

Proposed Itinerary

Fri, Jun 16

DEPART USA

We depart the USA tonight aboard our wide bodied jet bound for the Emerald Isle. Cocktails and dinner will be served shortly after takeoff. Watch a movie, or just sit back and relax as you approach the dawn of an Irish morning.

Sat, Jun 17

ARRIVE SHANNON

After customs and immigration formalities at Shannon Airport, your driver/guide will welcome you to Ireland and escort you to the motor coach. Enjoy **breakfast** at the Inn at Dromoland before departing for a panoramic tour of Limerick City. The Treaty of Limerick ended the Williamite war in Ireland between the Jacobites and the supporters of William of Orange. It concluded the Siege of Limerick. The treaty really consisted of two treaties which were signed on 3 October 1691.

Reputedly they were signed on the Treaty Stone, an irregular block of limestone. Check in to your hotel in the early afternoon. Tonight we gather for a "Getting to Know You" Dinner at our hotel.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: BUNRATTY CASTLE HOTEL, BUNRATTY



Sun, Jun 18

REHEARSAL - CLIFFS OF MOHER - KILLARNEY

After a leisurely **breakfast** at the hotel, we will adjourn to a function room for a morning rehearsal. Immediately following rehearsal, we drive to the coast of Clare to view the Cliffs of Moher. This impressive wall of rock rises to almost 700 feet above the foaming Atlantic breakers. Next take a short ferry ride across the River Shannon Estuary to the mountainous countryside of Kerry. We travel south through Listowel and Tralee and on to Killarney where we check into your

hotel. You will have the afternoon free to relax or stroll around town on your own. In the evening join your fellow travelers for dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: KILLARNEY TOWERS HOTEL, KILLARNEY

Mon, Jun 19

ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL - RING OF KERRY TOUR

This morning, we will visit the majestic St. Mary's Cathedral in Killarney. Designed by the famous neo-Gothic designer, Pugin, the foundation stone was laid in 1842. Building was suspended during the worst period of the Great Famine, when the partially completed building was used as a shelter & hospital for the sick and dying. It was not completed until 1855. Killarney's Cathedral is reputed to have been one of Pugin's favourite buildings. After a song or two to enjoy the fabulous acoustics, we set off to explore the Ring of Kerry - 100 miles of marvelous scenery consisting of the highest peaks in Ireland on one side and a coastline scattered with golden beaches and rocky headlands on the other. Enjoy plenty of stops to view the scenery and take photos. Travel through Glenbeigh and Cahirciveen and on to Waterville and the colorful village of Sneem. Stop at Lady's View for a view of the three lakes of Killarney with the mountains and the town in the background. Return to Killarney for some free time to look around the town before dining in your hotel.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: KILLARNEY TOWERS HOTEL, KILLARNEY



Tue, Jun 20

BLARNEY CASTLE & COBH HERITAGE CENTRE

We leave Killarney for the rich farming country of Cork. At Blarney, we stop to climb to the battlements of Blarney Castle to kiss the famous "Stone of Eloquence." We also visit the Blarney Woolen Mills, which has an excellent range of Irish products of all types. They will ship and insure goods such as Waterford Crystal for you. You will also have time to browse around the village, charmingly set around a large village green. We then cross the city to Cobh where we will see the Cobh Heritage Museum, a converted railroad station that was the final port of call for both the Titanic and the Lusitania. It also chronologies the fate of the coffin ships on their voyages to America. We continue a short distance to Cork and check into our hotel for dinner and your overnight stay.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: KINGSLEY HOTEL, CORK

Wed, June 21

KINSALE

This morning drive south to Kinsale and embark on a brief walking tour with a local guide to learn the history of the town. Kinsale traces its origins back to 1177 when the Anglo-Normans founded a town in a small walled area close to the water. It grew as a port town during the 18th century and today the harbor is favored by yacht owners. The town has steep, narrow streets with many fine Georgian houses. Spend the remainder of the morning and afternoon at leisure in Kinsale. In the evening, return to Cork in time for dinner. Tonight we sing with our IABS friends from Cork.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: KINGSLEY HOTEL, CORK



a Cappella Gold singing at St Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin, Ireland.

