

8 Days/7 Nights

Departs Daily from Dublin or Shannon



Silver Screen on Emerald Green: Dublin, Belfast, Ballycastle, Derry, and Donegal

Ireland, the “Emerald Isle,” has some of the most beautiful scenery in Europe, which is why it’s often been selected for movie locations: “Braveheart,” “Far and Away,” “The Quiet Man” and “Ryan’s Daughter” have all been filmed here. Most recently, the HBO series “Game of Thrones” has used several locations in Northern Ireland. Explore some of these filming locations and other spectacular scenery with this self-drive program.

ACCOMMODATIONS

- 2 Nights Dublin
- 2 Nights Belfast

- 1 Night Ballycastle Area
- 1 Night Derry

- 1 Night County Clare
- 1 Night Donegal

INCLUSIONS

- Visit to Guinness Storehouse
- Titanic Belfast Visit
- Hop On/Off Belfast Tour

- Bushmills Distillery Visit
- Giants Causeway Visit
- 6 Castle Visits and more

- 7-Day Compact Manual Car Rental
- Daily Breakfast



ARRIVE DUBLIN:

Arrive in lively Dublin to experience the energy of this vibrant, cosmopolitan city, home to Guinness and the Book of Kells. Ireland's capital brims with the banter of Irish culture, further energized by its many talented buskers and street performers. Add to this a compelling history and rich heritage, and Dublin provides you with an abundance of opportunities to experience and explore. Today you'll visit the Guinness Storehouse, the main visitors' center for the brewery, complete with a history museum, souvenir shop, and tasting room.

(Accommodations, Dublin)



DUBLIN TO BELFAST:

This morning pick up your rental car and head northwards to visit Trim Castle, used to film several scenes from "Braveheart." Continue on to Bru na Bóinne and Newgrange—two large Neolithic tombs, built some 5,000 years ago. Traveling north, head for Downpatrick, the burial place of St. Patrick, Ireland's Patron Saint. Then visit Castle Ward, used for filming "Game of Thrones" Series One. Continue on to Belfast for the night.

(Breakfast, Dublin; Accommodations, Belfast)



BELFAST CITY & GAME OF THRONES TOUR:

This morning enjoy a panoramic tour of Belfast City. See some of the landmark sites such as City Hall and Queens University. Visit The Titanic Belfast Experience; a dramatic, innovative and exciting presentation of the real story of the Titanic. This state-of-the-art exhibition takes visitors on a journey through the life of the Titanic, from her conception in Belfast in the early 1900s, to her famous maiden voyage and tragic end. In the afternoon travel from Belfast to the northeast shores of Lough Neagh and Shane's Castle. Built in 1345 by a member of the royal house of O'Neill, the castle ruins and its 2600-acre estate near Randalstown was the scene of extensive filming for the Game of Thrones series. Outside the village of Ballygally lies Cairncastle, the location for many other scenes from Game of Thrones. Return to Belfast.

(Breakfast, Accommodations, Belfast)



BELFAST TO BALLYCASTLE:

This morning leave Belfast and travel towards the picturesque town of Glenarm on the north Antrim coastline, the setting of many Game of Thrones scenes. Time permitting, pay a visit to Steensons Jewellers in the village, producer of many of the jewels featured in the hit TV series. Continue on along the Antrim coastline enjoying the spectacular views, rolling hills and scenic villages. Next visit Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge. One of Northern Ireland's most famous landmarks, the bridge is suspended across a 66 foot chasm between the mainland and the tiny Carrick Island, with a 75 foot drop to the water below.

(Breakfast, Belfast; Accommodations, Ballycastle or Bushmills)



GIANTS CAUSEWAY, BUSHMILLS, AND DERRY:

Today you'll visit the Giants Causeway—a UNESCO World Heritage Site made up of a network of 40,000 basalt columns projecting into the ocean. The Causeway forms several miles of Northern Ireland's Causeway Coastal route. Later, visit Bushmills Distillery, one of the world's oldest whisky distilleries.

(Breakfast, Ballycastle or Bushmills; Dinner, Accommodations, Derry)



DERRY TO DONEGAL:

This morning enjoy a walking tour of the walled city of Derry. Leaving Derry you will travel to Donegal, where you can visit Glenveagh National Park and Glenveagh Castle. Situated in the Northwest of County Donegal, Glenveagh encompasses some 40,000 acres in the heart of the Derryveagh Mountains. Drive by the nearby Glenties, where Brian Friel's play "Dancing at Lughnasa" was filmed.

(Breakfast, Derry; Accommodations, Donegal area)



DONEGAL TO DUBLIN:

This morning you begin your return journey to Dublin. Drive south through the Fermanagh Lake District to visit Castle Coole, a magnificent 18-th century mansion and landscape park. The castle is one of Ireland's finest Neo-classical houses. Nearby visit Marble Arch Caves, one of Europe's finest show caves with a natural underworld of rivers, waterfalls, winding passages and lofty chambers. Continue on to Dublin for the last night of your tour.

(Breakfast, Donegal; Accommodations, Dublin)



DEPART DUBLIN:

Bid Ireland goodbye and set out for home...or continue on to your next Avanti adventure!

(Breakfast, Dublin)
