



John Boyle O'Reilly Club's
2020 "Best of the Cork & Kerry Coasts" Ireland Tour
Kinsale ~ Bantry ~ Dingle
11-Day / 9-Night Customized Tour
Sunday, November 1 – Wednesday, November 11, 2020



- **Tour Price:** \$2,949 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):** \$147 per person for double occupancy or \$170 for single occupancy
- **Additional Single Supplement:** \$471 with limited availability

Day 1 – Sunday, November 1. US – SHANNON, IRELAND: Depart Boston/Logan International airport for your overnight flight to Shannon, Ireland via Aer Lingus. Enjoy in-flight entertainment. Dinner will be served shortly after takeoff.

Day 2 – Monday, November 2. SHANNON – BLARNEY - KINSALE: Upon arrival at Shannon 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 through the hills and vales of Counties Clare, Limerick, and Cork to the picturesque harbour town of Kinsale. Our first stop on our journey will be in Blarney, County Cork, at the Lemon Tree Restaurant at the Blarney Castle Hotel for a leisurely full Irish breakfast. After breakfast, we will have time to stroll around the village of Blarney and shop at the Blarney Woollen Mills. We will then continue onto through the many pretty villages in County Cork and proceed to our hotel. Arrive and check into your Kinsale hotel, **Trident Hotel**, with time to rest or enjoy a free afternoon. Dinner and overnight at your Kinsale hotel.

Day 3 – Tuesday, November 3. KINSALE – COBH - KINSALE: After a full Irish breakfast, we will depart the hotel to visit and tour the Cobh Heritage Centre. Cobh's maritime history is recalled in The Queenstown Story where you will hear and learn of the struggle of the emigrants leaving Ireland. From 1848 through 1950, over six million adults and children emigrated from Ireland – over 2.5 million departed from Cobh, making it the single most important port of emigration. We will then take a short ferry ride from Kennedy Pier, Cobh, and enjoy a fully guided tour of the Spike Island and fortress. In the last 1300 years, Spike Island has been host to a 6th century monastery, a 24-acre fortress, the largest convict depot in the world in Victorian times and centuries of island homes. The island's rich history has included monks and monasteries, rioters and redcoats, captains and convicts, and saints and sinners. The island is dominated by the 200-year old Fort Mitchel, the star-shaped fortress, which became a prison holding over 2,300 prisoners. Spike Island has the nickname of “Ireland's Alcatraz”. After the tour has concluded, we will return to Kinsale late afternoon. Dinner and overnight at your Kinsale hotel.

Day 4 – Wednesday, November 4. KINSALE – MIDLETON - KINSALE: Enjoy a leisurely full Irish breakfast before departing to the Jameson Whiskey Experience in Midleton for a private guided tour. We will learn the fascinating story of Jameson's rich heritage and the field-to-glass processes responsible for the whiskey that bears John Jameson's name. As we tour the old distillery, we will view the old kilns, mills, maltings, still house, distiller's cottage, cooperage, and the world's largest pot still with a capacity of 31,600 gallons. At the conclusion, a complimentary glass of Jameson will be served in their tasting room for you to enjoy and savour. We return to Kinsale early to mid-afternoon with the remainder of the day free. Tonight, dinner on your own and overnight at your Kinsale hotel.

Day 5 – Thursday, November 5. KINSALE – MIZEN HEAD - BANTRY: This morning, after a full Irish breakfast, we will depart Kinsale and begin our day touring County Cork's stunning coastal route through the towns of Clonakilty, Skibbereen, Ballydehob, Schull and on to our visit to the spectacular Mizen Head, the most southwesterly tip in Ireland, where the land falls precipitously into the Atlantic breakers in a procession of spectacular 700 foot sea cliffs. We will cross a suspension bridge to the former signal station, which is now the visitor centre, and we will have the opportunity to savor the breathtaking views, which are breathtaking in any weather, from specially designed viewing platforms at southernmost point of the mainland. On a clear day, you will be able to see the lighthouse at Fastnet Rock, known as the “Teardrop of Ireland”. It was the final glimpse of home for millions of Irish people who emigrated in search of a better life in the new world. We will then proceed to our Bantry hotel, **Maritime Hotel**, with the remainder of the afternoon free to enjoy this lovely little harbor town. Dinner and overnight at your Bantry hotel.

Day 6 – Friday, November 6. BANTRY – GLENGARRIFF - BANTRY: After your full Irish breakfast, we will travel a short distance to the stately Bantry House and Garden, which overlooks Bantry Bay with sweeping views of the Caha Mountains. This majestic home contains a valuable private collection of both furniture and art, and the verdant garden is laid out beautifully over seven terraces with a fountain, large wisteria circle, and 100 steps leading up to the woodland. The estate has been owned by the same family since 1739. We will then travel to Glengarriff, famed for its natural beauty. Glengarriff

is situated on picturesque Bantry Bay where the mountains meet the sea and offers unrivalled beauty, peace, and tranquility. This area is famed for its lush vegetation due to its temperate micro-climate. From Glengarriff Pier, we set sail for a late morning guided cruise around Glengarriff Harbour, one of most magnificent natural inner harbours of Bantry Bay. Our private tour will take us past Glengarriff Castle, Seal Island with its 250+ resident harbour seal colony, and various other sites of historical and cultural interest. Sit back, relax, and savor this natural wonderland. We will return to Bantry early afternoon with the remainder of the day free to explore this vibrant market town. Enjoy dinner on your own tonight and overnight at your Bantry hotel.

