you will have some free time to explore all which the town has to offer by visiting its many shops and attractions. We will visit the West Cork Hotel at approximately 1.00pm in the afternoon for lunch. After lunch we will depart Skibbereen and travel through many scenic villages such as Ballydehob, Schull and Goleen before reaching Mizen Head at approximately 3.30pm. Here, at Ireland's most south-westerly point, you will be able to cross the famous arched bridge before visiting the light house itself. If time allows us on our return journey we will take a short stop at Crookhaven. This small fishing village is nestled in the far south-west of Cork and is full of brightly coloured boats and pretty cottages. From here we will travel onwards through Goleen and into Toormore. From here we will take the R591 road via Durrus up to Bantry for an evening meal at the West Lodge Hotel. Here you will be presented with a number of menu options from which to choose. After enjoying this meal we will then make our way back to your base meeting point after a busy day of touring and sight-seeing.



Courtesy of Fáilte Ireland

Tour H

DAY TRIP



KILKENNY CASTLE & SWISS COTTAGES

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE:

- Luxury Coach
- Breakfast at Corbett Court Hotel
- Tour of the Swiss Cottages
- Kilkenney Castle
- 4 Course Evening Meal at Corbett Court Hotel



27 to 50 people = €69 per person
18 to 26 people = €79 per person

We will depart from your base centre at approximately 9am and travel towards Corbett Court Hotel for breakfast. At around 10.30am we will depart from Corbett Court Hotel and travel towards our first attraction of the day, the Swiss Cottages in Cahir, County Tipperary. This charming house were built around 1810 and have been beautifully preserved. It is situated on raised ground overlooking the river and is accessed by a flight of stone steps. When we have spent some time exploring and admiring the cottage we will then prepare to travel into Kilkenney city. We will have lunch in the Hotel Kilkenney before visiting Kilkenney Castle. This was originally built as an Anglo-Norman castle but has been altered and modified to the extent that it is now an impressive structure containing many architectural styles. After visiting the castle you will have some free time to explore the 'Marble City' of Kilkenney and perhaps visit some of the many shops and attractions. We will return to the Corbett Court Hotel in Kilworth for our evening meal which will consist of a number of options to suit individual tastes. On leaving this hotel we will return to the coach for our journey homewards.



Courtesy of OPW

Tour I

DAY TRIP

COBH & SPIKE ISLAND

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE:

- Luxury Coach
- Tea/Coffee and Scones at Cobh Heritage Centre
- Entry to Cobh Heritage Centre
- Boat Trip to Spike Island and tour on arrival
- 4 Course Evening Meal at the Elm Tree Restaurant



27 to 50 people = €69 per person
18 to 26 people = €79 per person



We will depart from your base centre at approximately 9am. We will travel directly to the Cobh Heritage Centre where tea/coffee and scones will be available for you to enjoy. Here you will be presented with a ticket which we give you access to the exhibitions within the Heritage Centre. This ticket is valid for the day so you can tour the Heritage Centre if and when you choose to do so. The history of Cobh's unique origins, its history and legacy are dramatically recalled at the Queenstown story – a multimedia exhibition at Cobh's restored Victorian railway station. At 12.30 you will have the opportunity to travel by boat to Spike Island. On this island you will receive a guided tour of the most interesting parts of the island and hear an account of its fascinating history. This will last for approximately two and a half hours after which you will return to Cobh again by boat. After this you may wish to visit Cobh's St Coleman's Cathedral. This building crowns the town of Cobh with its magnificent steeple and has a carillon of forty seven bells. Another interesting visit will take you to the Titanic Gardens which are intended to commemorate the town's connection with the ill fated Titanic voyage and also the hundreds of people who lost their lives when the ship sunk. After exploring as many of these attractions as you personally wish to do and perhaps taking a stroll along the narrow streets of Cobh we will prepare to depart for the Elm Tree Restaurant in Glounthaune where we will have our evening meal. You will be presented with a number of menu options to suit all tastes. After this meal we will return to the coach and make our way homewards. This day tour is very much a relaxed event. You are free to visit any suggested attractions as you wish or perhaps step out under your own steam.



