

Ireland: Kerry, Cahersiveen, Cork & Dublin

June 12-21, 2023 (8 nights/10 days)

\$5,499 (double occupancy, incl flights)

\$499 (single supplement)

BOOK NOW 888.747.7501



Introduction to Education Journey to Ireland: A cultural, community and education immersion experience with Dr. Patricia Edwards

Visit Ireland on this customized education Journey. Visit Ireland on this customized education program. A warm Irish welcome awaits you in Dublin, Cork, and Kerry where you will be immersed in local life, exploring education, see firsthand the kindness of the people who welcomed Ukrainian refugees into their schools and their communities! The Emerald Isle awaits.

Program & Professional Highlights

- Learn about Ireland's centuries of **educational heritage** through both professional and cultural interaction with the local people at local schools, heritage sites and museums. Spend time at local schools including a **Gaeltacht School (Irish speaking)** to discuss student performance and curriculum.
- Enjoy an in-depth guided tour to explore the **Museum of Literature (MoLI)**. See how they celebrate Irish literacy and culture from the past to the present with an aim to inspire future writers and poets.
- While in Dublin you will meet with a **local non-profit, school, or government representatives** who'll share information with you on the steps Ireland is making to improve literacy in the country.

Community & Personal Connections

- Explore some of the most iconic sites of Ireland like the **Cliffs of Moher, Ring of Kerry, Rock of Cashel, and Guinness Storehouse**.
- Spend a day with teachers, students, and community leaders in the community of **Cahersiveen** in County Kerry. Explore approaches to education, literacy, and cultural integration in this part of the country which has extended a warm welcome to displaced Ukrainian students. *You will also spend two nights with a family at their home to further immerse yourself in local life.*
- Take a **foodie tour** in Kinsale as you explore this medieval coastal town on foot and enjoy tastings at a selection of different eateries. Hear stories about the food and the town.
- Optional pre-program **extension to Scotland coming soon.**

What's Included:

- 3-4* accommodations throughout
- Private transportation and activities outlined in itinerary
- Most meals
- International flights to Ireland (gateway New York)
- Local professional guide throughout
- Pre travel support
- 24/7 support during travel

Not included:

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

ITINERARY | DAY-BY-DAY

📍 New York

DAY 1, Monday, June 12, 2023

Depart from New York today and make your way to Ireland.

📍 Shannon, Ireland

DAY 2, Tuesday, June 13

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

In route visit 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.

Take the Shannon Car Ferry onward to Killarney and check into your hotel.

Killarney Towers Hotel is centrally located in town center. Each room offers guests all the modern conveniences that you would expect from a contemporary 4-star hotel, spacious and bright, decorated and furnished with your comfort and convenience in mind. Rooms have a safe, hairdryer, bathrobe and slippers on request, iron and board, AC and free Wi-Fi. The hotel has onsite dining, a gym with a pool, a bar and business center.

Enjoy a welcome dinner this evening.

Overnight: 4* Killarney Towers (or similar)

Included meals: Dinner



📍 Killarney, Ireland

DAY 3, Wednesday, June 14

Head out after breakfast today, starting with your tour to see some of the highlights of the **Ring of Kerry**. Starting in Killarney you will pass through the beauty of **Killarney National Park**. The park is famous for its native natural habitats and species including oak holly woods, yew woods and red deer, to the beautiful town of Kenmare. Cenn Mara is the Irish name for Kenmare, its literal meaning being Head of the Sea – to indicate its location at the head of Kenmare Bay. En-route to Kenmare, stop at the breathtaking Ladies View and the equally stunning Molls Gap.

Lunch will be provided this afternoon.

Next stop is Molls Gap to visit the **Kissane Sheep Farm**. This traditional, working sheep farm with approximately 1.000 mountain sheep and hundreds of lambs is run by John and Anne Kissane, as it has been run by generations of the family for the last 150 years. Learn about sheep farming in Ireland including seeing a sheepdog demonstration, sheep shearing demonstrations, bottle feed the orphan (pet) lambs in season, take a marked mountain/puzzle walk.

Enjoy a private dance and **brush dance class** with the Torc Traditional Irish Dance Group.

Dinner is on your own this evening.

Overnight: 4* Killarney Towers (or similar)

Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch

ITINERARY | DAY-BY-DAY

📍 Cahersiveen, Ireland

DAY 4, Thursday, June 15

After breakfast, check out and journey to the idyllic and welcoming community of **Cahersiveen**, deep in the Kerry countryside. **A special homestay experience for two nights will immerse you in the local culture and provide the opportunity to see how the locals live.**

Enjoy lunch at local restaurant.

Later today the plan is to visit a Gaeltacht (Irish speaking) school like **Scoil an Ghleanna** in the area. Learn more about how Ireland is expanding its non-denominational schools and how there is a growing trend toward Irish speaking schools. This unique school has also integrated Ukrainian students during the 2022 academic year who when they arrived could not speak a word of English or Irish!

They are a multi-denominational Gaeltacht school, with the ethos of the Community National Schools. It is of great benefit to them that there is a low teacher-pupil ratio 2022 ensuring that they can be provided with an excellent standard of teaching and learning. They have a holistic and advanced approach to teaching and learning, ensuring that students receive a full-fledged education.

Dinner is under own arrangement this evening.

