

### **OUTLINE ITINERARY**

### Go Wild On This Active Adventure Tour

We take the word 'wild' seriously at Vagabond. Explore the outer reaches of the west and southwest of Ireland in a 4x4 Mercedes mini-coach.

Experience a stay in a castle hotel, an e-bike tour in wildest Connemara, Stone Age forts, Atlantic sunsets, hikes in Kerry and a boat trip around the Skellig Islands.

Find out why National Geographic honoured this itinerary with a 'Tours of a Lifetime' award.

## Summary

Tour Style vagabond - active

Tour Vehicle

CHUNKY 4X4 TOUR VEHICLE

13 Seats

Pickup/Drop Off Location

Departure Day sunday

Return Day & Time



### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**



- Connemara to Clare; Kerry to West Cork, this tour visits highlights of the southwestern Wild Atlantic Way touring route.
- Take a guided, open ocean boat trip around the **Skellig Islands** to experience wildlife and an ethereal monastic story.
- Get blown away by the beauty of three National Parks; Connemara, Killarney and the Burren.
- Flexible adventure options abound, such as **horseback-riding**, sea kayaking, trail biking and even coldwater surfing.
- Discover secluded and **secret destinations**, such as Annascaul, a remote glaciated valley on the beautiful **Dingle peninsula**.
- Experience bucket-list attractions like the **Cliffs of Moher**, the **Rock of Cashel** and the **Blarney Stone**.
- Prepare to wonder at the depth of **Irish history**. Stand inside ancient stone circles, castle ruins and celtic-era ring forts.
- Catch traditional Irish music performances in lively and authentic towns like **Kenmare**.
- TOUR DIRECTION: This is the counter-clockwise tour itinerary. It also runs in a **clockwise direction** around Ireland.

WHERE YOU SEE 'OPTIONAL EXTRAS', ACTIVITIES AND FEES ARE OPTIONAL. MAKE SURE YOU CHECK THE FINAL PAGE FOR COSTS OF EACH OPTIONAL EXTRA.

View Tour in Opposite Direction



# My Tour Notes



**View Tour in Opposite Direction** 

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### **OUTLINE ITINERARY**

Day 1



Overnight Stay
THE ABBEYGLEN CASTLE HOTEL

Day of Week sunday

Average Driving 5 Hours

### **CONNEMARA CASTLE HOTEL & HIKE**

Meet your VagaGuide and fellow Vagabonds at reception of the **Grand Canal Hotel, Dublin** at least 15 minutes before your scheduled departure time of 8.20am. Board your 4x4 VagaTron tour vehicle and hit the road!

Kickstart your Irish odyssey in epic style with a **guided e-bike tour** of the wild **Connemara** region (Optional Extra).

You'll be exploring quiet, back country roads around **Lough Mask** on pedal-assist electric bikes. Expect to cycle 25km in distance and for up to 2.5 hours in duration. The terrain is mostly flat. Some cycling experience is required.

The e-bike tour is completely optional. For those who prefer two feet to two wheels, you can explore scenic woodlands near Lough Mask on a local hike.

Day 2



CLIFDEN, GALWAY to SPANISH POINT, CLARE

Overnight Stay
THE ARMADA HOTEL

Day of Week

Average Driving 4 Hours

### **CLIFFS OF MOHER & THE BURREN**

Take a guided tour of 16th century **Aughnanure Castle**, ancestral home to the ferocious O'Flaherty clan (Fee Included).

The City of the Tribes — **Galway** — nestles on the Atlantic Ocean and makes for an atmospheric urban experience.

Spot red-sailed traditional boats and picturesque **Dunguaire Castle** in the village of Kinvara, on 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 **Cliffs of Moher** (Fee Included). You'll be dazzled by these majestic 700ft high sea cliffs.





### **OUTLINE ITINERARY**

Day 3



SPANISH POINT, CLARE to DINGLE, KERRY

Overnight Stay
DINGLE SKELLIG HOTEL
OR CEANN SIBEAL HOTEL

Day of Week tuesday

Average Driving
3 HOURS 30 MINUTES

**HIKING, SURFING & SHEEP FARM TOUR** 

Surf's up! Take a **surf lesson** (Optional Extra) in Spanish Point. Or simply absorb the serenity at one of Ireland's most gorgeous beaches.

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

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

Climb the steep, glaciated valley of **Annascaul**. Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes. Expect rough terrain and stunning views.

Refresh yourself with an ice cold drink at the **South Pole Inn**. Relive the extraordinary life 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
DINGLE SKELLIG HOTEL
OR CEANN SIREAL HOTEL

Day of Week

Average Driving
1 HOURS 30 MINUTES

### HORSEBACK RIDING OR KAYAKING

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

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.

### **OPTIONAL EXTRAS**

- A. Go horseback-riding on a beach or up a mountain.
- **B**. Take a gentle **boat trip** around spectacular Dingle Bay.
- C. Guided sea kayaking on Dingle Bay.
- **D**. Guided **rowing experience** in a traditional Naomhóg boat.
- E. Guided sea safari around the Dingle Peninsula in a high speed rib. Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes.
- **F.** Golfers will enjoy Dingle's excellent links course. This is an all day activity.

Any
Questions?

