



The Emerald Route
7-Day Self-Driving
Tour of Ireland



Small Group & Self-Drive Ireland Tours



Your Expertly Planned 7-Day Self-Drive Ireland Trip

We promise that your 7-day Emerald Route self-drive tour of Ireland will bring you on an unforgettable journey, encapsulating and exploring Ireland with a diverse range of scenery, castles, adventure, history, heritage, culture and wildlife along the way. Enjoy some exciting experiences, yet feel as though you're gliding through the days at a smooth pace.

You'll begin by leaving the busy streets of Dublin for the spectacular Wild Atlantic Way where you will cover over 1,100 km of rugged Irish coastline from Connemara to Kinsale.

Expert local guides and planners will guarantee you have a memorable experience on your Overland Ireland self-drive tour, exploring everything our country has to offer. This route takes in some of the breathtaking sights on the Ring of Kerry, to visiting amazing hidden gems, such as Moll's Gap, Torc Waterfall and Killarney National Park you will have it all. A guest favourite is the option of kayaking Dingle Bay with the local celebrity – Fungie the Dolphin.

Visit Ireland's most famous landmark: The Cliffs of Moher. Fall in love with the bustling bohemian city of Galway and discover the ancient charm of the Aran Islands. Let us plan your journey from start to finish and leave you to create memories to last a lifetime.



Book with Confidence

- Expertly Designed Itineraries
- Support Concierge Service
- Overland Ireland Virtual Tour Guide
- Fully Comprehensive Insurance

Due to our tours' off-the-beaten-path locations and the fact that we cannot guarantee that all accommodation partners have ramps/elevators, unfortunately, our tours are **not wheelchair accessible**.

Paddy - The Pocket Pilot

All our self-drive tours come with a guided itinerary, numerous extras, and our renowned exceptional service.

And one of the extras to help you along the way is our Paddy the Pocket Pilot App.

If you want to see Ireland on an independent adventure, but with all the benefits and surprises of a guided tour — like "tried & loved", pre-booked accommodation — you're in safe hands.

What's Included And Excluded On Your Driving Tour Of Ireland?

We are one of the only tour companies to include as much as we can in your tour price. We aim to have no hidden surprises or unexpected charges on your tour.

Our quest is to keep costs down and experiences up! We have worked really hard to get you the best deals up and down the country for you.

Special dietary requirements or preferences? Please let us know as we can cater this tour to vegans, vegetarians, and pescatarians. All fish served to our guests is responsibly sourced and as fresh as possible!

Included

- Paddy the Pocket Pilot App
- Carefully chosen accommodation in locally run guesthouses.
 - We also have options for castle experiences and hotels
- Easy-to-follow and detailed daily itineraries
- Hearty breakfasts every morning
- Simple maps with instructions on how to find your way around the Emerald Isle
- Tour support throughout your trip
 - We are always available should you need to talk.
- All entrance fees to national parks on your itinerary
- Daily hidden gem locations chosen by our expert guides
- Daily entertainment and food recommendations
- Kylemore Abbey
- Aran Island Ferry
- Galway Walking Tour
- Sheepdog Demonstration
- Dingle Kayaking
- Kinsale Walking Tour
- Blarney Castle

Excluded

- Airfare to Ireland
- A driver guide
- Motorway toll and parking fees
- Fuel for your car and your body!
 - Lunch, dinner, and petrol are on you!
- Clonmacnoise
- Dún Aonghasa
- Shannon Ferry
- Ross Castle
- Rock of Cashel
- Aran Island bike hire
- Some suggested experiences and activities
 - We can arrange those you want to do, but you will likely pay the experience/activity provider (i.e. horse-riding, jaunting (horse-drawn carriage) directly
- The self-control to leave stunning locations!
- The determination to discover all the wonderful places on your itinerary
- Mandatory upgrade to a private room for solo travellers

Day 1

Clonmacnoise - Connemara

**Total driving distance & time: 310 kilometres –
4 hours 10 minutes, excluding stops**

Switch on Paddy the Pocket Pilot app and start your expertly planned self-drive tour, leaving Dublin for the beauty and surroundings of the 6th-century monastery at Clonmacnoise, located on the banks of the River Shannon. The monastery was a centre of excellence for learning and scholars created the finest of Celtic art and illuminated manuscripts over 600 years.