Tour J

DAY TRIP



KILBRITTAIN CASTLE, CLONAKILTY AND SURROUNDS

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE:

- A Qualified Tour Guide in June, July & August
- Luxury Coach
- Entry & Refreshments at Kilbriittain Castle
- Lunch at Celtic Ross Rosscarbery
- Evening Meal at O'Donovan's Hotel, Clonakilty



27 to 50 people = €69 per person
18 to 26 people = €79 per person

Featuring:

The Indestructible Kilbriittain Castle
Ancient and Historic Cities
Birthplace of Michael Collins
The Beautiful Bays of Clonakilty

Our tour will assemble at 9am at an agreed location and travel on to Bandon. Here the tour begins properly heading for Kilbriittain and taking in some interesting sites along the way. Kilbriittain is the "jewel in the crown" one of the oldest inhabited in Ireland dating back to around 1035. There will be a guided tour of the castle followed by tea/scones/coffee at 10.30am approx. Later we will visit the display site of the Fin Whale and then onto Timoleague Abbey, a chance for quiet reflection in a peaceful setting. A couple of miles from here lies the lovely fishing village of Ring and a scenic coastal drive will bring us into Clonakilty, to be explored later in the day. About 15 minutes west of Clonakilty is the picturesque village of Rosscarbery situated at the mouth of a shallow estuary and steeped in history. Lunch will be served in the Celtic Ross Hotel at 2.30pm approx. This is followed by a visit to the birthplace of Michael Collins and places of note. From here it is back to Clonakilty where the group will get the chance to explore the town assisted by the tour guide. Evening meal will be served in the family run O'Donovan's Hotel at 6.30pm approx and the tour returns home later in the evening. This day tour is a relaxed event and the group's wishes will always be taken into consideration.



Tour K

DAY TRIP

FOYNES FLYING BOAT & LISTOWEL CULTURE

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE:

- Luxury Coach
- Breakfast at Corbett Court Hotel
- Entry to Foynes Flying Boat Museum
- Lunch at Brendan O'Regan's Restuarant
- Entry to the Lartigue Monorail and Museum
- Entry to Seanchai Kerry Literary & Cultural Centre
- 4 Course Evening Meal in the Mill's Inn, Ballyvourney



27 to 50 people = €69 per person
18 to 26 people = €79 per person



We depart your base meeting point at 9am and we will travel onto the Corbett Court Hotel for breakfast. At 11am approx we will depart Corbett Court and make our way to our first attraction of the day Foynes Flying Boat Museum. This attraction will take us back in time to Ireland's first transatlantic airport terminal, here we will enjoy our award winning film "Atlantic Conquest", hear all about famous politicians, movie stars, royalty and refugees who passed through, try your hand at flying our flight simulators or sit and be amazed by the sheer size of our full scale B314 flying boat "Yankee Clipper" – take a look inside the honeymoon suite or sit in the dining room where lavish meals were served. Best of all enjoy an Irish coffee where it was invented in 1943, even try your hand at making it the original way Chef Joe Sheridan did. Round off your visit with a light lunch in our Brendan O'Regan Restaurant – an exact replica of the original famous restaurant at the Foynes Airport. After lunch we will depart Foynes and make our way to the town of Listowel, here we will experience a unique mode of transport of the Lartigue Monorail and Museum. The Lartigue Monorail offers visitors of all ages the opportunity to experience a unique form of rail travel. The original steam-powered monorail (designed by Frenchman Charles Lartigue) ran for nine miles between Listowel and the seaside resort of Ballyunion. Operating from 1888 to 1924, it carried passengers, livestock and freight along a rail supported on A-shaped trestles. It occupies a special place in railway history as the only monorail of its type to operate successfully on a commercial basis. During its lifetime, the original Lartigue Monorail was an object of much interest, curiosity and amusement. Nowadays, your visit includes a short demonstration journey on a full-scale diesel-powered replica of the original monorail. During the journey you will experience the unique features of the monorail and will observe its ingenious switching system. Before or after your journey, you can visit the Lartigue Museum to watch a film of the original Lartigue and see models, displays and memorabilia of the Lartigue and main-line railways. Afterwards we will visit the Seanchai Kerry Literary & Cultural Centre located in a beautifully restored 19th century Georgian residence adjacent to Listowel Castle. The Seanchai Centre portrays the lives & words of north Kerry's most famous writers including John B. Keane, Bryan MacMahon & Brendan Kennelly, in a unique audio-visual experience. The visit includes dramatic performances of the works of the writers. After some time in the gift shop we will make our way back via Tralee and Killarney to the Mill's Inn in Ballyvourney for our evening meal. This will consist of a four course meal with a number of options available to suit all tastes. The final part of our journey is then a relaxing coach journey back to your base meeting point.

