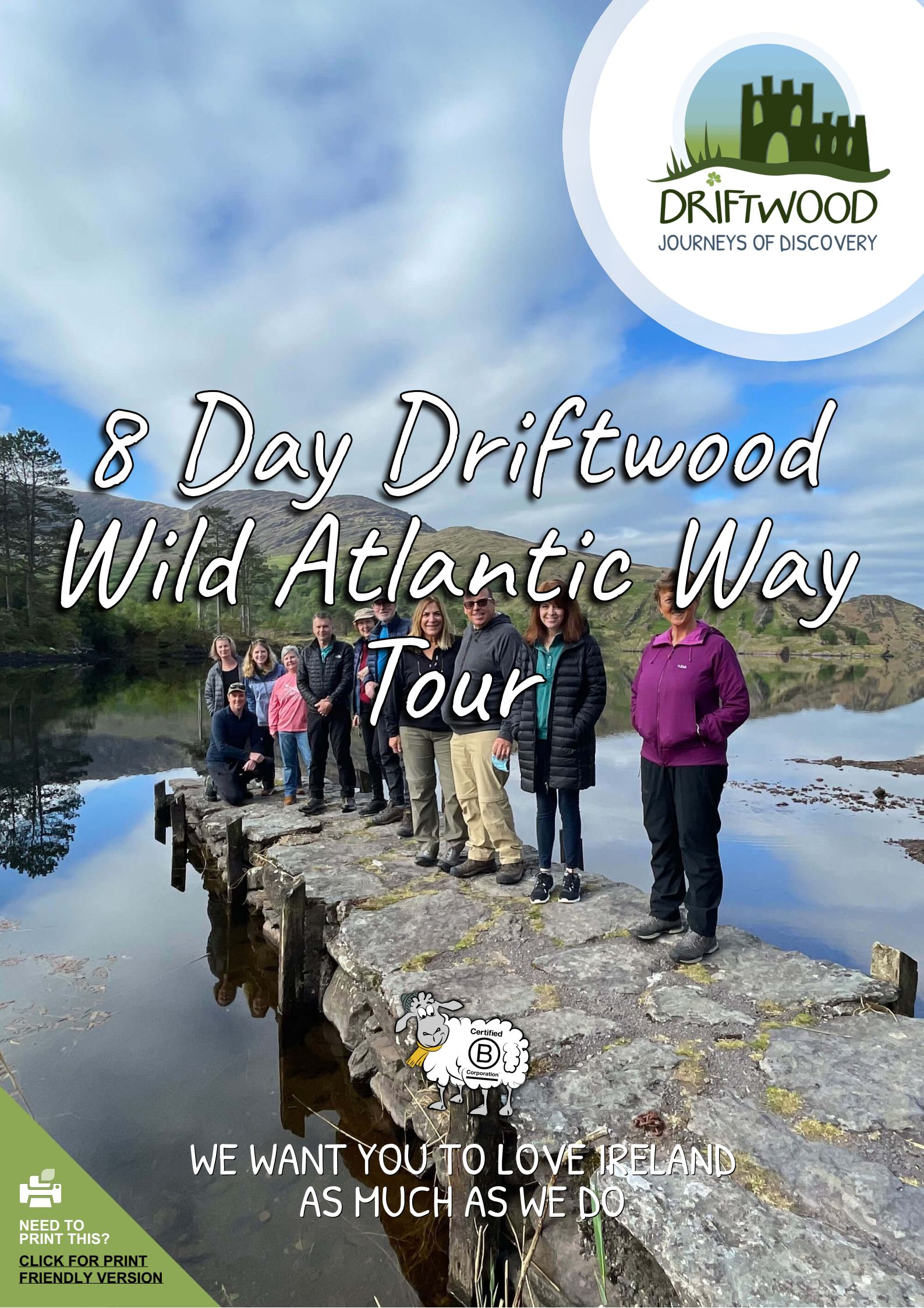
DRIFTWOOD
JOURNEYS OF DISCOVERY

8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way Tour



Certified B Corporation

WE WANT YOU TO LOVE IRELAND
AS MUCH AS WE DO

NEED TO
PRINT THIS?

CLICK FOR PRINT
FRIENDLY VERSION

Why Book with Vagabond?

