

A Northern Arc Across Ireland

HIKING AND CULTURAL ADVENTURE FROM DONEGAL TO BELFAST



Wilderness Travel



A Northern Arc Across Ireland

TRIP DATES

2024

May 6-15, 2024

September 23-October 2, 2024

2025

April 21-30, 2025

September 8-17, 2025

The mystical landscapes that inspired W. B. Yeats—the wild beaches of Donegal, the ancient pilgrim paths of Gleann Cholm Cille, the spectacular cliffs of Slieve League and the intriguing Giant's Causeway—these are the stunning landscapes that fill our adventure in Ireland's stunning north. Trip Leaders Con Moriarty and Ann Curran have conjured up a journey to delight both body and soul in this dramatic and delightfully less traveled part of Ireland, bringing us across the north of the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. Our adventure includes exhilarating hiking with two levels offered many days, as well as welcoming and historic hotels, wonderful meals (Ireland's new food scene is renowned, with tremendous farm to table cuisine), music, poetry, and a fascinating look into prehistoric and pagan Ireland. Highlights include walking the wild beaches of Donegal, hearing the best of local musicians, hiking clifftop trails to the spectacular Giant's Causeway, and meeting a host of Con and Ann's friends, including a Yeats scholar and an expert on Celtic myths. Along the way, we'll tailor each day for serendipity and the special opportunities that arise—this is what makes a journey with Con and Ann so unforgettable. Join us!

Itinerary

DAY 1

DUBLIN / MOURNE MOUNTAINS / BELFAST

Meeting in Dublin, we head toward Newcastle, County Down, stopping along the way at the Strandfield Estate in County Louth where a great café celebrates the organic Slowfoods of the estate and region. After picking up our picnic lunch supplies, we cross into County Down and come to the shapely granite Mourne Mountains, rising over the Irish Sea and the setting for our first hike. Our moderate hike brings us along a spectacular old trading and herders' track known as the "Brandy Pad," a stony trail that leads to a saddle, then contours across the southern ramparts of these dramatic peaks before descending. An easier option is to make a two-hour loop at the beginning of the moderate hike and/or walk at sea level along the great dunes and strands of the Murlough National Nature Reserve, Ireland's first nature reserve and home to rare moths and butterflies. A pleasant one-hour drive north brings us through a region steeped in the history of Saint Patrick and colonial plantations—in the 16th and 17th centuries, Irish-owned land was confiscated by the English crown and colonized by English settlers. We arrive at the center of Belfast and the 5-star Fitzwilliam Hotel. In the evening, we gather for a Welcome Dinner. Overnight at hotel...BLD

Hiking Details: (Option 1) 8 miles, 4 hours, 1,500 feet ascent/descent

(Option 2) 4-6 miles, 2-3 hours, 300 feet ascent/descent

Driving Time: 3 hours

DAY 2

BELFAST

Belfast has been the capital of Northern Ireland since the partition of Ireland in 1921. Our day will be spent walking and discovering the incredible story of this place, beginning with an overview of the city. Our sweep through evolving Belfast will look at the complex story of politics, identity, and the role of the Reformation in these parts as well as experiencing Titanic Belfast, a spectacular museum focused on the great liner that also provides a powerful insight into the industrial cauldron that was early 20th century Belfast and the social and political landscapes of the era. Tonight you'll dine on your own at one of the vibrant city-center restaurants that reflect a new and exciting era in Belfast's story. Overnight at the Fitzwilliam Hotel...BL

DAY 3

CAUSEWAY COAST OF NORTH COUNTY ANTRIM / COUNTY DONEGAL

From Belfast we head north to Ireland's coast and one of its magnificent beaches (you can usually see Scotland from here—it's just 20 miles away). Our first walk is on the wild strands of majestic Whitepark Bay, ending at a little fishing village where we have lunch at a wonderful local café. We continue along the great North Antrim Coastal Path, a spectacular trail that traces the basalt cliff-lined "Causeway Coast" with breathtaking views of the cliffs and seascapes along the "top of Ireland." We end our hike at the famed Giant's Causeway, with its unique columnar geology. This famous World Heritage site lies at the foot of the basalt cliffs along the water's edge and is made up of some 40,000 massive black basalt columns rising out of the Irish Sea. We



TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE

Length:	10 days
Arrive:	Dublin, Ireland
Depart:	Dublin, Ireland
Lodging:	9 nights charming inns and hotels
Meals:	All meals included except 1 dinner (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
Activity:	Cultural Adventures, Hiking / Trekking
Trip Level:	1 2 3 4 5 6 Choice of moderate or strenuous hikes, 2-6 hours a day, van support (for luggage or if you wish to skip a day's hike)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Choose between moderate or strenuous hikes most days
- Explore the trails of legendary County Sligo (Yeats Country) and the sea cliffs of Slieve League
- Hike the gorgeous beaches of Donegal, walk pilgrim trails in the remote glen of Gleann Cholm Cille
- Visit lively Belfast, with its great pubs and famed Titanic museum
- Enjoy an insider's look at the complex political, cultural, and religious history of northern Ireland

Itinerary (cont'd)



visit the world's oldest distillery at Bushmills before driving southwest through the ancient city of Derry to the Lough Foyle estuary and over again into the Republic to nearby County Donegal and the splendid Castle Grove Country House Hotel in Letterkenny, our base for three nights...BLD

Hiking Details: (Option 1) 8 miles, 3-4 hours, 500 feet ascent/descent

(Option 2) 3-5 miles, 2 hours, 100 feet ascent/descent

Driving Time: 3 hours

DAY 4

FANAD PENINSULA, NORTH COUNTY DONEGAL

A short drive takes us farther up the Fanad Peninsula and the little village of Kerrykeel where we'll pick up a picnic lunch of local produce from young foodie Aidan Friel. Our main hiking objective today begins with an ascent onto the spectacular Knockalla Ridge and over open heather slopes before dropping down onto the great sweep of Ballymacstocker Beach, which regularly features in people's list of most beautiful beaches in these islands. At hike's end we take a gorgeous drive back to our hotel, passing through the historic village of Rathmullan, from where the defeated and disposed Gaelic chieftains of Ulster went into exile in 1607, paving the way for the Plantation of Ulster with protestant settlers from lowland Scotland and northern England loyal to James I, the ancestors of today's Unionist population and many of those who style themselves as the "Scotch-Irish" in North America. Overnight at Castle Grove Country House Hotel...BLD

Hiking Details: (Option 1) 8 miles, 4-5 hours, 1,500 feet ascent

(Option 2) 4-5 miles, 2-3 hours, 500 feet ascent

Driving Time: 1 hour

DAY 5

HORN HEAD AND GAOTH DOBHAIR, NORTHWEST COUNTY DONEGAL

We head northwest toward the little town of Dunfanaghy and Horn Head, the wild peninsula that juts north from a sheltered cove. Recent days have brought us close to some stupendous landscapes, the wildness of which will surely



impress, but on reaching the far northwest of County Donegal at Horn Head, that wildness takes on a whole new meaning! After a morning spent hiking along the edges of giant sedimentary cliffs (in contrast to the columnar basalt of the Causeway coastline of County Antrim), we'll retreat to a great little local pub for lunch located above one of our very favorite of the wild beaches characteristic of this area.

Afterwards, we'll have the option to hike again, as much or as little as we wish, along the Magheraroarty Peninsula on a spectacular Atlantic beach with wild dunescapes. Later this afternoon, we turn south around another headland known as Bloody Foreland and travel down through the remarkable rural settlements of the Irish-speaking community of Gaoth Dobhair (Gweedore), where another page in the remarkable history of Ireland is etched on this rugged coast. This is a region rich in Gaelic culture, with particularly strong music, song, and dance traditions with many local internationally acclaimed artists, none more so perhaps than Enya (or Eithne Ní Bhraonáin). Arriving in the colorful village of Ardara in the southwestern corner of this great county of Donegal this evening, we check-in to our three-night base, the cozy Woodhill House. Overnight at Castle Grove Country House Hotel...BLD
Hiking Details: 9-10 miles, 5-6 hours, 1,000 feet ascent/descent
Driving Time: 1 hour

DAY 6

GLEN HEAD AND GLEANN CHOLM CILLE (GLENCOLMKILLE)

A short, picturesque drive through deep valleys and over high boggy plateaus brings us past some of the remotest homesteads in Ireland to a hidden Atlantic cove nestled in the midst of this fierce coastline. On a stunning hike we cross an expanse of wild heathlands and over the great cliffs of Glen Head to descend into the secluded glen of Gleann Cholm Cille (or Glencolmkille). Named after the 6th century Christian Saint Columba, who is associated with places of learning, retreat, and prayer in these parts, he was the founder of the famed monastic community in Iona, Scotland. This hallowed glen remains a powerful place of pilgrimage, and is home to a dynamic community and a spectacular range of archaeology that dates from Ireland's Neolithic period. Return to Woodhill House for dinner and overnight...BLD

