

**ST. SUSANNA'S CHURCH
IRELAND ITINERARY
APRIL 23 – MAY 2, 2019**

Day 1: Tuesday, April 23rd ~ Boston - Dublin

Depart Boston's Logan International Airport aboard our overnight flight to Dublin with meal and beverage service, as well as stereo headsets, while in flight.

Day 2: Wednesday, April 24th ~ Dublin

Welcome to Ireland! Upon arrival at Dublin Airport, we will meet our Tour Escort and take a panoramic tour of the capital. Here, we'll see monuments like the General Post Office (significant in the Easter Uprising of 1916), O'Connell Street, Custom House, Phoenix Park, Merrion Square (with its famous painted doors), Grafton Street, and St. Stephen's Green. We'll also visit Kilmainham Gaol, a former prison turned museum to the struggle for Irish independence. Many of the leaders of Ireland's rebellions were held (and sometimes executed) here. Check in to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (Dinner)

Your accommodations from 4/24 to 4/25:

Ashling Hotel Dublin

Parkgate Road

Dublin 8, Co. Dublin

0035316772324

Amenities Include: Free Wi-Fi, hairdryer, safe, USB charging stations, complimentary bottled water

www.ashlinghotel.ie

Day 3: Thursday, April 25th ~ Newgrange - Monasterboice - Armagh

After breakfast and hotel check-out, we will board our motorcoach and travel to the Brú na Bóinne in the archaeologically-significant Boyne Valley. Here we'll visit a full-scale replica of the megalithic passage tomb of Newgrange, as well as a full model of one of the tombs at Knowth. Then we continue on to Monasterboice, home to the impressive ruins of a monastic community founded in the 5th century. The area is famous for its collection of high crosses, among the tallest in Ireland. We'll then continue on over the border into Northern Ireland to the town of Armagh, the ecclesiastical capital of Ireland, where we will check in to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast and dinner)

Your accommodations from 4/25 to 4/26:

City Hotel Armagh

2 Friary Road

Armagh BT60 4FR, Co. Armagh

00442837518888

Amenities Include: Free Wi-Fi, hairdryer, pool, trouser press

www.armaghcityhotel.com

Day 4: Friday, April 26th ~ Carrick-A-Rede - Giants Causeway - Derry

After breakfast and hotel check-out, we will board our motorcoach for a full-day excursion which includes two of Northern Ireland's most stunning features- the Carrick-A-Rede rope bridge, and the Giants Causeway. We'll first visit Carrick-a-Rede on the Antrim coast, where we'll see the famous rope bridge which connects the mainland to a small island. Originally used by fishermen to transport salmon, the bridge has been updated to make the crossing safer, but not any less breathtaking! Then it's on to the Giants Causeway, one of the most unusual rock formations on Earth! Described in mythology as being part of a land bridge to Scotland built by the Irish legend Finn McCool, the causeway is made up of 40,000 basalt polygonal columns that formed in a volcanic eruption some 60 million years ago. We'll continue on to the historical city of Derry for a panoramic tour including its famous walls. Check in to our hotel. (Breakfast and dinner)

Your accommodations from 4/26 to 4/27:

Maldron Hotel Derry

Butcher Street

Londonderry BT48 6HL, Co., Derry

004428713781000

Amenities Include: Free Wi-Fi, hairdryer, iron & ironing board, tea/coffee making facilities

www.maldronhotelderry.com

Day 5: Saturday, April 27th ~ Ulster American Folk Park - Galway

After breakfast and hotel check-out, we will make the lengthy but highly scenic drive to Galway, with a wonderful stop en route! On the way we will visit the Ulster Folk Park, an outdoor museum of emigration which tells the story of the millions of people who left Ireland's shores for other countries, in particular America. The park will take you from the thatched cottages of Ulster to a full-scale emigrant sailing ship, and on to the log cabins of the American frontier. Arriving in Galway, we will have a walking tour of the mainly pedestrian downtown area with sights like Eyre Square, Lynch Castle, St. Nicholas Church, and the Spanish Arch, as well as learn the Claddagh tradition that began in the Galway area. Check in to our hotel. (Breakfast and dinner)

