



John Boyle O'Reilly Club's
2019 "Best of the East & West" Ireland Tour
Dublin ~ Galway ~ Dingle
11-Day / 9-Night Customized Tour
Tuesday, October 1 – Friday, October 11, 2019



- **Tour Price:** \$3,288 per person double occupancy (note: departure tax [included in total price] is subject to change until ticketed per US Department of Transportation regulation)
- **Optional Travel Protection (non-refundable):** \$163 per person for double occupancy or \$223 for single occupancy
- **Additional Single Supplement:** \$721 with limited availability

Day 1 – Tuesday, October 1. US – DUBLIN, IRELAND: Depart Hartford/Bradley International Airport for your overnight flight to Dublin, Ireland via Aer Lingus. Enjoy in-flight entertainment. Dinner will be served shortly after takeoff.

Day 2 – Wednesday, October 2. DUBLIN – MALAHIDE - DUBLIN: Upon arrival at Dublin Airport, you will be welcomed by your Celtic Tours Irish driver/guide in the Arrivals Hall and then escorted to your waiting luxury motor coach, which will transfer you in style to Dublin, “The Fair City.” Our first stop on our journey will be in Howth, County Dublin at the iconic Abbey Tavern for a leisurely full Irish breakfast. We will then continue onto the pretty seaside town of Malahide and visit the grand Malahide Castle and Gardens. Malahide Castle, set on 250 acres of park land, was both a fortress and a private home for nearly 800 years with the Talbot family living there from 1185 to 1973, when the last Talbot passed away. The beautiful Talbot Botanic Gardens, as they exist today, were largely created by Lord Milo Talbot between 1948 and 1973, and feature over 4,500 plant species, many of them exotic. You will also have time to explore the museum shops and enjoy the café, if you wish. As we proceed to our hotel, we will enjoy a brief panoramic tour of Dublin City Centre. Arrive and check into your Dublin hotel, **Mespil Hotel**, with time to rest or enjoy a free afternoon. Dinner and overnight at your Dublin hotel.

Day 3 – Thursday, October 3. DUBLIN: After a full Irish breakfast, we will depart the hotel to visit and tour the Kilmainham Gaol, which covers some of the most heroic and tragic events in Irish history. Built in 1789, this jail housed prisoners for 130 years including many involved in the fight for Irish independence, including Robert Emmet and Charles Stewart Parnell. We will then visit the Guinness Storehouse for a self-guided tour where we will learn about this world famous brew and enjoy a complimentary pint in the rooftop “Gravity Bar”, which offers a 360-degree view of the Dublin City and beyond. Once we conclude our visit, we will then proceed to our Dublin hotel with the remainder of the afternoon free time to enjoy the city. Tonight, dinner on your own and overnight at your Dublin hotel.

Day 4 – Friday, October 4. DUBLIN – KILBEGGAN - GALWAY: Enjoy a full Irish breakfast before departing for Galway, “the City of Tribes”. Our first stop on our day’s journey will be in at The Kilbeggan Distillery Experience. The Kilbeggan Distillery is the oldest licensed distillery in Ireland, retaining its license to distill whiskey on the same site and in the same buildings since 1757. Upon arrival, we will embark on a guided tour and learn about the history and fine crafting of this legendary whiskey and its 260+ year-old distillery. At the conclusion of our tour, you will be able to enjoy and savor a sample of this quintessential Irish whiskey in their tasting room. We will then continue onto Galway and stop to enjoy a photo stop and picturesque stroll along the Salthill Promenade overlooking beautiful Galway Bay [weather permitting]. As we proceed to our hotel, we will enjoy a brief panoramic tour of Galway City. Arrive and check into your Galway hotel, **Harbour Hotel**, with free time to enjoy this lively city. Dinner and overnight at your Galway hotel.

Day 5 – Saturday, October 5. GALWAY - ARAN ISLAND EXCURSION - GALWAY: Enjoy your full Irish breakfast before departing for a day trip to Inishmore, the largest Aran Island, via a ferry at Rossaveal Harbour at mid-morning. Once on the island, enjoy a 2-1/2 hour mini-bus tour of island including a visit to the ancient monastic settlement of the Seven Churches and an optional climb to the Iron Age (around 1100 BC) three ringed-fort of Dun Aengus, dramatically perched on a cliff overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. Surrounding the walls of this fort is a network of upright defensive stones known as chevaux de frise. After our tour, there will be time to explore the island on your own, enjoy lunch in the village of Kilronan, and shop for Aran handknits and giftware. Return from Inishmore and arrive in Galway City late afternoon. Dinner and overnight at your Galway hotel.

Day 6 – Sunday, October 6. GALWAY – FREE DAY!!: After your leisurely full Irish breakfast, you have the entire day to discover the vibrant City of Galway. There are so many brightly-painted shops, pubs, and restaurants to savor and enjoy. Or, perhaps take a stroll and visit Eyre Square, Lynch’s Castle, St Nicholas’ Collegiate Church, the Spanish Arch, or the Claddagh, to name a few. There is so much to do in this compact city! Enjoy dinner on your own tonight and overnight at your Galway hotel.

