

The Elders & The Moxie Strings 2016 Ireland Tour



October 16-27, 2016
LAND ONLY TOUR AVAILABLE: \$1,949

\$2,399 Per Person Sharing
(plus \$469 US departure tax*)

*Special Offer for Repeat Customers!!!
If you have ever traveled on one of our Elders Tours in the past
deduct \$50.00*

Day 1 October 16 Sunday	USA-Ireland. Enjoy a relaxing overnight flight to Ireland!
Day 2 October 17 Monday	Dublin-Sligo. Arrive Dublin. After clearing customs we meet our Driver Guides in the arrivals hall. We depart Dublin and travel northwest. We continue along Lough Erne via County Cavan. There are 12 recorded portal tomb sites in Cavan, mostly in the Burren. Derived from the Irish name 'Cabhann', a hollow, Cavan was once part of the ancient kingdom of Breifne. Numerous stone circles and megalithic tombs in the county are remnants of Cavan's rich archaeological heritage. Castle Caldwell lies in the Castle Caldwell Forest Park, a nature reserve on a small peninsula at the west end of Lower Lough Erne, in County Fermanagh, in Northern Ireland. Castle Caldwell was built between 1612 and 1619, during the time of the Plantation of Ulster, by the Blennerhassetts, in classic Planter style; a bawn with 2 semi-circular projecting flanker towers and a within it a strong house. Then it was probably named Hasset's Fort. We continue north to Sligo. Upon arrival we will visit Drumcliffe which is where William Butler Yeats is buried. Meet & Greet this evening! Dinner & Overnight Sligo Park Hotel.
Day 3 October 18 Tuesday	Sligo. After breakfast we travel slightly south to Carrowmore. Carrowmore Megalithic Cemetery is the largest cemetery of megalithic tombs in Ireland, with monuments ranging from 5500 to 6500 years old. Archaeologists have recorded over 60 tombs of which 30 are visible. A restored cottage house along with an exhibition relating to the site are present too. Visitors are advised to wear good walking shoes as the ground is uneven in parts. It is onto Sligo Abbey. Known locally as the Abbey, this Dominican Friary was founded in the mid - 13th century by Maurice Fitzgerald. The site contains a great wealth of carvings including Gothic and Renaissance tomb sculpture, well preserved cloister and the only sculptured 15th century high altar to survive in any Irish monastic church. This enigmatic friary will inspire and enlighten its visitors. Overnight Sligo Park Hotel.
Day 4 October 19 Wednesday	Sligo-Knock-Galway. We then continue to Knock. The Story of Knock began on the 21st August 1879 when Our Lady, St. Joseph and St. John the Evangelist appeared at the south gable of Knock Parish Church. The apparition was witnessed by fifteen people, young and old. From this miraculous occurrence Knock has grown to the status of an internationally recognized Marian Shrine. Traveling south we head into Galway City. This youthful bustling town has uniqueness unto itself. City center is based at Eyre Square. Adjacent to this hub you will find many pedestrian walkways. It's a great feeling to be able to shop, cross streets and realize that the stones under your feet were originally used at stabilizers for many of the ships coming into Galway's Port. If you are in the market for a Claddagh Ring, it generally is accepted that Galway where it is originated and you will see it here in all different designs. Dinner & Overnight Galway at the Imperial Hotel.
Day 5 October 20 Thursday	Galway. Free day in Galway or you may want to take an optional trip to the Aran Islands. This day-trip takes the whole day, so do not go for it unless you are up to it. On the Island, the way of life is as it would have been in days gone by, except for the mini-vans that take tourists on sightseeing trip, it has remained as

