

Community Social Work Journey to Scotland

## OPTIONAL BELFAST POST PROGRAM EXTENSION

4 days | Explore Belfast including the Giant's Causeway

Extend your stay for three additional nights in Belfast. Belfast is Northern Ireland's capital and lies along the banks of the River Lagan on the east coast of Ireland. Famous as a port city and for its colorful past, it is a must see while you are in the UK.

### DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

#### DAY 1: AUGUST 8, 2019

📍 Belfast, Northern Ireland

Fly to Belfast today where you will meet up with your local guide and driver for your transfer to **Belfast City**.

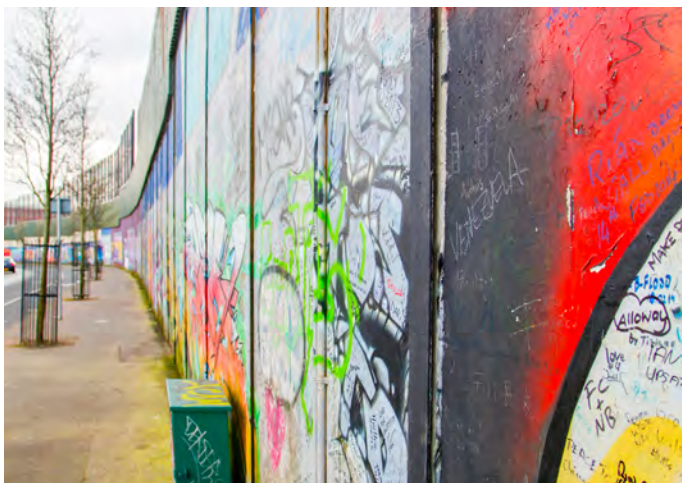
On arrival enjoy a **black taxi tour** of the city. This is a political history tour of West Belfast's murals telling the story of the Troubles. The award winning tour has been broadcast worldwide. Take in sights at Falls Road, Shankill Road, Peaceline Wall, Crumlin Road Gaol, as well as the Murals.

Lunch will be provided at a local restaurant.

Head to the hotel this afternoon for check in. The remainder of the day is yours to relax with dinner on your own.

**Meals:** Breakfast & Lunch

**Overnight:** Europa Hotel (or similar)



#### DAY 2: AUGUST 9, 2019

📍 Belfast, Northern Ireland



After breakfast at the hotel, depart for your explorations of some of the key sites of the city. Your first stop today is to **Titanic Belfast**. Located in the heart of Belfast, Titanic Belfast recreates the story of the world's most famous ship in an iconic, six floor building right beside the historic site of the original ship's construction. Opened in April 2012 to coincide with the centenary of its launch, the self-guided journey begins on entering the building's giant atrium, where the visitor is surrounded by the four 'ship's hull' shaped wings which house the Titanic Experience. As you journey through the nine large galleries of the interactive exhibition, you will uncover the true story of the Titanic, from her conception in Belfast in the early 1900's, through her construction and launch, to her famous maiden voyage and subsequent place in history.

Enjoy lunch at a local pub or cafe.

Head onward to visit **Crumlin Road Gaol** to experience the history inside the former prison, which dates back to 1845. Closed in 1996, it also played a significant role during the troubles in Belfast. Designed by Charles Lanyon at a cost of £60,000, it was one of the most advanced prisons of its day and was built within a five sided wall on ten acres. The prison was designed to hold between 500–550 prisoners but during the civil unrest in Northern Ireland especially during 1970's as many as 900 prisoners were held here. The Gaol has now been turned into a major visitor attraction and conference center. You will be able to tour of the prison and hear the varied history of the Gaol that dates back to 1845. Visit the execution cell where 17 men were executed between 1854–1961 before heading to the Governors office and the restored cells of C wing. There will be an opportunity to walk along the underground tunnel that links the Gaol to the courthouse where the prisoners were led to the Gaol after being sentenced.

Return to the hotel where dinner is on your own this evening.

**Meals:** Breakfast & Lunch

**Overnight:** Europa Hotel (or similar)



**DAY 3: AUGUST 10, 2019**

**Belfast, Northern Ireland**

After breakfast at the hotel, depart for your day trip to explore the **North Antrim Coast**. Encounter Northern Ireland's favorite giant Finn McCool at the new Giants Causeway Visitor Center on the North Antrim coast which opened in the summer of 2012. According to legend Finn McCool created the **Giants Causeway** by building stepping stones to Scotland to challenge the Scottish giant Benandonner! The new visitor center explores the major themes of mythology, geology, landscape, ecology, culture

and social history based on the UNESCO World Heritage site that consists of 40,000 basalt polygonal columns formed 60 million years ago after a volcanic eruption. There are various interactive exhibits and short video presentations within five designated interpretive exhibition areas and the self guided visit will culminate with a spectacular two minutes audio-visual projection of a volcanic eruption flowing over the walls and onto the floor.



Stop for lunch before heading onward to visit **Carrick-a-Rede**, on the Antrim Coast. This spectacular rope bridge spans a chasm 30 meters deep and 20 meters wide. Originally a seasonal working bridge for fishermen, it connects a small island to the mainland. Its construction once consisted of a single rope handrail and widely spaced slats, which the fishermen would cross to bring ashore salmon caught off the island. The single handrail was subsequently replaced by today's two-handed railed bridge. Visitors bold enough to cross to the rocky island are rewarded with fantastic views. Underneath the bridge are large caves, which often served as a safe haven for fishing trawlers escaping from winter storms.

Return to Belfast and head to dinner at a local restaurant.

**Meals:** Breakfast & Dinner

**Overnight:** Europa Hotel (or similar)

**DAY 4: AUGUST 11, 2019**

Head to the Dublin airport today for your return to the U.S. and your connecting flights home.



The famous Europa Hotel in Belfast is located in the heart of the city and offers elegant decor, contemporary bistro, bustling bar and relaxing piano bar lounge make the four star Europa Hotel the hotel of choice for business and leisure guests visiting Belfast. Due to its prime location, the Europa Hotel is a short distance from many of Belfast's top visitor attractions including the Ulster Museum, Grand Opera House, City Hall, Titanic Belfast, Waterfront Hall and SSE Arena.

#### HOTEL INFORMATION

##### Europa Hotel - 4 Star

Great Victoria St, Belfast BT2 7AP, UK

[www.hastingshotels.com/europa-belfast](http://www.hastingshotels.com/europa-belfast)



## PROGRAM INFO

**Date & Length:** 4 days August 8–11, 2019

**Extension cost:** \$1,899 per person. *Single supplement:* \$499.

**Inclusions:** Flight to Belfast, group airport transfers; baggage handling, most gratuities; tours; meals as mentioned; local guide for tours and transfers; and accommodations based on double occupancy.

**Not Included:** Hotel incidentals and meals not mentioned.

*To participate in the optional extension, complete and return the extension registration form. Return no later than 90 days prior to departure or within five days of receiving the information.*