

Claddagh School of Irish Dance Tour of Ireland Fri April 17 – Sat April 25, 2026

Total Price: \$2,750 per person, double occupancy

Tour Includes:

- Round trip airfare via Aer Lingus from Bradley International Airport
- Luxury coach with Guide
- Hotel accommodations with private bath
- 7 Full Breakfasts, 4 Dinners and entry to numerous attractions

<u>Deposit:</u> \$500 per person due by <u>December 17, 2025.</u> Final payment due March 1, 2026. Make checks payable to Mary Quinn.

Optional Trip Protection is strongly suggested. See www.insuremytrip.com for details and fees.

For more information, contact Mary and Bill Quinn: 413-567-6729

* Note: Price and Itinerary subject to change. Gratuity for Driver / Guide is not included.

Friday April 17 - Depart Bradley Airport aboard an Aer Lingus flight in the evening and arrive in Dublin, Ireland on Saturday morning.

Saturday April 18 - Dublin Arrival After collecting your luggage and completing immigration formalities, we will meet our Guide for the week. Our first stop will be to enjoy a traditional Irish breakfast*. After enjoying a fine cup of Irish tea, we will begin our Irish adventure by leaving Dublin behind us and begin our journey into Cork. We will stop at Guiness Lake - Located along the Sally Gap Drive, Lough Tay—nicknamed 'Guinness Lake' due to its dark waters and white shoreline—looks uncannily like a freshly poured pint. We will get back on the Coach and make our way to Glendalough. This historic site, whose Gaelic name translates to "valley of the two lakes," consists of the 6th-century monastery founded by St. Kevin and the famous round tower, standing 112 feet high with a base measuring 52 feet in circumference. We will then journey onto Cork for our overnight

*Breakfast and Dinner is not included. Overnight Cork

Sunday April 19 - After a good night's sleep, we'll kick off the day with breakfast at the hotel before heading out to explore Blarney Castle and Gardens. You'll have the chance to kiss the legendary Blarney Stone and wander through the castle's lush grounds—or maybe do a little shopping at the famous Blarney Woollen Mills. Once we've all received the "Gift of Eloquence" and found the perfect gifts, we'll make our way to Kenmare, a delightful heritage town with colorful streets, artisan shops, and warm hospitality. Take a relaxed stroll along the waterfront, check out the ancient stone circles, or treat yourself to a mid-morning ice cream. From there, we'll wind through the scenic mountain pass of Moll's Gap and dive into the natural splendor of Killarney National Park—think shimmering lakes, wooded trails, and sweeping views. At the heart of it all is Muckross House and Gardens, a 19th century Victorian estate surrounded by vibrant blooms and peaceful walking paths. After soaking in the beauty, we'll continue on to Torc Waterfall, where cascading waters tumble through a mossy forest—perfect for a photo stop. We'll wrap up the day in the lively town of Killarney, ready for an evening relaxing or enjoying great Irish music at a pub.

Breakfast & Dinner included. Overnight Killarney

Monday April 20 - This morning, we will continue our journey around County Kerry. This world-famous drive will amaze and inspire you as we wind our way along the rocky coastline and get close-up views of unspoiled beaches and the wild Atlantic just outside your window with the rugged mountains in the distance. Slea Head Drive, one of Ireland's most scenic routes, takes you on a journey through historic sites, Irish speaking villages, famous Hollywood film locations and views of the Blasket Islands. We will also spend some time in the quaint town of Dingle where you may enjoy a pint with the locals or- no visit is complete without calling to Murphy's ice cream parlor to send your taste buds into overdrive with the most unusual flavors you are ever to experience!

Breakfast included. Overnight Killarney

Tuesday April 21 - Today we will leave the Kingdom of Kerry and travel through Listowell towards the Shannon Car ferry and into County Clare. We will follow the coastal road and arrive at the Cliffs of Moher. The Cliffs are one of Ireland's top visitor attractions. They are 700 feet high and extend for 5 miles along the Atlantic Ocean on the western seaboard of County Clare. O'Brien's Tower stands proudly on a headland from which one can see the Aran Islands, Galway Bay and Connemara – if the day is clear! The Cliffs of Moher have been used as the location for many movies over the years such as Harry Potter & the Half Blood Prince, The Princess Bride, Ryan's Daughter and many more. After taking in the views from the Cliffs we will make our way into Galway through the Burren. The Burren is a 48-square-mile region with some of the most unique "limestone pavement" ground you will see. It is an area of limestone rock covering imposing majestic mountains, and tranquil valleys. With its innate sense of spiritual peace, extraordinary and unique array of flora and wildlife, and megalithic tombs and monuments older than Egypt's pyramids, the Burren is a tapestry of color.

Breakfast & Dinner are included. Overnight Galway

Wednesday April 22 - Today we are going to tour the beautiful region of Connemara. The name Connemara translates to "Inlets of the Sea" and the road along the peninsula shoreline bears this out as they wind around the coves of this breathtaking stretch of Ireland's rugged coast. Our first stop will be at Cong Abbey. The ruins of the former Augustinian abbey mostly date to the 13th century and have been described as featuring some of finest examples of medieval architecture in Ireland. We will continue on to Kylemore Abbey, one of the most photographed sites in Ireland. The Abbey is famous for its postcard perfect scenery; the iconic image of a baronial castle reflected in a Connemara Lake. As we continue our journey through Connemara, we will view the Inagh Valley. Get your camera out as you are about to embark on one of the most scenic drives in the world! There is a photo opportunity at every turn as the Inagh Valley Road winds its way through the majestic heather covered mountains of the Twelve Bens from the Maamturks which are separated by the valley and its picturesque lakes. we first visit Joe Joyce's sheep farm for one of the best sheep dog demonstrations in the country, a beautiful part of Connemara, Joe is famous for the sheep road block in the movie 'Marley and Me' his claim to fame

Breakfast & Dinner are included: Overnight Galway

Thursday April 23 - **Free day.** Following breakfast you can begin to explore the beautiful Galway City. Take a stroll through the shops and find the stone wall that guarded the city hundreds of years ago. Also visit the Claddagh Village- home of the renowned Claddagh Ring and our Dance School! The shops are plentiful in this town and many other activities are available, such as – golfing, horseback riding, or a trip to the Aran Islands. **Breakfast is included. Overnight Galway**

Friday April 24 - Today we depart Galway and head to our final hotel. We will be driving cross country and make our way back to the Capital City of Ireland – Dublin. On our way we will make a stop at Sean's bar in Athlone. Sean's bar in Athlone, is Ireland's oldest pub and listed in both '25 of the Most Incredible Bars in The World' and '50 Bars to Blow Your Mind' by Lonely Planet, this is a 'must see' site to have maybe an Irish Coffee or two and warm you up. We will continue on our cross-country trip with a stop in Kilbeggan's Distillery-Kilbeggan Distillery, the oldest distillery in the world! Discover the history of authentic artisan Irish whiskey and of course no visit is complete without sampling it yourself. Here you will find whiskey is still being produced using ancient traditions passed on from generation to generation. Situated along the picturesque River Brosna

Breakfast & Dinner are included. Overnight Dublin

Saturday April 25 - Departure Following breakfast, we will depart for Dublin airport at 9am for the return journey home. We will allow time for everyone to pick up those last-minute souvenirs at Dublin's Duty-Free Shop - known as one of Europe's largest duty-free shopping centers.