
SACRED SITE EXPLORER

OCTOBER 7-16, 2019

TOUR COST

£2195 (APPROX \$2920 US) SINGLE SUPPLEMENT £350 (APPROX \$465).

A DEPOSIT OF £450 (APPROX \$600) IS TO BE PAID TO SECURE YOUR PLACE ON THE TOUR AND WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM THE TOUR COST. THE BALANCE PAYMENT IS DUE 75 DAYS PRIOR TO THE TOUR. THE DEPOSIT CAN BE MADE WITH A CARD AND THE BALANCE PAYMENT CAN BE MADE WITH A CARD OR BY BANK WIRE TRANSFER,

YOU WILL BE SENT AN INVOICE FOR THE DEPOSIT AND BALANCE WITH INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR OPTIONS FOR THE BALANCE PAYMENT.

ITINERARY

Day 1, Mon 7th Oct

After collection from Dublin Airport drive to our hotel in Kells – for 3 nights Introductions and orientation meeting followed by Dinner at the hotel (overnight in Kells at Headfort Arms Hotel - 3 nights)

Day 2, Tues 8th Oct

We start our journey with a pilgrimage to Kildare, the home of Brigid. She was both Pagan goddess and early Christian saint. St Brigid established a monastery in 470AD, probably at the location of a former pagan sacred site. Kildare Cathedral developed from this monastery in the early 13th century and is unusual in Ireland for being Anglican. It contains a hidden 'sheela-na-gig', a pagan symbol of fertility and the feminine. Within the graveyard is the only surviving round tower in Ireland that you can climb. We will visit St Brigid's Well, a place of peace and tranquility that has been revered since beyond memory. The Brigidine Sisters, who maintain her perpetual flame, are a shining light for peace and have recently opened a new centre that we will visit when we go to meet them. Free choice dinner not included (overnight in Kells)

Day 3, Wed 9th Oct

This morning our climb up to the hilltop cairns of Loughcrew is rewarded with panoramic views of seventeen counties (or so we're told!). The old name for Loughcrew was Slieve na Caillighe, Gaelic for Mountain of the Witch. We can gain access into Cairn T that has elaborately carved and decorated stones in its inner 9 South Street, South Petherton TA13 5AD England +44 7715 525 747 ~ sacredsitereexplorer@gmail.com Sacred Site Explorer recesses and the Hag's Chair set into the northern side of the kerb. We'll take time to personally experience the energies of the different cairns that each have solar alignments on various Celtic Festival dates. We have a relaxed lunch at Tara before visiting the royal centre of the ancient capital of Leinster and the place where the king undertook the 'Ban Fheis' or sacred marriage to the goddess in order to secure fertility and wellbeing for the land and his people. Its importance grew until the king of Tara was also seen as the High King of all Ireland, but only after undertaking tests to prove his rightfulness to be king. We explore the complex of sites at Tara including Grainne's (Sun Goddess) Mound, the Mound of the Hostages, the Stone of Destiny and Teach Cormaic. Dinner at the Hotel (overnight in Kells)

Day 4, Thurs 10th Oct

Today we visit the Bru na Boinne visitor center to learn about Newgrange and Knowth cairns, Ireland's most famous Neolithic sites. Anthony Murphy, author of 'Newgrange: Monument to Immortality', will be our expert Irish guide for the day to share his wisdom with us as we experience the sacred sites of the Boyne Valley. We first visit Knowth, a complex of cairns that has the finest Neolithic stone carvings in Europe decorating most of the kerbstones around the base of the main cairn; this feels like a real world Hobbitland! We will then be guided inside Newgrange, known as a passage tomb, but also a place of initiation and spiritual rites of passage. It is aligned such that the midwinter solstice sunrise sends a shaft of light that extends deep inside the passage to the central chambers. Today we move to Dublin for one night Free choice dinner not included (overnight in Dublin at Holiday Inn Express Dublin City Centre - 1 night)

Day 5, Fri 11th Oct

You will have a free day in Dublin to explore at your leisure. Your flight will either be at 12:30pm or 6:40pm. The flight is 1hr 5mins. I will arrange for you to be picked up at your hotel in Dublin to be transported to the airport and meet you in Bristol at the airport to transfer you to your hotel in Tavistock, Dartmoor. Free choice dinner not included in tour price (overnight in Tavistock at Bedford Hotel - 2 nights)

