

# 12 Day Vagabond Biant Irish





## WE WANT YOU TO LOVE IRELAND AS MUCH AS WE DO

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### The Secret is in Our Team!

Our amazing team go above and beyond to deliver outstanding travel experiences for every guest.

## Why Book with Vagabond?



**IRELAND'S ORIGINAL, SINCE 2002**: 22 years of experience are distilled into every itinerary.

**TOTALLY LOCAL**: Family-owned with local Irish tour guides and staff plus independent hotels.

**WORLD'S BEST**: We proudly won a **TRAVEL + LEISURE** WORLD'S BEST AWARD in 2023, ranking 12th globally.

**1000S OF HAPPY GUESTS**: Read any one of our 1,800+ 5-Star reviews across **TRIPADVISOR** and **TRUSTPILOT**.

**AWESOME TOUR GUIDES**: Meet our highly-trained, passionate and well-supported <u>VagaGuide team</u>.

**FLEXIBLE & FAIR BOOKING**: Avail of a free 7 day seat hold, flat-rate deposit and convenient notice period.

**BEST-IN-CLASS VEHICLES**: No expense is spared on maintaining our 100% Mercedes tour vehicle fleet.

**PEOPLE & PLANET FIRST**: We respect the planet and support our community... That's why we're a **B CORP**!









Tour Type vagabond - active pace

Tour Direction

Tour Vehicle CHUNKY 4X4 TOUR VEHICLE



Departure Day & Time 8.20AM MONDAY

Return Day & Time 5:00-6:00PM FRIDAY



### A Legendary All-Island Adventure

Explore history, culture and active adventure in stunning natural scenery on a fast-paced, full circuit of the island of Ireland.

This 12-day round trip is a comprehensive Ireland and Northern Ireland tour, including: The Cliffs of Moher, Connemara, the Wild Atlantic Way and the Causeway Coast.

Journey over mountain passes and horse-ride along deserted beaches. Take a deep breath and get ready - this is the ultimate Irish adventure tour!

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

Tour Map 12 Day Vagabond Giant Irish Adventure



From **Dublin**, you'll head for Northern Ireland. Then it's the northwest; Donegal and Mayo before exploring Connemara with 2 nights in Clifden. Follow the Wild Atlantic Way down the west coast through Galway and Clare. Savour two nights in Dingle (Kerry) followed by



This tour travels in a counter clockwise direction.

Highlights 12 Day Vagabond Giant Irish Adventure





Challenge yourself with spectacular hikes and optional **activities** like horseback-riding, biking and sea kayaking.



Tour Northern Ireland from **Belfast**, along the epic **Causeway Coastal Route** to the historic city of **Derry/Londonderry**.



Venture along the **Wild Atlantic Way** to hideaway destinations and world famous sights.



Board a boat to land on the **Skellig Islands**, meet puffins and climb 600 steps to an epic **World Heritage site**.



Explore Irish history at amazing castles, ghostly ruins and prehistoric **archaeological wonders**.



Encounter friendly locals during separate multi-night stays in **Clifden**, **Connemara** and **Dingle**, **Kerry**.



See wild and natural wonders of four different National Parks; **Connemara**, Glenveagh, **Killarney** and The Burren.



Authentic guided tour of an **Irish sheep farm**; talk to farmers, feed lambs and watch a fun sheepdog demo.



Understand why Ireland is world-renowned for **superb food**, drink and hospitality.







LONDONDERRY ARMS HOTEL



Escape to this historic hotel in the seaside village of Carnlough in Northern Ireland.

Average Driving 4 HOURS

### Belfast Tour & Scenic Hike



GRAND CANAL HOTEL, DUBLIN to CARNLOUGH, ANTRIM

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

Cross the border into **Northern Ireland** (remember, UK £ sterling required).

Climb **Slieve Gullion** mountain (573 m / 1,880 ft) to one of Ireland's highest passage tombs. Enjoy great views and mysterious folk myths.