Your accommodations from 4/27 to 4/28:

Oranmore Lodge Hotel

Oranmore CO., Galway

00353 91794400

Amenities Include: Free Wi-Fi, hairdryer, ironing facilities, morning newspaper

www.oranmorelodge.ie

Day 6: Sunday, April 28th ~ Burren - Cliffs of Moher - Adare - Tralee

After breakfast and hotel check-out, we'll begin to head south to County Kerry, our base for the rest of the trip. Our trip will take us to several of Ireland's most beautiful sights along the way. First, we'll drive through The Burren, an eerie moonscape-like National Park which has an unusual array of flora that is Arctic, Alpine, and Mediterranean all in one place. Next, we'll stop for a visit at the Cliffs of Moher, perhaps Ireland's most well-known attraction. These

sheer cliffs rise out of the Atlantic, with amazing views of the coastline, the ocean, and the cliffs themselves. On site, we'll also be able to visit O'Brien's Tower and the impressive new visitor's center constructed there. Continuing on towards Killarney, we'll have some free time in the pretty village of Adare, with its thatched-roof cottages, store-lined downtown, impressive manor (now a private hotel) and visitor's centre. Adare is a quintessential Irish town and well worth a stop before continuing on to our hotel in Tralee, home of the "Rose of Tralee" beauty contest and the capital of County Kerry, for check in. (Breakfast and dinner)

Your accommodations from 4/28 to 5/2:

Ballygary House Hotel

Killarney Road

Leebrook, Tralee, Co, Kerry

00353667123322

Amenities Include: Free Wi-Fi, hairdryer, safe

www.ballygarryhouse.com

Day 7: Monday, April 29th ~ Dingle Peninsula

After breakfast we will board our motorcoach and travel to Blennerville and then down the Dingle Peninsula, one of the most unspoiled areas in Ireland, with majestic coastal views, hidden coves, historic sites, and varied mountain scenery. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. Tralee has an abundance of traditional pubs with a lively atmosphere and entertainment - great places to enjoy the traditional music of County Kerry! (Breakfast and dinner)

Day 8: Tuesday, April 30th ~ Killarney National Park - Muckross House & Gardens

Breakfast at hotel. After which, we'll drive to magnificent Killarney National Park and its centerpiece, Muckross House & Gardens. We'll tour this splendid 19th century mansion and its gorgeous grounds on the shores of Lake Muckross. We'll also have a special treat most groups don't get to enjoy- a ride through the National Park in a jaunting car- a horse-drawn carriage unique to the Killarney area. Time at leisure in Killarney to enjoy the town itself. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast and dinner)

Day 9: Wednesday, May 1st ~ Ring of Kerry - Gap of Dunloe

After breakfast, we will board our motorcoach for a full-day excursion to the spectacular "Ring of Kerry," the most famous and panoramic route in Ireland (and that's saying something!). En route around the Ring, take in spectacular scenery- mountains, peat bogs, lakes, and magnificent views of the Atlantic Ocean as we travel the coast. Among the towns of note we'll pass through are Killorglin, famous for its "Puck Fair" and Cahirciveen, birthplace of the Irish national hero Daniel O'Connell. After a break for lunch (on our own) in one of the Ring's pretty little seaside villages, we will head back via the Gap of Dunloe, a beautiful if remote area located on the other side of Lough Leane from Killarney. Return to the hotel for dinner and an evening at leisure. Overnight. (Breakfast and dinner)

Day 10: Thursday, May 2nd ~ Shannon - Boston

Today we say farewell to Ireland. After breakfast and hotel check-out, we will transfer to Shannon Airport for our return flight home to Boston, with meal and beverage service, as well as stereo headsets, while in flight. (Breakfast)

PLEASE NOTE: SCHEDULING IS ALWAYS SUBJECT TO CHANGE