Tour L

TWO DAY TRIP



OVERNIGHT TRIP TO DUBLIN

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE:

- Luxury Coach
- Breakfast at the Castle Arms Hotel
- Guided Coach Tour of Dublin city centre
- Entry to Guinness Storehouse
- Evening Meal in Bewley's Hotel
- Overnight Stay in Bewley's Hotel
- Breakfast in Bewley's Hotel
- Tour of Kilmainham Gaol
- 4 Course Evening Meal in the Castle Arms Hotel

* Lunch on both days in restaurants of your choice is not included in the package.

27 to 50 people = €175 per person

18 to 26 people = €165 per person



DAY 1

We will depart from your base meeting point at 6am approx. This time can be adjusted to suit individual circumstances. We will travel directly for the Castle Arms Hotel in Durrow where we will stop for breakfast. On arrival in Dublin city centre, a guide will join us on the coach and begin our tour of Dublin. You will be able to see all of the major landmarks such as O'Connell Street which is Europe's widest street, the GPO where the bullet holes from the 1916 Easter Rising can still be identified and the Spire which is Europe's tallest monument. We will travel down Henry Street, past Moore Street with its famous street traders where Molly Malone herself used to sell fish to Dubliners. From here we will go to one of Dublin's most photographed landmarks, the Ha'penny Bridge which will lead us towards Dublin's tourist quarter, Temple Bar. We will then stop at a restaurant of your choice for lunch. After this Dublin's number one tourist attraction awaits you as we visit the Guinness Storehouse. After exploring the Guinness brand and company we will make our way to Bewley's Hotel near Dublin Airport. You will now have an opportunity to check into your rooms, have an evening meal and relax before we prepare to go and see a first class show at The Grande Canal Theatre. (Admission to the show is not included in the package tour). After this we will return to Bewley's Hotel for the night.

DAY 2

On rising the next day we will first enjoy breakfast at Bewley's Hotel before making our way to Kilmainham Gaol. This is one of the largest unoccupied gaols in Europe and houses a major exhibition showcasing the political history of the prison which once held such famous characters as Charles Stewart Parnell. You will be given a full tour of the gaol which also includes an audio-visual presentation. On leaving Kilmainham Gaol our next stop is an afternoon of shopping at perhaps Dundrum Town Centre or any other centre of your choice. Here you will be free to enjoy many different shops and also a restaurant of your choice for lunch. At 5pm approx we will begin the journey homewards. We will stop at The Castle Arms Hotel in Durrow for our evening meal. This will consist of a number of options to suit all tastes. On returning to the coach we will continue the relaxing journey back to your base meeting point.

Tour M

TWO DAY TRIP

WEST CORK

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE:

- A Qualified Tour Guide in June, July & August
- Luxury Coach
- Entry & Refreshments at Kilbrittain Castle
- Lunch at Celtic Ross Rosscarbery on Day 1
- Evening Meal at O'Donovan's Hotel Clonakilty on Two Evenings
- Accommodation at O'Donovan's Hotel Clonakilty
- Lunch in Schull on Day 2
- Admission to Skibbereen Heritage Centre & Mizen Head

PLUS SPECIAL FEATURES – EVENING ENTERTAINMENT

You will have a choice of a comedy drama show presented by Killmeen drama group. The show they will present will be titled "Thy will be done".