Thu, Jun 22

ROCK OF CASHEL & DUBLIN

Depart Cork and drive north towards Dublin today. Travel through the rich dairy country of Cork and Tipperary, past the gentle slopes of the Galtee Mountains and stop at the Rock of Cashel for a guided tour of these majestic church ruins which are clustered high on a limestone outcrop overlooking the surrounding countryside. Of particular note are the highly decorated Cormac's Chapel which was built during the 12th century, the large cruciform cathedral from the 13th century

and a round tower. Drive through the midland region where you will see many farms and marketing towns. Your route will take you past the towns of Portlaoise and Kildare and into the metropolitan area of Dublin. Upon arrival take an orientation drive around Dublin city center. Dublin is one of the liveliest capitals in Europe but there are plenty of historical places also. See the main thoroughfares of O'Connell Street and Nassau Street, the shopping streets and some lovely public parks. Then drive to your hotel and check in. After you settle into your room you may want to rest or explore some of the city on your own before dinner. Tonight we will sing with IABS friends from the Dublin Area.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: CAMDEN COURT HOTEL, DUBLIN



[OLD SCHOOL sings for the Lord Mayor of Dublin at Masion House.](#)

Fri, Jun 23

DUBLIN HIGHLIGHTS

After **breakfast**, we will visit St. Patrick's Cathedral, which is almost as old as the city itself and famous for its connections with the brilliantly eccentric Dean Jonathan Swift. We will perform at this magnificent and historic Cathedral and then we will take a city tour which ends at Trinity College to view the famous "Book of Kells". The afternoon is free to explore "Dublin's faire city". A local guide will show you around the prominent historic buildings and monuments of Dublin. Dublin is an ancient settlement, founded by the Vikings in the 9th century. The city has been molded through the centuries with many architectural styles, reflecting the economic, political and artistic influences. Next, we go to the Mansion House for a performance for Lord Mayor Dublin (pending availability). After the performance, you may wish to relax or freshen up before tonight's festivities. This evening drive to the town of Rathfarnham to **Taylor's Three Rock for dinner** followed by a lively show of traditional Irish songs, dancing and music.

OVERNIGHT: CAMDEN COURT HOTEL, DUBLIN



[All Aboard for the Moon River Cruise!](#)

Sat, Jun 24

MOON RIVER CRUISE & SLIGO

After **breakfast**, we head northwest towards Sligo. We will stop in Carrick-on-Shannon where we will enjoy a "Moon River" cruise while enjoying the breathtaking scenery of the River Shannon. From Carrick-on-Shannon continue on to Sligo where we will check into our hotel for dinner and your overnight stay. This evening we will get together and sing with our IABS friends from Sligo.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: GLASS HOUSE HOTEL, SLIGO

Sun, Jun 25'QUIET MAN - GALWAY - BUNRATTY CASTLE

After **breakfast** board the coach and travel through Kilkelly to the attractive village of Cong. Upon arrival take a short walking tour through the village to discover places that appeared in the movie "The Quiet Man" which was filmed with John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara in 1952. Finish your walk at the Quiet Man Heritage Cottage, filled with memorabilia of the movie. From Cong drive south via Headford to Galway for a panoramic tour of the city including, of course, Galway Bay. Then, continue to Bunratty, where you will check into your hotel. You may wish to relax or freshen up before dinner. This evening join in the fun and feasting at Bunratty Castle. Your **medieval-style banquet** is served in the Great Hall of the 15th century castle during which the lords and ladies of the castle transport you in spirit to the Middle Ages with their songs and stories.

OVERNIGHT: BUNRATTY CASTLE HOTEL, BUNRATTY

Mon, Jun 26

RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES

After a leisurely Irish **breakfast**, you will board the motor coach for Shannon Airport, where you will have time to shop in the Duty Free Store for last-minute gifts for family and friends. As you board your flight for home, we hope you will take with you wonderful memories of your time in our beautiful country. Come back soon!