

Ireland To Island

7-Day Tour

Small Group & Self-Drive Ireland Tours



# Day 1: Sunday

### Dublin To Cobh, County Cork

Total driving time: 3 hours 30 minutes excluding stops

Our Irish adventure begins as our small group tour leaves Dublin and heads south to Cobh, in County Cork – one of the world's finest natural harbors and where the last 123 passengers boarded the doomed Titanic on her maiden voyage.

As we journey through County Cork with its wild beaches and jagged peninsulas, we'll take in the 1000year-old Medieval Rock of Cashel. Your expert local guide will bring you on a tour of the well-preserved round tower, Cormac's chapel, and the breath-taking cathedral and castle! Take the first of many jealousy-inducing photos of this historical masterpiece!

After building up a thirst, we'll make our way to the world-famous Midleton Distillery, dating from the 17th century and home to some of the best whiskies in the world. There is so much to taste and learn at this oldest distillery whiskey museum and visitor center and we'll enjoy lunch and a tour with a few cheeky samples along the way!

The night will be spent in Cobh, soaking up the beautiful harbor views, colorful houses, and bustling nightlife.



Blarney & The Ring Of Kerry

Total driving time: 3 hours 30 minutes excluding stops

Start your day with the Cobh Titanic Experience. This tour will take you on an emotional journey of the last passengers who boarded the Titanic. Find out their fate when you complete the tour!

Before embarking on our small group tour of Kerry, you can tick off a very important item on your Ireland bucket list – kissing the Blarney Stone! Here, you'll receive the "gift of the gab" and will soon be talking like the loquacious locals. We'll then explore Blarney with its beautiful grounds, gardens and castle and rock- up close.

After lunch, we'll enter the panoramic Kingdom of Kerry, where your guide will give you some time off to wander the streets, shops, and delights of picturesque Kenmare. This is your gateway to the Ring of Kerry experience – arguably Ireland's most scenic and celebrated drive.

Tonight, we travel towards the little fishing village of Portmagee, with its twinkling harbor lights, to get ready for our first island trip to Skellig Michael. For those who prefer 'terra firma', we've another excellent option up our sleeves.

### Day 3: Tuesday

#### Skellig Michael & Derrynane

Total driving time: 1 hours 45 minutes excluding stops

There are only a very select few places on this planet that can be described as "out of this world" and Skellig Michael is unquestionably one of these. Today, we will journey to a "galaxy far, far away" and go Jedi Spotting. But before it was Luke Skywalker's sanctuary, it was home to monks who used its perfectly preserved beehive huts to pray and contemplate.

This is a sublime sanctuary, home to much wildlife and natural fauna; a place of peace and power where the presence of the monks can still be felt.

However, if you'd rather stay on dry land, your guide will take you to visit the ancestral home of Daniel O'Connell, the great Irish liberator, orator, lawyer, politician, and statesman. Derrynane House, near the white dunes of Caherdaniel Strand, is a 19th century residence which is home to many of our famous patriot's personal artifacts.

And if the walls could talk, they'd tell of debates, rebellions, United Irishmen, nearby fairy kingdoms to explore, beach walks to undertake, and an Ogham Stone featuring the oldest form of Irish writing. After this cultural extravaganza, it's off for a gentle walk around Bray Head where you'll be treated to an oceanic panorama of the rugged beauty of the Skelligs and nearby Valentia Island. After a great day of sightseeing on land or at sea, it's off to enjoy Killarney – the capital of Kerry.



# Day 4: Wednesday

### Killarney To Dingle

Total driving time: 1.5 hours excluding stops

Our day begins with red deer spotting in the spectacular Killarney National Park, as we casually wander down one of its numerous trails on foot or by bike. Discover Muckross House and gardens, Torc Waterfall, and many other beautiful spots along the way. If you feel like relaxing today, there is always the option to go jaunting around the park at a slower pace, seeing the sights.

From Killarney, we will make a short drive to Inch Beach to stretch our legs and refresh for an afternoon on the stunning Dingle Peninsula.

Tonight, we stay in the celebrated, cozy coastal town of Dingle where the evening is yours to absorb the atmosphere of Dingle's famous quirky pubs, fantastic restaurants and impromptu traditional music sessions. This just might be the location for that perfect pint of Guinness (or two)!



# Day 5: Thursday

#### Cliffs Of Moher & The Burren

Total driving time: 3 hours 30 minutes excluding stops

Today, before we leave the Kingdom of Kerry, we watch man's best friend show off his finely-honed skills during a sheepdog demonstration. Next, we take the short ferry ride to County Clare, home of the incredible Cliffs of Moher and the spectacular Burren National Park.

From Caherdaniel to the Cliffs, we are spoiled for natural beauty. We will take a gentle walk along the cliffs with the roaring Wild Atlantic providing the perfect soundtrack! Your Overland Ireland guide will take you off the beaten track and point out secret passages that you won't find on the typical tourist route. Friends back at home will be very envious when you show them your snaps at this stunning landmark.

The evening belongs to the fishing village of Doolin, with its colorful houses and its trio of pubs. Known as the 'traditional Irish music capital of Ireland', you'll get a 'session' all year round.



# Day 6: Friday

#### The Aran Islands

Total driving time: 1 hour, excluding stops

It's only a short trip from the mainland to Inishmore – the largest of the Aran Islands. The magnificent Aran Islands are romantically remote and have inspired many a poet and playwright! Sharpen your pencil before hopping aboard!

Sit in comfort as we traverse the island, taking in the many ancient sites as they unfold. If you fancy seeing the island by car or by electric bike, we will make this happen (these are optional extras). Landmarks include the medieval Christian ruins of the Seven Churches and Clochán na Carraige. We will visit the famous ring fort of Dún Aonghasa, which lies a staggering 100m over Galway Bay.

Learn a few words of Gaelic from the locals and treat yourself to a feast of seafood before making your way back to Rossaveal Pier in County Galway. From here, we will take a short drive to the picturesque market town of Clifden which is nestled between the Twelve Bens mountain range and the Atlantic Ocean.





### Day 7: Saturday

Galway To Dublin

Total driving time: 4 hours, excluding stops

Your final day on the Ireland to Island tour will not disappoint. Today you will travel through Connemara National Park on route to Ireland's capital of culture – Galway City. Before you lose yourself in the bustling streets of bohemian Galway, we will take a short hike on Diamond Hill in the heart of Connemara; here, you will be spoiled with panoramic views of the hills and valleys.

In Galway, we will take a historic tour of the city and you will have some free time to soak up the atmosphere. Street performers, live music, dancers, and colorful locals will keep you entertained during your stay. Sit back and relax in one of their award-winning cafes and restaurants.

Late afternoon, you will be taken back to Dublin City armed with recommendations of places to see and things to do if you have a couple of days left in our fair capital city. On the journey back, why not reminisce about your time on this unforgettable Irish adventure!

# Getting in the Mood for your Trip Any other questions?

Now it's time to get yourself in the mood and really excited for your trip!

Come join the chat in our fun <u>Facebook group</u>, where you can ask questions, share your own tips, or just generally share your love for all things Ireland.

Also take a look through our <u>Instagram photos</u> for inspiration and check out our <u>blog posts</u> for lots more insights!

Hope to see you soon,

- Team Overland

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