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## IRELAND'S FIVE PROVINCES: 15-DAY ITINERARY

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At Ancient Ireland Tourism, our motto is: "From ancient east to Atlantic way, visit Ireland your way." Besides our small group departures and self-drive packages, we specialize in custom itinerary planning offering our clients exceptional service and an outstanding experience filled with many wonderful memories when visiting Ireland. All of our itineraries can be customized and structured for any size of group.

**Ancient Ireland  
Tourism client  
on her 10-day  
Ireland Tour**

*"Our recent trip was a phenomenal success. The pre-trip process was very easy. Because we had enough to fill the entire bus, our tour director worked very closely with us to help design a custom tour, and it went off without a single issue. That's impressive. Once in Ireland we were guided by our guide and driver. He's an Irishman's Irishman. He's got the knowledge, personality, sense of humor and driving skills that makes him the best driver we could have asked for. I promise if you use Ancient Ireland Tourism, you will have a great trip. "*

## IRELAND: 15-DAY ITINERARY

Pricing from: €3399 (Est. \$3910) for 15-Day excursion led by an expert guide

(Also available as a private guided charter or self-drive package)

### Includes:

- ☐ Airport Transfers
- ☐ 24x7 support during your visit with us in Ireland
- ☐ Daily transport to scheduled attractions, hotel and scheduled meals
- ☐ Double occupancy hotel accommodations (single supplement available)
- ☐ Knowledgeable Guide as well as local guides at selected attractions
- ☐ Admission tickets to all scheduled sites and attractions
- ☐ Breakfast each day (with exception of day of arrival)
- ☐ Snacks and beverages (water, soft drinks) during the day

### Tour Highlights:

- ☐ Ancient Archaeological sites such as The Hill of Uisneach, [Loughcrew](#), [Newgrange](#) and Ireland's largest stone circle
- ☐ Belfast and [Derry Murals](#)
- ☐ [Titanic Belfast Exhibition](#)
- ☐ [Giant's Causeway](#) and The Antrim Coast
- ☐ [Malin Head](#) and the majestic Donegal coastline
- ☐ Slieve League Cliffs
- ☐ [Crough Patrick](#)
- ☐ [Cliffs of Moher](#)
- ☐ Dingle and Ring of Kerry
- ☐ [Kerry Cliffs](#)
- ☐ [Blarney Castle](#)
- ☐ [Rock of Cashel](#)
- ☐ Dublin walking tour



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## DAY 1: ARRIVAL AND THE ROYAL PROVINCE OF MIDHE

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### 11:00 AM

Your Ireland journey begins when you step off your plane in Dublin. Your guide will meet you as you exit customs and transport you to Mullingar to visit the royal seat of Midhe, Ireland's fifth province. Stop here at the [Hill of Uisneach](#), sacred center of Ireland, where you can gaze out at a landscape little changed over thousands of years and see up to 20 of Ireland's 32 counties from the place of the ancient [Bealtaine](#) fires. Visit the ancient stone of divisions, Aill na Mireann, from where the provinces were divided in ancient times and the spot where Ireland received her name. Learn the significance of Uisneach to all other points on the island of Ireland, the sunrise and sunsets, on the equinoxes, solstices, and midpoints throughout the year. They all align with sacred sites in the east, west, north and south, aligned with and crossing Uisneach. After your experience at Uisneach, no ancient site or stone circle you will see in Ireland will ever seem unrelated as you realize how interconnected all are.



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## DAY 2: NEWGRANGE AND THE BOYNE VALLEY

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### 8:30 AM

Visit the megalithic structures at Newgrange are older than the pyramids of Egypt and even Stonehenge, having been built over 5000 years ago. Marvel at such an engineering feat accomplished by the inhabitants of Ireland even before the time of the Celts. On the winter solstice, after the longest night of the year, the sun will rise and shine through to the deepest part of the chamber reminding us that despite the darkness, hope and rebirth always begin anew in the endless cycle of time.

Move nearby to the visitor center at The Battle of The Boyne heritage site, a fantastic venue to learn about so much of today's Irish history. See how William of Orange took on King Charles II and how decisive the battle became. The impact of the Battle of the Boyne is still with us today as Ireland is still divided between the 26 counties of the Republic of Ireland and the 6 northern counties which remain part of the UK.

The day concludes in Belfast.