Day 7 – Monday, October 7. GALWAY – CLIFFS OF MOHER - DINGLE: This morning, after a full Irish breakfast, we will depart for our journey to Dingle. Our drive will be along Galway Bay, through the charming villages of Kinvara and Ballyvaughan, through the Burren region and to the coastline of County Clare. We stop at the mighty Cliffs of Moher, rising to almost 700 feet above the sea and stretching for 5 miles. From here, you can gaze far out into the Atlantic Ocean and pick out the form of the Aran Islands in the distance. From the cliffs, we travel through Lahinch to Killimer. Here we board our ferry for the short ride across the River Shannon Estuary to Tarbert and arrive in County Kerry. We will continue south through Tralee past the beautiful wide expanse of Tralee Bay, which falls under the shadow of the Slieve Mish mountains and on to Dingle, arriving late afternoon for check into your **Dingle Benners Hotel**. Dinner and overnight at your Dingle hotel.

Day 8 – Tuesday, October 8. DINGLE – FREE DAY!!: After your leisurely full Irish breakfast, you have the entire day free to independently explore Dingle. Enjoy the many colorful shops, pubs, and restaurants that Dingle has to offer or take a walk down to Dingle Harbour and soak in the beautiful vistas of Dingle Bay. Or perhaps, take a fun Dingle Dolphin boat tour and see Dingle’s famous friendly dolphin, Fungie, as he visits and travels alongside your boat. Enjoy dinner on your own tonight and overnight at your Dingle hotel.

Day 9 – Wednesday, October 9. DINGLE – DINGLE PENINSULA - DINGLE: This morning, enjoy a full Irish breakfast before we begin our day in Dingle visiting Brian de Staic Jewellery. You will meet Ireland’s master craftsman and leading goldsmith himself, Brian de Staic, who will give us a brief overview of the stories and the stones of the Dingle Peninsula’s Celtic history. His award-winning, distinctive jewellery designs are at the heart of this special West Kerry history. Brian and his highly skilled team of artisans also create personalized, one-of-a-kind bracelets, pendants, brooches, and rings using the ancient Ogham script found on the standing stones on the Peninsula. All of Brian De Staic’s jewellery is handcrafted in Dingle and hallmarked in Dublin Castle. We then tour and view the magnificent coastal scenery of the Dingle Peninsula. Beyond Sleah Head, we’ll see the Blasket Islands, which is the last outpost of Europe. We will travel on to Dunquin to visit The Blasket Centre. Here the Centre celebrates and explores the history and life of the Blasket Islanders, who inhabited the Islands until 1953 and the many families that emigrated directly to Springfield, Massachusetts. We will also discover the unique literary achievements of the Islands’ writers and their native language, culture, and tradition. We return to Dingle with the remainder of day free. Tonight, dinner on your own and overnight at your Dingle hotel.

Day 10 – Thursday, October 10. DINGLE: After a full leisurely Irish breakfast, we visit the Dingle Crystal workshop and meet the founder and master craftsman certified by Waterford Crystal, Sean Daly. We will be able to watch firsthand as Sean creates one of his signature crystal pieces before our eyes. Sean is renowned for the weight of his crystal pieces, his Celtic themes (especially his Celtic knots and circles), superb product quality, and each piece bearing his signature. If you wish, during your free time in Dingle, you can also visit Sean’s retail shop on Green Street in Dingle Town. Next, we travel a brief distance to Dingle Whiskey Distillery to tour this newer, small specialty distillery, where their spirits only began to trickle from their stills in November of 2012. It is the mild, moist climate of Dingle’s southwest coast that matures this one-of-a-kind whiskey blend. No whiskey in Ireland or Scotland experiences such a maturation process. After the tour, we will be able to taste this artisan (low-output) Dingle-produced whiskey, which gives it its superlative quality and unique character. We return to Dingle Town early afternoon. The remainder of the day is free for you to discover the many charms that this town has to offer. Dinner and overnight at your Dingle hotel.

Day 11 – Friday, October 11. DINGLE - SHANNON - US: Before saying goodbye to our Irish driver/guide and the enchanting Emerald Isle, enjoy a full Irish breakfast prior to our departure to Shannon Airport. There will be time for last-minute shopping at duty-free before our return flight home to Boston/Logan via Aer Lingus.

