



Ireland: A Feast of Culinary Flavors & Local Traditions

12 days | 14 days with Galway extension

Does the mention of Irish cuisine bring Guinness and fish and chips to mind? Good news: This small group Food & Beer Tour is all that and so much more. Sure, the Emerald Isle has deep roots in tradition—why fix what isn't broken, right? But its emerging movement of farm- and sea-to-table dishes are truly worth writing home about. If you think all of Ireland's green is impressive, just wait until you meet the high-quality food and beverage producers, all with their own unique stories to tell.



Your tour package includes

- 10 nights in handpicked hotels
- 10 breakfast
- 2 lunches with beer or wine
- 4 dinners with beer or wine
- 1 beer tasting
- 1 cider tasting
- 1 mead tasting
- 3 liquor tastings
- 8 tastings
- 1 cooking class
- 10 sightseeing tours
- Expert Tour Director & local guides
- Private deluxe motor coach

Included highlights

- Grafton Street
- Teeling whiskey tasting
- Cheesemaking class
- Kinsale walking food tour
- Clonakilty whiskey tasting
- Cork farm tour
- Coastal foraging tour

Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 2 hours daily across uneven terrain, including dirt paths and unpaved trails, with some hills and steep stairs.

Group size

12–22

TICO-2395858 | CPBC-73991 | OPC-702373
© 2024 EF Education First

Ireland: A Feast of Culinary Flavors & Local Traditions

12 days | 14 days with Galway extension

Overnight Flight → 1 night

Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Dublin today.

Dublin → 2 nights

Day 2: Arrival in Dublin

Included meals: welcome dinner

Welcome to Ireland! Settle in to your hotel and gather with your Tour Director and fellow group members at a mixer. Then, enjoy a welcome dinner.

Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Dublin & whiskey tasting

Included meals: breakfast, tasting, liquor tasting

Take a comprehensive tour of Ireland's capital city with a local expert leading the way.

- Pass St Stephen's Green and admire the Georgian architecture of Merrion Square as you go
- Explore the lively Grafton Street and enjoy a chocolate tasting at Butlers Chocolate Café
- See Trinity College and walk past the Molly Malone statue, ending in the Temple Bar district

Then, take a guided tour of the Teeling Whiskey Distillery in the Liberties neighborhood of central Dublin.

- Learn about the distillery's history and its distillation process
- Enjoy a tasting of both straight, neat whiskey and a whiskey cocktail

Enjoy a free evening in Dublin or add an excursion.

+ Guinness Experience & Irish Pub Dinner

Kilkenny → 2 nights

Day 4: Transfer to Kilkenny & cider tasting

Included meals: breakfast, tasting, dinner, liquor tasting

Travel to Kilkenny, Ireland's best-preserved medieval town, which goes by the nickname the Marble City.

- View St. Canice's Cathedral, an important place of worship dating back to the 6th century
- Enter Kilkenny Castle and roam the castle rooms and grounds

Later, head to the Highbank Organic Farm, which doubles as an orchard and distillery.

- Join a local guide to learn about organic farming from apple to bottle
- Take a tractor ride through the orchards
- Visit the distillery and 17th-century mill to taste organic ciders, syrups, and apple spirits alongside an expert
- Meet the farm owners and hear about the farm's history, which dates back five generations

Tonight, sit down for an included dinner at a local pub.

Day 5: Irish cheesemaking class

Included meals: breakfast, lunch

Head to the scenic countryside outside of Kilkenny for a guided cheesemaking course.

- Tour the award-winning cheesemaking facility, which specializes in a range of goat, sheep, and cow cheeses
- Learn how to easily make cheese at home in a hands-on class with a local expert
- Sit down for a cheese tasting and lunch of other homemade artisan specialties

West Cork → 3 nights

Day 6: West Cork via Kinsale foodie walking tour & mead tasting

Included meals: breakfast, tasting, liquor tasting

Continue on to the harbor town of Kinsale, filled with narrow, winding streets lined with artsy shops, lively bars, and delicious restaurants.

- Take a walking tour of the town, sampling various local foods along the way
- Visit the Kinsale Mead Co. to learn about the fermentation process and the honey used in the mead
- Taste award-winning meads and a seasonal cocktail in the Meadery's oak bar tasting room

Then, enjoy free time in Kinsale before continuing on to your hotel in West Cork.

Day 7: Sightseeing tour of Skibbereen & Clonakilty

Included meals: breakfast, tasting, liquor tasting, dinner

Spend today exploring the colorful towns of Skibbereen and Clonakilty.

- Enjoy a tour of the Skibbereen Heritage Centre to learn about the Great Famine, the Irish diaspora, and genealogy
- Visit the Abbeystrowry Cemetery in Skibbereen, where over 8,000 unnamed people who died during the Great Famine are buried
- Get a taste of traditional Irish coffee in a local pub
- Continue on to Clonakilty, where you'll enjoy free time to visit the local farmer's market and eat a picnic lunch (*Please note: The farmer's market is only open Thursday—Saturday. Alternate farmer's markets may be visited.*)
- Head to a Clonakilty distillery for a whiskey tasting featuring locally sourced ingredients

This evening, sit down for a farm-to-table dinner featuring West Cork's famous local produce, meat, seafood, and dairy products.

Day 8: Free day in West Cork

Included meals: breakfast

Spend a free day in West Cork or add an excursion.

Please note: On some departures, the Sheep's Head Peninsula & Bantry House Tea excursion may take place on day 7.