Hiking Details: (Option 1) 8-10 miles, 4-5 hours, 1,000 feet ascent/descent

(Option 2) 3-4 miles, 2-3 hours, 500 feet ascent/descent

Driving Time: 1 hour

DAY 7

SEA CLIFFS OF SLIABH LIAG (SLIEVE LEAGUE), SOUTHWEST DONEGAL

After a leisurely morning, we head south over the hills from Ardara to hike to the top of the biggest sea cliffs in these parts, the mighty Sliabh Liag. After taking an ancient pilgrimage trail to the site of a remote



Itinerary (cont'd)

hermitage set 2,000 feet over the Atlantic, we set out on a hike along the cliffs, with options for treks of varying length and difficulty, all sharing the splendor of this towering place. After lunch at a great little local pub, we'll take our own charter boat to cruise beneath the cliffs—an awesome adventure that gets us close to these giant walls and deep into caves, often in the company of whales, dolphins, and the colonies of seabirds who nest here in the spring and early summer. We dock at Killybegs, home port to Ireland's largest fishing fleet, and return to Woodhill House for dinner and overnight...BLD

Hiking Details: (Option 1) 8-10 miles, 4-5 hours, 1,000 feet ascent/descent

(Option 2) 3-4 miles, 2-3 hours, 500 feet ascent/descent

Driving Time: 1 hour



DAY 8

DONEGAL TOWN / YEATS COUNTY OF COUNTY SLIGO

We head to picturesque Donegal town, where we'll explore the Gaelic castle of the O'Donnell Clan, discovering the stories and political history of these northern county cultures. We'll also have a chance to visit the historic Magee store, purveyor of classic Donegal tweed. We then travel southward into mystical County Sligo, a landscape carved in legend and history. Glaciers shaped Sligo some 20,000 years ago and left behind sparkling lakes, green valleys, and dramatic ridges along the Atlantic coast. After lunch at a local restaurant in the coastal village of Strandhill (home to one of Ireland's premier surfing spots), we traverse the spectacular limestone plateau of Knocknarea (Cnoc na Rí or "hill of kings"). At the summit is the great Neolithic cairn known as Queen Meave's Grave, a striking local landmark and a holy place of ritual dating back to Ireland's Stone Age. The tomb is the largest in the country outside of the famed UNESCO sites of the Boyne Valley. The whole Sligo region, bedecked with several 5,000-year-old cairn tombs, is rich in Stone Age archaeology and mythic significance. On checking in this evening at our magnificent country house hotel we will be treated to a very special "Yeats evening" in the company of local literary and theater friends. Dinner and overnight at Coopershill House or Temple House, among the "Big Houses"

(country manor-type houses) in the Sligo area...BLD

Hiking Details: (Option 1) 5-6 miles, 3-4 hours, 1,000 feet ascent/descent

(Option 2) 3-5 miles, 2-3 hours, 500 feet ascent/descent

Driving Time: 3 hours



DAY 9

YEATS COUNTRY / CARROWMORE / BELBULBEN

We begin our day with a gentle ramble through the incredible archaeological landscape of Carrowmore, a region of green fields and pastures on the Cúil Irra peninsula that holds the largest complex of Neolithic and Bronze Age stone circles and dolmens in all of Ireland. In the company of a local scholar, we will explore this enigmatic cultural landscape and the

latest, exciting discoveries about the region's early farmers. We'll then hike the dramatic escarpments and high tops of the Benbulbin massif (1,726'), where uniquely shaped limestone uplands are dotted with rich history and archaeology—a magical mountain walk! Whether you choose the moderate or easy hiking option, you will experience the wildness of this stunning landscape known as “Yeats Country.” We'll also visit Yeats' simple grave in the churchyard of Drumcliff village. The renowned epitaph on his grave reads: “Cast a cold eye / On life, on death / horseman, pass by!” Wandering the landscapes around Glencar, we'll be immersed in the land that inspired some of his finest poetry. This evening, we enjoy a Farewell Dinner at the Temple House and celebrate Yeats with a very special cultural event. Overnight at Coopershill House or Temple House...BLD

