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BACKROADS OF IRELAND



Photo c/o Shutterstock

Sunday May 13, to Sunday, May 27, 2018

Tour cost: \$6695.00 per person sharing double accommodation from Toronto, including taxes. Single supplement; \$1750.00 Land only: \$6030.00

Proposed Itinerary

Join Steve and Sandra on a leisurely tour of the road less travelled... by tourists anyway, in Ireland. Of course some must see sites will still be included in the program but we have endeavored to include more off the beaten path gems to make the program attractive to both first time visitors and those of you who can't get enough of the Emerald Island.

Day 1 - Sunday, May 13: FLIGHT

Evening departure on our direct, non-stop flight to Dublin. Dinner and a hot snack provided.

Day 2 – Monday, May 14: DUBLIN

Welcome to Dublin. Following customs formalities and baggage collection we are met by our coach and transferred to our accommodation, The O'Callaghan Alexander Hotel. (<http://www.ocallaghanhotels.com/alexander-hotel/>) From this central location we are within walking distance of all of the city's tourist attractions and business district. We really couldn't be in a better place to enjoy the delights of Ireland's capital city. Orientation tour of the neighborhood followed by welcome drinks and then on to dinner at one of Dublin's elegant restaurants.

Day 3 – Tuesday, May 15: DUBLIN

Breakfast at leisure before embarking on a private walking tour of the city centre. From the hotel we will walk to Trinity College and see the book of Kells. Founded by Queen Elizabeth I to “civilize” Dublin, Trinity College is Ireland’s oldest and most famous college. The atmospheric campus is open to visitors, who walk in the footsteps of some of the college’s noted alumni – among them Jonathan Swift, Oscar Wilde, Bram Stoker and Samuel Beckett. From here we continue with our guide who will inform us on all the sights and educate us on the Irish capital, both her place in history and the present. This afternoon is free to continue to unlock the secrets of this fabulous city. No group dinner this evening.

Day 4 – Wednesday, May 16: ATHLONE

Breakfast followed by departure for Athlone. On the way we will make a stop to understand that particularly Irish phenomena: the Bog Story. The town of Ballinahowan is the home of the studio known as “Celtic Roots”, here sculptures and unique gifts in bogwood can be found. The wood, over 5000 years old, is the remains of trees hidden in the bog and brought to the surface thousands of years later. In the late afternoon we will visit Clonmacnoise, an extensive ruin including a cathedral, castle, round tower and two important High Crosses. Continue to the hotel following our visit. Overnight at Wineport Lodge.

Day 5 – Thursday, May 17: CONNEMARA

Breakfast followed by departure for a full day spent discovering the west of Ireland. Our tour includes a visit to Kylemore Abbey, Ireland’s most romantic Castle, surrounded by magnificent Victorian gardens. In the late afternoon we arrive at Cashel House located 8 miles from Roundhouse. Cashel House Hotel overlooks the majestic Cashel Bay on the west coast of Ireland. Here a traditional welcome awaits guests in this classic country house retreat. Built in the 19th century this gracious country home was converted to a family run four star hotel in 1968 by the McEvelly family. Situated in the heart of Connemara and nestling in the peaceful surroundings of 50 acres of gardens and woodland walks this little bit of paradise offers an ideal base from which to enjoy walking, beaches, sea and lake fishing, golf and horse riding. Dinner and overnight.

Day 6 – Friday, May 18: CONNEMARA

Today we explore the Connemara Peninsula, barren and windswept but considered to be one of the most beautiful landscapes anywhere in the world, with mountains, lakes, bogs, heaths, and forests. The inhabitants of this region still speak Gaelic, the original, Celtic language of the island. Return to Cashel House in the late afternoon. Dinner at the hotel.

Day 7 – Saturday, May 19: THE BURREN

After breakfast, we leave for Galway, the most important city in West Ireland, and a very popular tourist destination full of historical buildings, museums, interesting shops...and lively pubs! Did you know that Columbus visited here prior to his famous crossing of the Atlantic? Guided tour of the historical city centre, including the monument to Columbus followed by time for lunch, a pint and a bit of shopping. In the afternoon we

leave Galway and drive around Galway Bay to the Burren National Park, a fascinating karst landscape (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Burren). Overnight at the award winning Gregan's Castle at Ballyvaughan.

Day 8 - Sunday, May 20: CLIFFS OF MOHER

Breakfast at the hotel followed by departure to the Cliffs of Moher, an impressive wall of rock rising as high as 200 m above the waters of the Atlantic Ocean! An optional excursion (weather dependent) will be offered to the rocky Aran Islands, featuring what some claim to be the most beautiful scenery in the world (http://wikitravel.org/en/Aran_Islands). Return to Gregan's Castle following the tour.

