

9-Day Culinary Ireland

Day 1

Day 2

Day 3

Day 4

Day 5

Day 6

Day 7

Day 8

Day 9

Dublin

Galway

Connemara

Cliffs of
Moher

Ring of
Kerry

County
Cork

Kinsale

Rock of
Cashel

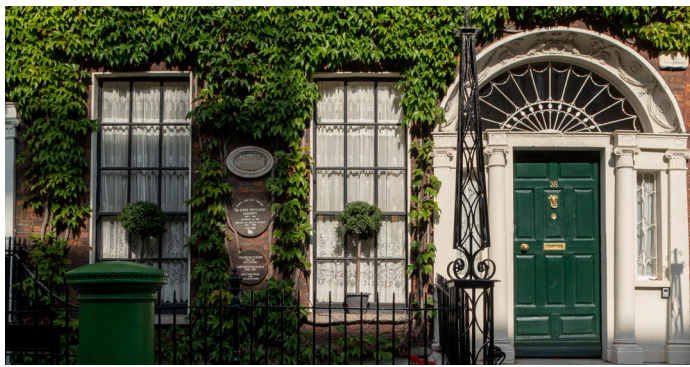
Dublin

Itinerary

Day 1: Upon arrival in Dublin Airport, you will be picked up by your local guide and coach driver. En route to the hotel you will be taken on a panoramic sightseeing tour of Dublin. Your tour will take you past all the sights of Dublin's Fair City, including the famous "Doors of Dublin," the elegant Georgian squares and Phoenix Park. The highlight of the tour will be a visit to Trinity College, the oldest university in Ireland. It was founded in 1592 by Elizabeth 1st. Within its walls, you will be able to admire the Parliament Square, its 18th Century edifices, and the ancient library, containing over twenty thousand manuscripts. The ninth century Book of Kells, famous for its precious illuminations, is also exhibited on these premises. At the hotel, enjoy a welcome drink to go with your dinner. Overnight in Dublin.

Day 2: Today, you are leaving Dublin westwards for your first stop, Kilbeggan Distillery. Kilbeggan Distillery is the last remaining example of a small pot still whiskey distillery in Ireland. It was licensed in 1757 and whiskey production continued for 200 years up until 1957, when the distillery closed its doors. You will enjoy a guided tour and learn how Irish whiskey is produced. Of course, you will get the chance to sample the "Water of Life" as well!

On your way to Galway, visit the ancient monastic site at Clonmacnoise, an impressive ruin complex dating back to the mid-6th century. You will walk past the beautifully preserved structures of Clonmacnoise Cathedral and past old Celtic crosses, to get a sense of authentic Irish history. Overnight in Galway area.



Day 3: Today you will be exploring the West Coast region of Connemara, with the main culinary highlight taking place at the Connemara Smokehouse, which dates back to 1979. Here you can learn all about the production of the Irish smoked salmon and seafood. You will then have the opportunity to sample some products. After the small smokehouse tasting, you will have built up an appetite to be satisfied with a local fish and seafood lunch in Clifden.

In the afternoon, drive north to see the Kylemore Abbey. Set in the Connemara countryside, the Kylemore Abbey is a fairytale monastery complex, home of Ireland's largest Walled Garden, and award winning chocolates handmade by Benedictine nuns. Overnight in Galway area.

Day 4: The day will start with a visit to the Rathbaun Farm, where you will join a sheep dog demonstration, to see how these magnificent creatures help the Irish farmers. After this hands-on farm life experience, it is time to move to a culinary experience – here you will make your own scones and finish the morning with this traditional and delicious pastry!

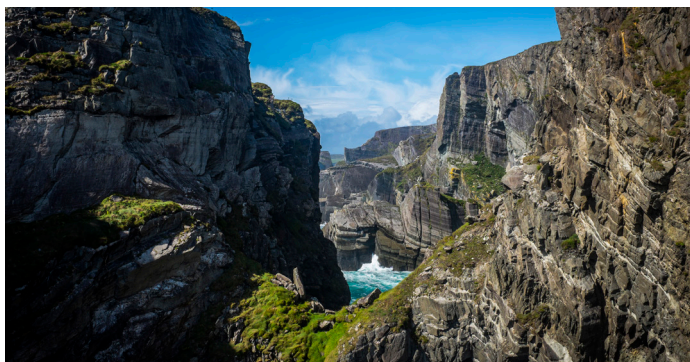
Afterwards, visit another main attraction of Ireland, the Cliffs of Moher. The impressive cliffs rise 120 meters vertically from the wild sea and can be admired from different viewing platforms. You can spot several types of seabirds here, including puffins, if the season is right. On the way to the cliffs you will be passing The Burren area, a karst landscape of bedrock, with cliffs and caves, fossils, rock formations and archaeological sites. Overnight in Kerry area.