Zoom to **Belfast**, the vibrant capital of Northern Ireland, to choose from the following activities:

#### **OPTIONAL EXTRAS (Choose A, B or C)**

- **A**. A highly recommended **Black Cab Tou**r, explaining the history of the Troubles era.
- **B**. Or a self-guided visit to the **Titanic Centre**.
- C. Alternatively, explore Belfast at your own pace.



Email Paige: paige@vagabond.ie Call Toll Free: USA - 833 230 0288 | Canada - 833 681 6903 | Australia - 1800 985 642







### Overnight Stay

**BISHOPS GATE HOTEL** 



Bishop's Gate Hotel is perfectly positioned within the historic city walls at the heart of Derry/Londonderry's Cathedral Quarter.

Average Driving 3 HOUR

### Giant's Causeway Hike



CARNLOUGH, ANTRIM to LIMAVADY, DERRY

Cameras at the ready! You'll wake up on one of the world's most spectacular coastal drives, **Antrim's** <u>Causeway Coastal Route</u>.

Next up, hike the Causeway Coast Way. The finale of this steep, often muddy trail, lies at the **Giant's Causeway**.

Experience the Giant's Causeway (Fee Included). Science tells us this **World Heritage Site** formed millions of years ago when magma cooled into 40,000 hexagonal basalt columns. But folklore says Finn McCool and his giant-fighting ways are to blame!

Anyone for a wee dram? Visit **Bushmills**, the oldest licensed whiskey distillery in the world, for a tasting (Optional Extra).

Finally, we'll grab a photo at clifftop **Dunluce Castle.** 



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### Overnight Stay

ABBEY HOTEL DONEGAL



You'll love your stay at this locally-owned 4 star hotel in Donegal town.

Average Driving **3 HOURS** 

## Derry/Londonderry & Donegal



LIMAVADY, DERRY to DONEGAL TOWN

Start the day with a guided historical walking tour along the walls of Ireland's only fortified city, **Derry/Londonderry** (Fee Included).

Cross the border back into the **Republic of Ireland** and the euro currency zone ( $\in$ ).

Panoramic 360° vistas await you at the beautifully preserved Celtic stone ringfort at **Grianán of Aileach**.

Watch for wild deer and eagles on a lakeside hike in <u>Glenveagh</u> <u>National Park</u>. Time permitting, take a self-guided tour of Glenveagh Castle (Optional Extra).

Enjoy live traditional music in **Donegal town** after a great day of adventures.



## Day 4: Thursday 12 Day Vagabond Giant Irish Adventure





WATERFRONT HOUSE HOTEL



Relax in comfort to the soothing sounds of the Atlantic Ocean at Waterfront House in Sligo.

Average Driving 4 HOURS

## Donegal Hike Or Boat Trip



DONEGAL TOWN to ENNISCRONE, SLIGO

Enjoy a relaxing morning in Donegal town **or** explore the towering sea cliffs of **Slieve League**.

At Slieve League, your VagaGuide will offer these options:

- Get close to the highest accessible sea cliffs in Europe, on a **hike** over steep and rugged terrain.
- Take a guided **boat trip** under the cliffs (Optional Extra). You'll be on a small, 12-person boat. Sea legs required.

After lunch, choose from the following options:

- Watch a **sheepdog demo** (Fee Included).
- Visit Glencar Waterfall, inspiration for WB Yeats.
- Take a scenic hike in **Sligo**

Relish a restorative session of seaweed spa therapy in **Enniscrone** (Optional Extra).









ABBEYGLEN CASTLE HOTEL CONNEMARA



The romantic Abbeyglen Castle Hotel is steeped in charm and located near Clifden in Connemara.

Average Driving 4 HOURS

### Exploring Connemara



ENNISCRONE, SLIGO to CLIFDEN, GALWAY

Explore **Westport**, with its vibrant streets and grand setting on **Clew Bay**.

