

TENTATIVE ITINERARY – SUBJECT TO CHANGE
September 3rd, 2017

Friday, Sep. 7 LOGAN AIRPORT - UNITED STATES TO DUBLIN

Meet at **Logan Airport Terminal C** on **SATURDAY 6PM**

Check in with "The World Tour" (the club) before you check in with the airline. If you are not arriving on our group flights, meet up with Annette at the terminal 2 arrivals baggage claim exit in Dublin Airport SUNDAY, 8 am. We will mail you your trip SWAG in advance of your departure.

You will receive three luggage tags with your home address and phone number for your carry on and checked luggage. Attach these to your bags before airline check-in. We will send you details, such as check in procedures, hotel phone numbers, emergency contact numbers and more, ten days before the trip.

We are traveling on e-tickets, so you only need to show your PASSPORT to check-in. Check your seat assignments and request a different seat if there is a problem, such as you are not sitting next to your partner. The club has no control over group airline seat assignments.

NOTE: You are limited to one checked bag for both the flight and the tour bus.

Saturday, Sep. 8 DUBLIN ARRIVAL, CLONMACNOISE & GALWAY
Dinner & Overnight: Meyrick Hotel, Galway

After landing at Dublin Airport, collect your check baggage and wait for the group. You should all exit the baggage & customs area together. Exit through the GREEN CHANNEL exit. Annette our club representative will be waiting for you as you exit the baggage claim area. If you are missing a bag, let her know immediately. Our tour director and coach driver will bring our group to our coach in a nearby airport parking lot.

Our first visit will be to Glasnevin Museum, Ireland's national necropolis, which is a who's who of modern Irish history as the final resting place of Daniel O'Connell, Michael Collins, Charles Stewart Parnell, Brendan Behan and other prominent people. At the end of your visit, enjoy breakfast at the Tower Café located onsite.

Depart Dublin and journey across the rolling pastures of Ireland's heartland to visit Clonmacnoise. This monastic settlement was founded in 545 AD by St. Ciaran and is delightfully set on the banks of the River Shannon.

We will continue our drive to Galway and embark on a panoramic tour to see the principal sights of the city. Our tour will take us to the large modern cathedral set on an island on the River Corrib. See the Spanish Arch in the Claddagh area, formerly a fishing village, the City Museum, National University of Galway and the Cathedral of Our Lady, which is built on the site of the former county jail.

We will check into our hotel and enjoy the remainder of the afternoon at leisure. You may choose to relax in your hotel or spend some time around Eyre Square (recommended), the hub of the city. Most of the shops are within easy reach and there are also many quaint pubs where Irish traditional music is played. In the evening join your fellow travelers for dinner in the hotel restaurant.

Sunday, Sep. 9 CONNEMARA & 'CONNEMARA LADY' CRUISE

Dinner & Overnight: Meyrick Hotel, Galway

This morning, celebrate Mass (optional) at Galway Cathedral, which is currently the youngest European great-stone cathedral built.

We will tour Connemara and admire the sweeping views of boglands and misty mountains. As we drive along you will see many sheep that graze freely and also tracts of bogland where some people hand-cut peat for home heating.

At Leenane, we stop to take a short catamaran cruise aboard the "Connemara Lady" through Killary Harbour, Ireland's only fjord. You can see great views from this narrow inlet, which is surrounded by hills and cliffs. Also observe the seabirds, seals and otters that live in the waters. Return to Galway and enjoy some free time to relax and freshen up. In the evening join your fellow travelers for dinner in the hotel restaurant.

Monday, Sep. 10 CLIFFS OF MOHER & KILLARNEY

Dinner & Overnight: Killarney Plaza Hotel, Killarney

We will tour around Galway Bay and through the Burren Country, a unique region of limestone hills renowned for its flora and prehistoric stone monuments. We stop to view the majestic Cliffs of Moher, a rocky wall that rises nearly 700 feet above the foaming Atlantic Ocean.

