

# **Ireland II – Haunted by History, Dawning of a New Day**

## **July 5 -13, 2019**

### **4 Graduate Level Hours Available**

**Cost: \$3,500 without credit - Class cost includes airfare, ground transportation, entry fees, and all lodging with full Irish breakfast. \$1,900 without airfare or tuition. 4 hours tuition cost is \$175**

**Day 1 – July 5, 2019 – Friday** -Depart US for Dublin.

**Day 2 – July 6, 2019 – Saturday** - Arrive in Dublin early morning. Drive to Trim Castle, which is the largest Norman Castle in Europe and was used in the film, Braveheart - learn the history of Trim Castle. Walk the Hill of Tara and tour Slane Castle. Go to Monasterbolce, a ruined monastery with a round tower and two of the best carved high crosses in Ireland. We will sleep in Navan – County Meath, a small village close to Newgrange. Staying in B&B's allows us to meet the local people and hear their take on Irish history and modern day Ireland.

**Day 3 – July 7, 2019 - Sunday**- Drive to Newgrange Historical Passage Grave Site, which is one of the top prehistoric sites in the world. Newgrange is constructed with an astronomical orientation, which shows that prehistoric people understood an astronomical year. During the winter solstice, a narrow beam of light illuminates to the end of a long underground passage. Tour Newgrange and get a glimpse of prerecorded Ireland. We will then tour the site of the Battle of the Boyne. Drive to Belfast and sleep in the heart of Belfast.

**Day 4 –July 8, 2019 - Monday** - At 9 AM our black cab driver, Ken Harper, will take us on a tour of Catholic and Protestant neighborhoods while giving us the history of the Irish Troubles from the Belfast perspective. – After the taxi tour we will do the Hop-On Hop-Off Belfast city bus tour. The bus tour will give us an overview of the sights available in Belfast including the shipyards. After our overview of Belfast, we will visit the Ulster Museum and will cover the rest of the sites I have listed as time permits. Other sights are the Linen Hall Library, Botanic Gardens, Belfast Castle, and walk the Golden Mile which is Belfast's liveliest dining and entertainment district stretching from the Opera House to University Road. – Attend the Grand Opera performance –Spend the night again in Belfast.

**Day 6 – July 9, 2019 - Tuesday** - We will tour Old Bushmills Distillery, the world's oldest whiskey distillery (1408 so they claim) in the village of Bushmills. After a 15 minute walk along a beautiful and rugged coastline we will walk across Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge, an 80 foot bridge between the mainland and an island used for salmon fishing by the locals. Walk down to Giant's Causeway and learn the geology of these 40,000 hexagonal basaltic columns. This is the same geologic strata that are on the Isle of Staffa, one of Scotland's Hebrides Islands Then we are off to tour Dunluce Castle, one of the largest castle ruins in Northern Ireland that is perched vulnerably on a steep crag.

Back to Portrush where there is more hiking available and time to explore the small town of Portrush. Sleep again in Portrush.

**Day 7 – July 10, 2019 - Wednesday-** Drive to Dublin. Check in to our hotel and do a walking tour of Dublin covering the Post Office with bullet holes in the columns where the 1916 Easter Uprising took place, as well as O’Connell Street, where the statue of Daniel O’Connell oversees the street. Options to see are; Dublin Castle, Grafton Street, St Stephen’s Green, and 29 Georgian House. Cross the Ha’ Penny Bridge. Have dinner in the Temple Bar area.

**Day 8 – July 11, 2019 - Thursday -** Walk to and tour Trinity College where the Ancient Book of Kells is displayed. Our tour will include the Long Room of the Old Library, which includes a copy of every book ever published in Ireland. After Trinity College take the Dublin City Hop-On Hop-Off Bus to learn more about the capital city of Ireland. Get off at Kilmainham Gaol to view an historic jail used by the British as a political prison.

**Day 9 – July 12, 2019 - Friday -**Tour The National Museum of Ireland, which focuses on Irish history from the Bronze Age to the present, Spend time at the National Gallery of Ireland, which is the finest art collection in Ireland. At 7:00 PM we will meet upstairs at Gogarty’s Pub at the corner of Fleet and Anglesea in the Temple Bar area for a 2 ½ hour Traditional Irish Musical Pub Crawl. Sleep again in Dublin.

**Day 10 – July 13, 2019 - Sturday- Fly home. -** Arrive in US late evening.