

# Irish Gold

Starting at **\$2,595**\*

## Discover the heart of Ireland

Take your time on this Ireland tour, which explores the most acclaimed sights in the south and west, including the mountainous beauty of Connemara.





## **Trip Highlights:**

- Sean's Bar in Athlone
- Kylemore Abbey & Gardens
- Ring of Kerry Highlights
- House of Waterford Crystal
  Jaunting Car Ride
  Blarney Castle
  Cliffs of Moher

- Marine Bar in Dungarvan CIE Tours Exclusive

## **Hotels:**

- Royal Marine Hotel
- The Galmont Hotel & Spa
- Great Southern Killarney Hotel
- Granville Hotel
- Clayton Hotel Burlington Road

## 2023 Irish Gold - 8 Days/7 Nights

## **Trip Itinerary**

#### Day 1 Dublin City Tour | St. Patrick's Cathedral

Your tour departs at 2:00 PM from your hotel in Dún Laoghaire, a charming seaside suburb. Head out for a panoramic tour of Dublin, seeing historic O'Connell Street, Georgian buildings and squares, and St Stephen's Green. Visit St. Patrick's Cathedral, an 800-year-old Gothic church built on the site of an ancient well believed to have been used by St. Patrick himself. Return to your hotel for a welcome drink with your fellow guests, and then enjoy an independent evening of dining and exploring as you wish..

## Day 3 Connemara | Catamaran Cruise | Kylemore Abbey & Gardons

Explore scenic Connemara to admire how constantly changing cloud formations give granite hills, sparkling lakes and peat bogs an added dimension. Take a short catamaran cruise of Killary Harbour, a 9-mile fjord (seasonal). Head to Kylemore Abbey set beside a tranquil lake, and see its elegant rooms, the charming church and the Victorian Walled Gardens. Return to Galway where the evening is free to explore the city (B)

#### Day 5 Jaunting Car Ride | Ring of Kerry Highlights | Kenmare

Take a traditional horse-drawn jaunting car through Killarney National Park to scenic Ross Castle, set on the shores of Lough Leane. See the highlights of Ireland's most popular scenic drive, the Ring of Kerry. The stunning coastal and mountain landscapes will provide plenty of photo opportunities. Stop in the Gap of Dunloe to visit Moriarty's, a CIE Tours preferred shopping partner. Visit the colorful village of Kenmare and enjoy free time to explore its charming craft shops, art galleries and cafes. When you return to Killarney your evening is free to explore as you wish. (B)

#### Day 7 Waterford Walking Tour | Kilkenny | Dinner in Dublin

Join a local guide for a walking tour through the narrow streets of Waterford, discovering its fascinating past. Head to Kilkenny for free time to discover the medieval city center. Tour the beautifully restored Kilkenny Castle to see glorious 17th-century tapestries, family portraits, and sumptuous furnishings reflecting the lifestyle of the Butler family who once resided there. Travel on to Dublin, where you'll dine with a glass of wine at The Donnybrook Gastropub. (B, D)

#### Day 2 Sean's Bar | Galway Walking Tour

Head to the vibrant, artistic city of Galway. Along the way, enjoy a drink at Sean's Bar in Athlone. The oldest pub in Europe, Sean's Bar has been quenching thirsts since 900 AD. Join a local guide for a walking tour through Galway and discover this thriving city of medieval winding lanes and buzzing street life. Enjoy some free time to explore Galway on your own, then join your fellow travelers for dinner at your hotel. (B, D)

## Day 4 Sheepdog Demonstration | Cliffs of Moher | Shannon Ferry | Killarney

Travel south around Galway Bay and through the stark beauty of the Burren, a distinctive limestone landscape. Immerse yourself in farm life as you watch trained sheepdogs herd their flock. Visit the Cliffs of Moher, rising 700 feet above the pounding Atlantic surf. Head to the friendly town of Killarney, taking a ferry across the River Shannon Estuary. In Killarney, take in an evening of traditional Irish entertainment, with a lively show of music and dance as you dine. (B, D)

## Day 6 Blarney Castle | Marine Bar in Dungarvan | House of Waterford Crystal

Drive through the mountains into rich farming country on the way to Blarney Castle. Kiss the famous "Stone of Eloquence" or explore the tranquil gardens. Travel along the coast to the Marine Bar in Dungarvan, a CIE Tours Exclusive Venue, for some traditional music. Continue to Waterford, where you'll watch skilled artisans create sparkling masterpieces during your visit to the House of Waterford Crystal, a CIE Tours preferred shopping partner. (B, D)

## Day 8 Tour Ends in Dublin

Your program ends after breakfast. (B) B: Breakfast; L: Lunch; D: Dinner >



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