Overnight: Homestay

Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch



📍 Cahersiveen, Ireland

DAY 5, Friday, June 16

After breakfast at your homestay depart for a full day immersion with the local schools like **Asana Language School** and/or **Scoil Saidhbhín**. You'll spend the day with teachers, students, and community leaders to learn about curriculum development, oversight, and implementation. You'll also see firsthand how this tiny community of 1041 recently increased their school roster by over 30% as they welcomed over 50 displaced Ukrainian students into their school in early 2022. Learn how the students have been seamlessly integrated and how the teachers, district and community have come together to create a cohesive culturally balanced environment for the students. CNN did a short feature on the school in May 2022 to highlight how such a small town had extended a huge Irish welcome to the displaced Ukrainian families.

Enjoy lunch at a **local restaurant**.

This small community has long had a service centric approach to its global citizens. They have hosted many international students during the summer and collaboratively developed community service projects that the US and Irish students work on together. Hear from **Mary Golden**, the local high school guidance counsellor, about the impact this has had on the town and the many benefits that have presented over the years, many of them unexpected.

This evening dinner will be at a local restaurant joined by some of the teachers from the local area.

Overnight: Homestay

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

ITINERARY | DAY-BY-DAY

📍 Cork, Ireland

DAY 6, Saturday, June 17

After breakfast, say goodbye to your homestay families and head to **Cork**.

First you will stop in Kinsale and enjoy a **walking food tour**. The food tours are like a walking food trail which takes you to a selection of different eateries. As you walk through this beautiful medieval coastal town, you will experience a range of different local foods. During the tour you will hear stories about the food and the town.

This afternoon the plan is to have a guided tour of the **University College Cork**. They are an award-winning institution with a history of independent thinking stretching back over 170 years. UCC is proud to be ranked in the top 1.1% of universities in the world. Their beautiful university opened its gates to just 115 students in 1849. They now have a student population of over 23,000. Alternatively, the group will have free time this afternoon to get settled into your hotel.

Dinner is by individual arrangement.

Overnight: 4* Metropole Hotel (or similar)

Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch



📍 Dublin, Ireland

DAY 7, Sunday, June 18

After breakfast, check out and head to Dublin.

Visit the **Rock of Cashel**, possibly the most photographed site in Ireland. It towers over the town of Cashel from its perch on a 200-foot-high outcrop of limestone. Once the seat of the Kings of Munster. St. Patrick visited the rock in 450 AD, while Brian Boru was crowned the first high King of Ireland here in the tenth century. Granted to the church in the twelfth century, by the O'Brien clan, today the impressive stone walls enclose a round tower, a cathedral, a twelfth century Romanesque chapel and high crosses. The Vicars Choral has been recently restored and its basement houses a small museum of artefacts found on the site. One of the leading visitor attractions in Ireland, in 2011 it was visited by Queen Elizabeth II on her historic first visit to the Republic of Ireland.

You will have some free time in the area to explore with lunch on your own.

Continue to **Dublin** where you will check into your local hotel with dinner on your own.

Academy Plaza Hotel is the perfect location just off O'Connell Street. A short stroll to Temple Bar, the shopping districts of Henry St & Grafton St, the Irish Emigration Museum (EPIC) & Trinity College.

Overnight: 3* Academy Plaza Hotel (or similar)
Included meals: Breakfast

ITINERARY | DAY-BY-DAY

📍 Dublin, Ireland

DAY 8, Monday, June 19

After breakfast 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.

Lunch will be provided at a local restaurant.

This afternoon we will request a meeting with a **local non-profit, school, or government representative** to share information with you on the steps Ireland is making to improve literacy in the country.

Accompanying Guests:

Guests will have the afternoon free if you opt not to spend the afternoon with the professional members of the group.

Dinner is on your own this evening.

Overnight: 3* Academy Plaza Hotel (or similar)
Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch



📍 Killarney, Ireland

DAY 9 Tuesday, June 20

After breakfast, enjoy an in-depth guided visit to **MoLI - Museum of Literature Ireland**. Opened in the spring of 2019, after almost a decade of collaboration with the University College Dublin and National Library of Ireland, MoLI is in one of Dublin's finest historic houses, Newman House. The facility celebrates Ireland's internationally renowned literary culture and heritage from the past to the present, inspiring the next generation to create, read and write. Explore their cutting-edge, digital, interactive exhibitions surrounding Irish writing from medieval times to the present day.

This afternoon, visit the **Guinness Storehouse** to discover all there is to know about the world-famous beer. It's a dramatic story that begins over 250 years ago and ends in Gravity, the sky bar, with a complimentary pint of Guinness and an astonishing view of Dublin City. *They offer food if you would like to order something to eat for lunch (individual expense).*

This evening, say your farewells during your **farewell dinner** at a local restaurant.

Overnight: 3* Academy Plaza Hotel (or similar)
Included meals: Breakfast & Dinner

📍 Dublin, Ireland

DAY 10, Wednesday, June 21

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

Included meals: Breakfast

ITINERARY | DAY-BY-DAY

📍 Kerry, Ireland

Killarney Towers 4*

College Street
Kerry, Ireland V93 HP7A

Telephone: +353-64-663-1038

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



📍 Cork, Ireland

The Metropole Hotel 4*

Mac Curtain Street
Cork, Ireland T23 EEC3

Telephone: +353-21-464-3700

www.themetropolehotel.ie



📍 Dublin, Ireland

Academy Plaza Hotel 3*

10-14 Findlater Place
Dublin 1, Ireland D01 X2X0

Telephone: +353-1-878-0666

<https://www.academyplazahotel.ie/en/>