YOUR HOTELS:

- **Dublin: Mespil Hotel** (2 nights, 1 hotel dinner)
50-60 Mespil Road, Dublin City Centre, County Dublin, Ireland
Phone in Ireland: 1 48 84 600 Phone from USA: 011 353 48 84 600
mespilhotel.com
- **Galway: Harbour Hotel** (3 nights, 2 hotel dinners)
New Dock Road, Galway City, County Galway, Ireland
Phone in Ireland: 091 894 800 Phone from USA: 011 353 91 894 800
harbour.ie
- **Dingle: Dingle Benners Hotel** (4 nights, 2 hotel dinners)
Main Street, Dingle, County Kerry, Ireland
Phone in Ireland: 066 915 1638 Phone from USA: 011 353 66 915 1638
dinglebenners.com

INCLUDED IN YOUR TOUR:

- Local roundtrip bus transportation – 10/1 JBO Club to Hartford/Bradley Airport and 10/11 from Boston/Logan Airport to JBO Club
- Roundtrip airfare from Hartford/Bradley to Dublin on 10/1-10/2 and Shannon to Boston on 10/11 via Aer Lingus
- All transportation and sightseeing via deluxe touring motor coach with the services of a professional Irish driver/guide throughout our tour
- Nine (9) First Class and Superior Class hotel accommodations – all rooms with private facilities
- Ten (10) full Irish breakfasts (including day of arrival in Dublin)
- Five (5) hotel dinners
- All entrance fees to exhibits/tours, etc: Malahide Castle & Gardens; Kilmainham Gaol; Guinness Storehouse; Kilbeggan Whiskey Experience; roundtrip ferry excursion to/from largest Aran Island (Inishmore) with mini-bus island tour; Dun Aengus Fort; Cliffs of Moher; River Shannon ferry excursion from Killimer, County Clare to Tarbert, County Kerry; Dingle Crystal; Dingle Whiskey Distillery; Blasket Centre
- AND surprises and treats along our tour, courtesy of the JBO Club Ireland Tour Committee!!
- Porterage of one (1) suitcase per person
- Celtic Tours flight bag and portfolio of travel documents
- All other standard items: airfare and departure taxes, land, all hotel gratuities, portorage, etc.
- **All gratuities to local bus drivers and Celtic Tours Irish driver/guide included in your tour price**

TOUR PAYMENT DUE DATES:

- Initial deposit of \$1,000 + optional travel insurance (+ \$721 single supplement) due at time of booking
- Final payment of \$2,288 due prior to April 30, 2019

Please notify us if you have any dietary, mobility, or medical requirements.

IMPORTANT NOTE REGARDING JBO CLUB IRELAND TOUR PRICING: As you will see from this detailed itinerary, we have many very special visits included in this tour. Please note that our itinerary is all-inclusive, which includes land, air and departure taxes, admissions to all sites/events, roundtrip local bus transportation to/from the JBO Club/Hartford-Bradley or Boston Logan, and all gratuities (including hotels, local bus drivers as well as our Irish driver/guide). It is very rare to find a tour that bundles all gratuities into their tour price – there is no digging in your pockets or purse on your last tour day for Euros for your Irish driver/guide. The only items that you will be responsible for paying for are your daily lunches and four dinners (one in Dublin, one in Galway, and two in Dingle) -- ten breakfasts and five dinners are all included in our tour price. Unlike other tours, we do not inflate our tour price. As with all of our tours since inception, we have priced our tour at the net cost pricing that we receive directly from our tour company. We then pass on any free land or air bonuses that we receive from our tour company to our tour passengers in the form of special surprises and treats all along our tour. Each JBO Club Ireland Tour Committee Member [Eric Devine, Dick Devine & Joyce Bosworth] pays the full tour price so that we can pass the savings and treats on to our tour passengers.

**For additional information,
please contact Eric Devine at IrelandTours@jbo-club.com or
Joyce Bosworth at 413.330.6363 or IrelandTours@jbo-club.com**

www.jbo-club.com

19/1/26

Testimonials from our past JBO Club tour passengers:

“We had an awesome time, really enjoyed ourselves and made some new friends too. Thanks Joyce, Eric and Martin – you always show us a great time!” BW & DW, Massachusetts

“We just want to thank you for very special tour of Ireland. We had a wonderful time, thanks for all of your hard work and dedication. Keep us on the list for 2020!” KL & ML, Massachusetts

“Thank you for another wonderful trip. Hope to see you next year.” CKL, Texas

“We had an awesome time. Thank you, Joyce, Eric and Martin for a job well done.” MM & KM, Massachusetts

“It was so much fun! Thank you, Joyce, Eric and Martin. You are the best!” NC, Georgia

“I want to thank Joyce and Eric for a wonderful trip. I had a great time. You both went above and beyond. I would love to go with you again. Wonderful!!!” ES, Texas

HOTEL NOTICE CHECK-IN:

In most areas, the check-in time is approximately 2:00 pm onwards. Most hotels will hold your luggage for you upon arrival, until your room is available. It takes time to prepare your room after other guests have left. The checkout time is usually between 11:00 am and 12:00 noon. If you arrive on an early morning flight into Ireland, every effort will be made to obtain an early check-in at your hotel; however, this is not always possible. Your patience is greatly appreciated.

IN ORDER TO ENSURE FAIRNESS, DAILY ROTATION OF SEATS ON MOTORCOACH TOURS IS REQUIRED.
