



Dublin & Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way

featuring Dublin, Belfast, Donegal & County Mayo

10 days **October 12-21, 2020**



Trip Highlights Inclusions Accommodations

- Dublin City Tour
- Trinity College & Book of Kells
- Guinness Storehouse
- Belfast City Tour
- Titanic Belfast
- Giant's Causeway & Antrim Coast
- Slieve League Cliffs

- Tweed Weaving Demonstration
- Pottery Studio Experience
- Drumcliffe Monastery Site
- Sheepdog Demonstration
- Connemara & The Lost Valley
- Galway
- Cliffs of Moher

- Round-trip Air (LAX)
- Hotel Accommodations
- 12 Meals (8-B & 4-D)
- Experienced Tour Manager
- Baggage Handling
- Deluxe Transportation
- Baggage Handling

- 2 Nights - Dublin
Camden Court Hotel, Dublin
- 1 Night - Belfast
Holiday Inn Express, Belfast
- 2 Nights - Donegal
Jackson's Hotel, Donegal
- 2 Nights - County Mayo
Breaffy House Hotel, County Mayo
- 1 Night - Ennis
Tracy's West County Hotel, Ennis

Trip Pricing
 \$3,499 pp/double
 +\$600 single supplement

For Trip Details & To Sign Up, Contact:

Elks Travel Club • Attn: Jim Tobin
 12 Grant • Irvine, CA 92620
 (949) 533-4959 • elkstravel@cox.net

DAY 1: TRAVEL TO IRELAND

Today we'll board our overnight flight en route to Ireland.

DAY 2: ARRIVE IRELAND

This morning, we will arrive in Ireland. Meet your Meridian Guided Travel tour director. Transfer to your hotel and later enjoy a **Welcome Dinner** with your fellow travelers.

Overnight: Dublin (D)

DAY 3: DUBLIN

Today, we'll enjoy a **Dublin City Tour**, Ireland's capital city. We'll see sights such as St. Patrick's Cathedral, Phoenix Park, O'Connell Street, the General Post Office, Ha'Penny Bridge and much more. Next, we'll make a stop at **Trinity College**, Ireland's most revered university. There, we will see the famed **Book of Kells**, an illuminated manuscript written by hand in the 9th century and will also visit the impressive old library at Trinity College. Later today, enjoy a visit to the **Guinness Storehouse**, telling the tale of Ireland's famous beer, with tastings and a visit to the rooftop bar. Enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure. Perhaps visit a traditional Dublin pub to enjoy some Irish entertainment.

Overnight: Dublin (B)

DAY 4: DUBLIN - BELFAST

This morning, we leave one capital city and head to another as we visit **Belfast**, the capital of Northern Ireland. We'll enjoy a **Belfast City Tour**, which will give us a better understanding of this city which was mired in the political turmoil of "the Troubles," a period which ended with the Good Friday Agreement in 1998. We'll see the famous murals, as well as Northern Ireland's Parliament Building, the Opera House, Queens University and more. Belfast is also known for its legacy of shipbuilding and is home to the Harland and Wolfe Shipyards where the

Titanic was built. We'll visit Belfast's Titanic Quarter and experience **Titanic Belfast**, an interactive museum that brings the story of the Titanic to life, from construction through its fateful maiden voyage.

Overnight: Belfast (B)

DAY 5: BELFAST - GIANTS CAUSEWAY - DONEGAL

Next, we'll head North towards the picturesque **Antrim Coast**. There, we will visit **Giant's Causeway**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The causeway consists of 40,000 interlocking basalt columns that form stepping stones along the coastline. From there, we will continue on towards **Donegal**, located in Northwest Ireland where we will check in for a two-night stay.

Overnight: Donegal (B,D)

DAY 6: SLIEVE

Today, we will visit the **Slieve League Cliffs**, which tower over the Atlantic Ocean, are among the highest sea cliffs in Europe and measure nearly 2,000 feet above the sea. Enjoy the dramatic panorama of the ocean, rocky outcrops and surrounding mountains. Next, we will experience a **Tweed Weaving Demonstration**. We'll see master weavers using traditional looms that have been used for centuries to create the signature Donegal tweed.

Overnight: Donegal (B)

DAY 7: DONEGAL - MAYO

This morning, we will visit the **Beleek Pottery Studio** to see the local craftspeople at work. See the process of casting, firing and painting the ceramics on a guided tour. Next, we'll visit **Drumcliffe**, former home to a monastery and featuring a round tower built in the 10th century, as well as the traditional Irish high cross grave markers. It is also the final resting place of poet William Butler Yeats. Later, enjoy a **Sheepdog Demonstration** and learn how

sheepdogs are used to move sheep around mountains and fields, on a typical Irish Farm. Hear how the dogs are trained, about the different breeds of sheep and all about life on the farm.

Overnight: County Mayo (B,D)

DAY 8: CONNEMARA & THE LOST VALLEY

Today, we'll explore **Connemara**, located in County Galway. Connemara has a strong association with traditional Irish culture and is one of few remaining regions in Ireland where Gaelic is still widely spoken. We'll truly experience Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way today with a visit to the **Lost Valley**. The Lost Valley features Ireland's only fjord as well as the tallest mountain in the region. The villages of the Lost Valley are still relatively unchanged since its inhabitants left after the famine in the 1800's. Enjoy a **Lost Valley Nature Walk** that features pristine beaches, waterfalls and woodlands.

