

12 Day Driftwood Wild Coasts & Clover Tour



WE WANT YOU TO LOVE IRELAND AS MUCH AS WE DO ICK FOR PRINT





Why Book with Vagabond?



TOTALLY LOCAL: Family-owned with local Irish tour guides and staff plus independent hotels.

WORLD'S BEST: We won a TRAVEL + LEISURE
WORLD'S BEST AWARD in 2023, ranking 12th globally.

1000S OF HAPPY GUESTS: Read any one of our 2,900+ 5-Star reviews from TRIPADVISOR & TRUSTPILOT.

AWESOME TOUR GUIDES: Meet our highly-trained, passionate and well-supported <u>VagaGuide team</u>.

FLEXIBLE & FAIR BOOKING: Avail of a FREE 7 day seat hold and our fair flat-rate deposit.

BEST-IN-CLASS VEHICLES: No expense is spared on our 100% Mercedes tour vehicle fleet.

PEOPLE & PLANET FIRST: We respect the planet and support our community... We're a **B CORP!**









Tour Type DRIFTWOOD - RELAXED PACE Tour Direction **COUNTER-CLOCKWISE** Tour Vehicle **COMFY MERCEDES TOUR BUS** Pickup / Dropoff Location **GRAND CANAL HOTEL, DUBLIN** Departure Day & Time 8.10AM MONDAY Return Day & Time 5:00-6:00PM FRIDAY Gentle Pace, Castles, Culture & History **Compare Tour Styles**

Dive Into 4x Double Night Stays Around Ireland

Embark on our most immersive experience ever; a 12 day small-group tour of southern Ireland featuring four separate 2-night stays.

Enjoy less daily driving on average and more quality time to explore Irish culture with two enchanting nights in three vibrant towns:

Westport, Lahinch, Kinsale, as well the stunning Parknasilla Resort overlooking Kenmare bay.

Take a boat trip to the breathtaking **Aran Islands**. Delight in an **Irish whiskey tasting** at Ireland's first eco-distillery. Enjoy an authentic **sheepdog demonstration** and soak up the atmosphere with free time in **Galway city**.

WHERE YOU SEE 'OPTIONAL EXTRA', ACTIVITIES AND FEES ARE OPTIONAL. MAKE SURE YOU CHECK THE FINAL PAGE FOR COSTS OF EACH OPTIONAL EXTRA.

Tour Map 12 Day Driftwood Wild Coasts & Clover Tour



Starting in **Dublin**, this 12 day tour heads to **Westport** in Mayo, followed by **Galway city** and then **Lahinch** (Clare). After that, it's Parknasilla, near **Kenmare** in Kerry, and then **Kinsale** in Cork. The last 2 nights are spent in the counties of **Waterford** and **Kilkenny**.



This tour travels in a counter-clockwise direction around Ireland.





Take a boat trip to **Inisheer**, one of the <u>Aran Islands</u>, and explore by horse-drawn carriage.



Stroll, listen, laugh and learn with guided walking tour options in **Westport**, **Kinsale** and **Kilkenny**.



Ramble along the gorgeous <u>Copper Coast</u> in <u>Waterford</u> as well as stops in **Dungarvan** and the <u>Comeragh Mountains</u>.



Guided visit to an **Irish harp maker's studio** in <u>Galway</u>, to learn about traditional music and instrument-making.



Go deep underground at the **Aillwee Caves Experience** in **Clare**, or soar with a guided falconry experience.



Be amazed by the elegance of the formal gardens at **Mount Congreve** and **Powerscourt**.



Explore the lakes of **Killarney** by boat or see the highlights of the nearby **National Park** on foot.



Soak up the serenity at out of the ordinary destinations like **Lough Mask**, a beautiful lake in **Mayo**.



Delve into the fascinating monastic ruins at **Clonmacnoise**.



WYATT HOTEL WESTPORT



Relish the central location and high quality boutique hotel finish at the Wyatt.

Or... CLEW BAY HOTEL



Enjoy all the benefits of staying right in the heart of Westport at the Clew Bay Hotel.

Average Driving
4 HOURS 30 MINUTES

Medieval Monastery & Whiskey



GRAND CANAL, DUBLIN to WESTPORT, MAYO

Meet your guide and fellow Driftwooders at the Grand Canal Hotel, **Dublin**, at least 15 minutes before the scheduled departure time of 8.10am. Board your Mercedes tour vehicle for the trip of a lifetime!

Dive deep into Irish medieval history with a self-guided tour at **Clonmacnoise** (Fee Included). This monastic site had huge influence over life in Ireland between the 9th and 11th centuries.

Enjoy lunch overlooking the **River Shannon**. This is the longest river in both Ireland and Britain.

