



Ireland

Join Father Ron Shirley in Ireland! June 16–25, 2010

Enjoy a leisurely tour through the best of Ireland!
SHANNON + KILLARNEY + CORK + KILKENNY + DUBLIN

We can only take 36 people, so be sure to sign up today!! A \$250.00 per person deposit will hold your space! All-inclusive from SFO. See the attached for a detailed itinerary.

Tour cost: \$3,295.00 (single supplement is \$575.00)

Yes, I (we) want to go with Fr. Ron to Ireland!

Full Legal Names: _____

Names as you would like to be addressed on tour: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

*** Deposit required: \$250.00 per person** *(checks made payable to Pacific Grove Travel)

Check enclosed or Credit card: _____

Name on card: _____ *Expires:* _____ *Security code:* _____

** Please note that a 3% charge will be applied for credit card payments.*

Your deposit is refundable up until March 1, 2010 (less a \$100.00 per person processing fee). Final payments are due by March 1, 2010. We **highly** recommend trip and cancellation insurance. If you have a pre-existing medical condition that might cause you to cancel, insurance must be purchased no later than 15 days after deposit. Please ask the staff at Pacific Grove Travel for a quote: (831) 373-0631 or stop into our office.

I agree with the above terms:

Signature Date

This form must be completed, signed and returned with your deposit and a copy of the photo page of your VALID USA PASSPORT. Send to: Pacific Grove Travel, 593 Lighthouse Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA 93950. Thank you!

A Very Special Irish Vacation with CIE Tours
Presented by Pacific Grove Travel
Hosted by Father Ron Shirley
June 16 – 25, 2010

- Wed, Jun 16 **UNITED STATES TO SHANNON**
Depart San Francisco on Delta Airlines for your flight to Shannon. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service as you travel to start your vacation.
- Thu, Jun 17 **SHANNON ARRIVAL & KILLARNEY**
After customs and immigration formalities at Shannon Airport, your CIE Tours driver/guide will welcome you to Ireland and escort you to the motorcoach. Depart Shannon and drive to the coast of Clare to view the Cliffs of Moher. This impressive wall of rock rises to almost 700 feet above the foaming Atlantic breakers. Then take a short ferry ride across the River Shannon Estuary to the mountainous countryside of Kerry. Arrive in Killarney and check into your hotel. Then you will have the afternoon free to relax or stroll around town on your own. In the evening join your fellow travelers for dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: KILLARNEY PLAZA HOTEL, KILLARNEY
- Fri, Jun 18 **DINGLE PENINSULA TOUR & GALLARUS ORATORY**
After breakfast drive via Killorglin and out along the Dingle Peninsula. Journey along the scenic road which winds along portions of the shoreline and through hilly country, enjoying spectacular views of mountains and coast, with new vistas opening up at every turn in the road. You can also see the Iveragh Peninsula to the south. Stop in the town of Dingle before driving to the very tip of the peninsula to see the primitive stone "beehive" huts of the early monks and the Gallarus Oratory, built in the 6th century of unmortared stone and watertight after 14 centuries. Return along the peninsula to the town of Tralee and south back to Killarney in time for dinner.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: KILLARNEY PLAZA HOTEL, KILLARNEY
- Sat, Jun 19 **BLARNEY CASTLE, KINSALE & CORK**
Leaving Killarney drive into the rich farming country of Cork. At Blarney, stop to climb to the battlements of Blarney Castle to kiss the famous "Stone of Eloquence." Also visit the Blarney Woollen Mills, which has an excellent range of Irish products of all types. You will also have time to browse around the village, charmingly set around a large village green. Then drive south to the coastal town of Kinsale, a popular yachting center and attractive town with brightly painted houses. Upon arrival embark on a walking tour with a local guide to learn the town's history. Kinsale traces its origins back to 1177 when the Anglo-Normans founded a town in a small walled area close to the water. It grew as a port town during the 18th century and today the harbor is favored by yachtowners. Then drive into Cork city and check into your hotel for dinner and overnight stay.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: IMPERIAL HOTEL, CORK