(This play is the feuding of two elderly brothers, shotgun confrontations, drunken confidences and comic profanity. Billed as a drama but very much a comedy with many funny situations. A most satisfying evening's entertainment from this national award winning drama group)

Group size minimum of thirty people for show to go ahead

Smaller groups could avail of traditional Irish music in the relaxed atmosphere of the award winning pub "An Teach Beag"

27 to 50 people = €179 per person

18 to 26 people = €199 per person



Featuring:

The Indestructible Kilbrittain Castle
Birthplace of Michael Collins
The Beautiful Bays of Clonakilty & Rosscarbery
Drombeg Stone Circle
Skibbereen Heritage Centre
Mizen Head

DAY 1

Our tour will assemble at 9am at an agreed location and travel on to Bandon. Here the tour begins proper heading for Kilbrittain and taking in some interesting sites along the way. Kilbrittain is the "jewel in the crown" one of the oldest inhabited in Ireland dating back to around 1035. There will be a guided tour of the castle followed by tea/scones/coffee at 10.30am approx. Later we will visit the display site of the Fin Whale and then onto Timoleague Abbey, a chance for quiet reflection in a pararamic setting. A couple of miles from here lays the lovely fishing village of ring and a scenic coastal drive will bring us into Clonakilty, to be explored later in the day. About 15 minutes west of Clonakilty is the picturesque village of Rosscarbery situated at the mouth of a shallow estuary and steeped in history. Lunch will be served in the Celtic Ross Hotel at 2.30pm approx. This is followed by a visit to the birthplace of Michael Collins and places of note. From here it's back to Clonakilty where the group will get the chance to explore the town assisted by the tour guide. Evening meal and accommodation will be in the family run O'Donovan's Hotel, Clonakilty.

DAY 2

After breakfast the group will assemble at 10am approx and take the scenic route west to Skibereen passing the parazamic beaches of Red Strand, Long Strand and Owenahincha. Leaving Rosscarbery we will visit one of Ireland's best known stone circles Drombeg, dating back to the Bronze Age and from here onto the beautiful village of Glandore. A short time later we will arrive in Skibbereen and visit the heritage centre which hosts the great famine exhibition; just west of the town is the Abbey Cemetery, where the famine victims were buried. From here our tour takes us into Ballydehob and then onto Schull Harbour where we stop for lunch. Afterwards our coach will take us west along the peninsula through Goleen and nearby Crookhaven until we reach one of the highlights of our tour "The Mizen Head" this is one of the extreme points of the island of Ireland noted for its dramatic cliff scenery. Here we will visit the Mizen Head signal station said to be Ireland's most south-westerly point. Following a tour of the centre we return to Clonakilty for the evening meal at O'Donovan's Hotel at 7.30pm approx. This is our last stop before we make our way home to your club base.

Tour N

TWO DAY TRIP



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CLIFFS OF MOHER AND BUNRATTY BANQUET

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE:

- Luxury Coach
- Two Breakfasts at the Clare Inn Hotel (day 1 and day 2)
- Entry to the Cliffs of Moher Visitors Centre
- Lunch in The Imperial Hotel, Lisdoonvarna
- Entry to the Bunratty Evening Banquet
- Overnight Accommodation in the Clare Inn Hotel
- Entry to the Bunratty Folk Park
- Adare Visitors Centre
- 4 Course Evening Meal in The Woodlands Hotel, Adare