Taste smooth, triple-distilled Irish whiskey at **Ahascragh Eco-Distillery** (Fee Included). The renovated mill setting is powered by solar, hydro and wind.







Relish the central location and high quality boutique hotel finish at the Wyatt.

Or. **CLEW BAY HOTEL**



Enjoy all the benefits of staying right in the heart of Westport at the Clew Bay Hotel.

Average Driving

Free Time To Explore Westport



WESTPORT, MAYO

Relax in Westport town or take a short drive to the foothills of the mountain of **Croagh Patrick**, a popular pilgrimage route. Nearby lies the ruined 16th century Murrisk Abbey and the National Famine Memorial.

Hear fascinating stories and get insider tips on the best local food on a guided walking tour of Westport (Optional Extra).

This afternoon, enjoy free time in Westport. Explore the craft shops, lively cafes and tempting restaurants. Spend some time enjoying the spectacular **Westport Estate** within easy walking distance of the town centre.

Whatever you do don't miss the opportunity to catch authentic traditional Irish music in Westport's famous pubs this evening.



Day 3: Wednesday 12 Day Driftwood Wild Coasts & Clover Tour



Overnight Stay



The Connemara Coast Hotel offers stunning coastal views from Galway Bay.

Average Driving

Woods, Lakes & Galway City



WESTPORT, MAYO to CONNEMARA, GALWAY

Take a scenic drive along the banks of **Lough Mask**; a scenic and largely untouched corner of **Mayo**.

Stroll through **Tourmakeady Woods** and walk approximately 1 mile (1.6km) to the picturesque waterfall.

Continue your day of lakeside scenic drives at **Lough Nafooey**. This is an important site in Irish mythology, said to be home to the Water Horse.

Watch dog and shepherd working in perfect unison at <u>a sheepdog</u> demo in **Connemara** (Fee included).

Next is **Galway**. Enjoy free time to soak up the atmosphere of this bohemian town. Buskers and street performers make regular appearances along Shop Street and Quay Street.







The Lahinch Coast Hotel is a contemporary space located only a stone's throw away from a beautiful Atlantic beach.

Average Driving
2 HOURS 30 MINUTES

Harp Studio, Caves, Falconry



CONNEMARA, GALWAY to LAHINCH, CLARE

Learn about the ancient art of harp making on a guided visit to the studio of traditional Irish harpist and musical woodworker, Brian Callan, located in rural county **Galway** (Fee Included).

The **Aillwee Burren Experience** (Fee Included) lies at the heart of **The Burren** region in north **Clare**. While here, take an interactive birds of prey experience and a guided tour of the spectacular limestone caves. The path through the caves is paved, 0.5 miles (800m) in length and features a descent of 26 steps.

Next on the itinerary is a fun and educational stop at the **Michael Cusack Centre** in **Clare** (Fee included). Learn all about the history of hurling and football, Ireland's national sports.





Overnight Stay **LAHINCH COAST HOTEL**



The Lahinch Coast Hotel is a contemporary space located only a stone's throw away from a beautiful Atlantic beach.

Average Driving 2 HOURS 30 MINUTES

Cliffs Of Moher & Aran Islands



LAHINCH, CLARE

It's decision time again! Today has flexible options. You can also choose to enjoy some downtime in Lahinch.

Optional Extras (Choose A or B):

- **A.** Take a 15-minute boat trip from **Doolin** to **Inisheer**, one of the famous Aran Islands (Optional Extra). Once landed, embark on a tour of the island by horse-drawn carriage. See dry stone walls, shipwrecks and other amazing island sights. Enjoy unique views of the Cliffs Of Moher on a return boat cruise.
- **B.** Start the day at the majestic 700ft high **Cliffs of Moher** (Fee Included). Next, embark on a scenic drive through spectacular north Clare, where the limestone landscape meets the Atlantic Ocean. Stops include the golden arc of sand at Fanore Beach, Poulnabrone **Dolmen** and **Lisdoonvarna** for lunch.







Explore the hotel gardens and enjoy coastal views from the Parknasilla Resort & Spa.

Average Driving

The Lakes Of Killarney



LAHINCH, CLARE to PARKNASILLA, KERRY

Look out for low-flying dolphins as we take a ferry across the mouth of the **Shannon**.

In Killarney National Park, choose from the following options — don't worry, there's no wrong answer!

Optional Extras (Choose A or B):

- **A.** See the famous **Killarney lakes by boat**, with stunning mountain vistas in all directions (Optional Extra).
- **B.** Alternatively, enjoy free time to explore the National Park on foot. Your visit may include sightings of rare red deer, oak forests or an ancient yew tree growing at the heart of ruined Muckross Abbey.