Day 9 – Monday, May 21: THE MUSTARD SEED

We begin the day with a visit to a goat cheese producer. Following our tour and tasting we continue to Kilrush where we will catch the ferry to Tarbert and County Limerick where we will drive along scenic back roads to the village of Ballingarry for our stay at Mustard Seed Echo Lodge, “an oasis of the most stylish country living”, managed by the ebullient host, Dan Mullane. Dan's personal history, love of travel and individual taste imbue this special house with a memorable ambience. Time permitting we will have a photo stop in Ireland' arguably “prettiest little village”, Adare. Overnight at The Mustard Seed.

Day 10 – Tuesday, May 22: THE MUSTARD SEED

Today is devoted to our Secret Ireland Experience. The adventure will include meeting the locals, hearing their stories of famine and migration, having a private whiskey tasting and learning about traditional Irish dance. Return to the Mustard Seen following the tour.

Day 11 – Wednesday, May 23: DINGLE

We will travel to Ireland's extraordinary southwest today. After breakfast there is a leisurely departure to the Dingle Peninsula and Sleah Head Road, via Connor Pass, Co. Kerry, on a very beautiful convict built road. The Connor Pass is the highest mountain pass in Ireland, and provides the most dramatic and scenic way of entering or leaving Dingle. The Sleah Head is the Western most point in Ireland and the closest point of Europe to America. Locals enjoy telling you that the next Parish over is Boston. Following our leisurely drive along the Wild Atlantic Way we end up in Tralee and our home for the night, Ballygarry House Hotel and Spa.

Day 12 - Thursday, May 24: BEARA PENNINSULA

Today we head off for another jaw dropping day of gorgeous scenery as we travel around the Beara Peninsula making frequent stops for visits and photos. Beara is a peninsula on the south-west coast of Ireland, bounded between the Kenmare "river" to the north side and Bantry Bay to the south. It is just like Ireland was 20 or 30 years ago, totally tranquil and unspoiled. Return to Tralee and balance of the day free.

Day 13 – Friday, May 25: CLONAKILTY

Morning drive to Kinsale, one of the most picturesque, popular and fashionable towns of the southwest coast of Ireland. Kinsale can easily claim its place amongst Ireland's most historic locations, for it has been a centre of population, commerce, trade and fishing far beyond memory and record. In its earliest days the estuary of the Bandon River gave it great importance as the river is tidal as far as Innishannon and water transport was dominant until the 18th Century. The estuary also provided excellent anchorage for ancient shipping which went in peril of the vagaries of the weather. Today Kinsale is known as the Gourmet capital of Ireland. Following our visit we make our way to the hotel in Clonakilty. Overnight at Incheydoney Island Hotel and Spa.

Day 14 – Saturday, May 26: COVE

A tour of Cobh Heritage Centre, which records the massive Irish emigration. We will also be visiting one of the world's largest natural harbours. From 1848-1950 over 6 million adults and children emigrated from Ireland – over 2.5 million departed from Cobh, making it the single most important port of emigration. Cobh is a very picturesque town built on a hillside and dominated by St. Colman's Cathedral, which took over 50 years to complete. The harbour and the town have been the last sight of Ireland for many thousands of emigrants. Over 40,000 men, women and young girls were transported to Australia from here. It was the main transatlantic departure point from Ireland up until the late 1950's. It was the last port of call for the R.M.S. Titanic on her ill-fated maiden voyage, where she took onboard mail and 123 passengers. Late lunch at the English Market before returning to the hotel to freshen up. Our farewell dinner will be at the Island Cottage where John Desmond and Ellmary Fenton cook what has emerged from the sea or the earth that day at their tiny restaurant off the shore of Cunnamore in West Cork. Island Cottage is the most unlikely eating experience in Ireland. Access to the island is by small boat only. From disembarking, there is a kilometer stroll to the tiny cottage where John cooks authentic cuisine honed by years at the Ritz, owning his own business in Paris, years of teaching and considerable expertise in patisserie. Return to the hotel after dinner. Overnight Incheydoney Island Hotel and Spa Clonakilty.

Day 15 – Sunday, May 27: FLIGHT

Morning departure to Dublin Airport for our return flight to Toronto. Full inflight services provided.

WELCOME HOME

Tour cost: \$6695.00 per person sharing double accommodation from Toronto, including taxes. Single supplement: \$1750.00. Land only: \$6030.00

Tour includes:

Return airfare from Toronto on Air Canada.

Airport taxes and departure fees

Transportation throughout the tour

Accommodations in first class hotels in double occupancy – Single room surcharge
\$1,750

All sightseeing and admissions as per the program

Daily breakfast and all but 4 dinners

Fully escorted.

