



7 Day Driftwood Castles & Kingdoms Tour

Experience crumbling castles, ancient ruins, beautiful islands and historic kingdoms on a 7 day Ireland tour of the southwestern Wild Atlantic Way.



Get ready to fall in love! You're about to tour the Ring of Kerry, stay in an Irish castle hotel, cruise the Skellig Islands and gaze out above the 700ft Cliffs of Moher.

All of the above is fully guided by a local Irish culture expert, making this 7 day tour of Ireland perfect for history buffs, those tracing family roots or anyone seeking true quality and authenticity in their Ireland vacation.



**Comfy Mercedes
Tour Vehicles**

Tour Highlights



- ★ Take a memorable open ocean boat trip around the **Skellig Islands**, one only three **UNESCO World Heritage Sites** in Ireland
- ★ Feel the magic while exploring 'the kingdom' of Kerry and the world famous **Ring of Kerry** touring route
- ★ Gaze out on an endless ocean vista at the ethereal **Cliffs of Moher** along the **Wild Atlantic Way**
- ★ **Kiss the Blarney Stone** and soak up the elegance of Blarney Castle & Gardens
- ★ Board a boat to take a guided walking tour of the historic ruins on **Scattery Island**
- ★ Cross the moat into **Cahir Castle**, one of Ireland's most awesome medieval fortresses
- ★ Expect royal treatment as you overnight in an **historic Irish castle hotel** and boutique guesthouses
- ★ Explore the delights of Ireland's gourmet paradise; the quaint maritime town of **Kinsale**
- ★ Experience the friendliness of Irish pubs and local people in **off the beaten track destinations**
- ★ Visit a working Irish sheep farm for a **guided farm tour** and a **sheepdog demo**
- ★ Take a horse-drawn 'jaunting' carriage around beautiful **Killarney National Park**

Questions? Email Emma (emma@vagabond.ie) or John (johnboy@vagabond.ie)

Call Toll Free from: USA - 833 230 0288; Canada - 833 681 6903; Australia -1800 985 642

Sample Itinerary

We are proud that no two Driftwood tours are the same. Your own preferences, your guide and the famous Irish weather mean that the following itinerary should be understood as a framework only. Accommodation options are fixed. We then base each tour around the list of daily stops below.

Your guide will discuss options with you throughout your tour and plan accordingly. If there is something that you particularly want to do or see on your tour, mention it to your guide. We will do our utmost to match your choice with the preferences of your group.

Activities marked 'Tour Option' carry an additional extra cost, but are optional. Check the Tour Options table on the final page for exact costs.

Select any [green link](#) to find out more about the topic or destination.

Our friendly Sales and Reservation team can advise you further on any aspect of the tour. Email Emma (emma@vagabond.ie) or John (johnboy@vagabond.ie).

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Cliffs of Moher, The Burren & Galway City

DAY 1 - GRAND CANAL HOTEL, DUBLIN to SPANISH POINT, CLARE

Meet your VagaGuide and fellow Driftwooders at the Grand Canal Hotel, Dublin, at 8.20am. Board your Mercedes tour vehicle to begin your journey of discovery!

We're aiming for [Galway](#). The City of the Tribes nestles on the Atlantic Ocean and makes for an atmospheric and buzzy urban experience. Expect live music performances on the streets, diverse shops and tasty food options.

Spot black-hulled, red-sailed Hooker boats and picturesque [Dunguaire Castle](#) in the village of Kinvara, on Galway Bay.

Next is the bewitching beauty of [the Burren](#) region, with its limestone landscape, and uniquely rich flora.

Marvel at the Poul nabrone Dolmen, one of Ireland's great archaeological treasures. It's older than the pyramids!

Hold onto your hat! It's the world famous [Cliffs of Moher](#). These majestic 700ft high sea cliffs have the power to dazzle. We still love it, every time.

Revel in delicious food, cosy rooms and stunning coastal views at the [Armada Hotel in Spanish Point](#).

The average driving time today is 4 hours 30 minutes.

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Castle Stay, Sheep Farm Tour & Boat Trip

DAY 2 - SPANISH POINT, CLARE to BALLYSEEDE, KERRY

Guided boat trip and tour of historic [Scattery Island](#) (Tour Option - €15 per person). Cross the Shannon estuary to see the island's ghostly deserted village, historic church ruins and a stone round tower.

