

**Ireland: Dublin, Belfast, Derry, Galway, Killarney**

**July 15 – 24, 2022**

**\$5,699** (double occupancy, incl flights)

**\$999** (single supplement)

**BOOK NOW 888.747.7501**



**Music Education Journey to Ireland:**  
*A cultural, community and music immersion experience with Dr. Lynn Brinckmeyer*

*Visit Ireland on this customized Music Education Journey to Ireland. Explore the many regions of Ireland and enjoy the variety of music traditions as you journey across the Emerald Isle. You will have a chance to explore the North and South visiting counties Antrim and Derry in the North and the counties of Dublin, Clare, Galway, and Kerry in the South.*

### Program & Professional Highlights

- Explore the beautiful landscapes of Ireland and explore iconic locations including **EPIC Ireland Museum of Immigration, Giants Causeway, Cliffs of Moher & Gap of Dunloe**, and **Glenarm Castle**
- Connect with **educators, musicians, and pupils** in a variety of settings to explore music education in Ireland. A special focus will be on **Traditional Irish Music**, its history, and its instruments
- Meet with staff and faculty from the **Irish Institute of Music and Song** in Balbriggan
- Enjoy an **introductory dance lesson** and learn all about Irish Dancing
- Participate in an **Irish music lesson** with Christy Barry at the **Doolin Music House** and learn how to play the Penny Whistle

### Community & Personal Connections

- Immerse yourself in daily life and learn about Ireland's unique culture, history, and music with hands on experiences including a **breadmaking class** in a family home
- Join locals for a traditional **Irish Ceilidh** in a local pub
- Enjoy a ride in a traditional **jaunty cart** as you explore the **Gap of Dunloe**
- Learn about rural farming life during a visit to **Glenshane Farm** where you will attend a **sheepdog demonstration**
- Visit an 800-year-old family distillery in Dublin for a tasting and introduction into small batch whiskey

### What's Included:

- 4\* accommodations throughout
- Private transportation and activities outlined in itinerary
- International flights to Ireland (gateway city New York)
- Local professional guide throughout
- Pre travel support
- 24/7 support during travel

### Not included:

- Personal expenses
- Meals not specified
- Alcoholic beverages
- Passport renewal or issuance
- Domestic flight to gateway city
- National Guide and driver tip, tips to your hotel maid or porters



📍 New York

### DAY 1, Friday, July 15, 2022

Depart from New York today make your way to Dublin.

📍 Dublin, Ireland

### DAY 2, Saturday, July 16, 2022

After clearing Immigration and Customs procedures, the group will be met by your national guide for the transfer to city center.

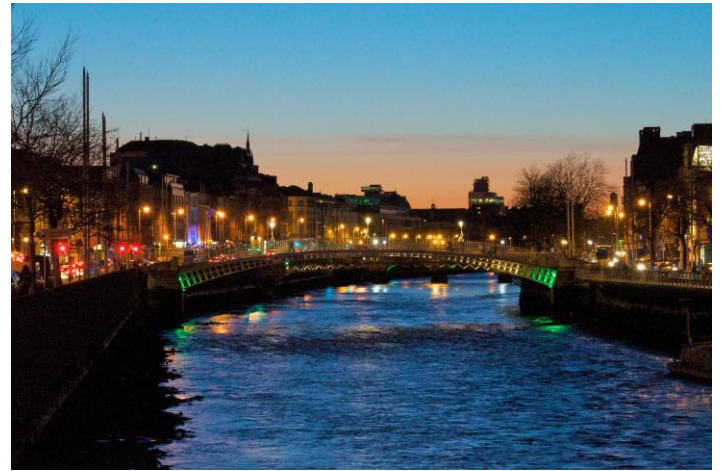
On arrival enjoy a **panoramic tour of Dublin City**. Discover the north and south side of the river Liffey. This area offers great striking monuments such as the GPO (General Post Office) on the city main thoroughfare, **O'Connell Street**, or the Custom House along the quays, as well as the **Phoenix Park**, the largest public park in Europe. The south side appears more sophisticated with its vast Georgian squares, such as Merrion Square, where **Oscar Wilde's House** can still be found (today owned by an American College), its colorful doors, along with **Grafton Street** and its quality shops. Not so far from St. Stephen's Green, in Kildare St., you will see the house of **Bram Stoker**, the author of Dracula. This part of the city is also dominated by the students at **Trinity College**, where the famous Book of Kells is permanently exhibited in its library.

Visit **EPIC, The Museum of Irish Emigration**. EPIC is a state-of-the-art interactive experience located in the beautiful vaults of the 1820 Custom House Quarter building in Dublin's Docklands, the original departure point for so many of Ireland's emigrants. It will inspire and guide you on a journey to discover the stories of Irish emigration around the world, from early times to the modern day.

Enjoy a welcome dinner at your hotel this evening.

