

OUTLINE ITINERARY

West & South Of Ireland In A Week

Take a fully-guided 7 day tour of wild valleys and quaint villages

The spectacular west and southwest of Ireland awaits you on this gently-paced **Driftwood Journey of Discovery**.

Discover the rugged natural beauty of Clare, Kerry and Cork, the lovely Cliffs of Moher, as well as hideaway places you won't find in guidebooks.

Connect with people, history and culture. Stay in a Connemara castle hotel, visit craft studios and enjoy ample free time.

Summary

Tour Style Driftwood - LESS ACTIVE

Tour Vehicle
COMFY MERCEDES TOUR BUS

Pickup/Drop Off Location

Departure Day monday

Return Day & Time 5.00-6.00PM SUNDAY



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS



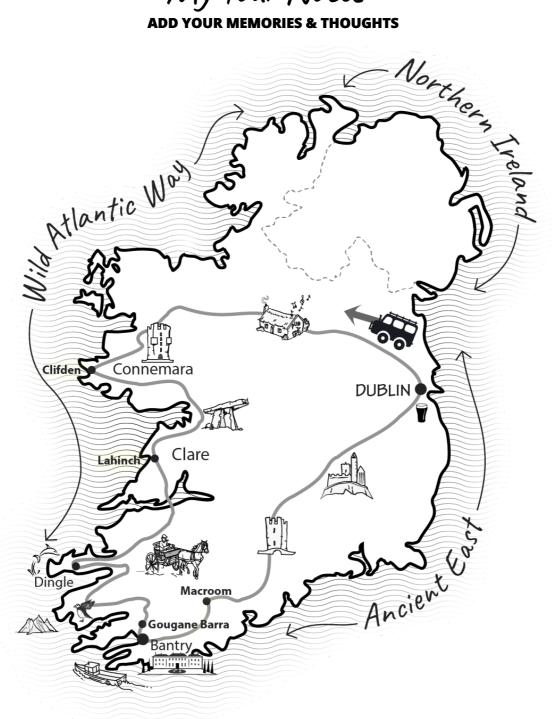
- Experience amazing bucket-list destinations like the famous Cliffs of Moher
- Visit **Blarney Castle** and kiss the **Blarney Stone** to gain the gift o' the gab
- Overnight in an atmospheric castle hotel in the heart of **Connemara**
- Tour spectacular **Killarney National Park** in a horse-drawn 'jaunting' carriage
- Meet craftspeople and discover **handmade Irish crafts** in open studios
- Meet lambs and sheepdogs on a guided Irish farm tour including a sheepdog experience
- Visit stately homes, gardens and castles, like **Bantry House** owned by the same family since the 1700s
- Spot seals and other wildlife as you board a boat for the scenic crossing to Garnish Island Gardens
- Taste the best of Ireland's **delicious food**, craft beer and smooth whiskey in lively restaurants and authentic pubs
- **TOUR DIRECTION:** This is the counter-clockwise tour itinerary. It also runs in a **clockwise direction** around Ireland.

WHERE YOU SEE 'OPTIONAL EXTRA', ACTIVITIES AND FEES ARE OPTIONAL.



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My Tour Notes



View Tour in Opposite Direction

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OUTLINE ITINERARY

Day 1



GRAND CANAL HOTEL, DUBLIN to CLIFDEN, GAI WAY

Overnight Stay
THE ABBEYGLEN CASTLE HOTEL

Day of Week MONDAY

Average Driving
4 HOURS 30 MINUTES

TOUR CONNEMARA

Meet your guide and fellow Driftwooders at the Grand Canal Hotel, **Dublin**, at least 15 minutes before your scheduled departure time of 8.00am. Board your Mercedes tour vehicle for the trip of a lifetime!

Explore the historic ruins of 15th century **Ross Errilly Friary** or the picturesque village of **Cong**, filming location for John Wayne's The Quiet Man.

What's the classic postcard image of Ireland? We think you'll find it amid the savage beauty of **Connemara**. Today is your chance to experience this amazing region.

There's a quick photo stop at **Kylemore Abbey** – one of Ireland's most romantic historic buildings.

Day 2



CLIFDEN, GALWAY to LAHINCH, CLARE

Overnight Stay
THE LAHINCH COAST HOTEL

Day of Week

Average Driving 3 HOURS 30 MINUTES

CASTLE TOUR & THE BURREN

Take a guided tour of 16th century **Aughnanure Castle**, ancestral home to the ferocious O'Flaherty clan (Fee Included). On some departures, this activity may occur on Day 3.

We're aiming for buzzy and bohemian Galway city next.

Spot red-sailed traditional boats and picturesque **Dunguaire Castle** on the shores of **Galway Bay**.

Next is the bewitching beauty of the **Burren National Park**. This region boasts a limestone lunar landscape and uniquely rich flora.

Hold onto your hat! It's the 700ft high Cliffs of Moher (Fee Included).





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Day 3



LAHINCH, CLARE to DINGLE, KERRY

Overnight Stay

Day of Week WEDNESDAY

Average Driving
3 HOURS 30 MINUTES

SHEEPDOG DEMO & FARM TOUR

Cruise along the west Clare coastline in your comfortable tour vehicle, enjoying uninterrupted ocean vistas.

Look out for low-flying dolphins as we cross the mouth of the **Shannon** - the longest river in Ireland - to arrive in 'The Kingdom' of Kerry by ferry (Fee Included).

Visit a working Irish sheep farm with charming old-style cottages for a live **sheepdog demo** and **guided farm tour** (Fee Included).

Refresh yourself with an ice cold pint at the **South Pole Inn**. Relive the extraordinary deeds of its one time landlord, Antarctic explorer, Tom Crean.