Lose a sin with every step on the holy mountain of **Croagh Patrick**. Nearby lies the ruined 16th century Murrisk Abbey and the National Famine Memorial.

Take a deep breath... Next is the **Doolough Valley**, one of Ireland's most scenic routes.

Revel in the savage beauty of <u>Connemara</u>, famed for its traditional Irish culture, misty mountains, wild moorlands and dark lakes.

Hike in the **Connemara National Park** area. Boardwalk on lower slopes leads to steep, loose and uneven terrain. Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes.









THE ARMADA HOTEL



Located right on the Atlantic Ocean in Clare, the Armada is one of our favourite hotel stops.

Average Driving 4 HOURS

### Cliffs Of Moher & Castle Tour



CLIFDEN, GALWAY to SPANISH POINT, CLARE

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

We're steering for **Galway** next. The City of the Tribes nestles on the Atlantic Ocean.

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

Next is the bewitching beauty of **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.









DINGLE SKELLIG HOTEL



Soak in a rooftop hot tub with views over a spectacular bay at the Dingle Skellig Hotel.

Average Driving **3 HOURS 30 MINUTE** 

## Surfing & Hiking



SPANISH POINT, CLARE to DINGLE, KERRY

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

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

Another option is to climb the steep, glaciated valley of **Annascaul**. Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes. Expect rough terrain and stunning views.

Refresh yourself with an ice cold pint at the **South Pole Inn**. Relive its extraordinary 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!









DINGLE SKELLIG HOTEL



Soak in a rooftop hot tub with views over a spectacular bay at the Dingle Skellig Hotel.

Average Driving **1 HOURS 30 MINUTE** 

### Free Time In Dingle



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

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 (Choose A, B, C, D, E or F):**

- 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.

This evening, don't miss a traditional **Irish music session** in one of Dingle's many pubs.



## Day 9: Tuesday 12 Day Vagabond Giant Irish Adventure



### Overnight Stay

THE MOORINGS HOTEL



Located harbourside in the picturesque village of Portmagee, the Moorings Guesthouse is the perfect base for exploring the Ring of Kerry.

Average Driving **3 HOURS 30 MINUTES** 

### Bike Trails In Killarney



DINGLE, KERRY to PORTMAGEE, KERRY

It's a swift morning start for a guided **cycling tour** of Killarney National Park (Optional Extra). Expect a mix of paved road and forest trails. Duration 3 hours approx. Cycling ability is required.

Biking not your thing? You're free to roam this magnificent parkland. Highlights of <u>Killarney National Park</u> for both bikers and hikers may include:

- Sightings of rare red deer herds in native oak forest
- 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 10: Wednesday 12 Day Vagabond Giant Irish Adventure



### Overnight Stay

COACHMAN'S TOWNHOUSE



Feel right at home when you stay at this family-run townhouse in Kenmare near the Ring of Kerry.

Average Driving 2 HOURS

### Skellig Michael Boat Trip & Hike



PORTMAGEE, KERRY to KENMARE, KERRY

Experience Ireland's island treasures; the Skelligs.

**Option 1:** Boat trip and hike to the 1400 year old monastic site on **Skellig Michael** (Optional Extra). 5 hours duration. Depart early. Jump from boat to shore, then climb 600+ rough-cut, stone steps to the summit. High levels of fitness required. **Please inform us of your intention to land on Skellig Michael pre-tour, to avoid disappointment.** 

**Option 2:** Boat trip around both Skellig Islands (Optional Extra). Expect seabirds and amazing stories. Duration: 2 hour 30 minutes.

Both boat trips cross open ocean. They are highly weather dependent and subject to cancellation. Departures run mid-May to mid-September only. Boats are small and conditions can be rough and wet; sea legs required.

**Option 3:** Hike to the historic signal tower on Bray Head for amazing sea views. Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes.

Catch authentic traditional Irish music and outstanding local food in quaint Kenmare.



