



Overland  
**IRELAND**  
SMALL GROUPS. BIG EXPERIENCES.

Tripadvisor  
Travelers'  
Choice Awards



# Ancient East

## Road Trip Through Ireland

Small Group & Self-Drive Ireland Tours

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



## We're Overland Ireland...

...and we specialize in creating unforgettable tours on the island of Ireland. From carefully crafted [small-group tours](#) and [self-drive tour packages](#) to [tailor-made tours](#) designed around any needs and interests, we love showing people around this incredible, beautiful country.

But our experiences couldn't be more different from your typical bus tour. Team Overland believes that big things come in small packages. That's why our small-group tours concentrate on offering big experiences to all our guests.

We know individual attention and care are key to making every customer's holiday unique, exciting, and memorable. And when you combine that with our love of the great outdoors, Irish culture, history, and music, and the world-famous craic (fun) of the friendly locals – all of which feature in our tours – you have a truly authentic, unfiltered Irish experience.

Our own adventures to every part of this captivating island have inspired us to share it with the rest of the world. Because we love getting off the beaten track, we've found some fantastic hidden gems, the best of which feature alongside the amazing not-so-hidden gems on this itinerary.



## Explore Ireland with Complete Peace of Mind

### **When You Book With Overland, You Book With Confidence**

Are you ready to take that bucket list vacation to Ireland you've always dreamt of? At Overland Ireland, we know how much trips to the Emerald Isle mean to people, so we go above and beyond to ensure our tours live up to expectations!

Whatever it is that brings you to Ireland, our friendly, local team is here to guide you through an unforgettable experience. Whether you opt for our [Small Group Tours of Ireland](#) or our [Private Guided Tours of Ireland](#), we have your happiness and interests in mind from the moment you arrive.

**We have designed every aspect of our Ireland vacations to ensure maximum enjoyment on the road. You can confidently book a trip with us knowing that you will have a trip of a lifetime.**



**Award Winning  
Company**



**Guaranteed  
Departures**



**Small Group  
Sizes**



**Irish  
Tour Guides**



**The Great  
Outdoors**



**Local  
Knowledge**



**Superb  
Accommodation**



**Customer  
Support**



**Self-Drive  
Tours**



**Comfortable  
Transport**



**Experienced Providers  
& Suppliers**



**Private Tour  
Options**

# But don't just take our word for it...

...our reviews speak for themselves!

## **Steph T. on TripAdvisor**

"We worked with Liz at Overland Ireland for a custom, self-guided 9 Day Tour and we could not be more happy with our experience! Liz was a pure JOY to work with, answering all of my questions and helping to create THE best tour that was exactly everything we wanted! I cannot recommend Overland Ireland enough - they know all the best spots, and make the experience so easy! We would never have had such an amazing trip without their help!!"

"My adult daughter and I did the ultimate 10-day self-driving tour in the summer of 2022 - I meant to write my review then and didn't get to it. Having the entire trip put together with the convenience of the app while enjoying the personal experience of being on your own was the ideal balance for us. We were able to see and learn about Ireland as though we were with a local guide. All of the accommodations were outstanding and the team went out of their way to help us with questions and anything we needed. I highly recommend this trip and tour company. If the idea of driving a car is stopping you, don't let it. The narrow roads and, for me, driving on the other side, was intimidating when I was first looking into this, and it ended up being something I really enjoyed about the trip. My daughter wasn't yet 25, so she couldn't drive and I had to do all of the driving and none of it was difficult. We saw things you couldn't see from a larger tour vehicle and I really enjoyed that. Ireland is so beautiful to see. The tours and excursions were incredible experiences. So many memories. My photos don't cover it all, but I hope you get something from them. The baby lamb was an experience we just found along the way. There was road-bowling in action, I don't have a photo of this because I was driving, but it's something rare to see and we just happened to be there...don't hesitate to do this if you can.!!!"

## **Barbara August on Google**



## Your Ancient East 6-Day Ireland Road Trip Starts Here!

Venture out on your own Irish adventure, moving at your own pace but with the guidance of an entire team of Overland Ireland's professional guides. This team not only lovingly crafted this wonderful experience, but also remained on call should you need any help throughout your journey.

Welcome to our Ancient East 6-day Ireland road trip. We have put together an amazing journey for you, jam-packed with stories and legends and the best ancient Ireland tourism has to offer. Prepare to swoon at historical sights and impressive architecture. Breathe in the fresh air and enjoy our famous Irish "Céad Míle Fáilte" – a hundred thousand welcomes!

Keep reading to learn more about this 6-day Ireland road trip, and if you'd like to compare it to other self-guided adventures, please browse our entire collection of Self-drive Ireland Tours.