Finish the day in style with a scenic drive through **Moll's Gap** and — if the weather is clement — views of Ireland's highest mountain range.



Day 7: Sunday 12 Day Driftwood Wild Coasts & Clover Tour



Overnight Stay

PARKNASILLA RESORT & SPA



Explore the hotel gardens and enjoy coastal views from the Parknasilla Resort & Spa.

Average Driving
1 HOURS 30 MINUTES

Free Time On Ring Of Kerry



PARKNASILLA, KERRY

Today, choose to kick back and relax at **Parknasilla Resort** or partake in an array of easy-paced activities around the hotel.

In the morning, you have the option to take a drive along the world famous **Ring of Kerry** to see **Derrynane House** — ancestral home of Daniel O'Connell — and one of Ireland's most beautiful beaches.

Alternatively, if you don't feel like moving far, there are lots of things to do on the gorgeous **Parknasilla Resort**. Ask at reception for the latest menu of options.

Golfers will enjoy Parknasilla's scenic **9-hole golf course** (Optional Extra).

If you feel like exploring, the **walking trails** around the 500 acre grounds offer stunning ocean views.

Don't forget your swim gear! There's also a spa, a swimming pool and an outdoor infinity pool to be savoured at **Parknasilla**.





ACTONS HOTEL KINSALE



Kick off your boots! The living is easy at Actons, located on the water in Kinsale.

Average Driving
3 HOURS 30 MINUTES

Exploring West Cork



PARKNASILLA, KERRY to KINSALE, CORK

Passports please! Cross the heavily-guarded frontier between **Cork** and **Kerry** as we drive over the **Caha Mountains**.

Learn about West Cork Famine history as well as local wildlife and nature at the **Skibbereen Heritage Centre** (Fee Included).

One of our favourite pastimes is dancing around <u>ancient stone</u> <u>circles</u>. Astrology? Sacrifice? No one truly knows what the circles were for. Let your imagination run wild!

Afterwards, visit the riverside medieval ruins of **Timoleague Franciscan Friary**.

Seafood fans rejoice! It's back to the coast we go, to explore the picture perfect town of **Kinsale**.

Choose from a menu of vibrant restaurants, atmospheric pubs and seaside trails in the unofficial **gourmet capital of Ireland**.







Kick off your boots! The living is easy at Actons, located on the water in Kinsale.

Average Driving 1 HOURS 30 MINUTES

Free Time In Kinsale



KINSALE, CORK

Today offers another chance to recharge your Vaga-batteries or go and explore. Choose from the following options.

Optional Extras - Morning (Choose A or B):

- **A.** Take a scenic drive out to the **Old Head of Kinsale**. Visit Ringfinnan Garden of Remembrance; a memorial to the heroes of 9/11.
- **B.** Join a walking history tour of Kinsale (Optional Extra). Afterwards, relax and explore the town.

Optional Extras - Afternoon (Choose A, B or C):

- A. Visit Charles Fort, a star-shaped bastion fortress at the head of Kinsale Harbour (Optional Extra).
- **B.** See Kinsale from the water on a **boat cruise** around the harbour (Optional Extra).
- **C.** Guided tour and tasting at **Kinsale Mead Company** (Optional Extra)



Day 10: Wednesday 12 Day Driftwood Wild Coasts & Clover Tour



Overnight Stay





Immersed in nature, the Faithlegg Hotel is the ideal spot to kick back and relax.

Average Driving
4 HOURS

Copper Coast & The Comeraghs



KINSALE, CORK to FAITHLEGG, WATERFORD

Kiss the **Blarney Stone** to gain 'the gift of the gab' or simply wander the gorgeous gardens around **Blarney Castle** (Fee Included).

The historic harbour town of **Dungarvan** is perfectly situated between the mountains and the sea. You're heading there for lunch.

Take a scenic drive through the **Comeragh Mountains**, featuring an optional short walk to see **Mahon Falls**.

The **Copper Coast** is perhaps Ireland's best kept secret. Explore this 12-mile stretch of dramatic rocky bays and sandy beaches.







Get comfortable at the Pembroke in Kilkenny after an exciting day of touring Ireland's southeast.

KILKENNY RIVER COURT HOTEL



Stay in the heart of one of Ireland's favourite cities at the fantastic Kilkenny River Court Hotel.

Average Driving **1 HOURS 30 MINUTES**

Garden Visit & Kilkenny



FAITHLEGG, WATERFORD to KILKENNY CITY

Do you have a green thumb? Flower and tree lovers will be in heaven with a guided tour at **Mount Congreve Gardens**, one of the largest private plant collections in the world (Fee Included).

Next up is a stop at medieval Jerpoint Abbey (Fee Included), marvel at the intricate stone sculptures and imagine life in the 12th century.