Dingle awaits... Revel in a wealth of dinner and entertainment options in this bustling little town. There's a pub for every 40 residents!

Day 4



DINGLE, KERRY to SLEA HEAD, KERRY (and return)

Overnight Stay

Day of Week

Average Driving
1 HOURS 30 MINUTES

FREE TIME IN DINGLE

Today is yours to design. Soak up the charms of **Dingle**, with quality downtime or a choice between the following relaxed activities.

OPTIONAL EXTRAS (Choose A, B or C):

- A. Take a boat trip around spectacular Dingle Bay.
- **B.** Savour a guided **craft tour** of the Dingle Crystal studio.
- **C.** Golfers will enjoy Dingle's excellent links course. This is an all day activity.

Experience **Slea Head**, one of the most beautiful drives in Ireland. Rugged beauty and knife edge cliffs are guaranteed. Look out for the **Blasket Islands** and the holy **Mount Brandon** among the patchwork fields and picture-perfect cottages.

Whatever you do in **Dingle**, don't miss an Irish traditional music session or a stroll around the town's plentiful art galleries and craft studios.





OUTLINE ITINERARY

Day 5



DINGLE, KERRY to GOUGANE BARRA or BANTRY, CORK

Overnight Stay
THE SEAVIEW HOUSE HOTEL
OR THE MARITIME HOTEL

Day of Week

Average Driving
3 Hours

HORSE CARRIAGE RIDE IN KILLARNEY

Start the day with a scenic drive along the coast of the **Dingle Peninsula**, with a photo stop and a stroll along the beach at Inch Strand.

Take a **horse-drawn carriage ride** around **Killarney National Park** (Optional Extras).

Your visit to Killarney National Park may also include:

- Sightings of rare red deer herds in native oak forest
- 19th century Muckross House and Gardens
- A short walk to scenic Torc Waterfall
- Idyllic lakeside and mountain views

One of our favourite pastimes is dancing around **ancient stone circles**. Astrology? Sacrifice? No one truly knows what the circles were for. Let your imagination run wild!

Take a spin over either the **Caha** or **Healy Pass**, both dramatically scenic mountain roads on the **Beara Peninsula**.

Day 6



O GOUGANE BARRA or BANTRY, CORK to GOUGANE BARRA or MACROOM, CORK

Overnight Stay
THE GOUGANE BARRA HOTEL OR
THE CASTLE HOTEL MACROOM

Day of Week

Average Driving

BANTRY HOUSE & BOAT TRIP

Expect rugged roads and superb scenery as we explore the remote **Beara Peninsula**.

Of the four peninsulas in Ireland's southwest, the Beara receives the least amount of visitors and has the feeling of true wilderness.

Look out for seals on a scenic **boat trip** to **Garnish Island**. Once landed, explore the wonders of the Italian-style formal gardens (Optional Extras). Garnish Island opens from April to October. Departures in March can instead choose a **guided harbour tour** by boat (Optional Extras).

Visit stately **Bantry House**, a grand Irish home built in the 18th century (Fee Included). Please note, Bantry House opens from April to October.

Alternatively, learn about the epic last stand of a Gaelic chieftain at 16th centiury **Carriganass Castle**.



VAGABOND

OUTLINE ITINERARY

Day 7



GOUGANE BARRA or MACROOM, CORK to GRAND CANAL HOTEL, DURI IN

Day of Week

Average Driving

BLARNEY STONE & ROCK OF CASHEL

Before we say goodbye — $sl\acute{a}n$ in Irish — there's still time to take in some of Ireland's highlights.

We'll trace the valley of the **River Lee**, crossing stone bridges and passing through picturesque countryside.

Then it's time to kiss the **Blarney Stone** (Fee Included). Afterwards, explore the extensive grounds and lush, landscaped gardens of **Blarney Castle**.

En route back to Dublin, enjoy a self-guided tour of the **Rock of Cashel** (Fee Included). Saint Patrick converted the King of Munster here. Brian Boru was crowned High King of Ireland here. It's an epic way to conclude our Irish odyssey.

You'll disembark your Drifter tour vehicle back at the Grand Canal Hotel in **Dublin** between 5-6pm. Farewell elbow bumps all round for your new travel buddies!





OUTLINE ITINERARY

TOUR PRICING

Oct Departures: €1,975.50 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €395.00

May to Sep Departures: €2,195.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €410.00

Mar, Apr and Oct 2025 Departures: €1,975.50 Per Person Sharing
Single Room Supplement: €395.00

May to Sep 2025 Departures: €2,195.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €410.00

Call Us...

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WHAT'S INCLUDED

- A journey of discovery in a super-comfy, slick Mercedes Benz mini-coach
- The services of a highly-trained and professional VagaGuide tour guide
- 7 full days on tour
- 6 nights' accommodation
- 6 delicious and filling hot Irish breakfasts
- Most daily activities and essential attracions
- Live like lords and ladies with a one night stay in a castle
- Entrance into the magnificent Blarney Castle and Gardens
- Entrance into the epic Rock of Cashel
- A working sheep farm experience
- Entrance into Bantry House situated on the Wild Atlantic Way
- Entrance into Aughnanure Castle
- Shannon ferry tickets

TOUR OPTIONS

Activities marked **OPTIONAL EXTRA** on the day-by-day descriptions carry an additional cost, but are optional.

Boat Trip in Dingle Bay - €10.00 G

Golf in Dingle - Variable

Horse-Drawn Carriage Ride** -

€20.00

Garnish Island Boat Trip - €19.00

^{**} Cash is required for this activity. No card payment available.





^{*} All details of prices and suppliers contained in this itinerary are correct at the time of publication. Our tour prices will not change as the season progresses. However, our suppliers occassionally increase prices at short noice. We will do our utmost to update you of major price changes as they occur.