27 to 50 people = €179 per person

18 to 26 people = €199 per person



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DAY 1

We will begin this tour by departing from your base meeting point at 8am. Our first stop will be at the Clare Inn Hotel near Bunratty. Here we will have breakfast before preparing to explore the west coast of Clare. We will travel through many scenic towns such as Ennis, Ennistymon, Lahinch and Liscannor. Weather permitting we may be able to stop for a short while and experience the atmospheres of some of these picturesque towns. Our next stop is the spectacular Cliffs of Moher. Here you will have the opportunity to explore the visitors centre before experiencing the panoramic views which the cliffs provide. From the viewing platform of the newly restored O'Brien's Tower on a headland of the cliffs views such as the far off Aran Islands and Galway Bay can be enjoyed. We will then travel on to the beautiful town of Lisdoonvarna where we will be served lunch at The Imperial Hotel. After lunch we will make our way back to the Clare Inn Hotel for at 6.30pm approx. You will now be able to check into your rooms and enjoy a short break before we prepare for the next event in our tour. The Banquet at Bunratty Castle or Knappogue Castle is an extremely popular and enjoyable event. On entering the castle you will be welcomed by a kilted piper who will guide you over the drawbridge and into the Great Hall. Here in the resplendent surroundings of medieval banqueting style including candlelight and long oak tables you will be welcomed by the Earl and Lady of the Castle. The four course meal is a pleasant balance of contrasting Irish meat dishes served during the period and is accompanied with music and song. After dinner, you will sit back, relax and enjoy the entertainment programme – a selection of Irish medieval and traditional songs and instrumental music. We will return to the hotel for the night at 11pm approx.

DAY 2

After breakfast in the hotel, we will set out the next morning at 9am approx. Our first destination of the day will be the Bunratty Folk Park. Here you will have the opportunity to explore the castle and grounds in order to experience many aspects of the medieval lifestyle. After this we will return to the coach for a short drive to the Crescent Shopping Centre. For three hours approx you will be able to enjoy the many shops which are located in the centre. From here we will travel on to the beautiful village of Adare. Snuggled in a wooden and lush countryside setting, Adare is widely regarded as Ireland's prettiest and most picturesque village. The Heritage Centre will provide you with an introduction to the history of the village and point out many of its most important attractions such as Desmond's Castle. We will remain in Adare to explore its many thatched cottages and winding streets before settling at The Woodlands Hotel, Adare at 6pm for our evening meal. Here you will be presented with a number of different menu options before we begin the journey back to your base meeting point.



BOOKING FORM

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS ONLY

Name: _____

Address (Full postal): _____

E-mail: _____

Phone No: _____

Mobile: _____

Club Name: _____

Tour Choice: A B C D E F G
 H I J K L M

Tour Name: _____

Pick Up Point: _____

Tour Date: _____

Overnight tour room listing to be enclosed.

Additional requirements (Special diet etc.): _____

Deposit € _____ enclosed

**Make cheque payable to - O'Connor Bus Hire Ltd.
Post to: Cormac O'Connor, Castlawn, Kilbrittain, Co. Cork**

Booking Form - DAY TRIPS & 2 DAY TRIPS



Courtesy of Fáilte Ireland



Courtesy of Fáilte Ireland



BOOKING CONDITIONS & OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

THE TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

TOURING

By private coach. O'Connor Bus Hire feature air-conditioning, reclining seats, on-board washroom and are configured with fifty seats.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

Prices per person are based on two persons sharing an en suite twin-bedded room.

MEALS

Breakfasts are served daily. Dinners and some lunches are included as detailed in the itineraries. Any special meal requirements will be made on a request basis only.

SIGHTSEEING

The following terminology is used on the itinerary in regards to sightseeing:

Visit - You will enter a specific site and any applicable fees are included.

View - A brief stop often with a commentary and an opportunity to take photos.

See - You will walk or drive by the site so that you can see it.

A guide is included as necessary as detailed on the itinerary.

BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE

Baggage handling for one suitcase is included in the tour price at arrival and departure from each tour hotel.

THE TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

Passport fees, insurance, laundry, 'phone calls', beverages, meals not detailed on the itinerary, items of personal nature, excess baggage.

PAYMENTS

The tour must be paid in full at least six weeks before the scheduled date of departure. If it is not paid for on or before such date the organiser shall have the option to cancel the tour. If the organiser exercises such option or if the consumer cancels the tour (which cancellation must be notified in writing to the organiser) the following cancellation charges are payable by the consumer to the organiser.

DEFINITIONS

In the booking form the word 'Organiser' means the person who arranges your transport, accommodation etc, and who offers it as a tour. 'Consumer' means the person who buys or agrees to buy the tour or any person on whose behalf one agrees to purchase the tour and who is listed on the booking form or any other person to whom you transfer a tour which the consumer has purchased. 'Retailer' means travel agent.

