

Coastal Ireland 6th – 30th September 2020



Relaxed touring, Natural beauty and the Wild Atlantic Coast

The Emerald Isle. Before you've travelled far in this country you'll be enchanted and captivated by the land, its people and its wonderful laid-back atmosphere. Enjoy September as we tour around almost the entire coastline of both the North and the Republic, all in a relaxed manner.

The major population centres tend toward the east coast. Whilst there will be an opportunity for visits into Belfast and Dublin, this tour really focuses on the much more rural areas of the south and west coasts. It is here that Blarney, Bantry, The Ring of Kerry, The Dingle Peninsular, The Cliffs of Moher, Connemara and Ballina are all found, as we travel leisurely along the Wild Atlantic Way of the Republic.

It's then time to be in the North for some touring, firstly inland at Lough Macnean, where the water creates the border between the North and the Republic, and then onto Bushmills on the North Coast. Here is home to the famous Bushmills Distillery and the natural phenomenon of the Giants Causeway.

This tour offers wonderful travel in your own motorhome, in lovely locations whilst remaining socially distanced.

24 Nights

Day One – Sunday 6th September

We meet at a well-appointed campsite near Stranraer. Late afternoon the Tour Directors will host a welcome get together. A chance to meet fellow travelling companions and to learn a little more about the adventure ahead.

Day Two – Monday 7th September

We take the ferry from Cairnryan to Larne (Northern Ireland). The crossing is around 2 hours throughout which you have access to the ships club lounge included. Upon departing we have 70 miles to our campsite located in Rostrevor Forest, which is home to Carlingford Lough. This evening the Tour Directors will host a welcome to Ireland drinks reception at their motorhome. **5 miles to Cairnryan port then 70 to campsite**

Day Three – Tuesday 8th September

Two options for today. Belfast City is easily reached by public transport for those wishing to see this capital of the North, the Titanic Exhibition is a very good visit. Alternatively relax in the surroundings of the Park and Forrest, it is also just a 15 minute walk into the centre of Rosetrevor.

Day Four – Wednesday 9th September

We cross into the Republic today as we make our way down the East coast towards Dublin. Our campsite is situated outside of the city within the grounds of Camac Valley Park. **90 miles**



Day Five - Thursday 10th September

An opportunity to visit Dublin. From outside our campsite runs the bus directly into the city, home to Molly Malone and Guinness. For those not wishing to go into the city the campsite and local park are a peaceful place to be.

Day Six - Friday 11th September

We arrive on the south coast to a well-kept campsite at Dunmore East. This evening we have a group dinner in the campsite's own restaurant with fine views out to sea. **125 miles**

Day Seven – Saturday 12th September

An opportunity to follow the south coast as we travel to Blarney. **90 miles**

Day Eight – Sunday 13th September

Our campsite is around 40 minute's walk from Blarney centre, home to its famous castle and kissing stone.

Day Nine – Monday 14th September

Today we continue our journey along the south coast to arrive in Ireland's south west corner for the start of the Wild Atlantic way that runs all the way to Co. Donegal. **80 miles**

Day Ten - Tuesday 15th September

Within 20 miles we pick up the start of the 'Ring of Kerry'. Today we are covering just half of the 'Ring' giving all day to enjoy the great scenery this route is rightly famous for. **80 miles**



Day Eleven – Wednesday 16th September

We are now halfway round the 'Ring of Kerry' but rather than push on today we have a free day to enjoy the wonderful location and surroundings of our coastal campsite.

Day Twelve – Thursday 17th September

Today we do move on with another short journey giving time to take in the second half of the 'Ring' as we travel to another good campsite on the outskirts of Killarney. **40 miles**

Day Thirteen – Friday 18th September

Plenty of opportunities today. Take a walk into Killarney town centre (1 mile), make a visit to the Killarney National park by bicycle/motorhome or ask the campsite to arrange a jaunting car (pony and trap) ride for you.

Day Fourteen – Saturday 19th September

We leave Co. Kerry today as we travel north to Doolin and back to the Wild Atlantic Way. On route spend time to visit Bunratty Castle and Folk Park. **130 miles**



Day Fifteen and Sixteen – Sunday 20th and Monday 21st September

Two days have been left free to enjoy the stunning area around our coastal campsite. Doolin is reputed to be the heart of traditional music and is situated overlooking the Cliffs of Moher from where you can see and witness the Atlantic rollers crashing into the cliffs. Enjoy a coffee whilst looking out to sea towards the Aran Islands and maybe take a boat trip to view the cliffs from the sea.

Day Seventeen – Tuesday 22nd September

Continue along the Wild Atlantic Way to our next coastal campsite just outside of Galway. **50 miles**

Day Eighteen – Wednesday 23rd September

Take a coastal walk or use the local bus from the campsite entrance for a visit of the historic centre of Galway. Irelands National Aquarium is also located close to our camping.

Day Nineteen – Thursday 24th September

A short journey today gives plenty of time for stops as we continue along the coast. A not to be missed visit on route is the Connemara Heritage and History Centre. **70 miles**



Day Twenty – Friday 25th September

Lots to see today as we continue our coastal journey. Firstly, make a visit to Kylemore Abbey and Walled Gardens, then allow time for some stops as we pass through Ballycroy National Park. **95 miles**

Day Twenty-one – Saturday 26th September

Today we complete the journey on the Wild Atlantic Way as we approach Co. Donegal and turn inland to Lough Macnean. This lough forms the border between the North and Republic and this evening we stay on its northern shore; we are now back in Northern Ireland. **80 miles**

Day Twenty-two – Sunday 27th September

Return to the coast today, this time the north coast. We arrive to a well-appointed campsite at Bushmills. **100 miles**



Day Twenty-three – Monday 28th September

The Giants Causeway is likely to be your destination for today. This can be reached by a coastal walk of around 5 miles, bicycle or by local small gauge railway. The famous Carrick-a-Rede rope bridge is also within reach, but only for the more adventurous to cross.

Day Twenty-four – Tuesday 29th September

An opportunity to explore the local area further; including seeing the distillery of the world renowned Bushmills whiskeys, or just relax and take it easy. This evening we will walk into town (10 minutes) for a 'Farewell dinner'.

Day Twenty-five – Wednesday 30th September

We have an easy drive to Larne for our return ferry to Cairnryan. 2 hour crossing with club lounge included. It is here our tour comes to an end. **50 miles**

VISITS TO PLACES OF INTEREST

- All visits are left for individuals to decide which they would like to make and are not arranged/included in the tour. Throughout the time away the Tour Directors will be on hand to assist with any bookings. Note some attractions may require online pre-booking/paying.

GROUP MEALS

- 5 group meals with wine are included in the tour *

PRICE

Motorhome with 2 people = £1,399 per person

Motorhome with 1 person = £1,999

INCLUDED IN PRICE

- Return Cairnryan to Larne ferry crossing with club lounge access
- 24 Campsite nights with electric hook-ups
- Welcome to Ireland drinks reception
- 5 group meals with wine *
- Tour information pack with suggested routes and GPS Co-ordinates
- Services of Tour Directors travelling in their own motorhome throughout the tour

* Two meals are already arranged for days 6 & 24, three more will be arranged throughout the tour. Locations will be chosen whilst on the tour to aim for the correct weather with ideally meals being planned outdoors. If meals are moved inside they will proceed only where social distancing guidelines can be adhered to.