Hiking Details: (Option 1) 8-10 miles, 4-5 hours, 2,000 feet ascent/descent
(Option 2) 3-5 miles, 2-3 hours, 500 feet ascent/descent

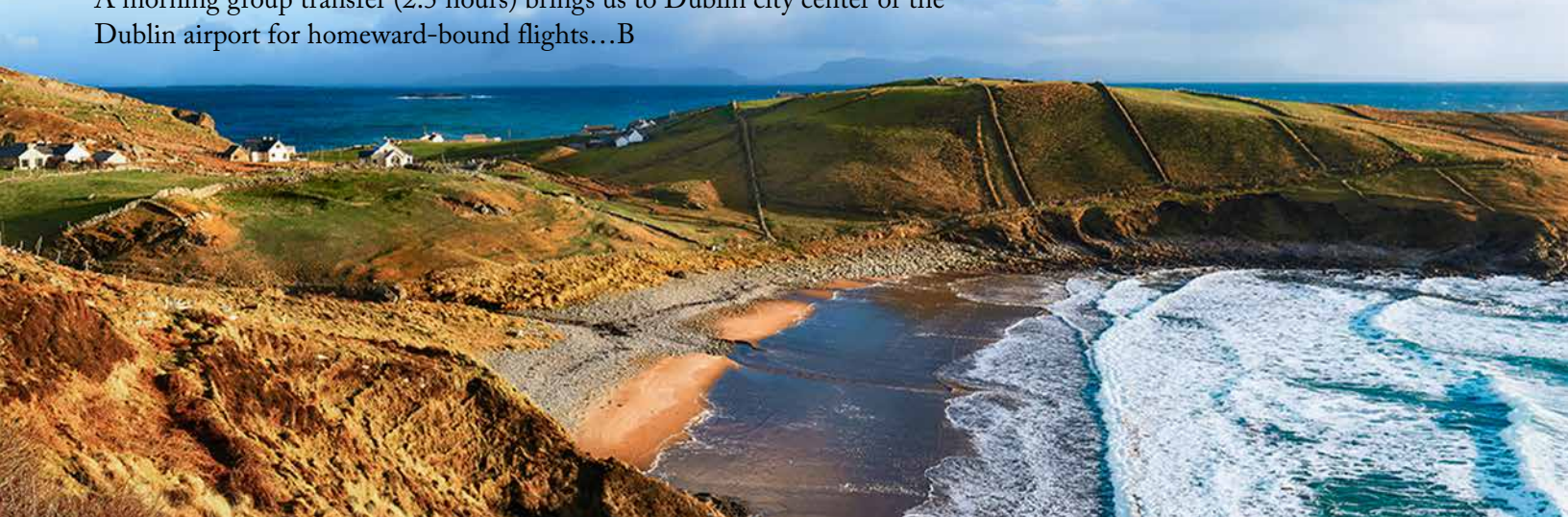
Where the wandering water gushes
From the hills above Glen-Car,
In pools among the rushes
That scarce could bathe a star,
We seek for slumbering trout
And whispering in their ears
Give them unquiet dreams;
Leaning softly out
From ferns that drop their tears
Over the young streams.

Come away, O human child!
To the waters and the wild
With a faery, hand in hand,
For the world's more full of weeping than you can understand.

DAY 10

DUBLIN / DEPART

A morning group transfer (2.5 hours) brings us to Dublin city center or the Dublin airport for homeward-bound flights...B



Trip Cost, Payment & Insurance

TRIP COST

Prices are per person, valid through 2024

\$6995 (11-14 members)

\$7395 (4-10 members)

Single supplement: \$935

2025 Trip Costs: Please call for details

To offer the lowest possible cost, our trips are priced according to the number of participants on the trip. All costs are per person, based on double occupancy. If you wish to have a single room, you must pay the single supplement fee. Please note that Wilderness Travel staff, or guests of Wilderness Travel such as travel writers, photographers, or leaders-in-training, are not included in the tier pricing count.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE

Due to the volatility of currency markets, we can only offer the most competitive pricing on our trips in Europe by partially tying the trip cost directly to the value of the Euro. In the late spring of 2023, when we set the rates for our 2024 program, the US Dollar equaled .94 Euros. While in most years, no price changes are ever necessary, if there were to be a significant change in exchange rates, we may be forced to raise or able to lower our trip cost; if so, your final invoice, sent two weeks before your final payment is due, will reflect the difference. Please note that the calculation will not be a straight proration. While most of the trip cost is paid in Euros, the remainder of our expenses are paid in US Dollars. The overall effect is to moderate any change; thus, if the Euro were to rise in value, the land price would rise less than might be expected, and if the Euro were to fall, the drop in trip cost would also be less than might be expected.

