

OUTLINE ITINERARY

The Perfect Way to Tour Northern Ireland

Tour Northern Ireland and the northwest coast on this relaxed journey of discovery, featuring excellent hotels, unforgettable sights and fun activities.

Explore the wild backroads of Mayo, medieval castles in Donegal and the epic Giant's Causeway in Antrim. Overnight in a charming Irish castle hotel and visit the world's biggest Titanic attraction.

Shop for authentic crafts and meet local people in friendly Irish villages, before visiting Northern Ireland's cities: Belfast and Derry/Londonderry.

Summary

Tour Style Driftwood - LESS ACTIVE

Tour Vehicle

COMFY MERCEDES TOUR BUS

15 Seats

Pickup/Drop Off Location

Departure Day sunday

Return Day & Time 5.00-6.00PM FRIDAY



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS



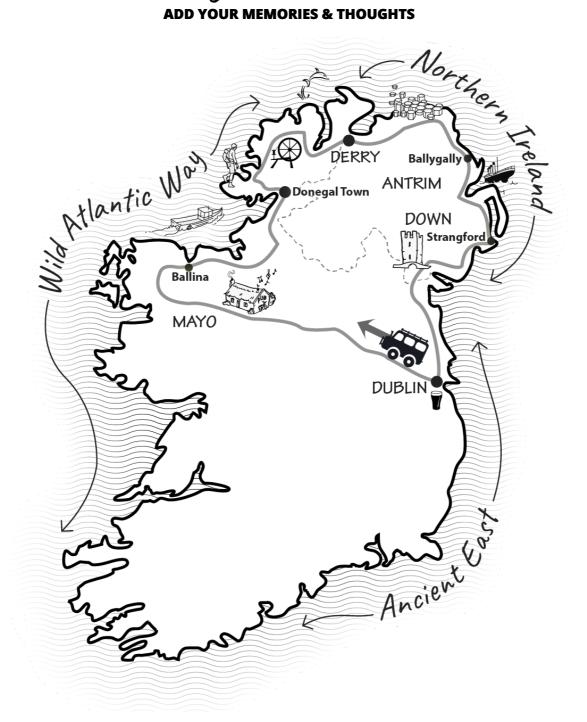
- Experience the historic cities and spectacular natural scenery of **Northern Ireland** and the rugged northwest region.
- Visit the geological wonder that is the **Giant's Causeway**, Northern Ireland's World Heritage site.
- Board a **boat trip** to **Slieve League**, the highest accessible sea cliffs in Europe.
- Traverse mountain passes and pristine beaches in **Donegal**, one of Ireland's most beautiful but undiscovered counties.
- Take a history tour with a local guide to see street murals and learn about the 'Troubles' in **Belfast**, capital of Northern Ireland.
- Relive epic battles on a historic walking tour of Ireland's only fully intact walled city; **Derry/Londonderry**.
- Overnight in high quality guesthouses and locally-owned hotels.
- Take a guided tour of the castle where the **British Royal Family** stay in Northern Ireland.
- Meet **master craftspeople** and skilled artisans in working craft studios.
- Encounter authentic culture and **local experiences** in off the beaten track destinations.

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





My Tour Notes ADD YOUR MEMORIES & THOUGHTS



 _
_
_

OUTLINE ITINERARY

Day 1



© GRAND CANAL HOTEL, DUBLIN to BALLINA, MAYO

Overnight Stay
THE MOUNT FALCON ESTATE &
SPA
OR THE OCEAN SANDS HOTEL

Day of Week

Average Driving

LET'S HIT THE PREHISTORIC ROAD!

Meet your guide and fellow Driftwooders at the **Grand Canal Hotel**, **Dublin**, at least 15 minutes before your scheduled departure time of 7.50am.

Board your Mercedes tour vehicle for the trip of a lifetime!

We'll leave the city, going 1000s of years back in time...

Unearth secrets of the **Iron Age trackway**, or *togher*, at **Corlea**. Constructed circa 150BC, this is the largest prehistoric roadway in Europe.

Discover Ireland's rich rural heritage at the **Museum of Country Life's** modern exhibition space, an original Victorian building and scenic landscaped gardens.

Day 2



BALLINA, MAYO to

Overnight Stay THE ABBEY HOTEL

Day of Week monday

Average Driving

DONEGAL BOAT TRIP & SHEEPDOG DEMO

Arise and go now, your second day exploring Ireland awaits...

Watch shepherd and dog working perfectly in tandem during a **sheepdog demo** (Fee Included).

This afternoon, choose from the following two options:

OPTIONAL EXTRAS (Choose A or B)

- A. Scenic coastal drive to Slieve League. Soak up the spectacular vistas at these 600m/2000ft high sea cliffs from an accessible viewing platform.
 Alternatively, take a guided boat trip under Slieve League (Optional Extra). Sea legs are definitely required.
- **B.** Stroll the shops and craft studios in **Donegal town**. Take a self-guided tour of 15th century **Donegal Castle** (Optional Extra).





