



## Gerry Timlin Tours

Southwest Ireland May 10<sup>th</sup> to May 18th

### May 9, 2024 – FAILTÉ IRELAND

Arrive Shannon Airport. Travel to Ennis for overnight. Free for the day.

### May 10, 2024 – LIMERICK TO KILLARNEY

Full Irish Breakfast at your hotel.

You will depart Limerick or Ennis and travel southwards to the picturesque village of **Adare**: one of the prettiest towns in the country with its thatched rooves. Stop at the **Adare Heritage Visitor Centre**: where you will learn all about the history of this little town, which will also be the Ryder Cup Venue in 2027.

After a break in the town, travel further southwards to Killarney where you will visit **Muckross House and National Park**; view the principal rooms of the House, which are furnished in period style, you will also see exhibitions and displays illustrating various aspects of the lifestyles and crafts of the people of Kerry.

Dinner and overnight in the Gleneagle Hotel (3\*), Killarney.



### May 11, 2024 – DINGLE PENINSULA TOUR

Full Irish Breakfast at your hotel.

Today you will take a tour of the **Dingle Peninsula** where drama, history and great beauty are combined in a spectacular arrangement of mountain, coast and ancient settlements. During your tour you will see marvellous vistas all the way to the **Blasket Islands**. The excellent seafood, pubs and traditional music will draw you to this famous and beautiful peninsula where the Gaelic Language is still the everyday tongue of the people. Return to Killarney for your second night at the Gleneagles Hotel.



## May 12, 2024 – KILLARNEY - KINSALE

Full Irish Breakfast at your hotel.

Travel through the Kerry countryside followed by **Gougane Barra**. Gougane Barra is a picturesque valley and forested area where a number of couples have become engaged due to the spectacular scenery.

You will also make a stop at **Mizen Head** which is the most southernly point of mainland Ireland. It boasts dramatic cliff scenery and is home to one of the country's most famous light-houses.

After your stop at Mizen Head it is time to proceed to Kinsale.

Dinner and overnight in Actons Hotel, Kinsale.



## May 13, 2024 – KINSALE - COBH

This morning enjoy a **short walking tour of Kinsale** with your local tour guide.

Visit **Charles Fort**, one of the largest military forts in the country, built between 1677 and 1682, during the reign of King v Charles II, to protect the town and harbour. It is associated with some of the most momentous events in Irish history. These include the Williamite War in 1690 and the Irish Civil War of 1922-23. Charles Fort remained garrisoned by the British army until 1922.

It's then time to travel to Cobh. In the 1800s up to 300 ships could be seen at anchor in the waters off Cobh! By the time of Queen Victoria's visit in 1849, when Cobh was renamed Queenstown, the village had grown to a busy town. It became a hive of naval and commercial activity as Cork Harbour's important strategic position in the North Atlantic was recognized. Tall ships called to transport convicts to Australia and to carry Irish emigrants to North America. Visit Cobh Heritage Centre where Cobh's history and legacy are dramatically recalled at the **Queenstown Story** – a multimedia exhibition at Cobh's Victorian Station. Return to Kinsale the most picturesque, popular and fashionable resorts of the south-west coast of Ireland.

Second overnight in Actons Hotel, Kinsale.





## May 14, 2024 – KINSALE – MIDLETON – KILKENNY

Full Irish Breakfast at your hotel.

Travel inland to the rural market town of **Midleton**. Here you will visit the **Old Midleton Distillery** which will take you right to the heart of the cherished whiskey making tradition. Visitors are invited to take a 60-minute tour of this beautifully restored 18<sup>th</sup> century self-contained industrial complex, unique in Britain and Ireland. Delight in the fully operational water wheel and be amazed by the copper pot still of 32,000 gallons which is the largest in the world. After the history comes the tasting where visitors are invited to relax in the atmosphere of a traditional Irish pub and sample a whiskey.

Following your tour, depart Midleton and travel to the medieval city of **Kilkenny**. Dinner and overnight at the Rivercourt Hotel, Kilkenny.



## May 15, 2025 – KILKENNY

Full Irish Breakfast at your hotel.

Today is devoted to discovering the city of Kilkenny. Firstly enjoy a walking tour of this small medieval city full of cafes, artisan shops and galleries. See the wonderful **Kilkenny Castle** and **St. Canices Cathedral**. Climb to the top of the tower attached to the Cathedral to get the best view of this marvelous city. Visit **Kilkenny Castle**: "A 12<sup>th</sup> century castle remodelled in Victorian times and set in extensive parklands which was the principal seat of the Butler Family, Marquesses and Dukes of Ormonde. Due to major restoration works, the central block now includes a library, drawing room, and bedrooms decorated in 1830's splendour, as well as the beautiful Long Gallery. The old castle kitchen operates as a tea room during the summer. A suite of former servants' rooms is the Butler Art Gallery, which mounts frequent exhibitions.



## May 16, 2024 – KILKENNY - ENNIS

Full Irish Breakfast at your hotel.

Depart for the heritage town of Cashel where you will visit the Rock of Cashel.

Visit the **Rock of Cashel**: A spectacular group of medieval buildings set on an outcrop of limestone in the Golden Vale including the 12<sup>th</sup> century round tower, High Cross and Romanesque Chapel, 13<sup>th</sup> century Gothic cathedral, 15<sup>th</sup> century castle and the restored Hall of the Vicars Choral.

After your stop in Cashel it is time to move back towards the west of Ireland and base yourself in Ennis.

Overnight in the Old Ground Hotel, Ennis.

### May 17, 2024 – ENNIS -CLIFFS OF MOHER

Full Irish Breakfast at your hotel. Enjoy local touring today:



Visit the **Cliffs of Moher**, the entirely vertical cliffs rise to a height of 214m, their edge abruptly falling away into a ceaselessly churning Atlantic. A progression of vast heads, the dark limestone marches in a rigid formation. Views stretch to the Aran Islands and the hills of Connemara. Sunsets here see the sky turn a kaleidoscope of amber, amethyst, rose-pink and deep garnet-red.

“**The Burren** is a limestone plateau occupying an area of over one hundred square miles in North Clare. It is an area of scenic attractions where the clear light, reflected from the stone-grey hills, seems to radiate an air of timelessness, which is made more realistic by the presence of the many prehistoric remains that dot the fields and the valleys beneath. Here the unfolding layers of limestone form terraces on the slopes of the hills – a limestone desert but with a quick-changing landscape.”

Dinner and final overnight in Ennis.



### May 18, 2024 - FAREWELL

Transfer to Shannon Airport for your flight back to the United States