

PILGRIMAGE TO IRELAND

In the Footsteps of St. Patrick



St. Patricks Cathedral, Dublin

September 5-14, 2023

\$4,749 Per Person from New York (JFK)

**All Pricing Based On Double Occupancy*
Leave from Any Airport: www.206tours.com/addon*



Spiritual Director:
Fr. Mike Vetrano



Fr. Mike Vetrano

Your Trip Includes

- † Round Trip Airfare from New York (JFK)
- † Airport Taxes and Fuel Surcharges
- † 8 nights at centrally located Hotels as follows (or similar):
- † 2 nights: Sep 6-8, Dublin, Hotel Ashlin
- † 1 night: Sep 8-9, Kilkenny, Hotel Kilkenny
- † 2 nights: Sep 9-11, Killarney, Holiday Inn Killarney
- † 2 nights: Sep 11-13, Galway, Hotel Clayton
- † 1 night: Sep 13-14 Dublin, Hotel Ashlin
- † Breakfast and dinner daily
- † Wine and mineral water with dinners
- † Wireless headsets where needed
- † Transportation by air-conditioned private motor coach
- † Transfers, sightseeing, and admissions fees as per itinerary
- † Mass daily & Spiritual Activities
- † Luggage handling (1 piece per person)
- † Flight bag & Portfolio of all travel documents

Register Online: www.pilgrimages.com/frvetrano/ireland



Contact Alex at 206 Tours: alexandra@206tours.com

Day 1, Tuesday, September 5th: Depart for Dublin

Depart from your hometown for your overnight flight(s) to Ireland. Meals will be served on board.

Day 2, Wednesday, September 6th: Arrive Dublin

Cead Mile Failte - Welcome to Ireland! Upon arrival into Dublin you will be greeted by your tour guide and driver. We will have a panoramic city tour on both sides of the River Liffey, where we pass by the General Post Office on the city's main streets, O'Connell Street, Custom House, and Phoenix Park, the largest city park in Europe. On the other side of the river are Georgian squares characterized by colorful doors, Grafton Street and Trinity College.

Day 3, Thursday, September 7th: Dublin

Enjoy a half day of touring of Dublin to include Trinity College, Book of Kells and St. Patrick's Cathedral. Trinity College is the oldest university in Ireland, founded in 1592 by Elizabeth I. Visit the ancient library containing over 20,000 manuscripts, among which is the Book of Kells, a manuscript from the 9th-century written by the monks at St. Columbo's monastery on the island of Iona. Today we will also visit St. Patrick's Anglican Cathedral, built in 1213. This Gothic Cathedral has a splendid interior, with some beautiful tombs and monuments. The ornate stained glass windows can be found in the Chancel. In the afternoon you will have some free time in Dublin before dinner and overnight.

Day 4, Friday, September 8th: Dublin - Glendalough - Baltinglass - Castledermot - Kilkenny

Following breakfast, we will travel through the beautiful mountains of Wicklow, called the "Garden of Ireland" until we reach Glendalough. This ancient monastic city, established in the 6th-century by St. Kevin, is in the heart of "the valley of the two lakes." It was a very important centre of learning as well as a pilgrimage destination. There are many legends concerning St. Kevin and he is often compared to St. Francis of Assisi. You will be taken on a guided tour of the site, in which you will see the Round Tower, the ruins of the Cathedral, and "St. Kevin's Kitchen" that is surrounded by an old cemetery. The tour continues to Baltinglass where the ruins of a Cistercian Abbey are found. We will then pass by Castledermot, where we set eyes upon the remnants of a Franciscan Abbey, before arriving into Kilkenny for dinner and overnight.

Day 5, Saturday, September 9th: Kilkenny - Cashel - Killarney

Today after breakfast, we are on to the "Rock of Cashel," standing high in the middle of the "Golden Vale." These religious buildings, dating from the 12th-century, form the most spectacular medieval set in Ireland. The Cathedral, the Round Tower and Cormac Chapel, which was the first Irish Romanesque church, testify to the importance of this site which used to be the seat of the High Kings of Munster. So, once more we find two traditions and cultures meeting with one another where the story of St. Patrick's Cross will tell us more. Our journey continues towards Killarney for dinner and overnight.

Day 6, Sunday, September 10th: Killarney - Dingle - Cahersiveen - Killarney

After breakfast depart to the Dingle Peninsula, the most northern of the Kerry peninsulas making a stop at Inch Beach for views of the Iveragh Peninsula and Rossbeigh Beach. Continue to Sleah Head. From the town of Inch, where David Lean shot the movie "Ryan's Daughter," and the last part of the country where Gaelic language is spoken, we continue along the Eagle Mount and the cliffs of Sleah Head. In Early Christian Ireland, monks were looking for isolated places such as Gallarus Oratory. It is dated from the 9th-century, and excellently preserved. Oratory used to be a place of prayer for monks. Our next stop is the Kilmalkedar Church, built in the 12th-century and once part of a complex of religious buildings in Romanesque style. Dinner and overnight in Kerry.. Later, transfer from Dingle to Cahersiveen before returning to Killarney for dinner and overnight.

Day 7, Monday, September 11th: Killarney - Cliffs of Moher - Galway

After a good Irish breakfast we will be going north through Listowel and embark on the ferry at Killimer to cross the Shannon estuary. County Clare is a beautiful landscape with a Victorian seaside resort, and where we will visit the Cliffs of Moher. The coastal road with Galway's intensely blue bay on one side and natural rocky landscape on the other. Later enter the visitor center at the Cliffs of Moher and see the spectacular landscape overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. From here we go on to Galway, a city that has kept its medieval charm with its colorful streets and authentic pubs. Dinner and overnight in Galway.

Day 8, Tuesday, September 12th: Galway - Knock - Galway

After breakfast depart head to Kylemore Abbey and see the beautiful Victorian Walled Garden. We will then continue to visit Knock and the shrine situated in the plains of East Mayo, which is one of the world's leading Marian shrines. Afterward return to Galway for dinner and overnight.

Day 9, Wednesday, September 13th: Galway - Clonmacnoise - Dublin

This morning, enjoy a cruise on Lough Corrib. We will also travel to Clonmacnoise for a visit before continuing on to Dublin. Clonmacnoise is Ireland's most important monastic site, overlooking the River Shannon. This site was founded by St. Ciaran in the 6th-century and consists of a walled field containing numerous early churches, high crosses, round towers and graves. Dinner and overnight in Dublin.

Day 10, Thursday, September 14th: Departure

Prepare for your departure to the airport and your return home with wonderful memories of Ireland!

**206 Tours Disclaimer: Though every effort will be made to follow the itinerary, it should be considered as an indication, rather than a contract of places to be visited. Occasionally local religious holidays, national days, weather, traffic conditions and other events may necessitate changes in the sequence of visits or the missing of certain visits.*

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Alexandra



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