



## WOMEN OF THE MIDWEST

Travel Solo Together

CO | IA | KS | MN | MO | NE

# CHARMING IRELAND

with Women of the Midwest!

August 27 - September 5, 2023



Dear Women of the Midwest,

Ireland ... The land of Saints, fairy folk, leprechauns, and shamrocks. It is mystical, magical and oh, so much more!

Close your eyes and picture it ... the seemingly endless emerald countryside, the awe-inspiring Cliffs of Moher, the ancient Stone Age ruins, the quaint colorful villages with cobblestone streets. It is both relaxing and exhilarating at the same time!

Envision medieval castles, ancient lighthouses, popular local pubs, flocks of roaming sheep, family homesteads, bustling cities. A land that mixes the old with the new, the ordinary with the extraordinary.

Imagine the music, the sounds, the laughter. It is a land of everyday people happily sharing their lives, their humor, their wisdom, and their talents. A land of people with histories and dreams.

Ireland is all the above. A country that is magical and mystical, relaxing yet exhilarating, a blend of both old and new, ordinary and extraordinary. A land of history and dreams. A land of adventure. A land of beauty. A land that is just waiting for us to experience.

Join me on this journey of a lifetime to charming Ireland, with its rich history, fantastical folklore and majestic beauty. Don't just dream of going "someday." As they famously proclaim in Ireland, "You'll never plough a field by just turning it over in your mind." The time is now! Join me on this amazing trip to Ireland.

I will leave you with this famous Irish Blessing:

"Your feet will bring you to where your heart is. May the Irish hills caress you, may her lakes and rivers bless you, may the luck of the Irish enfold you, may the blessings of Saint Patrick behold you."

Yours in travel and adventure,

Barb Wallingford, Ambassador



Call Executive Travel's Group Department today at 402-435-8888. Space is limited.



**Sheep, Sheep, and more Sheep**



**Charming Dublin**



**Kylemore Abbey**

### **August 27, 2023, Sunday**

Our charming adventure begins as we take an overnight flight to Dublin. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service as you start your Irish dream vacation.

### **August 28, 2023, Monday**

#### *Dublin*

Welcome to Dublin! Upon arrival, we meet our private tour guide and take a short drive to the center to enjoy a panoramic tour of the city. For such a small city, Dublin's got a big past. The iconic city has survived Viking attacks, a devastating fire, and even the plague. It is also the founder of one of the oldest universities in Europe, Trinity College, and is home to Ireland's legendary brew, Guinness. We will swing by the Docklands, which are rich in maritime history, engineering triumphs, and landmark architecture. We will also visit St. Patrick's Cathedral. Built in honor of Ireland's patron saint, Saint Patrick's Cathedral stands adjacent to the famous well where tradition has it Saint Patrick baptized converts on his visit to Dublin. Check in to our centrally located hotel and the afternoon and evening are yours to explore more of Dublin, or simply sit in a cafe with a cup of Irish coffee and enjoy a couple of hours of people-watching! L

### **August 29, 2023, Tuesday**

#### *Dublin*

After a rich breakfast, we will visit Trinity College and admire the Book of Kells. Located in the heart of Dublin city, a walk through the cobbled stones of Trinity

College, Dublin will bring us back to the 18th century, when the magnificent Old Library building was constructed and which displays the Book of Kells, Ireland's greatest cultural treasure and the world's most famous medieval manuscript. The 9th-century book is a richly decorated copy of the four Gospels of the life of Jesus Christ. Later we will make a stop at a local cheese shop to snack on some wonderful Irish cheeses. The afternoon and evening is at leisure for shopping and to enjoy more of the charming capital. B | S

### **August 30, 2023, Wednesday**

#### *Gardens, Wools & Abbeys*

We are getting ready to depart Dublin and discover the breathtaking Powerscourt Gardens - voted No. 3 Garden in the World by National Geographic! The Gardens stretch over 47 acres and offer a sublime blend of formal gardens, sweeping terraces, statues and ornamental lakes, secret hollows and rambling walks. Next, visit Avoca for a unique shopping experience of the best Ireland has to offer! Our next stop is at Jerpoint Park to enjoy a guided tour of the footprints of a deserted medieval town dating back to 1200AD. Tradition in these parts tells that the earthly remains of St. Nicholas were secretly removed from Bari by returning crusader knights, who brought them back to Newtown Jerpoint for safe keeping. The story gets even better when told by Joe, and Maeve will serve her homemade scones and tea in the barn! A visit to remember! We arrive in Cork for a good night's rest. B | T | L

