

# IRISH GOLD

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE COACH TOUR 2006

### ITINERARY

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Jury's Irish Cabaret Dinner Show
- Dine at Killarney's Prize-winning Killeen House
- Jaunting car ride in Killarney
- Dingle Peninsula & Cliffs of Moher
- Early Christian Monastic Site of Clonmacnoise
- Scenic Killary Fjord Catamaran Cruise
- Three-night stay in Killarney
- Great Leisure & Spa Facilities in Killarney & Galway Hotels

No hidden extras!

All visits and meals included as per itinerary

#### Day 1: Dublin Arrival & Highlights

Arrive in Dublin Airport, complete immigration formalities and pick up your luggage. Go to the CIE Tours desk in the Arrivals Hall to arrange a group transfer to your hotel between 7:00 am and 12:00 noon. If your flight arrives later, you will need to transfer to the hotel at your own expense. In the afternoon discover the delights of central Dublin. Stop at **Dublin Castle** for a guided tour around the State Apartments, stately chambers where many historic events have been held. Return to your hotel to enjoy a **welcome drink** and discuss your holiday with your guide and fellow travellers. The evening is at leisure for independent dining.

#### Day 2: Blarney Castle & Killarney

Depart Dublin and drive out into the countryside. Agriculture is one of Ireland's economic mainstays and you will see many different types of farms along the way. Stop to view the Rock of Cashel, a limestone outcrop, where a collection of churches has stood for nearly 1,000 years. Continue past the gentle slopes of the Galtee Mountains and through prime dairy country. Just outside Cork visit **Blarney Castle** where you can climb to the battlements to kiss the "Stone of Eloquence." Continue

towards the mountainous county of Kerry and to Killarney. Enjoy a three-night stay in a delightful deluxe hotel, which is located at the gateway to the scenic Gap of Dunloe, a few miles outside the town.

#### Day 3: Dingle Peninsula Tour

Today travel along the Dingle Peninsula to relish stunning views of the Slieve Mish Mountains, the shoreline of Dingle Bay and the open Atlantic Ocean. Stop in Dingle, a thriving fishing town, before heading to the tip of the peninsula to see the Blasket Islands offshore. Tour the **Blasket Centre** in Ballyferriter to learn about the lifestyle and customs of the hardy islanders who inhabited the Great Blasket Island until 1953. Travel to Tralee and back to Killarney in time to relax before dinner. You may like to head into Killarney to sample some of the lively "singing pubs" that are a feature of the town.

#### Day 4: Kenmare & Muckross House

Travel a few miles to the delightful town of Kenmare for a look around this popular resort town. Kenmare was founded in 1670 and has preserved many original features. Traditional buildings are gaily painted and contain many restaurants, pubs and stores. Drive up through Moll's Gap, a wonderful vantage point on the Ring of Kerry and travel to **Muckross House**, where a guide will point out the noteworthy features of the 19th century furnished mansion and tell you about the history. Take a walk around the charming gardens, with views overlooking Muckross Lake. Return to your hotel by **horse-drawn jaunting car** and enjoy the driver's stories. The afternoon is free for cycling, horse riding, golf or other activities. In the evening take a short drive to Aghadoe Heights to dine on **Killeen House Restaurant's** award-winning cuisine.



## Day 5: Cliffs of Moher & Galway

Drive north from Killarney via the towns of Tralee and Listowel to Tarbert. Take a **ferry** across the River Shannon to visit the **Cliffs of Moher**, majestic walls of rock, which extend five miles along the coast. In Kilfenora visit the **Burren Display Centre** to learn about the Burren Country, a unique region of rounded limestone hills where many rare wildflowers thrive in sheltered crevices. Travel through the area to see rounded hills with weathered rock formations. Travel into the city of Galway and check into your hotel, which is located on Eyre Square, the heart of the city. This lovely old-world hotel offers excellent spa treatments, pool, sauna and other facilities.