This afternoon, wander the streets of **Kilkenny** with ample free time set aside. If they take your fancy, choose from the following options:

OPTIONAL EXTRAS (CHOOSE A, B or C)

- A. Look out for the ghost of Strongbow on a self-guided tour of **Kilkenny Castle** (Optional Extra)
- B. Go 300 years back in time on a guided tour and ale tasting at the **Smithwick's Brewery** (Optional Extra)
- C. Discover Ireland's medieval capital on foot, mixing facts and fun, on a **Shenanigans Walking Tour** (Optional Extra)





Average Driving





KILKENNY CITY to GRAND CANAL HOTEL, DUBLIN

Explore what is arguably the most beautiful glaciated valley in Ireland; Glendalough.

Between this 6th century monastic city and its two mountain lakes lies an ancient native forest, of the type that used to cover Ireland.

Take a stroll through the forest, arriving at a well-preserved medieval monastic site and it's famous round tower.

After lunch, make your way to the magical world of **Powerscourt Estate** to stand in awe of Ireland's highest waterfall (Fee Included).

Explore 47 acres of magnificently landscaped gardens, sweeping terraces and charming lakes (Optional Extra).

Alternatively, take a tour of **Powerscourt Distillery** to learn about the art of whiskey distilling and maturation. Finish your tour with a tasting (Optional Extra).

Disembark your Drifter tour vehicle back at the Grand Canal Hotel in **Dublin** between 5-6pm. Farewell hugs all round for your new friends.



Options 12 Day Driftwood Wild Coasts & Clover Tour



No two Vagabond or Driftwood tours are the same. Group preferences may alter the order or composition of this itinerary, which is a suggested outline rather than a rigid schedule. Orange/Red weather advisories (e.g. coastal wind warnings, high rainfall, thunderstorms, fog or ice/snow) issued by the Irish Meteorological Office may lead to activity cancellations at short notice. We will always attempt to find suitable alternative activities where safe to do so.

There's no need to book optional extras in advance of your tour (with the exception of the **Skellig Islands Landing** on the 12 Day Tour). Your VagaGuide will discuss options with you on tour and book accordingly. If there is something that you want to do or see, let us know. We will do our utmost to match your choice with the preferences of your group.

DAILY ITINERARY OPTIONS PRICING

Activities marked **OPTIONAL EXTRA** on the day-by-day descriptions carry an additional cost, but are optional.

Westport Walking Tour - €12.00 Killarney Lakes Boat Trip - €15.00

Kinsale Walking History Tour** - €12.00

Kinsale Harbour Cruise - €16.00

Smithwick's Brewery Tour - €18.00

Powerscourt Distillery - €21.00

Aran Islands Visit - €50.00

Derrynane House - €5.00

Charles Fort Guided Tour - €5.00

Kilkenny Castle - €8.00

Shenanigans Kilkenny Walking Tour - €22.40

Powerscourt Gardens - €11.00



^{*} All details of prices and suppliers contained in this itinerary are correct at the time of publication. Our tour prices will not change as the season progresses. However, our suppliers occassionally increase prices at short noice. We will do our utmost to update you of major price changes as they occur.

^{**} Cash is required for this activity. No card payment available.



WHAT'S INCLUDED

- A journey of discovery in a slick Mercedes mini-coach
- The services of a highly-trained and professional VagaGuide tour guide
- 12 full days on tour
- 11 nights' accommodation
- 4 two night hotel stays
- 11 delicious and filling hot Irish breakfasts
- A sheepddog demo & Irish sheep farm experience
- A self-guided tour of Clonmacnoise
- Tour & Whiskey Tasting at Ahascaragh Distillery
- Guided visit to traditional harp-making studio
- Entrance into the Michael Cusack Centre, Skibbereen Heritage Centre, Blarney Castle & Gardens, Mount Congreve Gardens and Powerscourt Waterfall
- Guided tour of the Aillwee Caves and Birds Of Prey Experience
- Guided tour of Jerpoint Abbey
- Shannon ferry tickets

PLEASE NOTE

Please be aware that there may be unscheduled alterations to the listed accommodation. Rest assured that any alternate hotels will match or be superior to the standard of our listed accommodation.

NB: The following personal weight limits apply: Horseback-Riding: 225lbs / 16 stone / 102kg Kayaking: Per person Double Kayak: 110kg / 17.5 stone / 245lbs; Total Double Kayak: 190kg / 30 stone / 420lbs; Per person Single Kayak: 92kg / 14.5 stone / 200lbs.

TOUR PRICING

Apr and Oct 2026 Departures: €3,499.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €690.00

Sep Departures:

€3,899.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €690.00

May to Sep 2026 Departures: €3,899.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €760.00



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