THE CONTRACT

No contract shall arise until the organiser has received the completed booking form together with a deposit or full payment for the tour and has issued written confirmation of its acceptance to the retailer. This booking form represents the entire agreement between the consumer and the organiser. The organiser reserves the right to terminate this contract if the behaviour or conduct of a consumer either prior to or during the tour is likely to endanger the safety or well being of other consumers in his or her company or that of the consumer himself. The consumer must use the safety belt supplied in the coach. The consumer is reminded that there is a no smoking policy on board the coach.

PUNCTUALITY

Throughout the tour, to ensure everyone enjoys his or her tour, it is the consumer's responsibility to return to the coach at the designated time, details of which will be given clearly to the consumer before disembarkation. The organiser does not accept any responsibility for any expenses incurred by a consumer who left behind. Every effort will be made to ensure this does not happen, but the consumer's co-operation will be greatly appreciated.

ALL TOURS ARE SUBJECT TO SUFFICIENT BOOKINGS

This means that there must be enough passengers booked on a tour to make it a viable otherwise the tour may be cancelled. In the unlikely event that it

becomes necessary to cancel a tour for this reason, consumers will be informed as soon as possible. All monies paid by consumers will be refunded or may be used by the consumer against another tour with the organiser.

CHANGES TO ARRANGEMENTS

The organiser hereby reserves the right to vary any tour. This includes changes to ferry sailings, advertised accommodation, sightseeing and/or itineraries. This will only happen when situations arise which are beyond the organiser's control.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF CANCELLATIONS

More than 5 weeks before departure date any deposit paid shall be forfeited.

Within 3-5 weeks of departure date, 60% of the tour price is forfeited.

Within 2-3 weeks of departure date, 70% of the tour price is forfeited.

Within 1-2 weeks of departure date, 80% of the tour price is forfeited.

Within 7 days of departure date, 100% of the tour price is forfeited.

All cancellation charges apply to each person covered by a booking.

Any insurance premium paid is not refundable.

SPECIAL REQUESTS

Special requests (e.g. ground floor accommodation, sea view etc.) shall be communicated by the consumer in writing to the organiser or retailer at the time of making the booking. The organiser shall use reasonable endeavours to fulfil such request. The organiser shall be obliged to provide services only in accordance with special requests where the organiser specifically commits in writing to do so. No liability shall attach to the organiser for failure to comply with a special request which has not been confirmed in writing.

ACCOMMODATION ON REQUEST

Where accommodation is 'on request' an additional charge of €10 will be payable by the consumer. The charge will be debited to the tour price once a booking is confirmed. If the organiser is unable to obtain the particular accommodation requested by the consumer, the organiser shall take all reasonable steps to make a comparable alternative available to the consumer. If the accommodation requested by the consumer cannot be confirmed or an alternative offered or if the alternative offered is not acceptable to the consumer, the consumer shall be entitled to a refund of the tour price paid by the organiser less a €13 administration charge and the organiser will be discharged from any further liability.

INSURANCE

The organiser advise all consumers to purchase insurance for the such tours as are not within Ireland. Contact Sharon at Campion Insurances (062) 64116

COMPLAINTS

Should a consumer have a problem during the tour he or she should inform the organiser immediately who will endeavour to put things right. If the problem is not resolved and the consumer has cause for complaint for any reason, whilst touring the following rules must be observed, if the consumer has reason to complain about the accommodation, food or service provided at any guesthouse or hotel that such complaint should be made in the first instance direct to the proprietor or manager of the establishment concerned at the time that the complaint arises, and shall, if the organiser requires, complete a form settling out the detail of the complaint. It is therefore a condition of the contract that a consumer communicates any problem to the organiser while on tour.

LAWS OF IRELAND

All matters concerning this contract shall be subject to the laws of Ireland and unless the organiser and the consumer agree to the contrary any legal proceedings shall be brought in the Irish Courts which Court both parties hereby acknowledge have exclusive jurisdiction in relation to any legal action brought hereunder.

ERRORS

The organiser has made every effort to ensure accuracy of the booking conditions and other important information however the organiser cannot be held responsible for the printing or typographical errors or errors arising from unforeseen circumstances.