Day 5: Discover the famous Ring of Kerry today, a trip that focuses on breathtaking views alongside interesting foodie spots. The first stop is The Red Fox Inn, where you will learn how to make your own Irish coffee. The drive then takes you along the rugged coast of the peninsula. Come prepared for amazing photographic moments – no wonder Ring of Kerry is considered one of the most beautiful coastal roads in Europe. We continue on the South Coast and then through the Killarney National Park back to the hotel. Overnight in Kerry area.

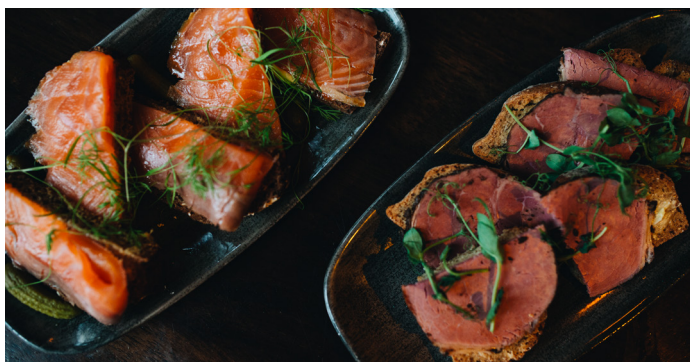


of Ireland', bursting with cafes, pubs and restaurants that invite you to take a break. Later, head east towards the city of Cork, known as the Food Capital of Ireland. You can explore the city centre by foot, in a tour that will take you from the famous English Market (the oldest covered food market in Ireland), to other food route venues like small markets, fishmongers, cheese mongers and bakers to satisfy all your taste buds. Overnight in Cork area.

Day 6: Today we drive south, passing first by Gougane Barra, a small settlement within the Gougane Barra National Park. The history of the settlement dates back to the 6th century, when St. Finbarr, patron saint of Cork, founded here his early Christian monastery. The present church was built at the end of the 19th century on the same small island of St. Finbarr's monastery, and can be reached from the shore by a causeway. Lunch will be served in Bantry, at the Maritime Hotel, which offers a modern Irish seafood based cuisine.



Day 8: No tour of Southern Ireland can be completed without a visit to the Rock of Cashel, impressively situated on a mighty limestone cliff. The settlement is a former royal residence and is also known as the acropolis of Ireland. Afterwards you will visit Jerpoint Park, a family run estate located in the vicinity of the St Nicholas Church and tomb. You will start with a remarkable guided heritage tour of the deserted 12th Century Medieval Town and the Tomb Effigy of St. Nicholas (Bishop of Myra). After the tour, you will sit down for a fine dining luncheon where you can savor award winning local artisan produce from the South East of Ireland, including trout caviar and cheeses. During this local feast, the owner will enlighten the visitors about living the farm life in Ireland, and then tell the great story of the late 17th Century period family home.



After lunch, head to Mizen Head, Ireland's most Southwesterly point. If you dare to cross the iconic bridge high above the gorge, you might be rewarded with a sighting of seals and their pups in the swell below. From here you can also spot the Fastnet Rock Lighthouse, known as The Teardrop of Ireland, the last sight of Ireland for emigrants sailing to America. Overnight in Rosscarberry.



To celebrate your last evening, you will join a traditional Irish dinner & show at The Abbey Tavern, the coastline restaurant where the Irish Night concept was born back in the 60's. Overnight in Dublin.

Day 7: This morning you will stop in the fishing port of Kinsale, a colourful, picturesque small town. Although small in size, the town has been hailed as the 'The Gourmet Capital

Day 9: Enjoy your last Irish breakfast then transfer to the airport for your flight home.