Email Paige: paige@vagabond.ie

Call Toll Free: USA - 833 230 0288 | Canada - 833 681 6903 | Australia - 1800 985 642



### **OUTLINE ITINERARY**

Day 5



O DINGLE, KERRY to PORTMAGEE, KERRY

Overnight Stay
THE MOORINGS PORTMAGEE

Day of Week

Average Driving
3 HOURS 30 MINUTES

### **KILLARNEY NATIONAL PARK**

Roam the spectacular lakeside meadows and native oak woodlands of **Killarney National Park**. You visit may include:

- Sightings of rare red deer
- The stately 19th century Muckross House & Gardens
- A short but scenic hike to **Torc Waterfall**
- A magical, centuries-old **yew tree** growing at the centre of a ruined medieval abbey
- Idyllic lakeside and mountain views

If it's a clear night, look up... Kerry is an **International Dark Sky Reserve**. The night sky here offers crystal clear views of the Milky Way.

Day 6



PORTMAGEE, KERRY to KENMARE, KERRY

Overnight Stay
THE COACHMAN'S TOWNHOUSE

Day of Week

Average Driving 2 Hours

### **SKELLIG ISLANDS CRUISE OR ISLAND HIKE**

Today is your chance to experience Ireland's island treasures; the **Skelligs**.

**Option 1:** Take a **guided boat trip** around both **Skellig Islands** to experience seabirds and amazing history (Optional Extra). This cruise lasts 2 hour 30 minutes.

This is an ocean crossing. Departures are seasonal (mid-May to mid-September). The 12 person capacity boats are small. The cabin conditions are rough and wet; sea legs are required. Your departure is weather dependent and, as such, occasionally subject to late cancellation.

**Option 2:** Landlubbers can still experience the Skelligs. Hike to the historic signal tower on Bray Head for amazing views of the islands (1 hour 30 minutes). The trail combines well-worn farm track and open hillside.

Catch authentic traditional Irish music and outstanding local food tonight in lively **Kenmare**.



Email Paige: paige@vagabond.ie

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### **OUTLINE ITINERARY**

Day 7



KENMARE, KERRY to GOUGANE BARRA or MACROOM, CORK

Overnight Stay
THE GOUGANE BARRA HOTEL OR
THE CASTLE HOTEL MACROOM

Day of Week

Average Driving
3 HOURS 30 MINUTES

#### **BEARA PENINSULA WILDERNESS**

You're about to feel true wilderness. Expect rugged roads, superb scenery and livestock-induced traffic jams on the remote **Beara Peninsula**.

Of the four peninsulas in Ireland's southwest, the Beara receives the least amount of visitors. It's a cliché; but the Beara is truly off the beaten track.

One of our favourite pastimes is dancing around **ancient stone circles**. Astrology? Aliens? 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.

There's one more drive today, a coastal ride that snakes along **Bantry Bay** before cutting inland.

Day 8



O GOUGANE BARRA or MACROOM, CORK to GRAND CANAL, DUBLIN

Day of Week SUNDAY

Average Driving

#### **BLARNEY STONE & ROCK OF CASHEL**

Before we wave goodbye — *slán* in Irish — there's still time to take in some of Ireland's highlights.

We'll first trace the valley of the **River Lee** downstream, crossing stone bridges and passing through postcard-pretty countryside.

Then it's time to — hygienically — kiss the famous **Blarney Stone** to gain the gift o' the gab. You also have the option explore the lush, landscaped gardens around **Blarney Castle** (Fee Included).

Take 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. We think it's a fittingly epic place to draw your Irish odyssey to a close.

You'll disembark your VagaTron 4x4 tour vehicle back at the Grand Canal Hotel in **Dublin** between 5-6pm. Farewell elbow bumps all round for your new travel compadres.



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### **OUTLINE ITINERARY**

#### **TOUR PRICING**

Oct Departures: €2,196.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €420.00

May to Sep Departures: €2,440.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €430.00

Mar, Apr and Oct 2025 Departures: €2,196.00 Per Person Sharing
Single Room Supplement: €420.00

May to Sep 2025 Departures: €2,440.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €430.00

Call Us...

FROM USA:

**TOLL FREE: 833 230 0288** 

**FROM CANADA:** 

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FROM AUSTRALIA: TOLL FREE: 1800 985 642

WORLD WIDE: +353 (0)1 56 34 358

Email...

paige@vagabond.ie

#### WHAT'S INCLUDED

- An off the beaten track adventure in 4x4 VagaTron tour vehicle
- The services of a highly-trained and professional VagaGuide tour guide
- 8 full days on tour
- 7 nights' accommodation
- 7 delicious and filling hot Irish breakfasts
- Most daily activities and visits (see Optional Extras)
- 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
- Shannon ferry tickets

### **TOUR OPTIONS**

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

Guided E-Bike Tour Connemara -

€60.00\*\*

Surf Lesson in Spanish Point\*\* -

€35.00

Horseback Riding in Dingle\*\* -

€50.00

Boat Trip in Dingle Bay - €10.00

Sea Kayaking Dingle - €60.00

Traditional Rowing\*\* - €35.00

Dingle Sea Safari - €65.00

Golf in Dingle - Variable

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Skellig Islands Cruise - €50.00

<sup>\*\*</sup> Cash is required for this activity. No card payment available.



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<sup>\*</sup> 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.