



Ireland

ÉIRE 2009

THE LAND – THE CULTURE – THE PEOPLE

Daltaí na Gaeilge invites you to join us along with your family and friends for a unique

IRELAND TOUR – June 18-28, 2009



Daltaí na Gaeilge (Students of the Irish Language) are headed to the Emerald Isle with our families and cairde. Come celebrate your Irish heritage the way the Irish know best: with cairde, craic agus ceol (friends, fun and music). During the days we're planning to offer a choice of languages (Irish and English) for all sightseeing and tours. Our goal is to provide a unique experience for Gaeilgeoirí

(Irish speakers) while also allowing our non-Irish speaking guests to thoroughly enjoy this exquisitely beautiful country. At night and during "at your leisure" time all travelers will be re-united with their friends and families to discuss the day's events and enjoy the night-life in whatever language they prefer.

Land Price: \$1,803 per person sharing twin room* (Single Room Supplement: \$593)

*Flights are additional.** (Rates for June 2009 are not yet available. See note below.)*

** FLIGHTS – As a convenience, group fares will be offered from major departure points. Call after September 8th for availability. For comparison purposes only, flights for June 2008 from Boston and the New York City area cost approximately \$850. Prices for June 2009 will vary.

* PRICE INCLUDES

- Transport by luxury motor coach with guide (Irish speaking on Gaeilgeoir bus) for 10 days
- Hotel accommodations based on twin bedded rooms with private bath for 9 nights
- Full breakfasts (9)
- Dinners (5) – Table d'hôte dinners
- Visits and admission fees to: Dublin Castle, Trinity College, Boyne Valley Visitor Center, Newgrange/Brú na Bóinne, Giant's Causeway, Belleek China, Drumcliffe, Connemara, Cliffs of Moher
- Hotel portorage, service charges and government fees
- Flight bags, ticket wallets, baggage tags and ID strap.

Tá fáilte roimh `chuile dhuine! — All are welcome!

Daltaí na Gaeilge – Ireland 2009 – Itinerary

June 18 – UNITED STATES TO DUBLIN

Depart your hometown and take an overnight flight to Ireland.

June 19 – DUBLIN ARRIVAL (FÁILTE GO hÉIREANN!)

After landing at Dublin Airport, complete customs and immigration formalities. Then your CIE Tours driver/guide will welcome you to Ireland and escort you on an orientation drive around Dublin city center. Then drive to your hotel and check in. After you settle into your room you may like to rest or explore some of the city on your own before dinner at your hotel.

June 20 – DUBLIN HIGHLIGHTS (BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH)

Set off with a local guide who will show you around the prominent historic buildings and monuments of Dublin. Tour Dublin Castle to see the State Apartments where many state functions are held in the richly decorated chambers. Next, visit Trinity College and view the 8th century Book of Kells. The afternoon and evening are free for independent activities, sightseeing, shopping, dining, pubs and much more.

June 21 – DUBLIN AT LEISURE

Enjoy some leisure time in Dublin where you can choose from a wide variety of pursuits. There are plenty of museums of Irish interest such as the National Museum, the National Gallery, or the Writers Museum.

June 22 – BRÚ NA BÓINNE AND NEWGRANGE

Depart Dublin and drive north to the Brú na Bóinne Visitor Centre, which opened in 1997 and is designed to present the archaeological heritage of the Boyne Valley, which includes the megalithic passage tombs of Newgrange and Knowth. Visit the Megalithic Passage Tomb at Newgrange which was built about 3200 BC. Continue north, driving through the towns of Dundalk and Newry and past the scenic Mourne Mountains to Belfast. Upon arrival travel into the Falls Road and the Shankill Road. Drive to your hotel and check in before dining in the hotel restaurant.

June 23 – GLENS OF ANTRIM & GIANT'S CAUSEWAY

Today experience one of Ireland's popular scenic routes traveling north along the rugged coast. Here you'll see the "Nine Glens of Antrim". Continue to the Giant's Causeway, an impressive area of hexagonal columns which was formed over 60 million years ago by cooling lava and has given rise to many legends. After your visit, motor along the coast to Derry and check into your hotel. Enjoy dining in the hotel restaurant.