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## DAY 3: BELFAST AND THE ANTRIM COAST

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### 8:30 AM

Start your day, after a proper Ulster Fry for breakfast of course, with a private Black Cab Tour of west Belfast. Go back in time to the not so distant past of sectarian fighting known as The Troubles. Take in the many murals and memorials on both sides of the Peace Wall with knowledgeable guides sharing personal recollections of experiences during those difficult years. Visit the Falls Road, one of the epicenters of Irish Republican nationalism, then passing through the peace wall to the Unionist neighborhood of Shankhill Road.

Leaving West Belfast, head over to the Titanic Quarter where and tour the award winning exhibitions at [Titanic Belfast](#) and stand on the very slipway where the great ship once stood.

After lunch, set off to Fionn mac Cumhaill land to explore the magnificent shoreline and unique rock formations of the Giant's Causeway.

When finished climbing along the rock formations of the Giant's Causeway, move a short distance down the road to the [Bushmill's Distillery](#) making Ireland's oldest whiskey and take an opportunity to taste some of the creations.



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## DAY 4: DERRY AND MALIN HEAD

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### 8:30 AM

Continue west today along the Antrim Coast to the city of Derry. Visit the murals in the Bogside, site of the Bloody Sunday Massacre of 1972 where British troops opened fire on protesters killing 14 people. Your visit includes admission to the [Museum of Free Derry](#) and a walking tour of the medieval walled city of Derry, just up the hill from The Bogside.

After lunch, head to one of Ireland's finest stone forts with magnificent views at Grianán Ailigh. Did you remember your orientation back at Uisneach on our first day? Grianán Ailigh lies on a 2 degree compass heading from Uisneach, continuing on to Malin Head. After taking in the views and the energy here continue along that same heading to the northernmost point in Ireland; Banba's Crown at Malin Head.

Once our explorations at Malin Head are complete, we're off to Letterkenny to check into our hotel, grab a bite to eat, and if we have any energy left, [head to the pub!](#)

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## DAY 5: SLIEVE LEAGUE AND DONEGAL

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8:30 AM

Experience the magnificence of Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way! After leaving Letterkenny, enjoy a scenic ride through the Donegal countryside before stopping in Port, an old abandoned village on the coast. Along the way, and depending on the time of year, see the turf drying in the sun or take in the unmistakable aroma of the turf fires heating homes out as has been done for hundreds of years.

Continue to [Glencolumbkille](#), a working Irish village in the Gaeltacht where and practice Irish language skills with the friendly locals. In season, the stop here includes a tour of the Folk Village to experience authentic representations of Irish village life through the centuries. Here also, learn about Father McDyer, whose tireless efforts saved this village from the decline of mass emigration and economic collapse, building it into the thriving rural village it is today.

Leaving "The Glen" as the locals call Glencolumbkille, set out to view the highest cliffs in Ireland along Slieve League. Savor the view as in a few days' time when visiting the Cliffs of Moher, you will decide which are the more spectacular.

The day concludes in Donegal town with a tour [Donegal Castle](#) before checking into our hotel.



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## DAY 6: CROUGH PATRICK AND WESTPORT

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8:30 AM

The destination today is County Mayo continuing south along the Wild Atlantic Way to the town of Westport where free time to roam and explore awaits.

First, stop at [Crough Patrick](#), to some a holy mountain where many have gone on pilgrimages since well before Christian times when this place eventually became associated with Ireland's patron Saint. Seasonally, there is time to climb the mountain if conditions permit and if not so inclined, head on into Westport.

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## DAY 7: GALWAY, CLIFFS OF MOHER, BUNRATTY

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8:30 AM

Having already seen some spectacular views along the Wild Atlantic Way, today's visit explores what some may argue is the best of all; The Cliffs of Moher.

The journey to the Cliffs of Moher is a scenic drive through The Burren and the charming little town of Kinvara, directly across the bay from Galway. Stop here to see Dunguaire Castle and perhaps for refreshments at one of the local pubs.

Time today includes a stop in Galway and the day concludes in Bunratty.



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## DAY 8: LIMERICK AND LOUGH GUR

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8:30 AM

After breakfast, start with a visit to King John's Castle in Limerick before for spending an afternoon at the enchanted lake of Lough Gur. Before departing Lough Gur, stop at the Great Stone Circle; the largest in all of Ireland and site of many ancient ceremonies which some continue to re-enact to this day.