(Please note that the first two nights of this trip are in Northern Ireland, part of the UK where pound sterling is the currency.)

TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Expert leadership of a Wilderness Travel Trip Leader and local guides
- All accommodations in fine hotels and country guesthouses
- All meals included except 1 dinner as indicated in the Detailed Itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- A glass of wine or beer with dinner
- All ground transportation
- Entrances to museums and sites

TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

International airfare, transfers, any meals not specified after each itinerary day, airport departure taxes, optional tipping or gratuities to leaders or staff, additional hotel nights that may be necessary due to airline schedule changes or other factors; pre-trip expenses of medical immunizations (if any), travel insurance, or passports and visas; and other expenses of a personal nature (alcoholic beverages, laundry, etc.).

PAYMENT SCHEDULE*

At time of reservation: \$600

90 days prior to departure: Balance

CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE*

Up to 91 days prior to departure: No charge!

61-90 days prior to departure: 25% of trip cost

46-60 days prior to departure: 50% of trip cost

45 days or less: 100% of trip cost

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend you purchase travel insurance. You can take advantage of a comprehensive Travel Protection Plan designed for Wilderness Travel by Travelex, or purchase other insurance on your own. See our website for details: www.wildernesstravel.com/insurance

Arrival & Departure

Upon confirming your trip reservation, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a list of documents (passport, visas, etc.) required for your trip. Please feel free to call if you would like this information before making your air arrangements.

ARRIVAL & MEETING PLACE

Dublin, Ireland

Suggested Airport: Dublin Airport (DUB)

Suggested Date & Time: Anytime prior to Day 1

Meeting Place: You will meet your Trip Leader in the lobby of The Davenport Hotel in Dublin at 9:00 am on Day 1.

Trip members will take a taxi or the aircoach service from the airport to the city center. It takes approximately 30 minutes. This is an “on your own” expense.

DEPARTURE

Dublin, Ireland

Suggested Airport: Dublin Airport (DUB)

Suggested Date & Time: Day 10, 12:00 pm or later

On Day 10, an airport transfer will be provided from the hotel to Dublin Airport (2.5 hours), and continuing on to the city center if any wish to stay in Dublin.

RECOMMENDED HOTELS IN DUBLIN

If you would like to spend more time in Dublin, we recommend:

The Davenport Hotel, a charming 4-star hotel right near Trinity College: www.davenporthotel.ie

Pembroke Town House, a 4-star guesthouse in the heart of Georgian Dublin: www.pembroketownhouse.ie

Shelbourne Hotel, a 5-star hotel, which is perhaps one of Dublin's most famous: www.shelbournehoteldublin.com

INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL

You are responsible for making your own arrangements for flights to and from Ireland.

There are many online consolidator websites for booking travel, but for more personal help arranging air transport, you can contact Exito Travel at 1-800-655-4053 in the US or 1-800-670-2605 in Canada. They are very adept at putting flight itineraries together, to even the most far-flung places. More information can be found on Exito's website at www.exitotravel.com.

Depending on your routing, it is necessary to depart from the US one or possibly two days prior to Day 1 of the trip itinerary. The name on your airline ticket must match the name on your passport exactly, and your passport must be valid for at least six months after your date of return to the US.

Please do not purchase your tickets until you are confirmed on the trip. Once your tickets have been purchased, please forward a copy of your email confirmation from your airline. It is your responsibility to ensure your flight times coordinate with the arrival and departure logistics for this trip.

Accommodations



FITZWILLIAM HOTEL

Belfast, Ireland

Days 1 to 2 (2 nights)

The five-star Fitzwilliam is conveniently located on Great Victoria Street, just a two-minute walk from the Grand Opera House. Guest rooms have Egyptian linens, modern décor, and elegant bathrooms. Enjoy a glass of wine or prosecco in the lively bar or a savory treat from the afternoon tea menu.