June 24 – DAY IN COUNTY DONEGAL (CO. DHÚN NA nGALL)

Gaeilgeoirí depart Derry and travel into the rugged beauty for which Donegal is renowned. Continue through craggy scenery to Gleann Cholm Cille. At Oideas Gael enjoy a special day-long program designed just for your visit to this unique corner of Ireland.

Non-Irish speakers depart Derry and drive south past the Blue Stack Mountains to Donegal. Here visit Donegal Castle. The O'Donnell clan owned this four-story tower house until 1607 when it was granted to Sir Basil Brooke who added a Jacobean-style extension. Pass through Killybegs, an important fishing port, and through craggy scenery to the slopes of Slieve League. This mountain forms cliffs on the seaward side with a drop of 900 feet straight down into the wild Atlantic waves below. Motor north to Ardara to visit Triona Mills. Here you have the opportunity to see the art of making 'Donegal Tweed' while retaining all the traditional skills. Over the years, they have maintained the high level of excellence and provide an enjoyable, informative tour of the weaving centre. Both groups return to Derry in time to freshen up before dinner on your own.

June 25 – BELLEEK & DRUMCLIFFE

Drive south past the lovely Blue Stack Mountains and through the town of Donegal to Belleek. Visit the Belleek Pottery Factory. See how skilled craftspeople form and decorate clay to produce delicate porcelain masterpieces. At Drumcliffe Centre, see the grave of one of Ireland's most influential poets, W.B. Yeats, and a display about his life and work. Travel to your hotel in Galway and check in before dinner with your fellow travelers.

June 26 – DAY IN CONNEMARA (CONAMARA)

Today enjoy the Gaeltacht regions of Connemara. Gaeilgeoirí will visit places of interest in what is arguably Ireland's strongest Gaeltacht. The itinerary for the non-Irish speakers will take them west of Galway through the Connemara region known for its constantly changing skies and subtle colors. Drive past the gentle hills of the Maamturk Mountains and the Twelve Bens. Visit Kylemore Abbey, a 19th century neo-Gothic mansion in a charming setting, which is now a school. The grounds and chapel are open to the public. Both groups return to Galway for some free time to look around the town before dining on your own.

June 27 – CLIFFS OF MOHER & SHANNONSIDE

Drive around the shores of Galway Bay and through the Burren country. Stop at the Cliffs of Moher, a wall of rock that plunges 700 feet to the churning Atlantic Ocean below. Motor a short distance to the charming small seaside village of Doolin, famed for its traditional music. Return to Galway for some free time before meeting in the hotel restaurant to enjoy your farewell dinner.

June 28 – RETURN TO THE U. S. (SLÁN ABHAILE!)

Depart Galway, allowing ample time to reach Shannon Airport and check in for your flight. Drive through the towns of Gort and Ennis and on to Shannon. After you check in you will have some time to shop at the duty-free stores. Then you have U.S. Immigration pre-clearance before boarding your aircraft for the flight back home. Go mbeirimid beo ar an am seo arís. Slán Abhaile!

Reservations: Complete the form below and mail it with your credit card information or deposit check for \$300 per person.

Blue Moon Cruises & Tours • 175 Monmouth Road, West Long Branch, NJ 07764 • Call 732-263-1990 for more information

Name of passenger #1: _____ Date of Birth _____ Language choice for tours: Gaeilge English
MUST MATCH PASSPORT

Name of passenger #2: _____ Date of Birth _____ Language choice for tours: Gaeilge English
MUST MATCH PASSPORT

Type of room: Twin Single If TWIN ROOM, provide name of roommate: _____

Street Address: _____ I am enclosing my deposit check for \$ _____

City/State/Zip _____ I am paying via credit card. Please charge \$ _____ to this card:

Phone _____ Name on Card _____

Email: _____ Card # _____

Please contact me with information about monthly payment options. Exp Date _____ / _____ Security Code _____

This tour is subject to CIE Tours' booking guidelines and cancellation penalties. Refer to General Conditions on website (cietours.com) or back cover of current brochure.