Testimonials

Educational, we are delighted with having had this opportunity to visit Donegal & other places without this local tour we would never have got there.

James & Eileen O Keefe

Coach, driver, hotel, food, and guide everything was super our driver was very steady careful and obliging.

Teresa Ross

Excellent tour one of the best we have been on. Looking forward to tour next year.

John & Bernadette McCarthy

Had a wonderful time, was delighted to find no hidden costs and the food & accomadation was excellent.

Mary Chambers

The tour, bus, driver & tour guide, was the world best tour ever I was at in a long time.

Margaret Tobin

At 84 years I have never enjoyed a tour as much, and 85 years I hope to enjoy another tour (well done).

Kathleen Pierce

This is our second tour & is great value for money & we look forward to travelling with you Cormac again in the future.

Eric & Breda Mee

On my two tours so far to Belfast etc and Donegal, I have been very impressed by the efficiency, good humour, and knowledge of the tour operator and guide. I would have no hesitations in recommending both to anybody. In my opinion O' Connor coaches have always been efficient, reliable and comfortable in my many other journeys with them.

Leonie Ward

As a young person I enjoyed this tour a lot and found Barbara's telling of this history and culture of the areas so easy to understand.

Mary Ward

Tour brilliant, Cormac our coach driver so very good & helpful. Thanks for everything looking forward to 2012.

Mary O Neill

On behalf of all fifty members/friends of the Killeagh/Inch Monday club I wish to thank you most sincerely for an excellent trip to Donegal. We were most impressed with the planning and execution of the tour, it had so many contrasting and interesting features all packed into four days. The comfort on the coach was superb, the patience and courtesy of the driver was much appreciated. Overall our experience was most positive – hotel, meals, visits, waterbus, entertainment etc were excellent. One of the most satisfactory elements was the professionalism and care exercised by our guide Barbara – it made a memorable occasion very personal for each guest. We were extremely pleased with the service given by O' Connor coaches and will consider them favourably for similar future events, as well as recommending them to our fellow groups.

Finbarr Motherway



Testimonials

On behalf of Ballinlough ICA, I want to extend our sincere thanks to O' Connor coaches for a wonderful trip to Kenmare. We enjoyed excellent weather, excellent food, cruise & scenery and were safely driven by Dave, your courteous & helpful driver. We hope to do another trip in the future with ye. Again many thanks.

Margaret Power

We thought it was the best tour that we have been on it was so well planned & everything fell into place so well. We couldn't find one fault. Keep up the good work, looking forward to travelling with ye again next year.

David & Anne Connolly

It was my number one tour – have travelled on so many tours on so many coaches for years. A big thank you for your kindness.

Breda Britton

On behalf of Lisavaird ICA I would like to thank you for the most enjoyable day spent with you, everything was so well planned & all the meals were enjoyed by everyone. Once again thank you & we hope to travel with you again.

Myrle Carey

Thank you from both of us for an outstanding tour and one of great value. We made many friends and the atmosphere on the coach was brilliant, meals & music every night so enjoyable. Thanks also to Barbara, a wonderful person. Look forward to our trip to Scotland.

John & Rita

Would recommend the tour to anyone who wanted a relaxed holiday without the responsibility of driving.

Eileen McCarthy

An all in package is very tempting as you don't have to worry about parking or finding your way, also entry to places of interest included, hotel in Durrow most welcoming and friendly staff.

Denis & Margaret Collins

Special thanks to yourself & Barbara for making our trip such an enjoyable & interesting few days. It was all so well organised – the tours, sites etc. The hotel – both staff & food were superb. Hopefully you may be able to make a similar trip to Donegal & I can guarantee you a bus full next year.

Anne Wall:

The best I ever had, I have been on many tours of Europe. Hope you are not short changing yourself.

Ursula O Mahony

Excellent value for money, I don't know how you do it, keep up the good work.

Just to say thank you for a most enjoyable trip to N. Ireland as part of Midleton I.C.A group & looking forward to next years calendar.

Margaret Sargent





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