



The High Life

# 8-Day Self-Driving Tour of Ireland



Small Group & Self-Drive Ireland Tours



## Treat Yourself To A Luxury 8-Day Self-Drive Tour Of Ireland

From castle stays to romantic cliff-top walks this self-drive 8-day Ireland tour has it all!

Let us provide you with the perfect itinerary for a luxury 8-day road trip through Ireland, showing you the best our country has to offer. Begin exploring Ireland's Ancient East at Glendalough and make your way to the legendary Wild Atlantic Way.

Discover the magical sites on the Ring of Kerry, take a jaunt through Killarney National Park and even steal a kiss from the Blarney Stone. This Ireland self-drive tour has the perfect balance of heritage, culture, and famed Irish "Craic" (fun), all packed into 8 days without ever feeling rushed!

This trip will take you to the famous Cliffs of Moher, through the Bohemian Capital of Culture Galway and finish with a night of opulence at Ashford Castle! If it is good enough for Prince Harry's Honeymoon, then it is good enough for us!



### **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 Is Included And Excluded In Your 8-Day Ireland Road Trip?

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
- Glendalough Tour
- Blarney Castle Entrance
- Bunratty Castle
- Kylemore Abbey
- Westport Bike Hire

## 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!
- Rock of Cashel
- Glendalough Monastery
- Shannon Ferry
- Clonmacnoise
- Killarney Bike Hire
- Jaunting (horse and cart)
- 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

### Glendalough - Cork

**Total driving distance & time: 330 kilometres – 4 hours 10 minutes, excluding stops**

Switch on your Paddy the Pocket Pilot App and off you go! Your first stop after leaving the bustling capital behind is Glendalough in the Wicklow Mountains, perched centrally in Ireland's Ancient East. You will be taken on a tour of one of the most important monastic sites, learn about Ireland's history, folklore and be impressed by the St. Kevin's Round Tower, built in the 6th century.

After your introduction to Irish history, travel south to the Rock of Cashel. Take some jealousy-inducing photos at this famous Irish medieval landmark.

This afternoon and evening you will make yourself at home at the luxurious Hayfield Manor in Cork City. You will have an endless choice of places to eat and be entertained this evening or simply relax and enjoy the lavish surroundings of the manor house.





## Day 2

### Blarney - Killarney

**Total driving distance & time: 140 kilometres - 2 hours 10 minutes, excluding stops**

No trip to Ireland is complete without a trip to Blarney Castle and Gardens. You simply **MUST** kiss the Blarney Stone and receive the gift of the gab (the ability to tell a good yarn). Take the time to roam the beautiful gardens.

Enjoy lunch in Kenmare, nestled perfectly between the Ring of Kerry and the Beara Peninsula.

Onwards to Killarney. Visit some spectacular views at Moll's Gap, Torc Waterfall and Ladies View before exploring Killarney National Park. This afternoon you will jaunt – horse and carriage. If you are feeling energetic you can cycle this 100km stunning estate taking in Muckross House and Ross Castle.

The evening is yours to spend wandering around the wonderful shops, pubs and eateries in Killarney – The Capital of Kerry!

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You will stay at the magnificent four-star Lake Hotel where you will receive a traditional Irish welcome with stunning surroundings. All of this has been prearranged for you by our expert team at Overland.

## Day 3

### The Ring Of Kerry - Dingle

**Total driving distance & time: 179 kilometres – 4 hours, excluding stops**

Rise and shine early and start your ultimate road trip along Ireland's most famous ring road – The Ring of Kerry. Take your time and take yourself on a journey through 10,000 years of Irish history.

This drive will take your breath away. We will give you tips on how to get off the beaten track and direct you to all the hidden gems along the route. You might even bump into our friend selling Poitín (Irish Moonshine) but don't tell anyone you've met him!

This evening you will drive into the famous harbor town of Dingle, home to one of our most famous Irish legends – Fungie the Dolphin.

This evening is yours to absorb the atmosphere in Dingle's famous quirky pubs and fantastic restaurants. Why not sit in Foxy John's hardware store, order yourself a drink and strike up a conversation with a colourful local!

Stay at the award-winning Heaton's Guesthouse and get excited about their wonderful breakfast feast tomorrow morning.



## Day 4

### The Cliffs Of Moher - Dromoland Castle

**Total driving distance & time: 275 kilometres –  
4 hours, excluding stops**

Leave the South West behind and take yourself northwards to the Cliffs of Moher. Your cliffs experience will take you by foot across its stunning natural features with the powerful Atlantic Ocean waves crashing below.

The cliffs are one of the most spectacular natural features in Ireland and are sure to leave you lost for words. We will send you on a wonderful route off the beaten track.

After your invigorating cliffs experience, it is time to unwind and live like a King and Queen in the celebrated Dromoland 5-star Castle.







## Day 5

### Bunratty - Galway

**Total driving distance & time: 72 kilometres – 1 hour, excluding stops**

This morning, take your time to enjoy the activities and estate at Dromoland or take a short drive to Bunratty Castle for a folk and heritage tour.

Your departure from County Clare is the start of your bustling, bohemian Galway adventure. Galway, voted European Capital of Culture 2020 and will not disappoint. Expect an electric atmosphere with entertaining street performers and plenty of "craic" (fun) in this much-celebrated town.

Our friends in Galway will take you on a gourmet historical tour of the city.

Tonight you will be staying a stone's throw away from the lively hotspots at the historical Hardiman Hotel on Eyre Square.

## Day 6

### Kylemore Abbey - Ballynahinch Castle

**Total driving distance & time: 110 kilometres – 1 hour 50 minutes, excluding stops**

Your next stop on tour 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 the Victorian walled garden on this 1000-acre estate overlooking Kylemore Lake and the majestic Connemara National Park.

We recommend a quick trip for tea and cake in Clifden town or even a delicious seafood lunch.

Ballynahinch Castle awaits you. Let them serve up a sumptuous afternoon tea in one of their luxurious rooms. Once you park up at this hidden gem you will not want to leave.



## Day 7

### Westport - Ashford Castle

**Total driving distance & time: 120 kilometres – 2 hours, excluding stops**

This morning you will challenge yourself to a hike up Ireland's holiest mountain – Croagh Patrick. It was made famous by St. Patrick himself. At the top, you will be treated to panoramic views of Clew Bay.

If hiking is not your thing, why not grab a bike and cycle along the Greenway route to Achill Island or have a relaxed walking tour of Westport Town.

The last night of your trip will be your finest. Presidents, celebrities, and sports heroes throughout history have been drawn to the fabulous Ashford Castle Hotel. This really is one of the most luxurious places to stay in Ireland teeming with rich history and heritage. What a way to finish off your whirlwind tour of Ireland.

There are never-ending activities to enjoy on the estate like falconry, boat trips, archery, horse-riding or even their award-winning Spa!



## Day 8

Clonmacnoise - Dublin

**Total driving distance & time: 255 kilometres - 3 hours, excluding stops**

All good things must come to an end. Journey back to Dublin's fair city at your leisure today with a stop at the 6th-century monastery Clonmacnoise.

If you have a little time left in Dublin before you fly home we will arm you with fantastic things to see and do in the Capital city and surroundings.

Let Paddy the Pocket Pilot guide you back to Dublin and make some reservations for you.

Or... Why not [stay longer and link up with another one of our wonderful self-drive itineraries?](#) The choices are endless with Overland Ireland.



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)