- **IRELAND'S ORIGINAL, SINCE 2002**: 22 years of experience are distilled into every itinerary.
- **TOTALLY LOCAL**: Family-owned with local Irish tour guides and staff plus independent hotels.
- **WORLD'S BEST**: We proudly won a TRAVEL + LEISURE WORLD'S BEST AWARD in 2023, ranking 12th globally.
- **1000S OF HAPPY GUESTS**: Read any one of our 1,800+ 5-Star reviews across TRIPADVISOR and TRUSTPILOT.
- **AWESOME TOUR GUIDES**: Meet our highly-trained, passionate and well-supported VagaGuide team.
- **FLEXIBLE & FAIR BOOKING**: Avail of a free 7 day seat hold, flat-rate deposit and convenient notice period.
- **BEST-IN-CLASS VEHICLES**: No expense is spared on maintaining our 100% Mercedes tour vehicle fleet.
- **PEOPLE & PLANET FIRST**: We respect the planet and support our community... That's why we're a B CORP!

The Secret is in Our Team!

Our amazing team go above and beyond to deliver outstanding travel experiences for every guest.

8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way Tour

Tour Type
DRIFTWOOD - RELAXED PACE

Tour Direction
CLOCKWISE

Tour Vehicle
COMFY MERCEDES TOUR BUS

Pickup / Dropoff Location
GRAND CANAL HOTEL, DUBLIN
View Location

Departure Day & Time
8.30AM 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. New for 2023, this 8 day off the beaten track itinerary is a fully-guided Driftwood Journey of Discovery, departing Dublin.

Highlights include the Cliffs of Moher, Connemara, Kerry, Cork and Clare. Expect serene landscapes, such as the remote Beara Peninsula, mixed with cultural highlights, like Blarney Castle. In between, 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.

Tour Map

8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way Tour

DRIFTWOOD
JOURNEYS OF DISCOVERY

This tour travels from **Dublin** to **Cork** before crossing into Kerry. 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.

Highlights

8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way Tour

DRIFTWOOD
JOURNEYS OF DISCOVERY

- Experience amazing bucket-list destinations like the famous **Cliffs of Moher** and the **Ring of Kerry**.
- Visit **Blarney Castle** and kiss the **Blarney Stone** to gain the gift o' the gab
- Overnight in an atmospheric castle hotel in the beautiful **Connemara** region
- Meet craftspeople and discover handmade **Irish crafts** in open studios
- Meet lambs and sheepdogs on a real **Irish farm tour** including a sheepdog/sheep-herding experience
- Visit **stately homes, gardens** and **castles**, like Bantry House - owned by the same family since the 18th century
- 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**
- Encounter friendly Irish locals, natural scenery and Irish culture at every step

Day 1: Sunday

8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way Tour

Blarney Stone & Rock Of Cashel

GRAND CANAL HOTEL, DUBLIN to GOUGANE BARRA or MACROOM, CORK

Meet your guide and fellow Driftwooders at the **Grand Canal Hotel, Dublin**, at least 15 minutes before your scheduled departure time of 8.30am. Board your Mercedes tour vehicle for the trip of a lifetime!

Take a self-guided tour of the **Rock of Cashel**. Saint Patrick converted the King of Munster here. Brian Boru was crowned High King of Ireland here. It's an epic way to begin your Irish odyssey.

Then it's time to — hygienically — kiss the famous **Blarney Castle** to gain the gift o' the gab. Afterwards, explore the lush, landscaped gardens of **Blarney Castle**.

Then we'll trace the valley of the **River Lee**, crossing stone bridges and passing through postcard-pretty countryside.

Overnight Stay

GOUGANE BARRA HOTEL

Located in a serene valley in Cork, Gougane Barra Hotel is a long-standing favourite with our guests.

Or...

MACROOM CASTLE HOTEL

Expect a warm Irish welcome at this locally-owned 4 star hotel in the village of Macroom in Cork.

Average Driving

4 HOURS 30 MINUTES

Any Questions?

Email John: johnboy@vagabond.ie | Email Danielle: danielle@vagabond.ie
Call Toll Free: USA - 833 230 0288 | Canada - 833 681 6903 | Australia - 1800 985 642

BOOK TOUR

Day 2: Monday

8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way Tour

DRIFTWOOD
JOURNEYS OF DISCOVERY

House Tour, Boat Trip & Island

GOUGANE BARRA or MACROOM to KENMARE, KERRY

Your morning will be spent exploring the many delights of **Bantry Bay**.

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

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 explore the remote Beara Peninsula. Of the peninsulas in Ireland's southwest, the Beara receives the least amount of visitors and a feeling of true wilderness.