Another great option is a scenic detour down [Loop Head](#). Besieged on both sides by the Atlantic ocean, this narrow headland features dramatic sea arches, traditional Irish pubs and picturesque seaside villages.

Look out for low-flying dolphins as we take a ferry across the mouth of the Shannon - the longest river in Ireland - to arrive in 'The Kingdom' of Kerry.

We move onward, to Tralee. The largest town in Kerry is home of the Rose of Tralee festival and a beautiful rose garden.

Visit a working Irish sheep farm with charming old-style cottages for a live sheepdog demo and a [guided farm tour](#).

Feel like royalty at [Ballyseede Castle Hotel](#) tonight, a venue steeped in old world elegance.

The average driving time today is 2 hours 30 minutes.

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Ring of Kerry Tour & Skellig Islands Boat Trip

DAY 3 - BALLYSEEDE, KERRY to KENMARE, KERRY

Today is your chance to experience the [Ring of Kerry](#) on the Iveragh peninsula and Ireland's island treasures; the Skelligs.

Take a guided boat trip around both [Skellig Islands](#) to experience seabirds and amazing history (Tour Option - €40 per person). This cruise lasts 2 hours 30 minutes.

This is an ocean crossing. Departures are seasonal (mid-May to mid-September). The 12 person capacity boats are small. The cabin conditions are rough and wet; sea legs are required. Your departure is weather dependent and, as such, occasionally subject to late cancellation.

Landlubbers can still experience the Skelligs. Visit the Skellig Experience to learn all about Ireland's unique island treasures (Tour Option - €5 per person).

Visit [Derrynane](#), historic home to Daniel O'Connell (Tour Option - €5 per person). Ramble through dunes to the golden sands of Derrynane beach.

We'll hit Kenmare in the early evening. Catch an authentic performance of traditional Irish music and outstanding local food in this lively town's many pubs and restaurants.

Your accommodation is at the centrally-located [Coachman's Townhouse](#) in Kenmare.

The average driving time today is 3 hours.

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Horse Carriage Ride Through National Park

DAY 4 - KENMARE, KERRY to GOUGANE BARRA or SKIBBEREEN, CORK

Wander the winding streets of colourful [Kenmare](#) this morning, with free time to drift between colourful cafés, art galleries and craft shops.

Pass over one of Ireland's most scenic roads at Moll's Gap. Gaze down at the beautiful lakes of Killarney from Ladies View, so-named for the time Queen Victoria's ladies-in-waiting stopped here to grab a selfie in 1861.

Pay a visit to the stunning [Killarney National Park](#). Take a horse-drawn carriage ride around this magnificent parkland (Tour Option - €15 per person).

Your experience in Killarney National Park may include:

- Sightings of rare red deer herds in native oak forest
- 19th century Muckross House and Gardens
- A short walk to scenic Torc Waterfall
- Idyllic lakeside and mountain views

Accommodation tonight is at the scenic [Gougane Barra Hotel](#) or the [West Cork Hotel](#) in Skibbereen.

The average driving time today is 3 hours.

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Historic House Tour & Ancient Monuments

DAY 5 - GOUGANE BARRA or SKIBBEREEN, CORK to KINSALE, CORK

Visit stately Bantry House, one of the few grand Irish homes still in private hands; owned by the same family since the 18th century.

Embrace your Irish roots and hear the tragic tale of the Irish famine at the Skibbereen Heritage Centre (Tour Option - €6 per person).

One of our favourite pastimes is dancing around [ancient stone circles](#). Astrology? Aliens? Sacrifice? No one truly knows what the circles were for. Let your imagination run wild!

Peel back the layers of history at riverside Timoleague Abbey; developed by the Franciscans on the site of a 6th century monastic settlement.

Seafood fans rejoice! It's back to the coast we go, to explore the picture perfect town of [Kinsale](#).

Enjoy a local menu of vibrant restaurants, atmospheric pubs and abundant craft shops in the unofficial gourmet capital of Ireland.

Your accommodation is at either [Actons Hotel](#) or the [Blue Haven](#) in Kinsale.

The average driving time today is 1 hours 30 minutes.

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Guided Food Tour & Free Time In Kinsale

DAY 6 - KINSALE, CORK

Today is yours to design. Relax and soak up Kinsale's charms, with the option for some quality downtime.