# What to Expect On Your 6-Day Ireland Road Trip?

You will visit the monastic city of Glendalough, hidden in the Wicklow Mountains, and travel to Ireland's oldest city, Waterford. You will enjoy the Midleton Whiskey Experience and learn the secrets behind our most famous Irish Whiskey.

Discover the real Ireland on this 6-day Ireland road trip packed with exciting experiences and outdoor activities, such as: kayaking, cycling, castles, hiking, biking and so much more. And, before you leave, swing into Blarney Castle and give the Blarney Stone a big kiss!

We will look after everything for you and Paddy, your Virtual Travel Companion, will be with you for each step of your journey. And, should you need to talk to one of our team, we are always on the other end of the phone. So, buckle up and enjoy the ride! You will never forget this Ireland road trip; 6 days roaming the real Ireland will offer memories that will last a lifetime.

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



# Paddy - The Pocket Pilot

Every Self-Drive Tour booked with Overland Ireland comes with exceptional service, a guided itinerary, and extras, such as our **Paddy the Pocket Pilot App**. So, if you're looking for an independent way to see Ireland with all the benefits and surprises of a guided tour with pre-booked "tried & loved" accommodation, you're in good hands. But don't take our word for it, check out our [tour group reviews here](#).





# What is Included and Excluded on Your 6-Day Ireland Road Trip?

When you book with Overland Ireland, you can rest assured that we include as much as we possibly can in the price of your tour. We aim to have no hidden surprises or unexpected charges on your tour.

Our quest is to keep the costs down while ensuring that there are as many worthwhile experiences as possible. With this value, we hope to tempt people who usually only plan their trips on their own. Instead, let us plan your trip, helping you see more for less at every step along your 6-day Ireland road trip! We have worked really hard to get you the best deals up and down the country.

## Price Includes

- Paddy the Pocket Pilot App
- Top-class accommodation in carefully chosen locally run guesthouses. We also have options for hotels and castle experiences
- 5 hearty breakfasts to set you up for the day
- Detailed and easy-to-follow daily itineraries
- Simple maps and instructions on how to navigate your way around our beautiful country
- All entrance fees to all national parks on your itinerary
- Tour support throughout your journey. We are always available for a chat should you need us
- Daily hidden gem locations revealed by our expert guides
- Daily food and entertainment recommendations
- Smithwicks Brewery Tour

- Waterford Greenway Bike Hire
- Waterford Crystal Tour
- Kayaking
- River Cruise
- Jameson Distillery
- Kinsale Walking Tour
- Blarney Castle

## Price Excludes

- Parking and motorway toll fees
- Fuel - for your car & of course your body! Petrol, lunch, & dinner are on your own!
- Glendalough Monastery
- Kilkenny Castle (Optional)
- Tintern Abbey
- A driver guide
- Some suggested activities & experiences
- Airfare to Ireland
- Private room upgrade for solo travelers (Mandatory)
- Gratuities (Optional)

# Glendalough To Kilkenny

**Total driving distance & time: 175km – 2 hours 30 minutes**

Switch on Paddy the Pocket Pilot App and leave the bright lights of the capital behind as your 6-day Ireland road trip begins! Drive to Glendalough Monastery via the Sally Gap and Military Road, unveiling the amazing scenery of the Wicklow mountains. Glendalough perches itself in the glacial valley of the two lakes. Let our friends take you on a walking tour along the many trails.

The next stop is Kilkenny Castle, which is one of the largest and best-preserved Irish castles. Roam the grand rooms where the lords and ladies lived and admire the architecture, artwork, and furnishings that were once owned by these great families.

A Kilkenny local will take you through the medieval quarter and you will finish your day enjoying a pint of Smithwicks at Ireland's oldest brewery! Smithwicks was originally brewed by monks, so it is quite fitting after our monastic trip to Glendalough.

Rest your head in Kilkenny before resuming your 6-day road trip through Ireland tomorrow!



Note that the itinerary can change due to weather conditions, traffic, events, etc.



## Day Two

# Waterford and the Sunny Southeast

**Total driving distance & time: 70km – 1 hour**

Switch on your engine and travel towards the Sunny South East! It is said that Waterford experiences the nicest weather in the country, so don't forget your sunscreen and sunglasses! Jump out of the car and stretch your legs with a refreshing walk or cycle along Waterford's Greenway routes and trails. Hug the coastline and ride or hike into some beautiful forestry trails.

You cannot come to Waterford without a quick visit to the Waterford Crystal Centre. After oohing and ahing over the beautiful crystal creations, let the expert on all things Waterford take you on a walking tour of the Viking Triangle in Ireland's oldest city. Waterford predates Dublin by 74 years!

Spend the second evening of your 6-day Ireland road trip in this seaport town indulging in the musical and culinary delights this fantastic stop has to offer.