Take a spin over either the **Caha Pass** or the **Healy Pass**, both dramatically scenic mountain roads on the Beara Peninsula.

Overnight Stay

COACHMAN'S TOWNHOUSE

Feel right at home when you stay at this family-run townhouse in Kenmare near the Ring of Kerry.

Average Driving

2 HOURS 30 MINUTES

Any Questions?

Email John: johnboy@vagabond.ie | **Email Danielle:** danielle@vagabond.ie
Call Toll Free: USA - 833 230 0288 | Canada - 833 681 6903 | Australia - 1800 985 642

BOOK TOUR

Day 3: Tuesday

8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way Tour

Horse Carriage Ride In Killarney

KENMARE, KERRY to PORTMAGEE, KERRY

Take a **horse-drawn carriage ride** around **Killarney National Park** (Optional Extra).

Your visit to Killarney National Park may also 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

This afternoon is your chance to experience the **Ring of Kerry** on the Iveragh peninsula.

Visit **Derrynane House**, historic home to Daniel O'Connell (Optional Extra). Afterwards, ramble to the nearby golden sands of Derrynane beach or hunt for fairies in local woodland.

Please be aware that your hotel in Portmagee on Day 3 does not have an elevator.

Overnight Stay

THE MOORINGS HOTEL

Located harbourside in the picturesque village of Portmagee, the Moorings Guesthouse is the perfect base for exploring the Ring of Kerry.

Average Driving

3 HOURS

Email John: johnboy@vagabond.ie | **Email Danielle:** danielle@vagabond.ie
Call Toll Free: USA - 833 230 0288 | Canada - 833 681 6903 | Australia - 1800 985 642

BOOK TOUR

Day 4: Wednesday

8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way Tour

DRIFTWOOD
JOURNEYS OF DISCOVERY

Skellig Islands Boat Trip

PORTMAGEE, KERRY to DINGLE, KERRY

Today is your chance to experience Ireland's island treasures; the **Skelligs**.

Take a **guided boat trip** around both Skellig Islands to experience seabirds and amazing history (Optional Extra). This cruise lasts 2 hour 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 (Optional Extra).

Dingle awaits... Revel in a wealth of dinner and entertainment options in this bustling little town. There's a pub for every 40 residents!

Overnight Stay

DINGLE SKELLIG HOTEL

Soak in a rooftop hot tub with views over a spectacular bay at the Dingle Skellig Hotel.

Average Driving

2 HOURS 30 MINUTES

Email John: johnboy@vagabond.ie | Email Danielle: danielle@vagabond.ie
Call Toll Free: USA - 833 230 0288 | Canada - 833 681 6903 | Australia - 1800 985 642

BOOK TOUR

Day 5: Thursday

8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way Tour

DRIFTWOOD
JOURNEYS OF DISCOVERY

Free Time In Dingle

DINGLE, KERRY to SLEA HEAD, KERRY (and return)

Today is yours to design. Soak up the charms of **Dingle**, with quality downtime or a choice between the following relaxed activities.

OPTIONAL EXTRAS (Choose A, B or C):

- **A.** Take a **boat trip** around spectacular Dingle Bay.
- **B.** Savour a guided **craft tour** of the Dingle Crystal studio (Fee Included).
- **C.** Golfers will enjoy Dingle's excellent links course. This is an all day activity.

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.

Whatever you do in **Dingle**, don't miss an Irish traditional music session or a stroll around the town's plentiful art galleries and craft studios.

Overnight Stay

DINGLE SKELLIG HOTEL

Soak in a rooftop hot tub with views over a spectacular bay at the Dingle Skellig Hotel.

Average Driving

1 HOURS 30 MINUTES

Any Questions?

Email John: johnboy@vagabond.ie | Email Danielle: danielle@vagabond.ie
Call Toll Free: USA - 833 230 0288 | Canada - 833 681 6903 | Australia - 1800 985 642

BOOK TOUR

Day 6: Friday

8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way Tour

DRIFTWOOD
JOURNEYS OF DISCOVERY

Farm Tour & Sheepdog Demo

DINGLE, KERRY to SPANISH POINT, CLARE

After another hearty Irish breakfast, it's time to say goodbye to **Dingle**.

Visit a working Irish sheep farm with charming old-style cottages for a live sheepdog demo and **guided farm tour** (Fee Included). On some departures, this activity may happen on Day 8.

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 **Clare** (Fee Included).