CASTLE GROVE COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL

Letterkenny, Ireland

Days 3 to 5 (3 nights)

You can expect a warm welcome at this elegant Georgian house that stands on its own estate overlooking Lough Swilly. As country house retreats go, it lives up to its promise, with cozy charm and service to match. With just 15 guest rooms (with en suite facilities), it's a delightful and intimate place to stay while exploring the surrounding countryside. The dining room serves excellent food.



WOODHILL HOUSE

Ardara, Ireland

Days 6 to 7 (2 nights)

Woodhill House is a modest period home dating back to the 15th century. Situated in the Donegal Highlands close enough to the Atlantic to hear waves crashing, the house is nestled in a lovely walled garden and has simple, pleasant rooms, each with its own design. An intimate bar and spacious dining room complement the quiet surroundings.

HOTELS IN SLIGO

Sligo, Ireland

Days 8 to 9 (2 nights)

In Sligo, we stay at one of the following properties:



COOPERSHILL HOUSE

Built in the late 1700s, this Georgian manor is set amid 500 acres of private pastures, green meadows, and shaded woodlands. The home has been in the same family for centuries, currently occupied by the 7th generation of O'Hara's. The hotel is decorated with its original antique furniture, and guests are welcomed with open fires and views of the rolling Sligo countryside. Electric blankets, cozy duvets, and fluffy towels warm the rooms, while the gardens are filled with fruit trees and local vegetables. The friendly, local staff is delighted to share insights about nearby activities and the history of the area.



TEMPLE HOUSE

Nestled in the pastoral surroundings of a 1,000-acre private estate, the Temple House has been home to the Perceval family for over 350 years. Start your day with a full Irish breakfast of black and white pudding, sausages from the local butcher, and homemade apple juice. In the evenings, gather in the Morning Room for pre-dinner drinks, and dine on local cuisine—perhaps lamb from the ranch or farm-fresh pork belly. Guest rooms are cozy, and if you are an early riser you can catch the sunrise from a boat, rowing across the misty lake.

These are our signature accommodations for this trip. Although it is highly unlikely, we may make substitutions when necessary. To see more photos and descriptions, please visit our *A Northern Arc Across Ireland* webpage and click on the “Accommodations” tab.

Trip Leaders

Wilderness Travel Trip Leaders have a passion and a joy for creating an unforgettable journey. We are extremely proud of them and the incredible travel experiences they make possible. For more information, including client comments about them and which specific trips they will be leading, please visit our webpage and click on "Trip Leaders": www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/northern-ireland-donegal-hiking-tour/



ANN CURRAN

Ann Curran was born and raised in Dingle, County Kerry, and grew up surrounded by traditional Gaelic culture. Born into a family with farming, business, and community connections in this colorful market town, Ann enjoyed successful careers in real estate, banking, and guesthouse management. In 1997, she settled on her favorite career to date, one that allows her to share her place with others. It is a gift she is particularly blessed with, and time shared with Ann and her infectious enthusiasm for hiking and wandering in Ireland is an experience that is sure to warm the heart. Ann is widely traveled throughout the world, but Dingle remains her home, where she's actively engaged in community life, particularly with voluntary environmental and social organizations.



CON MORIARTY

Con Moriarty grew up in one of the world's very special places, amidst the wild peaks of the McGillicuddy Reeks and Killarney Valley of Ireland's County Kerry. From an early age, Con has been awake to the spirit of this magical place, its shape and nature combining with its Gaelic culture and spiritual history to weave a rich tapestry of influence. Throughout his life, the intriguing story of Ireland and its people has been a passion for Con, and sharing this with travelers is a privilege he is grateful for. Traveling with Con and his friends in Ireland is truly a learning adventure, walking and experiencing the "hidden Ireland." A keen observer of world affairs and an active mountaineer all his life, Con has traveled and climbed throughout the world, extensively in the mountain environments of Scotland, the European Alps, the US, Nepal, Kenya, Irian Jaya, Australia, Patagonia, and New Zealand.

Trip Details

WHAT THE TRIP IS LIKE

This trip is rated a Level 3 or 4 (Moderate or Moderately Strenuous), depending on the hiking options you choose. You will need to be comfortable hiking 8 miles a day and being on your feet for up to 5 hours a day. You will need to be able to keep up with the moderate but steady pace of the group; however, there are alternative hiking options available most days. Trail conditions, weather, and the group's level of fitness can affect hiking times and pacing.

