

6 Day Great Southern Ireland

Tour



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 **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 07:50 SUNDAY Return Day & Time 5:00-6:00PM FRIDAY Gentle Pace, Castles, Culture & History **Compare Tour Styles**

Southern Ireland Is Calling!

Whiskey and castles, mountains and coastlines; you're about to fall in love with **eastern** and **southern Ireland**!

This easy-paced 6 day small group tour itinerary departs Dublin and visits **Tipperary**, **Kinsale**, **Cobh**, **Kilkenny**, **Waterford**, **Wexford** and **Wicklow**.

Your expert VagaGuide will inspire you at eyeopening destinations like **Glendalough**, **Blarney Castle**, **Cahir Castle** and the **Jameson Irish Whiskey Distillery**.

"It was the BEST vacation we have ever had! The hotels and restaurants were outstanding, and we haven't stopped talking about this trip since we came back!" Guest Review, MARCH 2025

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 6 Day Great Southern Ireland Tour



Heading south from **Dublin**, you'll explore Tipperary en route to the charming coastline of **Cork**. Stay two nights in **Waterford**, Ireland's oldest city, then wander the cobbled streets of **Kilkenny**, returning to Dublin via **the Wicklow Mountains** and Glendalough.



This tour travels around Ireland in a counter clockwise direction.





Explore historic cities, like **Kilkenny** and **Waterford**; both with elegant medieval buildings.



Soak up **stunning scenery** in the **Wicklow Mountains National Park**, Ireland's largest upland wilderness area.



Encounter jaw-dropping landscapes at **Glendalough**, a 6th century monastic site in a glaciated valley.



Experience **quaint villages**, such as **Cobh**, 'one of Europe's most beautiful small towns' (Condé Nast Traveler).



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



Tour secluded coves and ancient relics along the criminally underrated **Copper Coast**.



Kiss the **Blarney Stone** and wander through the magical **Blarney Castle & Gardens**.



Enjoy a guided tour of the oldest intact operational lighthouse in the world at **Hook Head**.



Follow in the footsteps of **Viking raiders** and **Norman knights**, who invaded and settled Ireland's southeast.





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

Average Driving

Cahir Castle & Blarney Stone



GRAND CANAL HOTEL, DUBLIN to KINSALE, CORK

Meet your guide and fellow Driftwooders at the Grand Canal Hotel, Dublin, at least 15 minutes before your scheduled departure time of 7.50am. Board your Mercedes tour vehicle for the trip of a lifetime!

We'll stop at monumental Cahir Castle (Fee Included) for a guided tour. Gaze in awe at the imposing walls, keep and tower of one of Ireland's largest medieval fortresses. It's a fitting way to begin our southern Irish odyssey.

Now it's time to kiss the world famous **Blarney Stone** or explore the lush, landscaped gardens of **Blarney Castle** (Fee Included).

Seafood fans rejoice! The gorgeous harbour town of **Kinsale** boasts vibrant restaurants, atmospheric pubs and abundant craft shops.







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

Average Driving

Cobh & Irish Whiskey Tour



KINSALE, CORK to BALLYCOTTON, CORK

This morning, choose between free time exploring the colourful streets of **Kinsale** or a scenic coastal drive to the Old Head of Kinsale.

We'll drop into **Cobh** next. This maritime town — pronounced *cove* lies on an island in Cork Harbour. Visit the Queenstown Experience to learn about Irish emigration and Cobh's role in the final voyage of the Titanic (Optional Extra).

Then it's **Kindred Spirits**, a poignant sculpture that commemorates Native American aid for 19th century Irish famine victims.

Spirits of a different kind are on the menu at the Jameson Distillery in Midleton (Fee Included). Enjoy a guided tour at the home of Irish whiskey — including an all-important whiskey tasting!



THE TOWER HOTEL



The Tower Hotel is perfectly situated on Waterford's quayfront, directly oppositive the Viking triangle.

Average Driving 3 HOURS

Comeragh Mountains & Copper Coast



BALLYCOTTON, CORK to WATERFORD CITY

We'll start today with a scenic drive through the **Comeragh Mountains**, including a short walk to **Mahon Falls**.

Discover secret coves and geological wonders on the **Copper Coast**. It's one of Ireland's least visited but most rewarding coastal routes.

Arrive this evening in **Waterford**, for the first of two nights exploring Ireland's oldest city.

Orient yourself with the historic centre of Waterford on a guided walking tour. The walking tour can be included as part of the Waterford Freedom Pass (Optional Extra).









The Tower Hotel is perfectly situated on Waterford's quayfront, directly oppositive the Viking triangle.

Average Driving 2 HOURS

Lighthouse Tour & Waterford City



WATERFORD to HOOK PENINSULA, WEXFORD (and return)

The morning, walk in awe around the ruins and walled garden at 13th century **Tintern Abbey** (Fee Included).

Take a guided tour of **Hook Lighthouse** (Fee Included). This is the world's oldest continually-operating lighthouse; a beacon was first lit here 850 years ago.

This afternoon is yours to design in Waterford city.

OPTIONAL EXTRAS (Choose A, B or C)

- A. Tour the House of Waterford Crystal, the world's largest Waterford Crystal collection (Optional Extra).
- B. Watch Norsemen come to life at the King of the Vikings VR Experience (Optional Extra).
- C. Gain access to four amazing attractions with the Waterford Freedom Pass (Optional Extra). Includes Medieval Museum, Bishop's Palace Museum, the Irish Silver Museum and the Museum of Time.





PEMBROKE HOTEL KILKENNY



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

Average Driving
1 HOURS 30 MINUTES

WATERFORD to KILKENNY

In the historic town of **New Ross**, step aboard an atmospheric replica 1840s emigrant vessel - the **Dunbrody Famine Ship** (Fee Included).

This afternoon, explore Kilkenny's cobbled streets with ample free time to wander.

Alternatively, 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
3 HOURS 30 MINUTES



KILKENNY to GRAND CANAL HOTEL, DUBLIN

Before we say goodbye — slán in Irish — there's still time for you to catch some of southern Ireland's most amazing sights.

Travel back to the Bronze Age at **Rathgall**, one of Ireland's largest and most ancient ringforts.

Next, drop into the hillside village of **Hollywood**. Enjoy a **sheepdog demo** at a nearby Irish sheep farm (Fee Included).

You'll feel much further than 60 minutes from Dublin in the <u>Wicklow</u> <u>Mountains National Park</u>, part of Ireland's largest upland wilderness.

Our final stop is **Glendalough**. This 6th century monastic city is located in a steep mountain valley. It's a fitting end to our southern Ireland odyssey!

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.

Queenstown Experience - €12.00 Waterford Crystal Tour - €17.00 Kilkenny Castle - €8.00 Smithwick's Brewery Tour - €18.00 Waterford Freedom Pass - €20.00 King of the Vikings VR - €10.00

Shenanigans Kilkenny Walking Tour - €22.40

- * 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
- 6 full days on tour
- 5 nights' accommodation
- 5 delicious and filling hot Irish breakfasts
- Most daily activities and essential attractions
- Guided Tours of Jameson Whiskey Distillery, Hook Lighthouse, Jerpoint Park and the Dunbrody Famine Ship
- Wicklow Sheepdog Demo & Sheep Farm Experience
- Entrance into Tintern Abbey, Cahir Castle and Blarney Castle & Gardens

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

Jul to Sep Departures: €1,699.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €305.00

Oct Departures: €1,728.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €285.00

Apr and Oct 2026 Departures: €1,728.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €320.00

May to Sep 2026 Departures: €1,920.00 Per Person Sharing Single Room Supplement: €340.00



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