Email Paige: paige@vagabond.ie Call Toll Free: USA - 833 230 0288 | Canada - 833 681 6903 | Australia - 1800 985 642

## Day 11: Thursday 12 Day Vagabond Giant Irish Adventure



### Overnight Stay

**GOUGANE BARRA HOTEL** 



Located in a serene valley in Cork, Gougane Barra Hotel is a long-standing favourite with our guests.

*Or...* Macroom castle hotel



Expect a warm Irish welcome at this locally-owned 4 star hotel in the village of Macroom in Cork.



### Beara Peninsula In Cork



KENMARE, KERRY to GOUGANE BARRA, CORK or MACROOM, CORK

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.









### Blarney Stone & Rock Of Cashel



GOUGANE BARRA or MACROOM, CORK to GRAND CANAL, DUBLIN

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 (Fee Included). You also have the option explore the lush, landscaped gardens around **Blarney Castle**.

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.







No two Vagabond or Driftwood tours are the same. Group preferences may alter the order or composition of this itinerary, which is a suggested outline rather than a rigid schedule. Orange/Red weather advisories ( eg Coastal wind warnings, high rainfall, thunderstorms, fog or ice/snow)) issued by the Irish Meteorological Office may lead to cancellations at short notice. We will always attempt to find suitable alternative activities where safe to do so.

There's no need to book optional extras in advance of your tour (with the exception of the **Skellig Islands Landing** on the 12 Day Tour). Your VagaGuide will discuss options with you on tour and book accordingly. If there is something that you want to do or see, let us know. We will do our utmost to match your choice with the preferences of your group.

#### DAILY ITINERARY OPTIONS PRICING

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

Black Cab Tour\*\* - £20.00 Bushmills Whiskey Tasting - £10.00 Slieve League Boat Trip\*\* - €25.00 Surf Lesson in Spanish Point\*\* - €35.00 Boat Trip in Dingle Bay - €10.00 Traditional Rowing\*\* - €35.00 Golf in Dingle - Variable Skellig Michael Landing\*\* - €130.00 Titanic Experience - £24.95 Glenveagh Castle Tour - €7.00 Relaxing Seaweed Bath - €25.00 Horseback Riding in Dingle\*\* - €50.00 Sea Kayaking Dingle - €60.00 Dingle Sea Safari - €65.00 Guided Bike Tour in Killarney\*\* - €40.00 Skellig Islands Cruise - €50.00

\* 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.

\*\* Cash is required for this activity. No card payment available.

Please note, this tour has stops in both the Republic of Ireland (EU) and Northern Ireland (UK). You will require both Euro (€) and Sterling (£) cash.



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#### 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
- 12 full days on tour
- 11 nights' accommodation
- 11 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
- A sheep farm tour and sheepdog demo experience
- Entrance into the epic Rock of Cashel
- Entrance into the world famous Giant's Causeway
- Entrance into Aughnanure Castle/Donegal Castle
- A guided walking tour of Derry/Londonderry
- Shannon Ferry Tickets

#### **PLEASE NOTE**

Please be aware that there may be unscheduled alterations to the listed accommodation. Rest assured that any alternate hotels will match or be superior to the standard of our listed accommodation.

NB: The following personal weight limits apply: Horseback-Riding: 225lbs / 16 stone / 102kg Kayaking: Per person Double Kayak: 110kg / 17.5 stone / 245lbs; Total Double Kayak: 190kg / 30 stone / 420lbs; Per person Single Kayak: 92kg / 14.5 stone / 200lbs.

### **TOUR PRICING**

Oct Departures: €3,186.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €620.00

May to Sep Departures: €3,540.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €635.00

May to Sep 2025 Departures: €3,540.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €635.00

Mar, Apr and Oct 2025 Departures: €3,186.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €620.00

Call Us... from usa: foll free: 833 230 0288

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### **CONTACT US**