With a whetted appetite, you will cross the country into County Galway. Your next stop is Kylemore Abbey in the heart of Connemara. The rugged landscape of Connemara come hail rain or shine is guaranteed to take your breath away. Spend time roaming the abbey and Victorian walled garden on this 1000-acre estate overlooking Kylemore Lake and the majestic Connemara National Park.

At the end of a busy day, stay in Clifden surrounded by the Twelve Bens mountain range. Discover some great bars, restaurants, and nightly music and have a chat with the locals over a pint of the Black Stuff!

We have added the option of staying in an exquisite castle so you can embrace your inner Prince(ss)!





Day 2

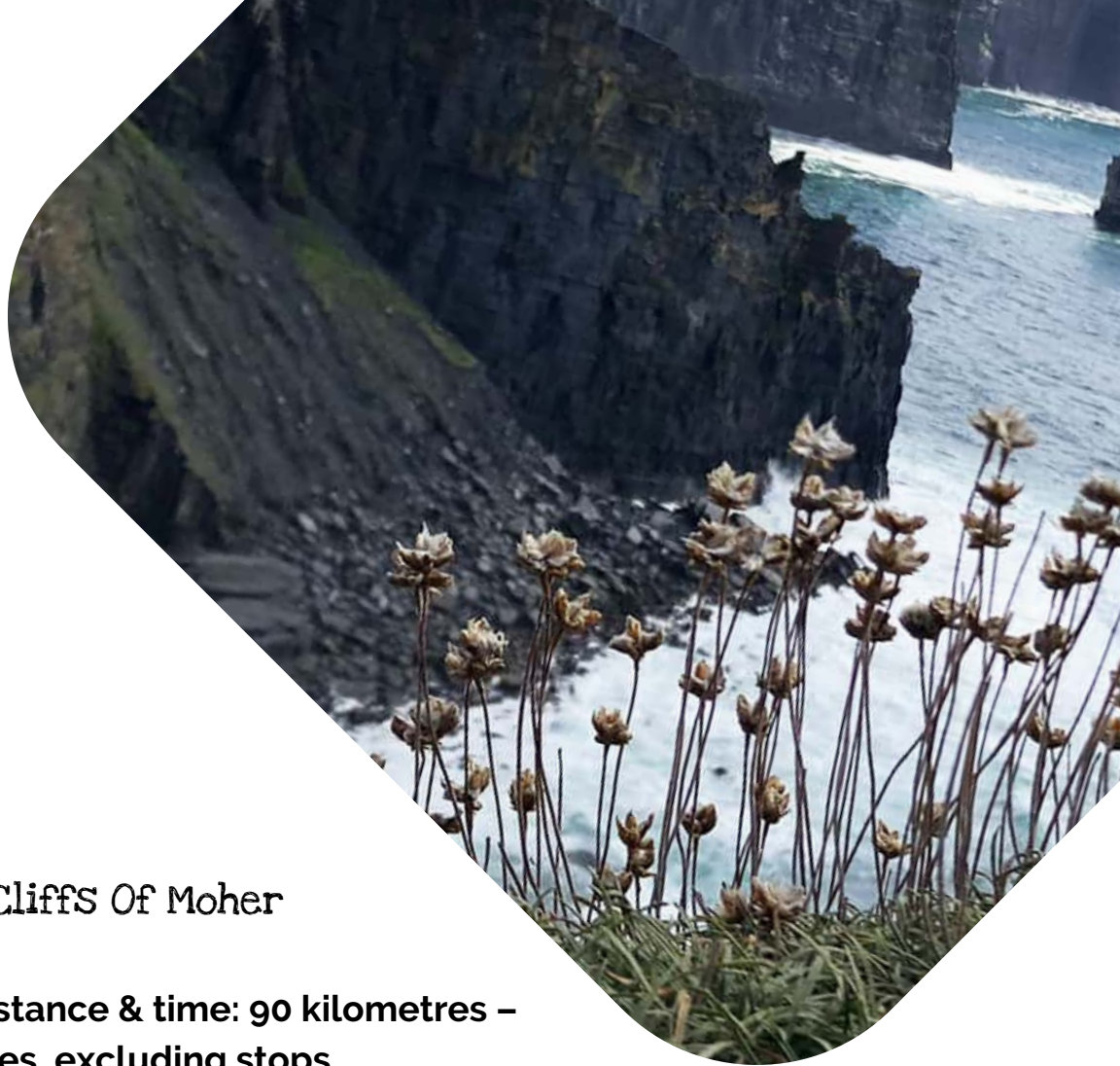
The Aran Islands

Total driving distance & time: 100 kilometres - 1 hour 40 minutes, excluding stops

After a short drive cross country to Rossaveal Pier on Galway bay, board the ferry to the Aran Islands. You'll land on rugged Inishmore, the largest of the three Aran Islands. Explore the Island by bicycle or by special request jaunting cart all pre-booked and arranged for you by the team at Overland.