## Day 6: Kylemore Abbey & Catamaran

Drive to Spiddal, a traditional village on the shore of Galway Bay. After a brief stop, drive through the open countryside of Connemara to admire sweeping views of mountains and lakes. Explore the Inagh Valley where sheep graze freely and people hand-cut peat from the bogs. Visit the 19th century neo-Gothic **Kylemore Abbey**, now a prestigious girls' school. See the exquisite chapel and reception rooms and stroll through the restored Victorian gardens. Embark on the "**Connemara Lady**" **catamaran** for a short cruise through scenic Killary Harbour, Ireland's only fjord. Drive to Moycullen to tour the **Connemara Celtic Crystal Factory** to watch the skilled cutting of crystal and return to your hotel in Galway.

## Day 7: Clonmacnoise & Cabaret

Travel from Galway to the centre of Ireland to visit **Clonmacnoise**, a monastic settlement founded by St. Ciaran in 545 AD. An audiovisual presentation will tell you about its history and importance. Take a walk to see the round tower, church ruins and Celtic crosses, all set in a peaceful location on the banks of the River Shannon. Then journey through the midland farming region into the greater metropolitan area of Dublin once again. This time stay at a charming hotel located on the south side of the city. Enjoy a farewell evening at **Jury's Irish Cabaret** where a dinner of Irish specialties is followed by a lively show.

## Day 8: Depart for Home

Take a group transfer to Dublin Airport where your tour concludes.

### YOUR TOUR INCLUDES:

- ❖ Transfer between Dublin Airport and hotel on arrival and departure (if arrival is before 12:00)
- ❖ Sightseeing by luxury coach throughout
- ❖ Services of a professional Irish tour director
- ❖ Deluxe and superior first class hotels with private bath/shower for 7 nights
- ❖ Full Irish breakfast daily
- ❖ 6 dinners including
  - Dinner at Killeen House Restaurant in Killarney
  - Jury's Irish Cabaret and dinner
  - 4 table d'hote dinners
- ❖ Welcome get-together drink
- ❖ Horse-drawn jaunting car ride in Killarney
- ❖ Ferry ride across the River Shannon
- ❖ Catamaran cruise of Killary Fjord
- ❖ Visits and admissions to Dublin Castle, Blarney Castle, Blasket Centre, Muckross House, Cliffs of Moher, Burren Display Centre, Kylemore Abbey & Gardens, Connemara Celtic Crystal Factory and Clonmacnoise
- ❖ All local taxes, hotel service charges & portorage for one suitcase per person

### YOUR HOTELS:

Stay at the following (or similar):

- ❖ Burlington Hotel, Dublin (1 night)
- ❖ Dunloe Castle Hotel, Killarney (3 nights)
- ❖ Great Southern Hotel, Galway (2 nights)
- ❖ Radisson SAS St. Helen's, Dublin (1 night)

*Extra nights can be reserved in Dublin if you require.*

### DEPARTURE DATES & SELLING PRICE FOR 2006 SEASON

|              |          |          |
|--------------|----------|----------|
| April        | Thurs 13 | €1045.00 |
|              | Thurs 20 | €1045.00 |
| April<br>May | Thurs 27 | €1130.00 |
|              | Thurs 4  | €1130.00 |
|              | Thurs 11 | €1130.00 |
|              | Thurs 18 | €1130.00 |
|              | Thurs 25 | €1130.00 |
| June         | Thurs 1  | €1150.00 |
|              | Thurs 8  | €1150.00 |
|              | Thurs 15 | €1150.00 |
|              | Thurs 22 | €1150.00 |
|              | Thurs 29 | €1150.00 |
| July         | Thurs 6  | €1150.00 |
|              | Thurs 13 | €1150.00 |
|              | Thurs 20 | €1150.00 |
|              | Thurs 27 | €1150.00 |
| August       | Thurs 3  | €1150.00 |
|              | Thurs 10 | €1150.00 |
|              | Thurs 17 | €1150.00 |
|              | Thurs 24 | €1150.00 |
|              | Thurs 31 | €1150.00 |
| September    | Thurs 7  | €1150.00 |
|              | Thurs 14 | €1150.00 |
|              | Thurs 21 | €1150.00 |
|              | Thurs 28 | €1150.00 |
| October      | Thurs 5  | €1110.00 |
|              | Thurs 12 | €1110.00 |
|              | Thurs 19 | €1110.00 |
|              | Thurs 26 | €1110.00 |

Single Room Supplement €309.00.  
All Rates in €