Drive the west Clare coastline with uninterrupted ocean vistas and the **Aran Islands** lying only 8km (5 miles) offshore.

Overnight Stay

THE ARMADA HOTEL

Located right on the Atlantic Ocean in Clare, the Armada is one of our favourite hotel stops.

Average Driving

4 HOURS

Any Questions?

Email John: johnboy@vagabond.ie | **Email Danielle:** danielle@vagabond.ie
Call Toll Free: USA - 833 230 0288 | Canada - 833 681 6903 | Australia - 1800 985 642

BOOK TOUR

Day 7: Saturday

8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way Tour

DRIFTWOOD
JOURNEYS OF DISCOVERY

Castle Stay & Cliffs Of Moher

SPANISH POINT, CLARE to CLIFDEN, CONNEMARA

Hold onto your hat! It's the **Cliffs of Moher** (Fee Included). You'll be dazzled by these majestic 700ft high sea cliffs.

Next is the bewitching beauty of **The Burren**. This region boasts a limestone lunar landscape and uniquely rich flora.

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

We're aiming for **Galway** next. The City of the Tribes is bohemian and buzzy.

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

Overnight Stay

ABBEYGLEN CASTLE HOTEL CONNEMARA

The romantic Abbeyglen Castle Hotel is steeped in charm and located near Clifden in Connemara.

Average Driving

4 HOURS

Any Questions?

Email John: johnboy@vagabond.ie | **Email Danielle:** danielle@vagabond.ie
Call Toll Free: USA - 833 230 0288 | Canada - 833 681 6903 | Australia - 1800 985 642

BOOK TOUR

Day 8: Sunday

8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way Tour

DRIFTWOOD
JOURNEYS OF DISCOVERY

Sheepdog Demo & Farm Tour

CLIFDEN, CONNEMARA to GRAND CANAL HOTEL, DUBLIN

Average Driving

4 HOURS 30 MINUTES

Before we say goodbye — *slán* in Irish — there's still time to take in some of Ireland's highlights.

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

There's a quick photo stop at **Kylemore Abbey** – one of Ireland's most scenic historic buildings.

Explore the historic ruins of 15th century **Ross Errilly Friary** or the picturesque village of **Cong**, filming location for John Wayne's The Quiet Man.

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.

Email John: johnboy@vagabond.ie | **Email Danielle:** danielle@vagabond.ie
Call Toll Free: USA - 833 230 0288 | Canada - 833 681 6903 | Australia - 1800 985 642

BOOK TOUR

Options

8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way 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. Inclement weather may lead to cancellations at short notice, particularly for water-based activities such as boat trips, sea kayaking and surfing. We always attempt to find suitable alternative activities.

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.

Garnish Island Boat Trip - €19.00
Derrynane House - €5.00
Skellig Experience - €5.00
Golf in Dingle - Variable
Horse-Drawn Carriage Ride** - €20.00
Skellig Islands Cruise - €50.00
Boat Trip in Dingle Bay - €10.00

* 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.

Email John: johnboy@vagabond.ie | **Email Danielle:** danielle@vagabond.ie
Call Toll Free: USA - 833 230 0288 | Canada - 833 681 6903 | Australia - 1800 985 642

BOOK TOUR

Pricing

8 Day Driftwood Wild Atlantic Way Tour

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 1 night castle stay at majestic Abbeyglen Castle Hotel
- Entrance into the magnificent Blarney Castle and Gardens
- Entrance into the epic Rock of Cashel
- 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

Apr and Oct 2025 Departures:
€2,196.00 Per Person Sharing
Single Room Supplement: €420.00

May to Sep Departures:
€2,440.00 Per Person Sharing
Single Room Supplement: €430.00

May to Sep 2025 Departures:
€2,440.00 Per Person Sharing
Single Room Supplement: €430.00

Call Us...

FROM USA:
TOLL FREE: 833 230 0288

FROM CANADA:
TOLL FREE: 833 691 6903

FROM AUSTRALIA:
TOLL FREE: 1800 985 642

WORLD WIDE:
+353 (0)1 56 34 358

Email...

johnboy@vagabond.ie

danielle@vagabond.ie

Need More Info...

View Tour Online

View Similar Tours

CONTACT US

NEED TO PRINT THIS?

CLICK FOR PRINT FRIENDLY VERSION

Vagabond Tours of Ireland
Unit 52 Newtown Business and Enterprise Park,
Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow, Ireland
+ 323 (0)1 56 34 358