The route will take in the stone fort of Dún Aonghasa, which lies 100m over the ocean before making your way back to the mainland. While you are there you might pick up a few words of "Gaelic" from the locals and maybe treat yourself to an original Aran Sweater!

Your departure from Rossaveal is the start of our Galway adventure. Hug the coastline all the way into bustling bohemian Galway. Expect a great atmosphere, entertaining street performers and plenty of craic in this much celebrated town.



Day 3

Galway - The Cliffs Of Moher

Total driving distance & time: 90 kilometres – 1 hour 45 minutes, excluding stops

Galway is a city that has its Medieval history at its very heart. Our local guide will take you down the narrow streets where you can duck in and out of brightly coloured shops.

Try on Claddagh Rings and Galway Shawls and pass through The Spanish Arch to take in the famous Claddagh fishing village.

This day just keeps on giving. You will now travel southwest towards The Burren National Park and the jaw-dropping Cliffs of Moher. On this adventure, you will visit Corcomroe Abbey, a 13th-century Cistercian Monastery and the 16th-century Dunguaire Castle in Kinvara.

The cliffs experience will take you by foot across its stunning natural features with the powerful Atlantic Ocean waves crashing in below. The cliffs are one of the most spectacular natural features in Ireland and are sure to leave you lost for words. The evening is spent in the hometown of traditional Irish music – Doolin.

Day 4

Doolin To Dingle

**Total driving distance & time: 240 kilometres –
3 hours 30 minutes, excluding stops**

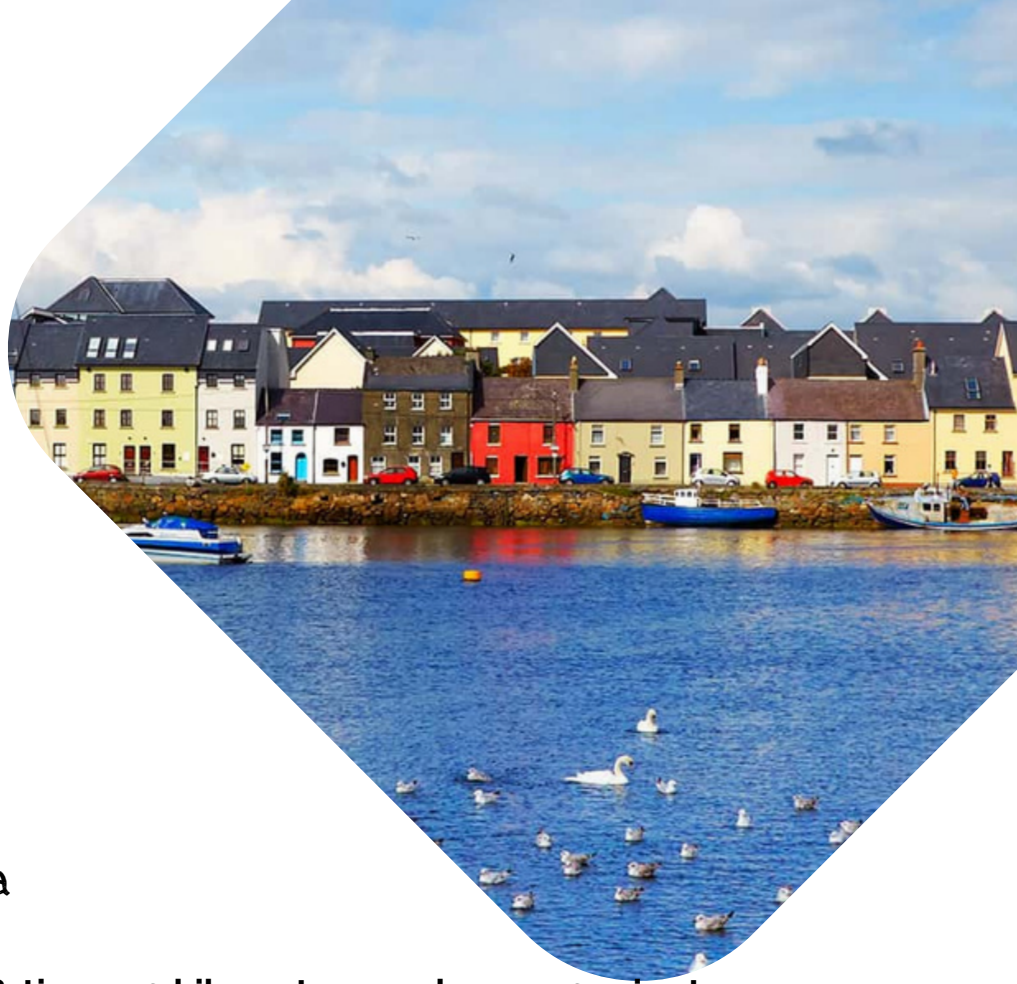
Before travelling deep into the wilds of Donegal, let one of our favourite tour guides lead you through the streets of Derry to help you understand the struggles of our past and the long road it has taken to the current peaceful times we now enjoy in Northern Ireland.