Sun, Jun 20

ROCK OF CASHEL & IRISH FARMHOUSE

Depart Cork this morning and travel into County Tipperary for a guided tour of the Rock of Cashel, majestic church ruins which are clustered high on a limestone outcrop overlooking the surrounding countryside. Of particular note are the highly decorated Cormac's Chapel which was built during the 12th century, the large cruciform cathedral from the 13th century and a round tower. After your visit, head over to a local farmhouse to sample freshly-baked scones with tea. You will have an opportunity to chat to the owners and learn how Irish farms are run. Travel north to Kilkenny which is renowned for its massive castle. Upon arrival check into your hotel and enjoy the balance of the afternoon as you like before joining your group for dinner.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: RIVER COURT HOTEL, KILKENNY

Mon, Jun 21

KILKENNY CASTLE & JERPOINT ABBEY

After breakfast take guided tour around Kilkenny Castle, home of the Butlers, Earls and Dukes of Ormonde. The castle was first built in 1192 and added to over the centuries. Restored to 1830's splendor, it houses wonderful paintings and furniture. Then drive just south to Jerpoint Abbey, a Cistercian abbey founded in the 12th century. See the church with Romanesque details from this period as well as a tower and cloisters from the 15th century together with detailed carvings. Return to Kilkenny with some free time to relax or explore the city on your own. You may like to take a stroll into the center of town and sample one of the many pubs or restaurants.

OVERNIGHT: RIVER COURT HOTEL, KILKENNY

Tue, Jun 22

BROWNSHILL DOLMAN & GLENDALOUGH

Depart Kilkenny heading north stopping in Carlow visit Brownshill Dolman. This portal tomb has the largest capstone of any megalithic monument in Ireland. It weighs over 100 tons and measures 20 square feet and is believed to be part of an even larger boulder. This structure belongs to the late Stone Age, around 2500 BC and many religious rites would have taken place here. Continue north into the scenic Wicklow Mountains to the monastic site at Glendalough. The Visitor Center explains the history of this early Christian site, which was an important center of learning and well-known throughout Europe. It was founded by St. Kevin in the 6th century, a time of great monastery building. Take a guided tour around the settlement to see the round tower and remains of several churches. Drive a short distance into the metropolitan region of Dublin. After checking into your hotel, spend some time relaxing or exploring before dinner at the hotel.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: ALEXANDER HOTEL, DUBLIN

Wed, Jun 23

DUBLIN SIGHTSEEING

This morning enjoy a city sightseeing tour of Dublin, an elegant and artistic city with spacious Georgian squares. Stop to tour St. Patrick's Cathedral, which is almost as old as the city itself and famous for its connections with the brilliantly eccentric Dean Jonathan Swift. Stop to visit the Guinness Storehouse to see exhibits on how this world famous stout was first created and why it is so popular today. Finish your visit in the roof-top bar, Gravity, overlooking the city center where you can sample a draft Guinness and enjoy the view of the city. After you tour, the balance of the day is free for independent activities. In the evening you are free to choose from the many restaurants and pubs that Dublin offers.

OVERNIGHT: ALEXANDER HOTEL, DUBLIN

Thu, Jun 24

MALAHIDE CASTLE, BOYNE VALLEY VISITOR CENTRE & ABBEY TAVERN

Drive to the north of the city to visit Malahide Castle, first built in 1185 by the Talbot family who lived there until 1975. The Castle has been remodeled over the years and today is filled with medieval artifacts and family portraits. Also take a stroll around the delightful gardens. Stop in nearby Malahide, now an upscale suburb of Dublin that still retains its village ambience. Drive a short distance to the Boyne Valley Visitor Center where you can learn about the nearby underground burial sights, exhibits and audio-visual presentations. Walk through a full-size replica of the largest tumulus, Newgrange. Return to Dublin with time to relax or explore a bit before dinner.

This evening head to the Abbey Tavern for dinner and a traditional ballad session. The drive to Howth, a suburb on the north side of the city will give you great views of Dublin Bay. Built on the site of an old abbey, this pub has been in business for over 200 years.

OVERNIGHT: ALEXANDER HOTEL, DUBLIN

Fri, Jun 25

RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES

Transfer to Dublin Airport. Fly home to San Francisco on Delta Airlines.