OUTLINE ITINERARY

Day 3



O DONEGAL to DERRY/LONDONDERRY

Overnight Stay
EBRINGTON HOTEL

Day of Week TUESDAY

Average Driving 3 Hours

NATIONAL PARK & WALKING HISTORY TOUR

Watch for wild deer and golden eagles in the pristine wilderness of **Glenveagh National Park**.

Take a guided history tour of **Glenveagh Castle** (Optional Extra). Shuttle buses depart from the car park to the castle (Fee Included). Alternatively, enjoy a lakeside hike by foot. Duration: Approx. 40 minutes.

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

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

We'll pass through historic city gates to enter **Derry/Londonderry**. Take a guided historical walking tour along the walls of Ireland's only intact walled city (Fee Included).

Day 4



DERRY/LONDONDERRY to BALLYGALLY, ANTRIM

Overnight Stay
BALLYGALLY CASTLE HOTEL

Day of Week

Average Driving 3 HOURS 30 MINUTES

CASTLE HOTEL STAY & GIANT'S CAUSEWAY

Cameras at the ready! You're about to experience one of the world's most spectacular coastal drives; the **Causeway Coastal Route**.

40,000 hexagonal basalt columns make up the **Giant's Causeway** (Fee Included), a **World Heritage Site**.

Choose to walk in the footsteps of mythical giant Finn McCool on a steep 1km (1.6 mile) descent/ascent. Or simply follow an accessible path to the Giant's Causeway viewing point. Shuttle bus available (Optional Extra).

Anyone for a wee dram? Visit Bushmills, the **oldest licensed whiskey distillery in the world**, for a tasting (Optional Extra), followed by a stop at clifftop **Dunluce Castle** (Fee Included).





OUTLINE ITINERARY

Day 5



BALLYGALLY, ANTRIM to STRANGFORD, DOWN

Overnight Stay
THE CUAN HOTEL

Day of Week

Average Driving
2 HOURS 30 MINUTES

BELFAST HISTORY TOUR & ROYAL CASTLE

This morning we'll roll into **Belfast**, the vibrant capital of **Northern Ireland**.

Optional Extras (Choose A, B or C):

- A. Take a highly recommended Black Cab Tour, 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.

Are you king or queen of the castle? Take a guided tour of **Hillsborough Castle & Gardens** to find out (Fee Included). On some dates, the British Royal Family will be in residence and your tour will visit an alternative attraction.

Day 6



STRANGFORD, DOWN to GRAND CANAL HOTEL, DUBLIN

Day of Week

Average Driving

MOUNTAINS, CASTLES & CELTIC CROSSES

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

Step back in time to discover the historical burial place of Saint Patrick at **Down Cathedral** (Fee Included). Then imagine rival lords battling over 12th century **Dundrum Castle**.

Of course you're taking the scenic route back to Dublin, passing the rolling granite peaks of the **Mourne Mountains**. Cross the border into the **Republic of Ireland** and the euro currency zone (€).

Crane your neck to view the finest — and tallest — Celtic high crosses in Ireland, at **Monasterboice**. It's an epic way to conclude our northern 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 friends.





OUTLINE ITINERARY

TOUR PRICING

Oct Departures: €1,647.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €285.00

May to Sep Departures: €1,830.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €290.00

Mar, Apr and Oct 2025 Departures: €1,647.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €285.00

May to Sep 2025 Departures: €1,830.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €290.00

Call U.

TOLL FREE: 833 230 0288

FROM CANADA:

TOLL FREE: 833 691 6903

FROM AUSTRALIA: **TOLL FREE: 1800 985 642**

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

Email

johnboy@vagabond.ie danielle@vagabond.ie

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

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- A journey of discovery in a super-comfy, slick Mercedes mini-coach
- The services of a highly-trained and professional VagaGuide tour guide
- 6 full days on tour
- 5 nights' accommodation
- 5 delicious and filling hot Irish breakfasts
- Most daily activities and essential attractions
- A one night stay in a castle hotel
- Entrance into the world famous Giant's Causeway, Dunluce Castle and Hillsborough Castle
- A guided walking tour of Derry/Londonderry
- A guided sheepdog demo in Sligo
- Shuttle bus in Glenveagh National Park

TOUR OPTIONS

£1/€1.20

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

Slieve League Boat Trip** - €25.00

Entrance to Donegal Castle - €5.00

Glenveagh Castle Tour - €7.00

Titanic Experience - £24.95

Bushmills Whiskey Tasting - £10.00

Giant's Causeway Shuttle Bus** -

Black Cab Tour** - £20.00

and Northern Ireland (UK). You will

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



View Full Tour Brochure

View All Driftwood Tours | View All Vagabond Tours | vagabondtoursofireland.com



^{*} 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.