Overnight: County Mayo (B)

DAY 9: GALWAY & CLIFFS OF MOHER

This morning, we will begin with a visit to **Galway**, the "city of the tribes." Galway gets its name from the tribes (families) that founded the city. Enjoy a brief tour and see Galway Cathedral, the Spanish Arch and Eyre Square. Next, we'll travel through the **Burren** region, known for its rocky landscapes. Afterwards, we'll visit another one of Ireland's spectacular sea cliffs- the **Cliffs of Moher**. Towering over 700 feet above the Atlantic, the cliffs provide dramatic sea views and wildlife viewing opportunities. Tonight, enjoy a **Farewell Dinner** with your fellow travelers at a local restaurant.

Overnight: Ennis (B,D)

DAY 10: RETURN HOME

Today transfer to the airport to fly home, recalling great memories of Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way. (B)

GROUP CONTACT INFO:

Elks Travel Club
Attn: Jim Tobin
12 Grant
Irvine, CA 92620
(949) 533-4959
elktravel@cox.net
Booking #2091

Checks Payable to: MERIDIAN GUIDED TRAVEL

DEPOSIT & FINAL PAYMENT

- Deposit of \$500 per person is due with Reservation Form to secure reservations.
- Final Payment Due Date is 90 days prior to departure

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS/NOTES

- A valid U.S. passport is required for this trip and is the responsibility of each traveler, and should be valid for six (6) months beyond the trip end date.
- Tour rates are subject to increase until you are paid in full.
- Itinerary and hotels are subject to change.

TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN: Meridian Guided Travel suggests that all participants consider purchasing travel protection. Meridian Guided Travel offers a Travel Protection Plan, which includes trip cancellation, trip interruption, and trip delay coverages among other items. Additional coverage information, and the full plan document can be found at meridianguidedtravel.com/tpp. This Travel Protection Plan is administered by Travel Insured International Inc. *Price is based on tour cost and can vary based on air gateway or room occupancy. The price is for the full cost of the plan, which includes insurance benefits as well as non-insurance assistance services.

\$291 PER PERSON/DOUBLE OCCUPANCY (\$3,001-\$3,500)
\$414 PER PERSON/SINGLE OCCUPANCY (\$4,001-\$4,500)

REFUNDS & CANCELLATION FEES:

All tour deposits and payments are fully refundable prior to 120 days before departure. Cancellations must be received in writing (certified mail or email) to Meridian Guided Travel. If Traveler Protection Plan is not purchased, the following fees apply for cancellations:
Days before Departure/ Refund Amount
Up to 120 days/Full Refund
119-90 days/Deposit Amount is retained
89-45 days/70% of total trip price is refunded
44-15 days/50% of total trip price is refunded
Less than 15 days/No Refund

RESPONSIBILITY: Meridian Guided Travel and its affiliated entities and its employees, shareholders, officers, directors, successors, agents, and assigns (MGT) neither owns nor operates any person or entity which provides goods or services for these trips or tours. Because MGT does not maintain any control over the personnel, equipment, or operations of these suppliers, MGT assumes no responsibility for and shall not be held liable for any personal injury, death, property damage, or other loss, accident, delay, inconvenience, or irregularity which may occur by reason of (1) any wrongful, negligent, willful, or unauthorized acts or omissions on the part of any of the tour suppliers, or other employees or agents, (2) any defect in or failure of any vehicle, equipment, instrument owned, operated or otherwise by any of these suppliers, or (3) any wrongful, willful, or negligent act or omissions on any part of any other party not under the supervision or control of MGT. MGT reserves the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a participant of a tour at its discretion. MGT and/or its Tour Staff retain the right to require any participant to withdraw from a tour at any time, if determined to be in the best interests of health, safety and general welfare of the tour group or of the individual participant. Hotels and itinerary are subject to change. Payment of the deposit for this tour program constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions. CST #2137150-40



RESERVATION FORM: DUBLIN & IRELAND'S WILD ATLANTIC WAY • OCTOBER 12-21, 2020 • BOOKING #2091

Deposit \$ _____ (\$500 per person) • Traveler Protection Plan \$ _____ (\$ _____ per person) • Total Payment: \$ _____

To avoid change fees, please submit legal name(s) (first/middle/last) exactly as they appear on your U.S. Passport

Legal Name _____ DOB ____/____/____ Gender ____ PASSPORT # _____ Exp. ____/____/____
MM/DD/YY M/F MM/YY

Legal Name _____ DOB ____/____/____ Gender ____ PASSPORT # _____ Exp. ____/____/____
Roommate MM/DD/YY M/F MM/YY

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Tel (____) _____ Mobile (____) _____ Email: _____

Emergency Contact/Tel # _____ Other Notes: _____

Amount to be charged \$ _____ Credit Card #: _____ Exp. ____/____/____
VISA/MASTERCARD/DISCOVER/AMERICAN EXPRESS MM/YY

CVV# _____ Card holder Billing Address: _____

Signature Required (for credit card use): _____ Today's Date: _____