Stroll around the town's winding streets, browsing art galleries and craft shops, or engage in some delicious cultural activities.

Embark on a walking food tour of Kinsale (Tour Option - €60-70 per person, dependent on group size). This fully guided experience includes visits to four different restaurants in Kinsale with exclusive tastings of locally-sourced dishes. Moderately active. Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes.

Relive bloody battles of the past with a self-guided tour of the dramatic star-shaped Charles Fort, located at the edge of the ocean near Kinsale (Tour Option - €5 per person).

Whatever shenanigans you get up to in Kinsale, don't miss a traditional music session, normally performed live in pubs.

Your accommodation is once again at either [Actons Hotel](#) or the [Blue Haven](#) in Kinsale.

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Kiss The Blarney Stone & Tour A Castle

DAY 7 - KINSALE, CORK to GRAND CANAL HOTEL, DUBLIN

Before we wave goodbye, there's still time to enjoy some of Ireland's highlights.

It's time to – hygienically – kiss the famous Blarney Stone to gain the gift o' the gab. Afterwards, explore the lush, landscaped gardens of [Blarney Castle](#).

A self-guided tour of Cahir Castle is an epic way to conclude our Irish odyssey. Tour the banqueting hall and spot the 400 year old cannonball lodged in the imposing walls of one of Ireland's largest medieval fortresses.

You'll disembark your Drifter tour vehicle back at the Grand Canal Hotel in Dublin between 5-6pm. Farewell elbow bumps all round for your new friends.

The average driving time today is 4 hours and 30 minutes.

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Tour Price: EURO €1,795 (May-Sept inclusive, per person sharing)

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT (SS): €315

MARCH, APRIL & OCTOBER PRICE: €1615.50 | MAR, APR, OCT SS: €283.50

What's Included?

7 full days journey of discovery in a slick Mercedes Drifter tour vehicle

Entrance fee to Cliffs of Moher, Bantry House, Blarney Castle & Gardens and Cahir Castle

Services of a highly-trained and professional VagaGuide tour guide

Working Sheep Farm experience and Sheepdog Demo

6 nights accommodation in 3/4 star hotels and and top quality, locally-owned guesthouses

Shannon Ferry tickets

6 delicious and filling hot Irish breakfasts

All relevant taxes

1 night in a castle hotel

Guaranteed departure and price from the moment you pay your deposit

Most daily activities and visits (see Tour Options below)

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Tour Options*

CHOOSE FROM THESE OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES. YOUR GUIDE WILL DISCUSS OPTIONS WITH YOU THROUGHOUT YOUR TOUR AND PLAN ACCORDINGLY.

Boat Trip and Guided Tour of Scattery Island - €15

Skellig Islands Cruise - €40

Skellig Experience - €5

Derrynane House - €5

Horse-Drawn Carriage Ride - €15

Food Tour Kinsale - €60-€70

Charles Fort Kinsale - €5

Skibbereen Heritage Centre - €6

**ALL DETAILS OF PRICES AND SUPPLIERS CONTAINED IN THIS ITINERARY ARE CORRECT AT TIME OF PUBLICATION. OUR TOUR PRICES WILL NOT CHANGE AS THE SEASON PROGRESSES. HOWEVER, OUR SUPPLIERS OCCASIONALLY INCREASE PRICES FOR TOUR OPTIONS AT SHORT NOTICE. WE WILL DO OUR UTMOST TO UPDATE YOU OF MAJOR PRICE CHANGES, AS THEY OCCUR.*

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THERE MAY BE AN ALTERATION TO THE LISTED ACCOMMODATION, BUT ANY ALTERNATE ACCOMMODATION WILL BE OF THE SAME STANDARD OR BETTER THAN THE REST OF THE TOUR.

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Vagabond Tours of Ireland, Unit 52 Newtown Business & Enterprise Park, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow, Ireland.

Booking & Contact Information

Call Emma or John	Select Option 2 when prompted
From the USA (Toll Free)	833 230 0288
From Canada (Toll Free)	833 691 6903
From Australia (Toll Free)	1800 985 642
From Anywhere	+353 156 34 358
Email Emma or John	emma@vagabond.ie / johnboy@vagabond.ie
Book Online	vagabondtoursofireland.com

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