Today concludes in Adare with free time in the evening.

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## DAY 9: KILLARNEY

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8:30 AM

After a hearty Irish breakfast, head off to [Killarney National Park](#) and spend the morning exploring highlights such as Muckross House and Torc Waterfall.

The afternoon is free time in town to shop, dine, or simply take in the town. No need to worry about packing up in the morning as tomorrow will be back to the same hotel after exploring Dingle.

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## DAY 10: DINGLE

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8:30 AM

The charming town of [Dingle](#) is one of the Ireland's most popular destination sand for good reason. Shop, explore the pubs, and maybe hear a little Irish spoken between the friendly locals. If you listen closely, you may even discern the accent differences between Irish spoken in Kerry verses what you will have heard back in Donegal. There is almost a musical quality to the Kerry dialect so no wonder the province of Munster is known for music, poetry and merriment!

Drive through Conor Pass with a stop for photos and visit Dunquin Pier with a view of the Great Blaskets. Weather permitting, perhaps catch a boat ride to the famous but now uninhabited [Blasket islands](#), once one of the last outposts of rural Irish life.

Today is mostly free to explore Dingle. After enjoying Dingle, head back to the hotel for a second night in Killarney and grab some dinner as well as a few pints.



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## DAY 11: RING OF KERRY

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8:30 AM

Set off after breakfast from Killarney to drive the Ring of Kerry. The Ring of Kerry is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Ireland .

There will be many opportunities today to stop and take some great pictures to share with friends and family back home who must be envious of all the fun you are having.

Later today, complete the trifecta of spectacular Irish cliffs along the Wild Atlantic Way with a stop at the Fogher Cliffs. You will have to be the judge and decide the most spectacular having seen Slieve League, The Cliffs of Moher, and now the Fogher Cliffs in Kerry.

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## DAY 12: CELTIC COAST AND BLARNEY STONE

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8:30 AM

Depart the Wild Atlantic Way this morning traveling the Celtic Coast, enjoying the views along Ireland's southern coast. There are even more opportunities to get great photos and view along the way.

Next, head towards Blarney Castle. Will you kiss the famous Blarney Stone?

Today concludes in the picturesque town of Kinsale where there is plenty to explore. Perhaps visit the chipper and have fish and chips along the waterfront?

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## DAY 13: ROCK OF CASHEL

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8:30 AM

Today's journey starts at the seat of the kings of Munster; the Rock of Cashel. A spectacular group of Medieval buildings set on an outcrop of limestone in the Golden Vale including the 12th century round tower, High Cross and Romanesque Chapel, 13th century Gothic cathedral, 15th century Castle and the restored Hall of the Vicars Choral.

After exploring the Rock of Cashel, set off to Dublin and there, take a walking tour around central Dublin this afternoon. Visit Trinity College, Temple Bar, stroll along the Liffey, visit Henry Street, the GPO and Parnell Square before ending up at Dublin Castle.



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## DAY 14: DUBLIN

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8:30 AM

How can we let you leave Ireland without a full day in Dublin?

Today is free to explore Dublin. The tour includes a ticket to one of the hop-on buses along with recommendations for optional activities in Dublin. Will you pub hop in Temple Bar? Or, perhaps take the Guinness Storehouse tour? For outdoor activities you might take in St. Stephen's Green or even Phoenix Park. If shopping is your thing then you will certainly enjoy Grafton Street. The choice is all yours!

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## DAY 15: DUBLIN AND SLÁN ABHAILE

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**8:30 AM (Estimated based on participant flight times)**

What a wonderful and magical two weeks it has been!

As much as we hate to say farewell, your journey through this magical land we call Ireland comes to an end. Until we have the pleasure of meeting again, it is off to the airport where we bid you Slán Abhaile, a safe journey home! It has been our pleasure and privilege to have escorted you through the Five Provinces and we look forward to welcoming you back again soon!

Arrival at Dublin Airport Departures is arranged at least three hours before flight times. Flights returning to the USA must clear security, and then a second set of security and US Customs at US Pre-Clearance. While this may seem to be an inconvenience, the payoff is arriving back in the USA as any domestic flight with no need to clear Customs or claim and re-check luggage on connections.

There is shopping in the airport prior to US Pre-Clearance for any last minute souvenirs or even a bottle of fine Irish whiskey.



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