

# 8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way 2026

WE WANT YOU TO LOVE IRELAND
AS MUCH AS WE DO

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# 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 <u>B CORP!</u>









Tour Type DRIFTWOOD - RELAXED PACE Tour Direction **CLOCKWISE** Tour Vehicle **COMFY MERCEDES TOUR BUS** Pickup / Dropoff Location **GRAND CANAL HOTEL. DUBLIN** Departure Day & Time 8.20am sunday Return Day & Time 5:00-6:00PM SUNDAY Gentle Pace, Castles, Culture & History **Compare Tour Styles** 

### Southwest Ireland Here We Come!

Get set for 8 days of incredible Irish castles, culture, islands and villages. This 8 day off the beaten track itinerary is a fully-guided Driftwood Journey of Discovery which explores the scenic **Wild Atlantic Way**, departing from **Dublin**.

Highlights include historic **Kilkenny**, the **Cliffs of Moher**, **Connemara**, **Kerry** and **Clare**. Expect
serene landscapes, such as beautiful **Killarney National Park**, mixed with cultural experiences,
like whiskey tasting at the **Jameson Distillery** in **Cork**. You'll encounter friendly locals, surprisingly
delicious food and incredible natural landscapes.

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

THIS IS THE 2026 8 DAY WILD ATLANTIC WAY TOUR ITINERARY. FOR THE 2025 8 DAY WILD ATLANTIC WAY TOUR, **SELECT THIS** LINK.

# Tour Map 8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way Tour 2026



This tour travels from **Dublin** to **Kilkenny** and **Waterford** before crossing into **Cork**. Tour the Jameson Distillery, visit **Killarney National Park** and tour the **Ring of Kerry** before arriving in **Dingle**. See the Cliffs of Moher in **Clare** and then visit **Galway** and **Connemara**.



This tour travels in a clockwise direction around Ireland.





Experience amazing bucket-list destinations like the famous **Cliffs of Moher** and the **Ring of Kerry**.



Spend two nights in an atmospheric castle hotel in the Kingdom of **Kerry** 



Take an Irish whiskey tasting tour at the historic **Jameson Distillery** in Cork



Visit medieval **Kilkenny**, explore the cobblestone streets or tour **Kilkenny Castle** 



Soak up stunning mountain scenery as you meander through **Waterford**.



Meet lambs and sheepdogs on a real **Irish farm tour** including a sheepdog/sheep-herding experience



Visit **stately homes, gardens** and **castles**, such as Kilkenny Castle - seat of the Butler family for almost 600 years



Tour spectacular **Killarney National Park** in a horse-drawn 'jaunting' carriage



Spot seals and other wildlife as you board a boat for the short ocean crossing to **Garnish Island** 



Taste the best of Ireland's food and drink offering in lively restaurants and **authentic pubs** 

#### Overnight Stay

#### **BAYVIEW HOTEL**



Gaze out across the Celtic Sea from your lodgings at the Bayview Hotel in Ballycotton.

## Or... GARRYVOE HOTEL



Enjoy the calmness of being by the sea at the Garryvoe Hotel where coastal charm meets luxury.

## Average Driving 4 HOURS 30 MINUTES

#### Kilkenny & Midleton Distillery



**GRAND CANAL HOTEL, DUBLIN to BALLYCOTTON, CORK** 

Meet your guide and fellow Driftwooders at the **Grand Canal Hotel**, **Dublin**, at least 15 minutes before your scheduled departure time of 8.00am. Board your Mercedes tour vehicle for the trip of a lifetime!

Our first stop is historic **Kilkenny**. The elegant Marble City was Ireland's medieval capital. Take a self-guided tour of **Kilkenny Castle** (Optional Extra), or spend your time exploring the cobbled streets.

Take a scenic drive through county **Waterford** with stunning views of the **Comeragh Mountains** before stopping off for lunch. Be sure to try a Blaa, Waterford's famously soft, white and floury bread roll.

Follow the coast to the **Jameson Distillery** in Midleton (Fee Included). Enjoy a guided tour at the home of Irish whiskey — including an all-important whiskey tasting!





Average Driving



BALLYCOTTON, CORK to KERRY

Start your morning with a visit to **Béal na Bláth** where Michael Collins was assasinated during the Irish War of Independence.

Look out for seals on a scenic boat trip to **Garnish Island**. Once landed, explore the wonders of the Italian-style formal gardens (Optional Extra).

Expect rugged roads and superb scenery as we traverse the remote **Beara Peninsula**. Take a spin over the **Caha Pass** one of the most dramatic and scenic mountain roads on the Beara Peninsula.