Not included:

Lunches and all but 4 dinners

Items of a personal nature

Optional travel insurance with Manulife. Please call office for rates.

APPLICATION FORM

Please book _____ seat(s) on the "Backroads of Ireland Tour" departing May 13 – 26, 2018.
Enclosed is my/our deposit of _____ (\$750 per person, plus insurance premium if taken.)

Please indicate with an X if you intend to travel on Group flights _____ or Land only _____.

Deposit and insurance premium, if taken, are due with registration. You will be invoiced an interim payment of \$1,500 and the balance due 45 days prior to departure.

WE REQUIRE A COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT (INFORMATION PAGES ONLY) VALID 3 MONTHS AFTER TOUR DATE TO BE SENT WITH YOUR APPLICATION FORM.

Name as on Passport. Indicate the appropriate title before each name (Mr., Mrs., Miss, Dr., Ms.)

NAME(S): _____

If applicable, give your commonly used first name as you would like it to appear on your name tag: (e.g. "Liz" for "Mary Elizabeth") _____

ADDRESS: _____

Postal Code: _____ PHONE: _____ (Fax/Email) _____

If traveling alone, is a single room required: YES _____ NO _____.

If sharing, what is your bed preference: twin _____ double _____.

SPECIAL REQUESTS: (Dietary, special physical needs, frequent flyer number, etc.) Please list here so we can do our best to assist you. Please be advised that due to airline policies, individual seat selection cannot be guaranteed.

Insurance - Please call the office for premiums then record on application form and add amount to deposit.

I/we would like to purchase (please check and record your rate):

Name: _____ Date of Birth _____

Name: _____ Date of Birth _____

All-inclusive Package _____ Non-medical Package _____

Other _____ Decline Insurance _____ (Please sign here if you decline the insurance).

PAYMENT:

☐☐ Cheque payable to Pauwels Travel ☐☐ Visa ☐☐ Mastercard ☐☐ American Express

Amount Paid: _____ Card Number: _____

Expiry: _____ Security Code: _____ Signature: _____

***I/we agree to the terms and conditions attached to the program, have indicated our insurance choice, indicated any special requests and included payment*.**

Signature(s) _____ **Date:** _____

Please forward this completed form, copy of passport and payment to:

PAUWELS TRAVEL BUREAU LTD.

95 Dalhousie Street, Brantford, Ontario N3T 2J1

Tel: 519-753-2695 / 519-756-4900 Fax: 519-753-6376

Email: tours@pauwelstravel.com

Terms & Conditions

RESERVATIONS AND DEPOSITS:

Reservations should be made as early as possible to ensure the departure of your choice. A deposit of \$750.00 is required at the time of registration. Your reservation is confirmed upon receipt of your deposit and registration form. No reservations will be accepted without a signed application form.

REFUND OF UNUSED ARRANGEMENTS:

Because the rates of Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. are based on group participation, no refund can be made for any tour accommodation or tour service or tour feature not taken. If cancellation occurs while the tour is in progress, no refund can be made for the tour portion not taken. We strongly suggest that to allow for any unexpected contingencies, you purchase the all-inclusive insurance.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

Refund of deposit is made if cancellation is received in writing by Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. more than 90 days prior of the departure date of the tour less a \$500.00 non-refundable administrative fee per person. For cancellation received in writing 90 days prior or less the following cancellation charges apply:
90 days to 61 days before departure: 25% of tour cost
60 to 31 days before departure: 50% of tour cost
Within 30 days prior to departure: 100% of tour cost

RESPONSIBILITY:

The acceptance of the initial service to be provided under the tour shall be considered an acceptance by the tour member of those conditions. We also reserve the right to decline, to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour.

We reserve the right without notice, to withdraw any part or all of the tour. Factors such as airline schedule changes, hotel overbookings, inclement weather, travel warnings by the Canadian Government etc. may necessitate changes in the itinerary. There may also be other circumstances in which changes become necessary or advisable.

By commencing the tour, I agree to the release and agreement as included below.

RELEASE & AGREEMENT:

By placing my deposit and commencing the tour I understand and agree to the following:

1. That all tours are delivered in conjunction with other service providers, including but not limited to travel agent and booking services, airlines, hotel and accommodation providers, transportation providers including but not limited to coach, train and ferry services, restaurant providers, and local guides. We shall not be held responsible for the failure by any person or company to render any transportation, lodging or other travel service to be provided on the tour. All hotel, transportation and other travel services are provided subject to all the terms and conditions under which they are offered to the public generally.