### **August 31, 2023, Thursday**

#### *Cork to Galway*

After a hearty breakfast, we are off to one of Cork's most beloved spots. The English Market, an indoor food market in the city center, is considered one of the best-covered markets in the entire UK and Ireland. The origins of the English Market trace back to the times of King James I in 1610, some four hundred years previously and has been officially trading since 1788. A mix of traditional Cork fare and exciting new foods from afar, combined with long-standing family-run stalls, contribute to the unique appeal and atmosphere. It is time to leave Cork and head north towards Galway, with a stop for lunch on our way. Next in our itinerary is Ireland's iconic Bunratty Castle, named after the river Raithe which runs alongside this strategic battlement. The spot on which this castle stands has been occupied for over 1,000 years by the Vikings to the Normans, great Irish Earls and noble Lords and Ladies. Graciously restored in the 1960s and furnished by Lord Gort's magnificent collection of medieval furniture and furnishings, this is your chance to experience a window on Ireland's past and explore the acclaimed 15th-century Bunratty Castle. Arrival to Galway for a relaxing evening. B | L

### **September 1, 2023, Friday**

#### *Cliffs of Moher*

We head out to the famous Cliffs of Moher, scenic cliffs stretching 700 feet over the rugged Atlantic coast. The cliffs are



**Cliffs of Moher**



**The Luck of the Irish**



**Irish Wool**

Ireland's most visited natural attraction with a magical vista that will capture your heart - their beauty is incomparable! We make a stop for lunch at our favorite smokehouse to sample the silky, smoky texture of smoked Irish organic salmon. We will discover the mystery of salmon smoking and the secret of how smoked salmon is handcrafted. Enjoy mosaics that tell the story of the "Salmon of Knowledge", marvel at the nostalgic atmosphere and smell the oak smoke as soon as you come through the door. Enjoy an afternoon in Galway among the quaint shops and cafés. Join us for an optional dinner in one of Galway's finest eateries. B | L

### **September 2, 2023, Saturday**

#### *Connemara*

Today we will visit one of the most beautiful places in the region: Kylemore Abbey and its Victorian Walled Garden. Both a castle and a Benedictine abbey, the majestic Kylemore was a gift of love from a romantic Irishman to his beloved wife, woven with tales of tragedy and romance. Today Kylemore Abbey is owned and run by the Benedictine community who have been in residence here since 1920. Indulge in the unique craft shop, admire the Kylemore Abbey Pottery and taste the award-winning chocolates handmade by the Benedictine nuns. Ireland, for centuries, has been famous for its woolens and we will stop to get an insight into the importance of sheep and wool in Connemara's past. Learn the history of sheep farming, local woolen

industry and the process of how sheep's fleece is made into cloth. Next, we will discover the rich history of Ashford Castle, extending back to 1228 and once home to the famous Guinness family. We will enjoy lunch at the castle, followed by a private Hawk Walk. This will give you the incredible opportunity to fly your very own Harris Hawks under the guidance of your instructor. After you have been introduced to your hawks you'll set off into the magnificent woodlands to fly your hawks, as they follow you from tree to tree through the woods before swooping down to land on your gloved fist. You will learn about the Hawks' exceptional eyesight, their speed, and agility. This is truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Galway is at your leisure tonight. B | L

### **September 3, 2023, Sunday**

#### *Return to Dublin*

We leave Galway and make our way back to Dublin with a couple of very exciting stops on the way. Clonmacnoise is our first stop, an ancient monastic site near Shannonbridge. A walk amongst the peaceful stone ruins of this famous area will conjure images of the saints and scholars of Ireland's renowned Golden Age of learning and the two complete High Crosses will simply take your breath away. We make a stop for lunch in a picturesque town along our route. Last stop is the fantastic Irish National Stud & Gardens. This state-owned commercial stud farm also incorporates the world-famous Japanese Gardens and wild Irish

St. Fiachra's Garden as well as the Irish Horse Museum and Living Legends. It is also home to some of Ireland's most famous racehorses. We arrive in Dublin for a relaxed evening. B | L

### **September 4, 2023, Monday**

#### *Dublin*

Today is our last full day in Ireland and we will spend it at leisure. You will have time to explore Dublin at your own pace, go shopping, enjoy more museums or, why not, challenge your kayak skills at the Liffey River! We meet in the evening to enjoy an Irish dinner and show at our handpicked and favorite 16th-century tavern, one of the oldest in Ireland, located in the charming and quaint fishing village of Howth. The exceptional food served in a truly unique and atmospheric setting along with the musicians and dancers in a lively performance of music, song and the very best of Irish dancing, will finish our Irish journey in the best possible way. B | D