Learn about Irish crafts and culture during a fun stop at a traditional farmhouse in County Kerry.

**Accommodation: TBC** 



# Day 3: Tuesday 8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way Tour 2026



Average Driving
2 HOURS 30 MINUTES

#### Explore The Ring Of Kerry



KERRY

Prepare yourself for a captivating journey of rugged, coastal landscapes along the **Ring of Kerry**.

Learn about **Daniel O'Connell**, 19th century statesman, at his home, Derrynane House (Optional Extra). Alternatively, stroll to one of the most pristine beaches in Ireland, located close by.

Want to go shopping? You have some free time to explore the shops and art galleries in **Kenmare**.

Alternatively, immerse yourself in nature on a **boat trip** around breathtaking **Kenmare Bay** (Optional Extra).

**Accommodation: TBC** 



# Day 4: Wednesday 8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way Tour 2026



### Overnight Stay

**BALLYSEEDE CASTLE HOTEL** 



The stunning Ballyseede Castle in Kerry is one of the finest 4-star castle hotels in Ireland.

Average Driving 2 Hours

#### The Lakes Of Killarney



KERRY to TRALEE, KERRY

Start the day in **Killarney National Park** and 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 <u>Muckross Abbey</u>.

Watch shepherd and dog working in tandem during a **sheepdog demo** (Fee Included).



# Day S: Thursday 8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way Tour 2026 JOURNEYS OF DISCON

## Overnight Stay



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

## Average Driving

#### Dingle & Slea Head



TRALEE, KERRY to LAHINCH, CLARE

Start the day with a scenic coastal drive on the Dingle Peninsula.

Next, we will experience **Slea Head**, one of the most beautiful drives in Ireland. Rugged beauty and knife edge cliffs are guaranteed. Look out for the **Blasket Islands** and the holy **Mount Brandon** among the patchwork fields and picture-perfect cottages.

In the afternoon, soak up the charms of **Dingle**. Stroll around the town's plentiful art galleries, boutique shops and craft studios.

On your way to Clare, cross the **River Shannon**, Ireland's longest river. Keep an eye out for low-flying dolphins (Fee Included).



# Day 6: Friday 8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way Tour 2026





### 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



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 <u>Cliffs of Moher</u> (Fee Included). Next, embark on a scenic drive through spectacular north Clare, where the limestone landscape meets the Atlantic Ocean in the mind-blowing Burren National Park.



# Day 7: Saturday 8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way Tour 2026 JOURNEYS OF DISCOVERY

## Overnight Stay



Amid the majestic beauty of Connemara, the Clifden Station House is one of Galway's finest independent hotels.

## Average Driving 4 HOURS

#### Tour Connemara



LAHINCH, CLARE to CLIFDEN, CONNEMARA

This morning, spot red-sailed traditional boats and picturesque **Dunguaire Castle** in the village of Kinvara, on Galway Bay.

Next, explore the picturesque village of **Cong**, filming location for John Wayne's The Quiet Man.

Revel in the savage beauty of **Connemara**, famed for its traditional lrish culture, misty mountains, wild moorlands and dark lakes.

There's a quick photo stop at <u>Kylemore Abbey</u> – one of Ireland's most scenic historic buildings before arriving in the lively town of Clifden.





Average Driving



CLIFDEN, CONNEMARA to GRAND CANAL HOTEL, DUBLIN

Before we say goodbye —  $sl\acute{a}n$  in Irish — there's still time to take in some of Ireland's highlights.

Take a guided tour of 16th century **Aughnanure Castle**, ancestral home to the ferocious O'Flaherty clan (Fee Included).

We're aiming for <u>Galway</u> next. The City of the Tribes is bohemian and buzzy.

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





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.

Kilkenny Castle - €8.00 Derrynane House - €5.00 Kenmare Bay Boat Trip - €30.00

Garnish Island Boat Trip - €20.00 Tom Crean Brewery Tour Kenmare - €20.00

Killarney Lakes Boat Trip - €15.00

\* 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 super-comfy, slick Mercedes mini-coach
- The services of a highly-trained and professional VagaGuide tour guide
- 8 full days on tour
- 7 nights' accommodation
- 7 delicious and filling hot Irish breakfasts
- Most daily activities and essential attractions
- A castle stay at majestic Ballyseede Castle Hotel
- Guided tour and whiskey tasting at the Jameson Distillery
- A working sheep farm experience
- 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**

Oct Departures: €2,196.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €420.00

Aug to Sep Departures: €2,440.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €455.00

Apr and Oct 2026 Departures: €2,425.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €470.00

May to Sep 2026 Departures: €2,690.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €505.00



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