2. I further understand that travel involves certain risks to personal health, safety and property. Many foreign countries do not have the safety and health standards that are present in Canada. I am willing to accept the associated risks and understand that and Pauwels Travel Bureau cannot guarantee the health and safety of travellers in a foreign trip or eliminate the risk from a foreign environment.
3. I know that tour programs include walking, and may including hiking and fitness programs that have potential hazardous activities associated with them. I should not participate prior to approval by my physician. I assume any and all other risks associated with these events included but not limited to falls, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather including high heat and/or humidity.
4. To release, indemnify and hold harmless Pauwels Travel Bureau and their affiliates (which term shall include parents, subsidiaries, officers, directors, shareholders, agents and employees of Pauwels Travel Bureau as well as Pauwels Travel themselves) (the "Released Parties") from, and agree not to sue the Released Parties for, any claims that I may have arising from, or in connection with, any personal injury, bodily injury, mental anguish, emotional distress, physical, property or other damage that I may suffer from any cause whatsoever related in any way to my participation in this tour. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, I release, indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from, and agree not to sue them for any personal injury, bodily injury, mental anguish, emotional distress, physical, property or other damage that I may suffer from the Released Parties' negligence other than from intentional or reckless acts by such parties. I further agree to release, indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from any and all acts of God, war (whether declared or undeclared), terrorist activities, incidents of politically motivated violence, illness or quarantine, strikes or government restrictions or the acts or omissions of any other agents over which the Released Parties have no direct or indirect control, including, without limitation, airlines, railways, bus companies, hotels, shipping companies, guides and sub-contracted agents or tour operators. This release also includes activities not offered that may be considered risky. I further release any Tour Directors, bus drivers or other individuals involved in my tour.
5. That the air carrier's liability for loss of or damage to baggage or property, or for death or injury to person, is limited by their tariffs, or the Warsaw Convention, or both.
6. That Pauwels Travel Bureau shall have no liability or responsibility for me when I am absent from activities, such as visits to friends or relatives or during stay-ahead/stay-behind option periods if the stay-ahead/stay-behind period does not include the services of a Tour Director.
7. To abide by directions of my Tour Director or other leadership personnel during my tour. Failure to do so may result in my termination from tour immediately. I understand that to disobey such rules or directions is to waive the right to any refund, and that I may be sent home at my own expense. The participant and family undertake full financial responsibility for any damage caused by the participant and agree to pay his/her return home on the first available flight, should his/her behavior be deemed detrimental to the welfare of the group.
8. To abide by all local laws when in Canada and abroad, including those concerning drugs and alcohol. (Minors must have parents' permission to use alcohol even if the local law would otherwise permit them to.) I understand that if I abuse or disobey such laws, even

unintentionally, I waive my right to a refund, and Pauwels Travel may send me home at my own expense. I also understand that should local authorities be involved, I will be subject to the laws of the country I am visiting.

9. That if I become ill or incapacitated, Pauwels Travel and its employees, or a designated chaperone may take any action they deem necessary for my safety and well-being, including securing medical treatment (at my own expense) and transporting me home. Pauwels Travel retains the right, in its sole discretion, to contact the traveller's parent(s) and/or guardian or emergency contact with regard to health issues or any matters whatsoever that relates to the traveller's tour. These rights transcend any and all privacy regulations that may apply. In the event of a medical emergency, Pauwels Travel will attempt to cause appropriate treatment to be administered, and the traveller authorizes Pauwels Travel to do so. Pauwels Travel, however, makes no warranty that it will be able to cause effective (or any) emergency treatment to be administered.

10. That Pauwels Travel may use any film likenesses taken of me and any of my comments while on a tour for future publication and also use my contact information for future Pauwels Travel communications.

A WORD ABOUT GROUP AIR:

Please note that when booking one of our air inclusive tours, Pauwels Travel has negotiated reduced rates with the airline that we are able to confirm and lock in up to 359 days before travel. While it is wonderful to share the savings and flexibility this provides with you our valued guests, the privilege does come with some restrictions. In some cases it may not be possible to collect frequent flyer miles, in some cases you may not be able to check in online 24 hours before travel or you may need to try checking in with your ticket number rather than your booking reference and, in **almost ALL cases we are not able to offer advanced seat selection.**

It is the airline that makes the live reservation and has control over the booking so it is their policy not ours that prevents us from assigning you specific seats. I assure you if a request is made it is followed up on by our staff when they submit the names to the airline 30- 60 days prior to departure. Calling us several days before you leave will not change this fact nor will getting upset with our staff.

If the ideal seat is an absolute must for you we suggest you book our tour land only and make your own air arrangements so you can better control the individual booking. Pauwels would be happy to assist you with that reservation at absolutely no additional charge. We will offer you the best fare we can find but note this can only be done once a tour is a guaranteed departure and the rules and booking conditions of the applicable airfare will apply.

We thank you in advance for your kind understanding of the above.

