



## Details

10 nights/12 days

## Highlights

- \* Eddie Lenihan
- \* Tullamore Dew
- \* Clara Bog
- \* Corlea Trackway
- \* Aran Islands
- \* Ceide Fields
- \* Clonmacnoise

### Dates:

Cost: \$ 3,476.00 per person based on sharing a room

Single Supplement \$750.00

Plus Air approx \$1,200

Singles are limited

\$500 per person deposit secures your place.

### Included in your trip:

- \* Accommodation for 10 nights with breakfast each morning
- \* 6 evening dinners
- \* Transportation with a professional driver-guide
- \* Ferry and tour of Aran Islands
- \* Storytelling with Eddie Lenihan
- \* Tullamore Dew
- \* Hill of Uisneach
- \* Ceide Fields
- \* Achill Field School
- \* Kylemore Abbey
- \* Clonmacnoise
- \* Walking tour in Dublin

### Not Included:

- \* International Airfare
- \* Items of a personal nature (laundry, telephone, etc)
- \* Gratuities for your driver-guide, recommended EUR 7 per person per day

### Tuesday 03rd: Depart USA for Dublin, Ireland

Depart USA on your overnight flight to Ireland. Please ensure you have your passport valid for 6 months beyond the date of travel.

### Wednesday 04th: Mullingar - Tullamore Dew - Mullingar

Arrive Dublin and after clearing customs & immigration your driver/guide will be waiting to greet you. Journey across the midlands and enjoy your welcome to Ireland with a visit to Tullamore Dew, one of Irelands oldest whiskeys. From Tullamore your journey takes you to Mullingar where you will have some time to relax and refresh before enjoying your welcome dinner at your hotel.

### Thursday 05th: Clara Bog & Hill of Uisneach

This morning after breakfast, travel to Clara Bog Visitor Centre for a guided tour of the bog and learn of these ancient fuel sources and amazing finds within the different bogs. From Clara, journey to the mythological and spiritual centre of Ireland at the Hill of Uisneach. Enjoy a guided tour and learn of the many ancient monuments and hear the story of Eiru, from whom Ireland is named. Eiru is believed to be buried beneath the Catstone at Uisneach. Return to Mullingar for dinner and overnight.

### Friday 06th: Ballina - Corlea Trackway

Following breakfast, travel to the town of Longford and visit the Corlea Trackway. Following in the footsteps of the Celts learn how they used this Trackway to traverse the bogs and cross the country in ancient times. Later continue to Ballina for dinner and overnight.

### Saturday 07th: Mullet Peninsula & Ceide Fields

After breakfast, a daytour on the Mullet Peninsula, including a visit to the Ceide Fields, the oldest known field systems in the world. Over five thousand years of history lies buried in the bog overlooking the wild Atlantic Ocean. Continue out along Black Sod Bay and spend some time in Belmullet before returning to Ballina for overnight with evening at leisure.

### Sunday 08th: Westport - Achill Island & Achill Field School

Depart Ballina after breakfast and journey towards Clew Bay and across the land bridge to Achill Island with a visit to the Achill Field School. After time on the stunning Atlantic coastline, continue on to Westport for dinner and overnight.

### Monday 09th: Museum of Country Life

Leisurely breakfast followed by a short drive to Castlebar to visit the unique Museum of Country Life and learn about rural life through the centuries in Mayo. Early return to Westport, where you have the afternoon and evening to explore Westport at your leisure and perhaps check-out the music in Matt Molloy's pub.

### Tuesday 10th: Galway Leenane - Kylemore Abbey & Eddie Lenihan

Leaving Westport after breakfast, travel along Clew Bay, past Croagh Patrick and through the Delphi Valley, to the village of Leenane (Leenaun). From here continue to Kylemore Abbey, home to the Benedictine order. Later travel through Connemara to Galway for dinner and overnight. After dinner, you will be joined by storyteller Eddie Lenihan, for fairy tales of Ireland.



### **Wednesday 11th: Aran Islands & Dun Aengus**

Breakfast at the hotel and then travel to Rossaveel where you board the ferry to the Aran Islands. Take the minibus tour of the Islands with time to visit the Ring Fort at Dun Aengus. Return to the mainland with the evening free to enjoy the many restaurants and pubs of Galway at your leisure.

### **Thursday 12th: Clonmacnoise & Dublin**

Depart Galway after breakfast and as you make your way across the midlands, visit the 6<sup>th</sup> century monastic settlement founded by St. Ciaran on the banks of the River Shannon. Continue to Dublin for afternoon arrival and enjoy a panoramic tour of the city to acquaint you with the historic sites. Evening is at leisure for dinner on your own.

### **Friday 13th: Walking Tour Dublin & Farewell Dinner**

After breakfast, start the day on a walking tour with Lorcan Collins, highlighting the tragic history of the 1916 Rising. The remainder of the afternoon free to explore the city at leisure. A farewell dinner tonight to share the memories of the tour.

### **Saturday 14th: Dublin to the USA**

Depart Dublin Airport on your return flight to the USA.

*Options available for extending your stay in Ireland before or after the tour .  
Erin will make sure that you experience music with locals as you tour throughout Ireland .*

**Erin Hart:** *Erin came to writing quite late, and by way of her first love, theater. Starting graduate school in the mid-1980's the available choices were business administration or creative writing – she chose writing by default, and embarked on a second career as a freelance arts journalist and theater critic. Throughout the 1980's, her work appeared in print in the Saint Paul Pioneer Press, Star and Tribune and Minnesota Monthly*

*While visiting Ireland one summer, Erin heard an intriguing tale about a beautiful red haired girl whose perfectly preserved head was discovered in a desolate Irish bog. That true story was the inspiration for her first debut novel, "Haunted Ground", the first in a planned series of crime novels set mostly in Ireland, revolving around archaeology, forensics, history, traditional music and folklore.*

*"People often ask why I chose Ireland as a setting, and I have to say that I think Ireland chose me"*

