

Tour Itinerary

Saturday, Aug 15: UNITED STATES TO GLASGOW

Depart your hometown and take an overnight flight across the Atlantic. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service as you travel to start your vacation.

Sunday, Aug 16: GLASGOW ARRIVAL TO GLENCOE

Land in Glasgow and after you disembark, pass through customs and immigration checks at the airport. Your GLE Tours guide will meet you in the Arrivals Hall, welcome you to Scotland and assist in transferring to the motorcoach. Depart Glasgow and travel along the shores of scenic Loch Lomond, Britain's largest lake and enjoy the stunning views of mountain scenery. Drive across the haunting Rannoch Moor to Glen Coe, notorious for the massacre of the Clan Macdonald by the Campbells in 1692 and arrive in Ballachulish where you check into your hotel before dinner and your overnight stay.

Dinner & Overnight: Isle of Glencoe Hotel, Ballachulish

Monday, Aug 17: SPEAN BRIDGE WOOLEN MILLS & MILITARY TATTOO

This morning head north via Fort William and drive along the shores of Loch Ness, famous for its monster and its great beauty. Stop at Spean Bridge Woollen, which offers a good selection of quality Scottish goods. Motor across the steep Grampian Mountains to visit 13th century Blair Castle, home of the Earls and Dukes of Atholl. This stately mansion contains a variety of portraits, china and armor to show the life of Scottish nobility. Travel along the gentle Tay Valley via Pitlochry to visit a distillery to learn about the creation of whisky and enjoy a sample. Continue south to Edinburgh, in time to check into your hotel. This evening, after an early dinner at your hotel, attend the spectacular Edinburgh Military Tattoo, a performance by many Scottish regiments and other armed forces from around the world, which takes place on the Castle Esplanade with the castle forming a dramatic backdrop.

Dinner & Overnight: Marriott Hotel, Edinburgh

Tuesday, Aug 18: EDINBURGH SIGHTSEEING & SCOTTISH EVENING

This morning discover Edinburgh on a sightseeing tour. Drive along Princes Street, the main shopping thoroughfare. Compare and contrast the wide streets and elegant mansions of the Georgian 200-year-old "New Town" with the narrow lanes and medieval townhouses along the Royal Mile, the oldest part of the city, and together forming a World Heritage Site. Learn about many prominent Scottish inventors, doctors and writers. After the tour enjoy some free time for individual pursuits. At this evening's dinner, sample Scottish specialties and enjoy bagpipes, traditional music, singing and dancing.

Overnight: Marriott Hotel, Edinburgh

Wednesday, Aug 19: FERRY TRIP TO DUBLIN & MERRY PLOUGHBOY

This morning depart Edinburgh after breakfast and drive south through the Southern Uplands, a region where sheep are raised on the gentle, fertile hills. At Cairnryan take a ferry ride across the narrow channel between Scotland and Ireland to arrive in Larne, just outside Belfast. Drive south to Dublin where your Scottish driver/guide will bid you farewell and a "haste ye back" to Scotland. Check into your Dublin hotel. This evening drive to the town of Rathfarnham to The Merry Ploughboy Pub for dinner followed by a lively show of traditional Irish songs, dancing and music.

Overnight: Dunboyne Castle Hotel, Dunboyne

Thursday, Aug 20: ROCK OF CASHEL & KILLARNEY

Depart Dublin and drive through the prosperous farming country and marketing towns of the midland region of Ireland. Stop for a guided tour of the Rock of Cashel. These majestic church ruins are clustered high on a limestone outcrop overlooking the surrounding countryside. Of particular note is the highly decorated Cormac's

Chapel built during the 12th century. Leave Cashel and drive south past the gentle slopes of the Galtee Mountains. Continue to travel through the rugged countryside of County Kerry where the town of Killarney is charmingly located with a backdrop of mountains and lakes. Then check into your hotel with time to freshen up before dinner at your hotel.

Dinner & Overnight: Killarney Towers Hotel, Killarney

Friday, Aug 21: DINGLE PENINSULA & BLASKET CENTRE

Today 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. Stop in Dingle before continuing to the western tip of the peninsula. Visit the Blasket Centre in Dunquin to learn about the Blasket Islands, inhabited until 1953 by hardy families who eked out a living by farming and fishing. Return to Killarney.

Dinner & Overnight: Killarney Towers Hotel, Killarney

Saturday, Aug 22: SCENIC DRIVE TO KENMARE & TORC WATERFALL

Today drive south through the scenic Killarney National Park to reach Kenmare and enjoy some free time to relax or do some exploring of this charming town on your own. Then board the coach and travel back towards Killarney stopping at Moll's Gap along part of the Ring of Kerry route to enjoy its views over the three lakes. Continue to Ladies' View for another spectacular view over Killarney's lakes and mountains. Next visit Torc Waterfall, a dramatic falls that originates from the top of Torc Mountain from the Owengarriff River on the road up to Ladies' View. There's a lovely wooded path through Friars' Glen to the top of the falls. After your sightseeing, return to Killarney and enjoy some time to relax and freshen up before dinner.

Dinner & Overnight: Killarney Towers Hotel, Killarney

Sunday, Aug 23: CLIFFS OF MOHER & GALWAY

Depart Killarney and drive north from the mountains of County Kerry into the grazing lands of County Limerick. Stop in the village of Adare, famous for its attractive main street of thatched houses and colorful gardens. Stroll through the village and take some photos. Continue your drive via the city of Limerick, situated at a crossing point on the River Shannon. Head north through Ennis to visit the Cliffs of Moher which rise 700 feet above the sea and extend five miles along the coast. Drive on through the Burren Country, an area of limestone hills which a wide range of flora, to Galway, the major city of the western region. Upon arrival, check into your hotel where you will have some time to relax or stroll around town before dinner.

Dinner & Overnight: Ardilaun House Hotel, Galway

Monday, Aug 24: CONNEMARA & LIMERICK

The itinerary takes you west of Galway through the Connemara region known for its constantly-changing skies and subtle colors. Drive past the gentle hills of the Maamturk Mountains and the Twelve Bens. Travel south around the shores of Galway Bay and past the rounded limestone hills of the Burren country. Continue through the towns of Gort and Ennis to reach Limerick city. Upon arrival check into your hotel and enjoy some free time to explore some of the city on your own. In the evening join your fellow travelers for a farewell dinner in the hotel restaurant.

Dinner & Overnight: Absolute Hotel, Limerick

Tuesday, Aug 25: RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES

Sadly, today your Irish vacation has come to its final day. Transfer to Shannon Airport in good time to check in for your flight. You may do some last minute shopping at the duty free stores. Then clear U.S. Immigration before boarding your aircraft and flying across the Atlantic Ocean back to the United States.

Name(s) of passenger(s) *Must match passport(s)* _____

Number of Passengers _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____

Evening Phone _____

Email _____

Type of Room: Twin Single

I am enclosing a deposit check for \$ _____
\$300 per person made payable to: TRAVEL LEADERS *By Mary 15*

Mail to:
TRAVEL LEADERS
Attn: Elizabeth West
8221-9 Southside Boulevard
Jacksonville, FL 32256

Deposit due immediately with reservation • Balance due by June 1, 2009