Day 7 – Saturday, November 7. BANTRY - DINGLE: This morning, after a full Irish breakfast, we will depart Bantry for our day's journey to the enchanting harbour town of Dingle. Our breathtaking drive will take us through West Cork and into County Kerry through Kenmare, Killarney National Park, Killarney, Inch, and Annascaul -- you will definitely want to have your cameras ready! We will arrive in Dingle late afternoon for check into your **Dingle Benners Hotel**. Dinner and overnight at your Dingle hotel.

Day 8 – Sunday, November 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 swims alongside your boat. Enjoy dinner on your own tonight and overnight at your Dingle hotel.

Day 9 – Monday, November 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 will see the Blasket Islands, which is the last outpost of Europe. We continue on our journey through the quaint villages of peninsula and visit the Gallarus Oratory, an early Christian church built between the 7th and 8th centuries overlooking picturesque Smerwick Harbour. Your visit here will conjure up visions of monks in early Christian times in this "land of saints and scholars". The Oratory is the best preserved early Christian church in Ireland, constructed of dry-stone corbelling (using techniques first developed by neolithic tombmakers), and it resembles an upturned boat. We return to Dingle with the remainder of day free. Tonight, dinner on your own and overnight at your Dingle hotel.

Day 10 – Tuesday, November 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, our day will take us to Dick Mack's Brewhouse. This award-winning brewhouse was set up by three friends in October 2017. Winning two gold awards with their first year of opening, they are now pouring these award-winning brews in over 30 locations on the Dingle Peninsula. Our behind-the-scenes tour will take us into their brewhouse, which is a converted 200-year old cow shed. We will learn about not only the brewing process, but also about the ingredients that are vital to the unique taste of Dick Mack's beers. We

complete our tour in the taproom, where we sample their award-winning beers. The remainder of the day is free after your tastings for you to discover the many gems that this charming town has to offer. Dinner and overnight at your Dingle hotel.

Day 11 – Wednesday, November 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:

- **Kinsale: The Trident Hotel** (3 nights, 2 hotel dinners)
World's End, Kinsale, County Cork, Ireland
Phone in Ireland: 021 477 9300 Phone from USA: 011 353 21 477 9300
tridenthotel.com
- **Bantry: Maritime Hotel** (2 nights, 1 hotel dinner)
The Quay, Bantry, County Cork, Ireland
Phone in Ireland: 027 54700 Phone from USA: 011 353 91 27 54700
themaritime.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 – JBO Club to and from Boston/Logan Airport
- Roundtrip airfare from Boston to Shannon on 11/1-11/2 and Shannon to Boston on 11/11 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 Blarney)
- Five (5) hotel dinners
- All entrance fees to exhibits/tours, etc: Cobh Heritage Centre; roundtrip ferry excursion to/from Kennedy Pier with guided Spike Island tour; Jameson Distillery Experience; Mizen Head; Bantry House & Garden; Glengarriff Harbour cruise; Brian de Staic Jewellers; Gallarus Oratory; Dingle Crystal; Dick Mack's Brewhouse
- 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 (+ \$471 single supplement) due at time of booking
- Final payment of \$1,949 due prior to April 30, 2020

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 Kinsale, one in Bantry, 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

19/08/15

Testimonials from our past JBO Club tour passengers:

“Just want to thank you for an incredible trip, Joyce! It was wonderful to spend some time in Dingle. Thanks again for everything!! Sláinte.” DA & JA, Massachusetts

“Thanks to Joyce, Eric, Dick, and of course Martin --you gave us all an extraordinary experience! Bob and I fell in love with Ireland. Simply awesome.” MM & BH, New Hampshire

“This trip would not have been as much fun and interesting without all of your hard work. THANK YOU - Eric, Joyce, Dick and Martin! Can’t wait for our next trip!!” HS & PS, Connecticut

“Joyce, thank you for putting together such a wonderful trip! It couldn’t have been better. We saw and did so much. What a wonderful group of people. Sláinte.” LB, Massachusetts

“What a fabulous trip and super hosts - Joyce, Eric, Dick and Martin! We had so much fun and enjoyed every aspect! Thank you!” MK & MK, Massachusetts

“Thank you for hosting our trip to Ireland, Joyce. I’m so glad we decided to go with the JBO! We had a fantastic time and enjoyed every minute of it! You’re amazing! Thank you and best wishes.” JR & RR, Connecticut

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.**