+ Sheep's Head Peninsula & Bantry House Tea

County Kerry → 2 nights

Day 9: West Cork farm tour & transfer to County Kerry

Included meals: breakfast, lunch

Visit an organic farm in West Cork for a guided tour.

- Walk through the pastures and along the terraced slopes of the organic farm
- Learn about the farm's history and sustainability mission as you chat with the farm owners

- Enjoy a seasonal activity, like blueberry picking or jam making, before sitting down for some light snacks on the farm
- Sit down for a farm-to-table lunch featuring homemade food using locally sourced and organic ingredients

Transfer to County Kerry and enjoy free time for the rest of the day to relax or explore.

Day 10: County Kerry walk & coastal foraging tour

Included meals: breakfast, tasting

Travel along the scenic Ring of Kerry to the postcard-perfect coastal town of Caherdaniel, where you'll try your hand at finding some local specialties.

- Visit a wild Atlantic seaweed forager and join a workshop along the beaches of Kerry
- Learn about the tides in the area and how important seaweed is to the local diet and culture
- Hear how the seaweed in the area help to sustain the Skellig Island monks during ancient times
- Walk along the water at low tide as you forage for different types of seaweeds and coastal plants like Nori, Duilleasc, and Sea Radish

County Galway → 1 night

Day 11: Galway via Dingle & brewery tour

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

Make your way to Galway, stopping to explore the Dingle Peninsula along the way.

- Spend free time exploring Inch Beach, which offers stunning views of Dingle Harbor
- Set off on a short walking tour of Dingle Town, and enjoy a tasting of ice cream from the famous Murphy's
- Tour the West Kerry Brewery, a small family business with a focus on one of a kind beers
- Learn about the family's history and craft while you enjoy a tasting at the charming pub onsite

Continue to Galway and celebrate your trip at a farewell dinner.

Flight Home

Day 12: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early

morning departures)

Transfer to the Dublin airport for your flight home, or extend your stay to visit Galway.

Please note: some transfers to the airport may leave very early in the morning to accommodate return flights.

+ Galway extension

The UNESCO-listed city of Galway sits at the doorstep of some of Ireland's most famous attractions (including some of the best coastal views!). Extend your stay and explore its second-to-none scenery, lively atmosphere, and thriving culinary scene.

Galway → 2 nights

Day 12: Cliffs of Moher & food of Galway walking tour

Included meals: breakfast, tasting

Journey south of Galway to the coast, taking time to view spectacular scenery en route.

- Walk along the mesmerizing coastline of the Cliffs of Moher
- Visit the Burren Smokehouse in County Clare and learn the story behind the facility and its smoked fish process
- Enjoy a tasting of a variety of smoked salmon produced in-house

This evening, join a local guide for a walking food tour of the city, tasting traditional and modern Irish foods paired with craft beer as you go.

Please note: On some departures, the walking food tour may be replaced with a walking pub tour.

Day 13: Free day in Galway

Included meals: breakfast

Spend a free day in Galway or add an excursion. This evening, enjoy a farewell drink as you celebrate your trip with your fellow group members.

+ Connemara, Kylemore Abbey & Oyster Tasting

Flight Home

Day 14: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the Dublin airport for your flight home.

Please note: some transfers to the airport may leave very early in the morning to accommodate return flights.

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.ca/TEI | 1-800-754-5066

Day 3: Guinness Experience & Irish Pub Dinner

\$165CAD/\$175CAD* (4 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

Take a self-guided tour of the Guinness Brewery this afternoon. Explore the many fun, colorful exhibits that highlight how the Irish brand has evolved since Arthur Guinness crafted the first beer in 1759. Then, head up to the top floor to sip a pint and soak in 360-degree views of Dublin. Afterward, travel by private motor coach to a local, historic pub for an evening filled with traditional food, beer or wine, and live Irish music. Talk about good craic!

Day 8: Sheep's Head Peninsula & Bantry House Tea

\$175CAD/\$185CAD* (8 hours, departs in the morning)

Some of Ireland's most stunning views, plenty of history, and a traditional afternoon tea? Yes, please. On this excursion alongside your Tour Director, you'll board a private motor coach and pass gravel boreens, grassy paths, and heathery hills as you travel along Sheep's Head Peninsula. Then, stop to explore the coastal area on foot with your Tour Director in the lead. Starting at the Cupán Tae tea shop, you'll stroll past rocky outcrops and Lough Akeen to the Sheep's Head Lighthouse at the tip of the headland. Take in views of Dunmanus Bay and Bantry Bay before enjoying free time for lunch in Bantry. Then, step inside Bantry House and Garden, a stately home situated on the Wild Atlantic Way. You'll explore the beautifully manicured gardens before sitting down for afternoon tea with freshly made cakes, sandwiches, and a glass of Prosecco.

Extension excursion options

Day 13: Connemara, Kylemore Abbey & Oyster

Tasting

\$175CAD/\$185CAD* (9 hours, departs in the morning)

Connemara is one of the most beautiful, unspoiled places in Ireland, and you'll get an up-close look at all the region's beauty on this excursion. Set out to marvel at the area's second-to-none scenery and historic sites, like 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, transfer to Connemara's coast to join a local guide at an oyster farm. You'll learn how the oysters are grown and harvested over a three-year period before enjoying a tasting of fresh oysters pulled from the waters of Ballinakill Bay. As you travel through Connemara National Park on your way back to Galway, make photo stops in the Inagh Valley and Maam Cross.

*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.ca/terms