On route to Glenveagh National Park, treat yourself to a pit stop at Grianan of Alleach, a 6th-century hillfort built on top of the 244-meter-high Greenan Mountain at Inishowen, County Donegal.

Perched in the Donegal mountains, Glenveagh Castle, gardens and parks have so much to offer. The 16,000 hectares of the park include the Derryveagh mountains and the Poisoned Glen which boasts hills and trails to follow for the afternoon. There are challenging routes for you to enjoy and more relaxed trails to take at your leisure. Why not try the cycle route?

An hour away you will settle in for the evening in the picturesque village of Ardara.





Day 5

The Dingle Peninsula

Total driving distance & time: 50 kilometres – 2 hours 30 minutes, excluding stops

Today your morning begins exploring caves and inlets on Dingle Bay by kayak and meet county Kerry's biggest celebrity – Fungie the Dolphin.

If kayaking isn't your thing you can take a moderate-paced hike up Mount Brandon where you will be rewarded with 360-degree panoramic views of Dingle Bay and Castle Gregory.

Perhaps you just want to stroll around this colourful village full of cute craft shops and cafes. Take today at your own pace. It's your holiday – Do it your way.

This afternoon, jump in the car and take an impressive trip along one of Ireland's most scenic roads – The Slea Head Drive. You spend another night in the buzzing town of Dingle – relax and enjoy.

Day 6

Sites On The Ring Of Kerry

Total driving distance & time: 200 kilometres – 3 hours 30 minutes, excluding stops

Say a fond farewell to Dingle and journey towards the Ring of Kerry. The first stop takes you to Killarney.

The Ring of Kerry is the very definition of the word scenic and you will discover many hidden gems including Moll's Gap, Torc Waterfall and Ross Castle in Killarney National Park.

We will arrange a guided tour of Ross Castle where you will learn what life was really like behind the stone walls.

Stop for some shopping and lunch in the beautiful heritage town of Kenmare. For your last night on tour, we are excited to send you to coastal Kinsale which is famed for its culinary culture, delivered by its many award-winning restaurants.

The town also has a great tradition of poetry, silver, gold and glassware manufacturing which can be seen throughout its local shops and galleries – boasting local talented artists.



Day 7

Cork - Kiss The Blarney Stone

Total driving distance & time: 320 kilometres – 3 hours 30 minutes, excluding stops

Wake up refreshed and ready to be taken on a guided walking tour through the narrow streets of Kinsale with one of Ireland's greatest guides, Barry.

Your self-drive App Paddy will lead you on to Blarney because you simply cannot leave Cork without visiting Blarney Castle and Gardens and giving the Blarney Stone a big fat kiss!

Your final stop before driving back to Dublin is the Rock of Cashel. The Rock of Cashel is over 1000 years old and you will get to see its medieval round tower, chapel, cathedral and castle. A fantastic end to your trip.

It is now time to turn off your engine, dry your tears and to sit back and soak up all that you have experienced over the last 7 days. If you have any time left before leaving the Emerald Isle we will give you plenty of amazing recommendations for things to do, eat and entertain you in Dublin's fair city.



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 [Facebook group](#), 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 [Instagram photos](#) for inspiration and check out our [blog posts](#) for lots more insights!

Hope to see you soon,
- Team Overland

Phone: [00353-91-376482](tel:00353-91-376482)

WhatsApp: [00353-86-2463358](tel:00353-86-2463358)

[overlandirelandtours.com](https://www.overlandirelandtours.com)

