



# St. Patrick's Day in Ireland: Traditions of the Emerald Isle

11 days | 13 days with Belfast extension

On this adventure through the Emerald Isle, you'll see that even the oldest traditions continue to thrive. There's no better time to discover the country's vibrant spirit than during St. Patrick's Day in Dublin. Kick off your tour in Ireland's capital city, where you'll take in historic sights and join the locals at the legendary St. Patrick's Day parade. Then, take off to discover the ins and outs of this charming country, from "The Rebel County" to the breathtaking Ring of Kerry.



## Your tour package includes

- 9 nights in handpicked hotels
- 9 breakfasts
- 3 dinners with beer or wine
- 1 liquor tasting
- Expert Tour Director & local guides
- 7 sightseeing tours
- Private deluxe motor coach

## Included highlights

- St. Patrick's Day in Dublin
- Kilkenny Castle
- Rock of Cashel
- Cobh Heritage Centre
- Cork
- Blarney Castle
- Ring of Kerry
- Cliffs of Moher
- The Burren
- Teeling Whiskey Distillery

## Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 1 hour daily across moderately uneven terrain, including cobblestone streets and paved roads, with some hills and stairs.

## Group size

15–38

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## Overnight Flight → 1 night

### Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Dublin today.

## County Dublin → 3 nights

### Day 2: Arrival in Dublin

*Included meals: welcome dinner*

Welcome to Ireland! Meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers at tonight's welcome dinner.

### Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Dublin

*Included meals: breakfast*

Set out on a tour of Ireland's capital city with a local expert leading the way.

- Stop in Phoenix Park, site of the presidential residence, and pass by the Guinness Brewery
- Step inside the soaring St. Patrick's Cathedral, Ireland's largest church
- Pass St Stephen's Green and admire the Georgian architecture of Merrion Square as you go
- See Trinity College and walk past Grafton Street to the Molly Malone statue, ending in the Temple Bar district

Spend a free afternoon in Dublin or add an excursion.

+ Glendalough

### Day 4: St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin

*Included meals: breakfast*

Travel into Dublin to celebrate your own way today—catch a glimpse of the legendary St. Patrick's Day Parade, or take advantage of the cultural events held across the city.

- Take a tour of the iconic Rock of Cashel, commanding stone buildings that date back to the 12th and 13th centuries

## County Kerry → 2 nights

### Day 6: County Kerry via Cobh, Cork & Blarney Castle

*Included meals: breakfast, dinner*

Transfer to County Kerry today, stopping in Cobh, Cork, and Blarney on the way.

- Discover the town of Cobh, once a launch site for ships bound for North America
- Visit the Cobh Heritage Centre, whose exhibits tell the story of Irish emigration over the past 150 years
- Pass through Cork, also known as "The Rebel City," and enjoy a brief walking tour around the city center
- Stop at Blarney Castle to kiss the legendary Blarney Stone

Sit down for an included dinner this evening.

### Day 7: The Ring of Kerry

*Included meals: breakfast*

Set out on the Ring of Kerry, a 112-mile coastal route that covers some of Ireland's most spectacular scenery.

- Pass the pristine Lakes of Killarney in Killarney National Park and gaze across Dingle Bay
- Enjoy unsurpassable views of mountains, beaches, and the Atlantic Ocean
- Explore the picturesque villages that line the Ring of Kerry including the village of Sneem, "The Knot in the Ring"

- Pass through the Burren, a unique limestone plateau where fields of rock are dotted with wildflowers

Continue on to Galway for a sightseeing tour of the city led by your Tour Director.

- Stroll past Lynch's Castle, Galway Cathedral, the Druid Theater Company, and the broad expanse of Eyre Square
- View the city's medieval walls and Spanish Arch
- Peruse authentic Claddagh rings in a local shop

Enjoy a free evening in County Galway or add an excursion.

+ An Evening in Galway: Pub Dinner & Music

### Day 9: Free day in Galway

*Included meals: breakfast*

Spend a free day in Galway or add an excursion.

+ Kylemore Abbey & Connemara National Park

## County Dublin → 1 night

### Day 10: Travel to County Dublin & Teeling Whiskey Distillery

*Included meals: breakfast, liquor tasting, farewell dinner*

Travel to Dublin and take a guided tour of the Teeling Whiskey Distillery.

