

Meander Around Ireland 31st August – 30th September 2021



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 late Summer 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.

We start near Belfast, and then onto Dublin before moving onto the coast and countryside and ending up at 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 as required at the time of travel.

31 Nights

Day One – Tuesday 31st August

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 – Wednesday 1st September

Today we take the ferry from Cairnryan to Larne (Northern Ireland). The crossing is around 2 hours. Upon departing we have 30 miles to our campsite located on the southern edge of Belfast. **5 miles to Cairnryan port then 30 to campsite**

Day Three – Thursday 2nd September

Free day – we are on the main bus route into Belfast, or you could drive to the Titanic Exhibition Centre located just 5 miles from our campsite



Day Four – Friday 3rd September

Free day – Stormont Parliament Building is only a 30 minutes walk from the campsite

Day Five - Saturday 4th September

Heading south and crossing the border we reach Dublin today. Our campsite is situated outside of the city within the grounds of Corkagh Valley Park **120 miles**

Day Six - Sunday 5th 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 Seven - Monday 6th September

A return visit to Dublin or take a relaxing walk to enjoy the park or visit the local shops. Alternately a drive to Glendalough, Powerscourt Gardens with the backdrop of the Wicklow Panorama will make for a good day out.

Day Eight – Tuesday 7th September

We arrive on the south coast to a well-kept campsite at Wexford. This evening we have a group dinner in a local restaurant with fine views out to sea. **90 miles**

Day Nine – Wednesday 8th September

Free day to walk around the nature area or take a trip into Wexford

Day Ten – Thursday 9th September

We move on to our next campsite which is located north of Cork City at Blarney. **116 miles**

Day Eleven – Friday 10th September

Today you can kiss the Blarney Stone as the Castle and Gardens are not too far away from our campsite



Day Twelve – Saturday 11th September

Our next campsite is on the top of the Beara Peninsula. **90 miles**

Day Thirteen – Sunday 12th September

A free day. You can drive down to the end of the Beara Peninsula, passing Bere Island on your left, to see the Dursey Cable Car passing over to the island. **70 miles**. Alternately, the picturesque village of Glengarriff is only 2km away

Day Fourteen – Monday 13th September

Today we pick up the start of the 'Ring of Kerry' and will cover just half of the 'Ring' giving us all day to enjoy the great scenery this route is rightly famous for. **70 miles**

Day Fifteen – Tuesday 14th September

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

Day Sixteen – Wednesday 15th September

Moving further north to our next campsite on the outskirts of Killarney where we will stay for four nights. **40 miles**

Day Seventeen – Thursday 16th September

Relaxing day or you could drive up to the Gap of Dunloe, 10 miles, and take a jaunting car (pony and trap) ride through the gap.



Day Eighteen – Friday 17th 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. Muckross House is just 3 miles down the road with easy motorhome parking.

Day Nineteen – Saturday 18th September

Another day to explore the wonderful walks and countryside of this area

Day Twenty – Sunday 19th September

Doolin is our destination today which 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. On route take time to visit Bunratty Castle and Folk Park just north of Limerick **118 miles**

Day Twenty-one – Monday 20th September

The next two days have been left free for you to relax and enjoy the area. Have 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 Twenty-two – Tuesday 21st September

Final day to take in the beauty of this area. An optional trip to the Arran Islands could be arranged

Day Twenty-three - Wednesday 22nd September

Continue along the Wild Atlantic Way to our next coastal campsite in the north of Connemara. **100 miles**

Day Twenty-four – Thursday 23rd September

Our family-owned campsite is situated directly on a sandy beach with views of Clew Bay.

Day Twenty-five - Friday 24th September

Moving on next to Westport, a town on the edge of an Atlantic inlet, on Ireland's west coast. In the Georgian town centre, stone bridges link the tree-lined promenade on the banks of the Carrowbeg River. On route stop off to see Kylemore Abbey & the Victorian Walled Garden. **35 miles**



Day Twenty-six – Saturday 25th September

Free day and time to visit Westport, the town or Westport House within the parkland.

Day Twenty-seven – Sunday 26th September

Our destination today is a family owned campsite in Belcoo, which has half of the village in the Republic and half in Northern Ireland. **90 miles.**

Day Twenty-eight - Monday 27th September

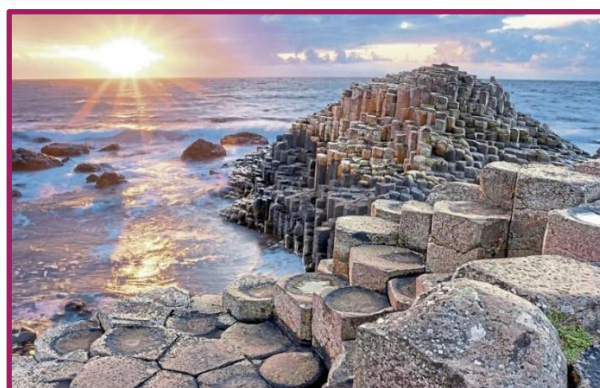
Free day – tucked away, this five star campsite overlooks the Lough Macnean

Day Twenty-nine – Tuesday 28th September

Return to the coast today, this time the north coast. We arrive to a well-appointed campsite at Bushmills. **85 miles**

Day Thirty – Wednesday 29th 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 Thirty-one - Thursday 30th September

Free day to relax, or you could take the local bus to Portrush which is a small seaside resort town or explore the local area further including seeing the distillery of the world-renowned Bushmills whiskey. This evening we will walk into town (10 minutes) for a 'Farewell dinner'.

Day Thirty-two – Friday 1st October

We have an easy drive to Larne for our return ferry to Cairnryan, 2 hour crossing where our tour comes to an end. If you wish to return to our campsite in Stranraer for the night, this can be arranged at an optional cost **50 miles + 5 to Campsite**

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.

PRICE

TOUR DEPOSIT £250

Motorhome with 2 people = £1,399 per person

Motorhome with 1 person = £1,999

INCLUDED IN PRICE

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

* Meals 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 to social distancing guidelines.

