

Gerry Timlin Northern Ireland Tour 08 – 16 September 2023

Day 1: 08 September 2023 - FAILTÉ IRELAND

Meet with your driver at Shannon Airport and travel to Westport.

You will travel to the Burren Region and visit **Cliffs of Moher**: sheer cliffs dropping 600 feet to the water below, one of the most impressive stretches of shoreline on the west coast of Ireland.

Continue to your hotel in Westport.

Dinner and overnight in the Castlecourt Hotel, Westport (4*).



Day 2: 09th September 2023 - Achill Island

After breakfast this morning you are transferred to Achill Island.

The blessing of this Island is that you can **drive** onto Ireland's largest island. The island has a long history of human settlement with megalithic tombs and promontory forts dating back 5000 years. The Achill landscape is a major draw with picture postcard Blue Flag beaches, some of Europe's highest cliffs and large tracts of blanket bog sweeping over the island's two peaks down to the shores.

You can enjoy hill walking, bird watching, painting or whatever takes your fancy.

Return to your hotel in the late afternoon.

Second overnight in the Castlecourt Hotel, Westport.



Day 3: 10th September 2023 - Westport - Sligo - Donegal

Full Irish Breakfast at your hotel.

Leaving Westport this morning travel to Sligo.

In the afternoon visit **Drumcliff Graveyard** - the final resting place of W.B. Yeats. Found in the churchyard, his grave is marked with a simple headstone with the inscription, "cast a cold eye on life, on death, horseman, pass by." This was Yeats' self penned epitaph together with the instructions that the grave consist of "no marble, no conventional phrase".

The graveyard also contains a high cross and nearby is the site of a 6th Century Columbian monastery of Collumban monastery.

Travel to your hotel in Donegal Town and check-in to hotel.

Dinner and overnight in the Central Hotel (3*), Donegal Town



Day 4: 11th September 2023 - Donegal

Full Irish Breakfast at your hotel.

Visit **Slieve League Cultural Centre** - Slieve League cliffs are the highest sea cliffs in Europe, sheering out of the Atlantic to a height of 600m. The Slieve League Cultural Centre explores the history and archeology of the area, which is dotted with monuments, ranging from Neolithic tombs to 16th-century ruins.

The Centre also has a craft gallery, which showcases jewellery, rustic furniture and the knitwear for which Donegal is famous. A café claims to serve the best coffee in Donegal.

Travel to **Killybegs** and enjoy some free time.

Return to Donegal for free time in Donegal Town.

Second overnight in the Central Hotel, Donegal Town.



Day 5: 12th September 2023 - Donegal - Derry

Full Irish Breakfast at your hotel.

Leaving Donegal travel northwards to Derry via **Glenveagh National Park**. Some 16,540 hectares of mountains, lakes, glens and woods with a herd of red deer. A Scottish style castle surrounded by one of the finest gardens in Ireland, which contrast with the rugged surroundings.

Continue to Omagh and visit the **Ulster American Folk Park** for a visit.

Check-in to your hotel.

Dinner and overnight in the Everglades Hotel (4*), Derry



Day 6: 13th September 2023 - Donegal - Belfast

Full Irish Breakfast at your hotel.

First stop is **Dunluce Castle** a now ruined medieval castle built on the dramatic coastal cliffs of County Antrim around 1500.

Next visit **Giants Causeway**. Volcanic activity 60 million years ago led to the formation of the 38,000 basalt columns that make up the Giant's Causeway. Hexagonal in shape, the stones stretch far out into sea and some stand as tall as 36ft (12m).

You will then visit **the Bushmills Distillery**. In 1608 Sir Thomas Phillips was granted a license to distil whiskey by James 1 of England, however, mentions of distilling traditions in the surrounding environs date back to 1276. The brand portfolio includes five award-winning whiskeys: Bushmills, Black Bush, Bushmills 10 year Malt, 16 year Malt and 21 year Malt. Bushmills is the only distillery in Ireland to make triple-distilled malt whiskey. This is at the heart of all Bushmills whiskeys and creates a unique combination of smoothness and richness.

Continue to Belfast and check-in to your hotel.

Dinner and overnight in the Grand Central Hotel (5*), Belfast.



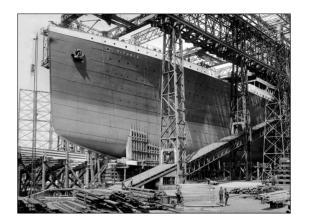
Day 7: 14th September 2023 - Belfast

Full Irish Breakfast at your hotel.

Belfast City; is an enchanting and welcoming city with something to offer even the most diverse and demanding of visitors. Recently voted "Europe's Friendliest Regional Capital" it is a compact and charming city of contrasts, in addition to being an epicentre for political, cultural and historical intrigue.

Visit the **Titanic Centre**: Housed in an iconic, 6-floor building. In the afternoon, free time

Second overnight in the Grand Central Hotel (5*), Belfast



Day 8: 15th September 2023 - Belfast - Limerick

Full Irish Breakfast at your hotel.

Today long distance transfer across country to Limerick. (6 hours)

Final Overnight on Dinner, Bed & breakfast in the Savoy Hotel (5*), Limerick.

Day 9: 16th September 2023 - Dromoland - Shannon Airport

Breakfast at your hotel.

Private coach will transfer you to Shannon airport for your return flight.

Return home with many wonderful memories of the Emerald Isle that will last a lifetime.

Slan Abhaile (Safe Home)