### **September 5, 2023, Tuesday**

#### *Traveling home*

All too soon, your vacation has ended. Transfer to Dublin airport in plenty of time to check in for our flight and to clear security. You may do some last minute shopping at the duty-free stores before boarding and flying west across the Atlantic Ocean back to the United States. B

*Itinerary subject to change.*

*B = Breakfast S = Snack*

*L = Lunch T = Tasting D = Dinner*



**To register contact:**



1212 O Street • Lincoln, NE 68508  
 Phone: 402-435-8888 (ask for the Group Department)  
 Fax: 402-435-2735  
 GroupDepartment@executivetravel.com  
 www.executivetravel.com

---

**ONLINE REGISTRATION LINK:**  
 WomenoftheMidwest.com/Journeys/

**Package Price:**

Per person in shared double room:	\$3,895
Per person in single room:	\$4,895

*Remember our "Pair & Share" service for solo travelers. Ask us to assist in finding your roommate!*

Triple rooms on request.

A non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person is required upon signing up for the tour. Deposit can be paid by cash, check or credit card. Balance is due on May 15, 2023, and is non-refundable. Balance can be paid by cash, check, or credit card.

The price of this tour is based on a minimum of 15 travelers. Should we, for any reason, not be able to guarantee this departure, we will offer a refund of all funds paid to Executive Travel for land, air and travel insurance 90 days prior to departure. We refer to our general Terms and Conditions found at [executivetravel.com/eti-home/vacation/escorted-tours](http://executivetravel.com/eti-home/vacation/escorted-tours).

**Group Air:**

We offer group airfare. Pricing and specific itinerary will be available by the end of October 2022. All registered travelers will be notified. Estimate \$1,400 for your roundtrip ticket, economy class, including taxes and fees.

**Tour Activity Level: LEVEL 1 2 3 4**

Involves a considerable amount of activity such as substantial walking, some steps, longer periods of standing (museums, churches, parks, and gardens) and some steep areas within the towns and sites visited. This tour is not recommended for guests with walking difficulties.

**Travel Insurance:**

We recommend travel insurance to help protect you and your trip investment against the unexpected. For your convenience, we offer a plan provided by Travelex Insurance Services. For full pricing grid and highlights, please contact us. *Travelex Insurance Services, Inc CA Agency License #0D10209. Travel Insurance is underwritten by Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company, NAIC #22276.*

**Visa/Passport requirements (per 7/3/2022):**

U.S. citizens must have a valid passport to enter Ireland and can enter visa-free for tourism stays of up to 90 days. It is the traveler's responsibility to make sure all documentation needed to enter Ireland is as per current regulations. We recommend you check [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) at least 90 days prior to your departure.

**Included**

- 8 nights accommodation (local 4-star hotels)
- 8 x full Irish breakfast
- 6 x lunch
- 1 x farewell dinner and show
- Local cheese snacks on day 3
- All transportation as per tour program with private deluxe motor coach
- Porterage at hotels (one bag per person)
- Professional tour guide during all days in Ireland
- Entrance fee to all mentioned sites
- Women of the Midwest Ambassador from day 1 through day 10
- All local taxes as per July 3, 2022

**Accommodations:**

*Final accommodations will be confirmed 30 days prior to departure.*

*The price quoted is based on a USD/EURO exchange rate of 1.10. We reserve the right to adjust the price at final payment if the exchange rate increases.*

**Not Included:**

- Airfare, estimate \$1,400 per person, economy class
- Additional baggage fees (first checked bag FREE, 50 lbs)
- Travel insurance
- Gratuities to the local tour manager and driver (estimate \$5-\$10 per person per day)
- Personal expenses
- Meals other than mentioned in the tour program
- Beverages at meals
- Entrances to monuments and/or museums other than mentioned
- Professional fee, \$75 per person, due at the time of registration
- Anything not mentioned in the inclusions



**WOMEN OF THE MIDWEST**

Travel Solo Together

CO | IA | KS | MN | MO | NE

A wholly-owned division of Executive Travel Inc.

Forwarding registration and deposit signifies that you agree to the terms and conditions found at [executivetravel.com/eti-home/vacation/escorted-tours](http://executivetravel.com/eti-home/vacation/escorted-tours)

Call Executive Travel's Group Department today at 402-435-8888. Space is limited.