# Wexford and Hook Peninsula

**Total driving distance & time: 150km – 2 hours 30 minutes**

Wexford is awash with stunning coastal villages and dramatic seaside scenery. A county that is steeped in Viking and Norman history is definitely worth a visit on this 6-day road trip of Ireland's Ancient East. You will have a wonderful time exploring the hidden treasures of Wexford.

Start your day by delving a little deeper into Irish heritage with a guided tour of Tintern Abbey and Gardens. Every type of person is said to have roamed Tintern Abbey: knights, monks, and scoundrels alike. You will hear all the stories on your tour!

Next up is a hike up to the world's oldest operational lighthouse overlooking the Hook Peninsula. Take the time to stroll around the headland and down to some of the castle ruins along the shoreline. You will have the opportunity to explore the coastline by kayak today. See Ireland from a different perspective on the Irish Sea!

Before parking up for the evening, pick up a roadside punnet of strawberries guaranteed to hit the spot! Tonight you will lay your head down in Dungarvan village and stay in one of our carefully handpicked accommodations!



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# The Copper Coast and County Cork

Total driving distance & time: 55km – 1 hour

Meander at your leisure over the 25km of Ireland's Copper Coast with some pitstops for jealousy-inducing photos before reaching your next destination - Youghal. Youghal is a beautiful coastal town famed for its stunning shoreline. Here you will jump aboard the "Maeve Óg" boat and let Captain Tony take you on a guided light-hearted river cruise up the Blackwater River to Lismore in Waterford. Enjoy plenty of stories along the way as you uncover areas of tranquil unspoiled natural beauty.

When your feet are back on solid ground, you will take your 6-day Ireland road trip to the fishing village of Ballycotton. Treat yourself to dinner in the nearby Ballymaloe House - a favorite experience among our guests and guides alike.



Note that the itinerary can change due to weather conditions, traffic, events, etc.



## Day Five

# The Ring of Cork and Kinsale

**Total driving distance & time: 70km – 1 hour 30 minutes**

You have without a doubt heard about the Ring of Kerry, but today you will embark on the Ring of Cork Heritage Trail. Marvel at the same standard of beautiful landscapes as the Ring of Kerry, but with none of the traffic! Your first stop is the Titanic Experience in Cobh. This is one of the best experiences on this 6-day road trip in Ireland, giving you a truly personal take on the tragedy that was the Titanic's maiden voyage. The world's most famous ship made its last port of call in Cobh before sealing its fate on the Atlantic Ocean.

Next up is the Jameson Distillery in Midleton. Only a short drive from Ballycotton, this is the perfect opportunity to learn how Ireland's favorite whiskey is crafted. From the smoky taste of black barrel to the oaky flavors of the original, this experience is perfect for the whiskey connoisseur in your group.

We veer off the Ring of Cork to stay at our next destination - Kinsale, the Gourmet Capital of Ireland. Here, you can enjoy some downtime wandering the colorful streets and laneways. Kinsale has a great tradition of poetry as well as gold, silver, and glassware manufacturing. This means the town's shops and galleries - the latter of which boast work from local talented artists - are filled with amazing examples of these crafts.

Get a great night's sleep in your locally run guesthouse this evening.

# Kiss The Blarney Stone

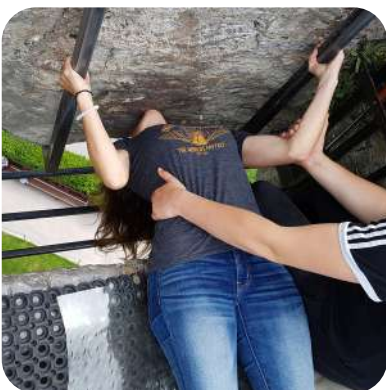
Total driving distance & time: 300km – 3 hours 40 minutes

On the last morning of this 6-day Ireland road trip, you get to meet Barry! He is one of our favorite friends in Ireland and will bring to life the history of Kinsale. This local legend will share tales of the Spanish Armada, British Rule, and the sharpening of swords.

Before making your way back to Dublin's fair city, you MUST stop at Blarney Castle to kiss the stone! Legend has it that you will receive the gift of the gab (become a chatterbox) after giving it a big smooch. Many of us Irish owe our storytelling talents and yarns to the Blarney Stone! Now you know our secret!

If you're looking for great things to see and do in Dublin, we've got all the recommendations you'll need! You can also link this experience with any of our other [self-drive tour packages of Ireland](#) for even more opportunities to explore the Emerald Isle!

**And one last tip:** Don't forget to leave plenty of time for your VAT return at the airport!



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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

ps. Tours can be operated in reverse and combined with other tours that follow the same route for the best guest experience.

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