- Learn about the process and history of distilling whiskey
  - Sample some of the whisky during a tasting
- This evening, celebrate your trip with your group during a farewell dinner at a traditional Irish pub.

## County Cork → 1 night

### Day 5: Cork via the Kilkenny Castle & Rock of Cashel

*Included meals: breakfast*

Travel to Cork, stopping for several guided visits along the way.

- Stop in Kilkenny, Ireland's best-preserved medieval town
- Tour the imposing 12th-century Kilkenny Castle, overlooking the River Nore

## Galway → 2 nights

### Day 8: Galway via Cliffs of Moher & the Burren

*Included meals: breakfast*

Head north to Galway today, taking time to view spectacular scenery en route.

- Walk along the mesmerizing coastline of the Cliffs of Moher

## Flight Home

### Day 11: Departure

*Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)*

Transfer to the airport for your flight home or extend your stay to visit Belfast.

## + Belfast extension

Journey to Belfast, the cultural heart of Northern Ireland. You'll join a local guide on a citywide tour

past the Grand Opera House and shipbuilding docks where the Titanic was built.

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## **Belfast → 2 nights**

### **Day 11: Sightseeing tour of Belfast**

*Included meals: breakfast*

Journey to Belfast, the cultural heart of Northern Ireland, where you'll get the local perspective of the city on a guided tour.

- Glimpse the copper-domed City Hall and the recently restored Grand Opera House
- Learn all about Belfast's long history, from its origins in the Bronze Age and rise as an international seaport to its role in the conflict known as The Troubles
- Enter the Titanic Belfast Museum for a look at the vessel's infamous history

### **Day 12: Free day in Belfast**

*Included meals: breakfast*

Spend a free day in Belfast or add an excursion.

This evening, enjoy a farewell drink as you celebrate your trip with your fellow group members.

+ Giant's Causeway

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## **Flight Home**

### **Day 13: Departure**

*Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)*

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

# Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.\* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: [goaheadtours.com/EIP](https://goaheadtours.com/EIP) | 1-800-597-0350

## Day 3: Glendalough

\$55/\$65\* (5 hours, departure time varies)

County Wicklow has some of the wildest and most spectacular mountain scenery in Ireland, as well as many of the country's most important historic sites. Journey through Wicklow's captivating landscapes to Glendalough, which became famous throughout Europe as a center of Christian learning. Saint Laurence O'Toole became the Abbot of Glendalough in 1154 and worked to bring the Irish Church closer to the Roman Church. You'll learn more about O'Toole, who went on to become the Archbishop of Dublin, and his work in Glendalough as you visit St. Kevin's Cross, the remains of the sixth-century cathedral, and the remarkable Round Tower. Your Tour Director will lead you on a tour of the site, and then you'll enjoy free time.

## Day 8: An Evening in Galway: Pub Dinner & Music

\$69/\$79\* (3 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

Tonight, head to a local pub in Galway to do as the Irish do and enjoy an evening filled with food, beer or wine, and music. As you enjoy a three-course dinner you'll listen to traditional Gaelic music. Raise a glass and shout sláinte (that's how the Irish say cheers) as you enjoy the evening with your group.

## Day 9: Kylemore Abbey & Connemara National Park

\$89/\$99\* (9 hours, departs in the morning)

Make your way to the island village of Cong, situated on the border of counties Galway and Mayo. Here, enjoy free time to stroll through the town's charming streets, catching glimpses of the nearby Ashford Castle. Then, continue on to Kylemore Abbey, a Benedictine convent founded in 1920 on the grounds of Kylemore Castle. Here, you'll have time to explore the abbey's interior and walled Victorian gardens. After free time for lunch on your own, take a scenic drive through the Irish countryside, passing Connemara National Park, one of the country's most beautiful and unspoiled places. Make photo stops in the Inagh Valley and at the Maam Cross before returning to Galway.

## Extension excursion options

### Day 12: Giant's Causeway

\$95/\$105\* (6 hours, departure time varies)

Pay a visit to the rugged Giant's Causeway, a series of naturally formed basalt columns. The hexagonal columns, which you can walk on, are 60 million years old and originated as volcanic lava. A colorful local legend says that mythical giant Finn McCool built the walkway so that he could cross the sea to Scotland. Please note: Raingear is recommended for this excursion.

\*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at [goaheadtours.com/terms](https://goaheadtours.com/terms)