Average Hiking Day

- 5-6 miles
- 3-4 hours
- 500-600 feet gain/loss

Challenge Days

- Day 9: 8-10 miles, 4-5 hours, 2,000 feet gain/loss; alternative option of 3-5 miles, 2-3 hours, 500 feet gain/loss

TERRAIN

Some paths and trails are well-groomed, but many can be rough with rocky and uneven terrain. With the frequent rain, trails can be muddy or even wet underfoot. As is common in Ireland, we may sometimes hike off-trail where the terrain allows, gaining lofty summits via switchbacks across wide, grassy hillsides. Hiking boots with ankle support are always best and hiking poles are recommended.

GETTING IN SHAPE

We strongly urge you to train for your trip, as your enjoyment will be highly dependent on your level of fitness. The best training for a hike is to hike, especially over hills or rough terrain. Next best are running, swimming, bicycling, or other cardiovascular exercises. Stair-climbing machines are excellent preparation for hiking uphill. Your feet should also be well prepared—make sure your hiking boots are sturdy, comfortable, and thoroughly broken-in.

WEATHER

This trip takes place when Ireland has some of its best weather. Being the Emerald Isle, however, you must be prepared for rain showers at any time. Ireland's weather is dictated by the pressure systems coming in from the Atlantic and is notoriously variable. Gore-Tex outerwear, warm layers, and proper boots are necessary. Overall, Ireland's climate is milder than Britain's, thanks to the Gulf Stream, and a morning of rain can easily be followed by a brilliant blue sky and abundant sunshine.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Our accommodations range from historic "big houses" (family-owned and run guesthouses), to lodges and hotels. They are charming and comfortable, but since they are often in historic buildings, the rooms are not always of uniform or international size. Our leaders do their best to assign rooms in a fair way so that all participants experience

HIKING DETAILS BY DAY				DRIVING DETAILS
DAY	HOURS	MILES	ELEV. GAIN/LOSS	HOURS
1	a) 4 hours b) 2-3 hours	a) 8 miles b) 4-6 miles	a) +1,500' / -1500' b) +300' / -300'	3 hours
2				
3	a) 3-4 hours b) 2 hours	8 miles 3-5 miles	a) +500' / -500' b) +100' / -100'	3 hours
4	a) 4-5 hours b) 2-3 hours	a) 8 miles b) 4-5 miles	a) +1,500'/ b) +500'	1 hour
5	5-6 hours	9-10 miles	+1,000'/-1,000'	1 hour
6	a) 4-5 hours b) 2-3 hours	a) 8-10 miles b) 3-4 miles	a) +1,000'/-1,000' b) +500'/-500'	1 hour
7	a) 4-5 hours b) 2-3 hours	a) 8-10 miles b) 3-4 miles	a) +1,000'/-1,000' b) +500'/-500'	1 hour
8	a) 3-4 hours b) 2-3 hours	a) 5-6 miles b) 3-5 miles	a) +1,000'/-1,000' b) +500'/-500'	3 hours
9	a) 4-5 hours b) 2-3 hours	a) 8-10 miles b) 3-5 miles	a) +2,000'/-2,000' b) +500'/-500'	45 minutes

AVERAGE DAILY MAX/MIN °F												
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Sligo	46/37	45/37	48/38	52/46	57/46	61/50	63/53	62/53	60/51	54/46	48/41	45/38
Belfast	45/38	45/38	47/39	51/42	56/46	60/51	63/54	62/54	60/52	54/48	49/43	46/39
RAINFALL - INCHES												
Sligo	4.6	4.1	3.9	3.7	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.6	3.9	4.7	4.5	4.8
Belfast	3.3	2.7	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.5	3.4	3.0	3.8	3.6	3.4

an equal advantage throughout the trip as a whole. Single rooms can be requested but are not always available, due to the limited space in the hotels. If you prefer a single room, please make your request as early as possible.

CUISINE

Most lunches are picnic-style during our hikes, but we occasionally stop at a local cafe or pub. Dinners will be at restaurants in town or at the hotels, and plenty of fresh seafood is available. Please note that in Europe, the dinner hour is considerably later than what it is in the US. We do our best to secure early reservations for our groups, but most often the evening meal will be at 7:30 pm.

TRANSPORTATION

We will use a mini-coach/van throughout the trip, which will transport the group's luggage, so you only need to carry a daypack for items you need for the day (rain gear, sweater, camera, water bottle, etc.). Trip members are always free to skip a day's hike and travel to the next destination in the support vehicle (or remain at the hotel if we are not transferring that day).

CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRIP

Adventure travel often involves exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, or activities you may not have participated in previously. We work hard to help you choose the right trip for you, paying attention to your individual interests, abilities, and needs. If you have questions about the level of comfort or any of the activities described in this itinerary, please call Wilderness Travel at 1-800-368-2794 and ask for the Europe Manager or email us at europa@wildernesstravel.com.

REFERENCES

We'd be happy to put you in touch with a past client that has traveled with us on this or a similar trip.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

At www.wildernesstravel.com, you can book your trip online or find out about added departures, last-minute deals, and one-time Limited Edition adventures that aren't listed in our catalog. You can also access our complete library of detailed itineraries filled with enticing photos and videos, read bios of our Trip Leaders, find descriptions of trip accommodations, and check real-time availability of any trips that interest you.

Toucan Club Rewards & Discounts

We are very proud to have one of the highest rates of repeat travelers in the business, and have established the Wilderness Travel Toucan Club to reward you for your loyalty. For more information, please visit the Toucan Club page of our website at www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan.

Here's how it works:

YOUR FIRST TRIP

As a first-time traveler, you receive a lightweight Wilderness Travel T-shirt and set of durable WT Luggage Tags. On subsequent trips, we're happy to send you a new WT T-shirt and set of Luggage Tags by request.

YOUR SECOND TRIP

A top quality Wilderness Travel insulated stainless steel water bottle by CamelBak and a cozy Wilderness Travel fleece vest by Patagonia (\$130 value).

YOUR THIRD TRIP

A versatile Wilderness Travel R-1 pullover by Patagonia (\$140 value).

YOUR FOURTH TRIP

Discounts on the cost of your trip begin! You receive a 4% discount on the tour cost.

FIVE AND MORE TRIPS

You receive a 5% discount on the base trip cost. On your sixth trip, you receive a 6% discount, and so on up to your 10th trip. The maximum discount is 10%, with a ceiling of \$500.

Note: Due to special pricing considerations, Toucan Club discounts do not apply to our Private Journeys or Special Events. However, your participation on these trips does count toward your Toucan discount on future departures of Wilderness Travel's regular adventures.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Toucan Club travel discounts cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount, unless otherwise specified. Discounts are deducted from the base trip cost and shown on the final invoice. The base trip cost is the main land/tier cost and does not include single supplement fees, extensions, internal airfare, or other additional charges. Bonus gifts (T-shirts, luggage tags, vests, water bottles, and pullovers) will be mailed approximately three weeks prior to trip departure. Terms and conditions of Toucan Club bonuses are subject to change or cancellation at the discretion of Wilderness Travel, Inc.



MEN'S T-SHIRT



WOMEN'S T-SHIRT



PATAGONIA SYNCHILLA FLEECE VEST
PLUS INSULATED CAMELBAK WATER BOTTLE



PATAGONIA R1 PULLOVER



WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:

World's Best Tour Operators: *Travel + Leisure*, 2022, 11-time winner
Best Travel Specialists in the World: *Condé Nast Traveller*, 2022, 3 years in a row
Best Wildlife, Hiking & Walking Trips: *AFAR Magazine*, 3 years in a row
Best Adventure Travel Companies: *USA Today*
Trip of the Year: *Outside Magazine*, 9-time winner
50 Tours of a Lifetime: *National Geographic Traveler*, 9 years in a row
Best Adventure Travel Companies: *National Geographic Adventure*, 3-time winner

Please be advised that California has established a Travel Consumer Restitution Fund under the California Seller of Travel Law that took effect January 1, 1996. This fund is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous practices by discount airfare ticket sellers or air charter operators. Unfortunately, this law does not cover non-California residents and, even in the case of California residents, it does not cover any foreign travel where the foreign "providers of transportation or travel services" are not in compliance with the Sellers of Travel Law (compliance being defined as registered as a Seller of Travel in California and a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund). Thus none of Wilderness Travel's tours qualify and we are required by law to advise each client that they are not covered by the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires sellers of travel to maintain a trust account or bond. This business has a trust account. California Seller of Travel #100769640

While as accurate as possible at the time of printing, this itinerary should be considered an approximate indication of the schedule and scope of activities and trip routing, rather than an inflexible schedule of events; it is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. This trip is subject to the Limitation of Liability and all the terms and conditions as detailed in the General Information section of the Wilderness Travel Catalog.