Day 6, Sat 12th Oct

Today we visit Tintagel, the renowned birthplace of King Arthur. All sites in Tintagel are dominated by everything Arthurian and you'll have the opportunity to re-live the stories of the Arthurian legend. Traveling back in time we may discover how these archetypes can help us in our world today. We'll learn the stories of the Arthurian legend and about the lives of the fabled Knights of the Round Table as we visit King Arthur's Great Halls, constructed entirely of crystal-studded granite using sacred geometry in its layout. Then we cross the footbridge that is now the only means of access to Tintagel Castle, the fabled birthplace of Arthur, which sits in splendid isolation on its rocky promontory. Descending the castle cliffs to the beach below, we'll enter Merlin's Cave accessible only for a short time at low tide each day. St Materiana's Church on the headland has a special feel and an energy that is present. (Order of the day may change according to the tide schedule.) Dinner at the hotel (overnight in Tavistock)

Day 7, Sun 13th Oct

This morning we'll have an early start traveling East to Glastonbury, the legendary Isle of Avalon. We start our visit at the St. Margaret Chapel, commonly known as the Magdalene Chapel. This twelfth century chapel and almshouses are an oasis of peace. We will visit Glastonbury Abbey, once the largest and most powerful abbey in all of Britain and the reputed resting place of King Arthur and Guinevere. Here we find the Michael and Mary Earth Energy currents that we met in Cornwall. We have a long lunch break to allow time to explore the myriad of alternative shops such as 'Man, Myth & Magik', 'The Speaking Tree' or 'The Goddess & the Green Man'. Rising dramatically from the flat land of the surrounding Somerset Levels, the Tor has been a beacon of spirituality since pagan times and still acts as a magnet for people of all beliefs. You will hear the stories and the legends as well as experience the powerful energy and atmosphere of this sacred site. The views from the top are spectacular! At its foot lies Chalice Well, a true healing place in this land, and you are encouraged to drink from the holy well where, a local story tells, the Holy Grail is hidden. Free choice dinner not included (overnight in Devizes at The Bear Hotel - 2 nights)

Day 8, Mon 14th Oct

This morning walk in the footsteps of your Neolithic ancestors at Stonehenge – one of the wonders of the world and the best-known prehistoric monument in Europe. Explore the ancient landscape on foot and step inside the Neolithic Houses to discover the tools and objects of everyday Neolithic life. Visit the world-class exhibition and visitor centre with 250 ancient objects and come face to face with a 5,500-year-old man. This afternoon we visit Avebury, the

heart centre of megalithic Britain. Here, within the largest stone circle in the world, we find the remains of two former stone circles, one solar and one lunar. Feel the pulse of powerful earth energy currents coursing beneath your feet, imagine the ceremonies which have been performed by robed priests over aeons of time, we'll share in our final ceremony and you'll have time to sit in quiet meditation. This is a rare opportunity to truly experience a site revered by countless generations. We will visit Knoll Down, a tranquil sacred grove of trees that is the 'tail' of the Serpent Temple and was once connected to Avebury by an avenue of stones stretching for a mile and a quarter in length. A similar avenue also led off in another direction culminating at The Sanctuary the 'head' of the Serpent Temple. Farewell dinner with Cameron (overnight in Devizes)

Day 9, Tues 15th Oct

Cameron will drive you to your hotel in London where you will have free time to explore the city, using public transportation of your choice. Free choice dinner not included (overnight in West London - To be confirmed - 1 night)

Day 10, Wed 16th Oct

Cameron will arrange for a vehicle to pick you up at your hotel to bring you to Heathrow for your flight to Boston at the appropriate time to be decided Bon Voyage...

Included in Tour Price:

- One collection from Dublin International Airport (DUB) and one return to London Heathrow Airport (LHR)
- All land transport in one minibus with professional driver/tour guide Accommodation in quality and characterful hotels.
- All breakfasts & four dinners Gratuities for accommodation and included meals (paid for by SSE)
- Admission to all listed sites and professional guide services

Not included in price:

- International flights
- One-way flight from Dublin Airport (DUB) to Bristol Airport (BRS) on Day 5
- Lunches, remaining 6 dinners, sodas, juices and alcoholic drinks

SSE strongly recommend tour participants to take out personal, travel and trip cancellation insurance. SSE has liability insurance but it does not cover individual's losses if they cancel their

trip or have an accident. SSE is not responsible for any property stolen from group members or leaders.

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