



UNITED KINGDOM AND IRELAND TOUR



Day 1 – LONDON

Meeting at airport with tour assistant and coach for transfer to hotel. Dinner and overnight stay in London or vicinity.

Day 2 – LONDON

Departure after breakfast by coach for full day dedicated to a guided visit to London, with sights including Westminster Abbey, the Houses of Parliament, Buckingham Palace, the famous Big Ben, St Paul's Cathedral and the Tower of London. Dinner and overnight stay in hotel in London or vicinity.

Day 3 – LONDON / GREENWICH/ LONDON

Breakfast and half-day excursion to Greenwich, a splendid historical district of London, to visit the Royal Observatory with the Greenwich Meridian, the starting point for the world's system of longitudes. Return to the centre of London and afternoon free. Dinner and overnight stay in hotel in London or vicinity.

Day 4 – LONDON / WINDSOR / CHESTER (370 km)

Departure after breakfast for a visit to Windsor Castle, one of the three official residences of the Queen, and from where the monarchy has ruled for over 900 years. The oldest castle in the world still lived in, it dates back to the times of William the Conqueror. The tour continues to Chester for dinner and overnight stay in a hotel in Chester or vicinity.

Day 5 – LAKE DISTRICT / GLASGOW (470 km)

Departure after breakfast for the Lake District, an area that has inspired poets, writers and artists, like Wordsworth and Constable. Naturally, the main attractions of the park are its magnificent lakes, surrounded by hills and mountains and offering splendid panoramas. After crossing the Scottish border, a stop at Moffat Woollen Mills, famous for their Scottish knitwear. Dinner and overnight stay in hotel in Glasgow or vicinity.

Day 6 – LOCH LOMOND / FORT WILLIAM (180 km)

Departure after breakfast to follow the shores of Loch Lomond and continuing for the valley of Glen Coe with its wild scenery, and then on to Fort William, with a view of Ben Nevis, the highest mountain of the British Isles. Dinner and overnight stay in hotel in Fort William or vicinity.

Day 7 – ISLE OF SKYE / LOCH NESS (260 km)

Departure after breakfast for a visit to the Isle of Skye, which means the "Isle of Mists" in Gaelic, a language still widely spoken here, along a road following a panoramic island route between Fort William and Mallaig. Short ferry crossing to Armadale, in the south of the island, and stopping at the Clan Donald highland estate, and then continuing to Kyle of Lochalsh, crossing the bridge joining Skye to the Scottish mainland. Brief halt for photos at Eilean Donan Castle, the setting for some of the film

"Highlander", and continuing along the banks of the Caledonian Canal linking Fort William and Inverness, and then along the shores of the famous Loch Ness, with a visit to Urquhart Castle. Built in the 14th century, it was partially destroyed by the English in 1745, to prevent it from falling into the hands of the Jacobite rebels. Dinner and overnight stay in hotel in Inverness or vicinity.

Day 8 – INVERNESS / EDINBURGH (320 km)

Departure after breakfast for the capital of Scotland, stopping on the way for a visit to Blair Castle, with 700 years of history, and then continuing to the St Andrews, an elegant and picturesque town with extensive beaches on the shores of the North Sea. The town is the world's golfing capital, and celebrities like Tiger Woods and Sean Connery have played here, on the famous Old Course. It also has Scotland's oldest university, one of the United Kingdom's most renowned, and Prince William studied here. Dinner and overnight stay in hotel in Edinburgh or vicinity.

Day 9 – EDINBURGH

Breakfast and coach tour of Edinburgh, with its castle, the Royal Mile and the Georgian district, discovering Princes Street and its splendid shops offering Scottish woollens and fabrics. Dinner and overnight stay in hotel in Edinburgh or vicinity.

Day 10 – DUBLIN

Departure after breakfast for Dublin. Meeting with tour assistant and coach at the airport and transfer to hotel for dinner and overnight stay in Dublin or vicinity. Depending on flight times, free time is possible in Edinburgh in the morning or in Dublin in the afternoon.

Day 11 – DUBLIN / KILKENNY (160 km)

After breakfast in the hotel, panoramic coach tour to discover the capital of Ireland, with a visit to Trinity College, Ireland's oldest university, and where the "Book of Kells", a 9th-century illuminated manuscript, can be seen. Continuation to County Wicklow, known as the "Garden of Ireland", stopping to visit Glendalough and the Monastery of St Kevin, with a walk in the splendid panoramas of the park. Dinner and overnight stay in hotel in Kilkenny or vicinity.

Day 12 – KILKENNY – KILLARNEY (220 km)

Departure after breakfast in hotel with a brief halt for photos at Kilkenny Castle, originally built in the 12th century by the Anglo-Normans and later transformed into a Victorian residence by the Butler family, with free time to visit the attractive town.

Departure for Cashel for a visit to St Patrick's Rock, an ecclesiastical complex that includes a cathedral, a well-preserved round tower, Celtic crosses and the Romanesque Cormac's Chapel (closed for restoration work in 2011 and not visitable). Stop in the afternoon at Cahir to visit the famous castle, which still conserves its Norman appearance and its mediaeval fortifications, and where some of the 1981 film "Excalibur" was set. Continuing towards County Kerry for dinner and overnight stay in hotel in Killarney/Tralee or vicinity.

Day 13 – COUNTY KERRY (160 km)

Breakfast in hotel and departure for an excursion around the "Ring of Kerry", a tourist route that leads for about 170 km around the Iveragh Peninsula, with magnificent views of the Atlantic Ocean and the lakes and mountains of Killarney. The tour passes through several characteristic villages of the west coast, including the peat village of Glenbeigh and the town of Waterville, where Charlie Chaplin often spent his holidays. The final stretch of the tour is through the Killarney National Park, with breathtaking panoramas of lakes and mountains. Dinner and overnight stay in hotel in Killarney/Tralee or vicinity.

Day 14 – KILLARNEY / ADARE / CLIFFS OF MOHER / BURREN / GALWAY (280 km)

Departure for the north after breakfast, stopping in the charming village of Adare, with its thatched cottages, and continuing through the city of Limerick to reach the majestic and imposing Cliffs of Moher, 200 metres high and offering spectacular views. Continuation through The Burren, a fascinating region of karst rock formations where flowing water has created a series of underground caves to give the landscape an unusual and almost lunar appearance, and then along the coast of Galway Bay to reach the elegant city of the same name, the capital of the Irish west coast. Dinner and overnight stay in hotel in Galway or vicinity.

Day 15 – CONNEMARA (170 km)

Departure after breakfast for Galway and Connemara, an area of exceptional beauty where nature reigns supreme and the light and landscape change constantly in a succession of woods, lakes, rivers, golden beaches and gently rolling hills. Visit to Kylemore Abbey, originally a Victorian mansion but now a Benedictine abbey and boarding school, set in one of Ireland's loveliest panoramas. Dinner and overnight stay in hotel in Galway or vicinity.

Day 16 – KILBEGGAN / DUBLIN (210 km)

Departure after breakfast for Dublin, stopping on the way at Locke's Distillery in Kilbeggan, with an Irish whiskey tasting session. This is one of Ireland's most traditional distilleries, allowing all the secrets of whiskey production to be discovered. Continuation for Dublin and free time for shopping. Dinner and overnight stay in hotel in Dublin or vicinity.

Day 17 – DEPARTURE

Breakfast and transfer to airport to board the flight home.