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

**Included meals: Dinner**



📍 Dublin, Ireland

### DAY 3, Sunday, July 17, 2022

After breakfast, discover over **eight hundred years of history** and awaken your senses with whiskey tours and tastings at **Pearse Lyons Distillery**. Located in the former St. James' Church in Dublin's city center, this small and intimate family-owned distillery offers guests a unique blend of Irish history, culture and the very best of whiskeys. Winner of the Irish Tourism Industry Award for Dublin's Best Visitor Experience 2019, Pearse Lyons Distillery is a working distillery like no other. See how Pearse small batch Irish Whiskey is made and chat with the team of distillers. Each tour and tasting experience celebrate the Irish tradition of storytelling.

Lunch will be provided at a **local pub or restaurant**.

Explore the deep history and passion for music in all forms during a meeting with faculty and staff at the **Irish Institute of Music and Song in Balbriggan** {subject to availability}. The IIMS is a world-facing music organization that provides unique music experiences and programs to individuals, communities, and businesses worldwide. The historic campus is located just outside of Dublin. The campus includes historic buildings dating from the 1750s.

*Possible performance at National Concert Hall – schedule not yet available for this date.*

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

**Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch**





📍 Belfast, Ireland

## DAY 4, Monday, July 18, 2022

After breakfast, check out and depart for Belfast. In route, enjoy a **hands-on farmhouse baking experience** with Tracey in her 18<sup>th</sup> century thatched cottage on the shores of Strangford Lough. Tracey will teach all about the **traditional Irish baking** and walk you through the steps to make your very own Irish fruit soda cake, potato bread (or fudge as it is known locally) and Soda bread. You will not only leave with all your handmade goodies, but also all the yummy recipes so you can bake for your friends when you get home.

Continue to Belfast, Northern Ireland. Upon arrival enjoy a **guided city tour** where you will take in the leaning **Albert Memorial Clock** tower (Ireland's answer to the Tower of Pisa) and the **Opera House**, which is one of Belfast's great landmarks.

Possible professional meetings this afternoon include:

- Opera House
- Faculty with Belfast Trad who provide instruction on traditional Irish musical instruments such as harp, fiddle, bodhran, flute and traditional singing
- Ulster Orchestra
- National Concert Hall – *schedule pending*

Enjoy dinner at a local pub/restaurant.

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

**Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**



📍 Co. Antrim, Ireland

## DAY 5, Tuesday, July 19, 2022

This morning, depart your hotel and travel along the Causeway Coast. Enroute visit **Glenarm Castle** which has been the family home of the Earls of Antrim for over **400 years**. The Castle is the home of Viscount and Viscountess Dunluce and their family. You will see superb examples of Irish furniture as well as portraits of family members from the early 17th Century through to the present day. The Walled Garden is one of Ireland's oldest and was originally created to supply the Castle with its fruit and vegetables. It is now filled with exciting flowers and specimen plants to interest the keenest garden enthusiast.

Enjoy lunch at a **local pub or restaurant**.

Later this afternoon, encounter Northern Ireland's favorite giant **Finn McCool at the new Giants Causeway** visitor center. According to legend Finn created the causeway by building steppingstones to Scotland to challenge the Scottish giant Benandonner! The new 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**.

Continue to your hotel in Derry, where dinner is on your own.

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

**Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch**



📍 Derry, Ireland

### DAY 6, Wednesday, July 20, 2022

Explore **Derry**, the only remaining completely walled city in Ireland. Walk the famous city walls which date back to the early part of the seventeenth century and have been a place of several sieges. There are fine views from the top of the walls, which encircle the old city, a circuit of one mile. By walking on Derry's Walls, you have splendid views of cathedrals and churches, you will learn about the historical events that shaped the city and explore attractions such as **The Bogside, The People's Gallery: The Murals, The Diamond, the Tower Museum, and the Guildhall.**

Put on your dancing shoes! Join a **local dance teacher** for a private introductory beginner's Irish dance lesson.

Enjoy lunch at a **local pub/restaurant.**

This afternoon head to **Glenshane Country Farm**, set high in the heart of the Sperrin Mountains. They are the 4th generation of family sheep farmers, and you will enjoy a hands-on authentic experience of an Irish working farm. With over 250+ sheep on the farm you'll observe the farmer working the sheepdogs to herd the sheep. This is a unique experience and is thoroughly enjoyed by all guests who visit this beautiful farm.

**Overnight: City Hotel (or similar)**  
**Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch**



📍 Galway, Ireland

### DAY 7, Thursday July 21, 2022

After breakfast, check out and head to Galway.

Marvel at the majestic rolling hills, green fields, and scenic beauty of the Irish countryside. Stop for lunch at a local pub or restaurant enroute to Galway.