We will take a short ferry ride across the River Shannon Estuary to the mountainous countryside of Kerry. We will arrive in Killarney and check into our hotel. Then we will have the afternoon free to relax or stroll around town before dinner.

Tuesday, Sep. 11 DINGLE PENINSULA TOUR

Dinner & Overnight: Killarney Plaza Hotel, Killarney

Today we will discover the beauties of the Dingle Peninsula, made famous by David Lean's movie, "Ryan's Daughter." Drive along the south shore of the peninsula for plenty of vistas of heathery mountains, sandy stretches of beach and rocky headlands. There will be frequent stops at strategic locations to admire the views and take photos.

At the base of Conor Pass, we will stop at the Dingle Brewing company. Learn about the brewery's rich and varied past before sampling a pint of this local lager.

We will continue our tour on to the western tip of the peninsula. Here the scenery becomes wilder as the influence of the open Atlantic Ocean strengthens. We will pass early Christian monastic beehive huts and small fishing villages. We will then return to Killarney in time for dinner.

Wednesday, Sep. 12 BLARNEY CASTLE, TITANIC TRAIL & KILKENNY

Dinner & Overnight: River Court hotel Kilkenny

Departing Killarney, we continue into the rich farming country of Cork. At Blarney, we stop to climb to the battlements of Blarney Castle to kiss the famous "Stone of Eloquence." We will have an opportunity to visit the Blarney Woolen Mills, which has an excellent range of Irish products.

We then continue to Cobh so we can set off on the Titanic Trail, which will reveal locations and incidents directly connected to the Titanic.

We then head to Kilkenny, where we will embark on a guided walking tour. The humorous and informative guide will show you many of Kilkenny's historical sites, which help make stories about the past come to life. After our leisurely walk, we check into our hotel for dinner and our overnight stay.

Thursday, Sep. 13 JERPOINT FARM & KILKENNY WALKING TOUR

Overnight: D HOTEL, DROGHEDA

After breakfast, we visit Kilkenny Castle, home of the Butlers, Earls and Dukes of Ormonde. The castle estate boasts both formal and informal gardens, which overlooks the Nore River.

We stop at Jerpoint Farm in Thomastown, for tea and homemade scones. We will get a guided heritage tour of the footprints of a deserted 12th Century Medieval. The site contains the Tomb Effigy of St. Nicholas (Bishop of Myra). We also hope to get a sheep dog demonstration, a favorite fun and fascinating event to watch as it shows man and dog work together as one – herding. We also chat with the owners about farming and the history of the area.

From Thomastown, we journey to Drogheda and check into our hotel. You can relax in your room/hotel or explore some of the town with us before dinner.

After dinner, we take a guided walking tour of Drogheda. See the head of St. Oliver Plunkett, the first Irishman to be canonized in 700 years, and 14th century St. Laurence Gate in the medieval walls.

Friday, Sep. 14 DUBLIN SIGHTSEEING

Overnight: D D Hotel, Drogheda

Today, we set off on guided tour of the bustling city of Dublin. The city has been molded through the centuries with many architectural styles, reflecting the economic, political and artistic influences.

After our tour, enjoy the remainder of the afternoon at leisure. There are plenty of museums of interest such as the National Museum, the National Gallery or the Writers Museum. There are plenty of shops along Nassau Street, the pedestrianized Grafton Street and Henry Street. We will also have a group exploring Temple Bar and visiting some famous pubs. In the evening, join our fellow travelers for a farewell dinner in the hotel restaurant.

Saturday, Sep. 15 RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES

All too soon, our vacation in Ireland has come to the end. Transfer by coach from our hotel to Dublin Airport in plenty of time to check in for our flights, clear security and claim your VAT (sales tax) refund. You may do some last minute shopping at the duty free stores. Then clear U.S. Immigration (yes, usually in Dublin) before boarding.