On arrival in **Galway** enjoy a walking tour. The city center of Galway is mainly pedestrian, so a walking tour is the best way to enjoy its atmosphere and discover some of its most important monument. The tour starts on Eyre Square and finishes at the Claddagh. During the tour you will see Lynch Castle, home to the mayors of Galway, Saint Nicholas Church founded in the 13th century, and the famous Spanish Arch. You can walk along the Corrib River to the Claddagh village or to the majestic Cathedral.

This evening, enjoy dinner in a local pub or restaurant followed by a **traditional Irish music concert and trad session** with local musicians. Trad sessions are an integral part of local life in Ireland, and especially so in Galway. Local people join in the fun, and we hope you will too!

**Overnight: Menlo Park Hotel (or similar)**  
**Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**



📍 Killarney, Ireland

### DAY 8, Friday, July 22, 2022

Say goodbye to Galway and head to **Killarney** this morning.

In route enjoy the **Cliffs of Moher**, which are situated on the Atlantic Ocean bordering the Burren region. One of Ireland's most spectacular sights the cliffs stand at 230 meters above the ground at their highest point and are 8 km long. They boast one of the most amazing views in Ireland. On a clear day, the Aran Islands are visible in Galway Bay as well as the valleys and hills of Connemara.

Enjoy an **Irish music session** and learn how to play the Penny Whistle at the **Doolin Music House** today, where you will also have lunch. This delightful experience takes place in Christy & Sheila's home. Christy Barry started playing music in Doolin in the 70's and then went to live in New York and Chicago. He returned to Doolin in the late 90s and continues to play and teach music in Doolin. He is an All-Ireland Whistle Champion and has also received two different "Lifetime Achievement Awards", from the Doolin Folk Festival (2015) and the Corofin Trad Festival (2018). After your time with Christy, Sheila and friends, say your goodbyes and take the Shannon Car Ferry onward to Killarney.

Dinner is on your own before attending the **Celtic Steps performance in Killarney**. Celtic Steps was born from an idea to showcase Ireland's traditional music, song and dance, and to portray the music of Kerry and beyond the songs of Ireland's history. The show exhibits Irish dancing, from the Hornpipe, danced on the old, thatched cottage half-door, and the polka set at the crossroads, to the phenomenon that is Irish dancing worldwide today. Celtic Steps has mixed music, songs, and dance in a unique blend to allow guests to enjoy the history of Irish Music and dance in a unique way.

**Overnight: Killarney Towers (or similar)**  
**Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch**



📍 Killarney, Ireland

### DAY 9 Saturday, July 23, 2022

This morning the group will take a **Gap of Dunloe Tour** including a **jaunting car ride and open boat trip**. The Gap of Dunloe is a narrow mountain pass forged between the MacGillycuddy Reeks and Purple Mountain by glacial flows. The river running through the gap is the river Loe from where the Gap gets its name. The Gap begins at Kate Kearney's Cottage. The road narrows in many places, winds through the pass and descends into The Black Valley passing five lakes: Coosaun Lough, Black Lake, Cushnavally Lake, Auger Lake and Black Lough. Within easy walking distance from Kate Kearney's cottage is a picturesque old bridge known as the 'Wishing Bridge'. It is said that wishes made here really do come true! The Gap is approximately 11 km from north to south.

Return to Killarney for the balance of the day at leisure before enjoying a **farewell dinner** at a local restaurant accompanied by traditional **Torc Dancers and Nos Singer**.

**Overnight: Killarney Towers (or similar)**  
**Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

📍 Shannon, Ireland

### DAY 10, Sunday, July 24, 2022

Check out of your hotel this morning and transfer to Shannon Airport for your flight home.

**Included meals: Breakfast**





## ITINERARY | DAY-BY-DAY

📍 Dublin, Ireland

### Gresham Hotel 4\*

23 O'Connell St. Upper,  
North City, Dublin, Ireland

**Telephone:** +353-1-874-6881

<https://www.riu.com/en/hotel/ireland/dublin/hotel-riu-plaza-the-gresham-dublin/>



📍 Belfast, N. Ireland

### Europa Hotel 4\*

Great Victoria St.  
Belfast, BT2 7AP

**Telephone:** +44-28 9027 1066

<https://www.europahotelbelfast.com/>



📍 Derry, N. Ireland

### City Hotel 4\*

Queens Quay  
Derry, Ireland BT48 7AS

**Telephone:** +44-2871 365 800

<https://www.cityhotelderry.com>



📍 Galway, Ireland

### Menlo Park Hotel 4\*

Headford Road, Galway  
Ireland, H91 E98N

**Telephone:** +353 91 761 122

<https://www.menloparkhotel.com>





📍 Killarney, Ireland

## **Killarney Towers 4\***

Town Centre

Killarney, Co. Kerry, Ireland

**Telephone:** +353-66-915-0200

<https://www.killarneytowers.com/>