	it was in the 19 th century. The most impressive of all the ancient fortresses in Ireland, is here, Dun Aengus Fortress. Built to maximize defense, it is surrounded by high walls on three sides, the other is a sheer drop of 500 feet to the ocean. Overnight Galway at the Imperial Hotel.
Day 6 October 21 Friday	Galway-Limerick-Cork. After breakfast we head south. Continue to Limerick, Ireland's 3 rd largest city and home to author Frank McCourt who wrote Angela's Ashes. Limerick is an area steeped in history. The origin of Limerick city dates back to the 9th century a site settled by the Vikings. Limerick City is known as "City of the Broken Treaty", due to the treaty which was signed surrendering the city to William. The terms of the treaty included respect for the rights of Catholics were immediately breached. The treaty was signed on the Treaty Stone which can still be seen today. King John's Castle is a fortified 13th century Castle on 'King's Island' in the heart of medieval Limerick. The castle overlooking the river Shannon opens an exciting window on the lives and stories of the people through political upheaval, war and famine. Archaeological excavations open to the public roll back the mists of time to pre-Norman houses which predate the castle by 100 years, as well as siege mines, garrison and soldiers quarters and sallyport all found under the level of the present courtyard. The castle itself features an imaginative exhibition spanning the castle's history. It is then onto vibrant Cork. Overnight Kingsley Hotel Cork.
Day 7 October 22 Saturday	Cork-Kinsale-Clonakilty-Skibbereen-Bantry-Glengarriff-Cork. We depart Cork and travel to Old Head, the nearest point to the spot where the Lusitania was sunk in 1915. It is a lovely drive and worth the trip to admire the setting. Clonakilty is next and here, castles dot the shores of the bay. Colorful and traditional shop fronts have hand painted signs that reveal their contents. Here too, is the Michael Collins Centre. It tells the story of the Irish patriot who was born here and rose to prominence during and after the Easter Rising. Continue along the coast and make a visit to the Drombeg Stone Circle. It's known locally as The Druid's Altar and dates to around 900 bc. The circle of 13 stones is in a magnificent setting with beautiful sea views. The busy town of Skibbereen is rightly known as the capital of West Cork. It is the "hub" from which the many "sparkling jewels" of the area can be reached. The town has strong ties to the famine which devastated the local community and there is a large famine graveyard in nearby Abystrowry. The Heritage Centre here has an excellent exhibition. Eight miles southwest the little fishing village of Baltimore is located. Overnight Kingsley Hotel Cork.
Day 8 October 23 Sunday	Cork-Arklow. After breakfast we depart Cork. We pass through Youghal & Dungarven along the Irish Coastline. We then make our way to Waterford. Waterford City was founded in 914 AD and developed into a significant urban area during the 10th century. Waterford is arguably the oldest area of continuous urban settlement in Ireland. Reginald's Tower marks the site of the first defensive structure built by the Viking settlers. The Tower is mentioned in the Irish Annals as early as 1088 thus making it the oldest civic building structure on this island. In the 1080s, a Viking fleet at Waterford had become a major force in the tangled web of Irish and Welsh political intrigue when Diarmuid O'Brien, King of Munster, negotiated that the fleet go to Wales to assist Gruffydd ap Cynan to recover the Kingdom of Gwynedd in Wales. In recent years Waterford became famous for the Waterford Crystal Factory which is no longer open however we visit The Waterford's Visitor's Center. We continue north to Arklow. Overnight Arklow Bay Hotel.
Day 9 October 24 Monday	Wicklow Touring. The Wild Wicklow Tour is the perfect introduction to Wicklow's untamed landscapes. On this Wicklow day tour you'll explore ancient monastic ruins at Glendalough (optional admission) , see where film-makers brought a little bit of Scotland to Ireland when filming scenes for 'Braveheart' at Sally's Gap and Military Road (beginning north of Glencree, with its German War Memorial and cemetery and former military barracks to Avhavannagh) At the "Meeting of the Waters", the Avonmore and Avonbeg rivers come together to form the Avoca River. It was here that Thomas Moore penned his famous Irish Melody "The Meeting of the Waters". Dinner & Overnight Arklow Bay Hotel.
Day 10 October 25 Tuesday	Arklow-Dublin. After breakfast we continue north. Next stop at Powerscourt Gardens. The gardens at Powerscourt were laid out in two main periods. When the house was rebuilt in the decade after 1731, the surrounding grounds were also remodeled. The design reflected the desire to create a garden which was part of the wider landscape. To the north formal tree plantations framed the vista from the house, while a walled garden, fish pond, cascades, grottos and terraces lay to the south. Walks wound through the wooded grounds and a fine tree lined avenue was created. We continue along the coastline and Bray into Dublin where we enjoy a tour and a Pint at Guinness Storehouse. Overnight Camden Court Hotel.
Day 11 October 26 Wednesday	Dublin. On own. I would suggest a Hop On Hop Off Dublin Bus Pass (optional). You will be sure to see St. Patrick's Cathedral where writer Jonathan Swift gave his sermons, The G.P.O. on O'Connell Street scene of the 1916 Easter Uprising where the bullet holes still remain to this day. Drive through famous Phoenix Park where the Pope said Mass in late 70's and finally Trinity College to view the 8th century manuscripts, The Book of Kells, still preserved as they were when the Monks produced them all those centuries ago. Make sure to visit Dublin's oldest Pub this afternoon, The Brazen Head. You might enjoy a Literary Pub Crawl this evening after dinner. Overnight Dublin at the Camden Court Hotel
Day 12 October 27 Thursday	Dublin-USA. After breakfast we are transferred to Dublin Airport. In the off chance that you missed shopping opportunities, Dublin has a large Duty-Free Shop that you can visit once you are checked in for your flight. In the traditional Irish way we wish you "Safe Home".

Your Tour Includes:

- Round Trip Airfare from New York Area (flights announced 90 days prior to departure)
- Deluxe motorcoach vehicle throughout your tour, including all transfers and sightseeing, Services of professional Irish Driver and Guide.
- Ten (10 Nights) First Class Accommodations as follows or similar:
Sligo Park Hotel-2 Nights **** www.sligoparkhotel.com , Galway-Imperial Hotel *** www.imperialhotelgalway.ie -2 Nights, Cork-Kingsley Hotel-2 Nights **** www.thekingsley.ie Arklow-Arklow Bay Hotel- 2 Night s*** www.arklowbay.com, Dublin -The Camden Court Hotel-2 Nights *** www.camdencourthotel.com
- Full Irish breakfast daily
- Three Dinner: Sligo, Galway & Arklow
- Fully escorted sightseeing as per itinerary.
- Admissions to Carrowmore Cemetery, Sligo Abbey, Knock, Waterford Crystal, Powerscourt & Guinness Storehouse.
- Porterage of one suitcases per person, Hotel tips and taxes throughout (Except tips to your personal Driver/Guide)

Cancellation Penalties: (LAND) if written cancellation is received by Hammond Tour more than 120 days prior to departure, a processing fee of \$250.00 per person will apply. From 119 days to 60 days prior to departure, a cancellation penalty of \$600.00 per person will apply. 60 Days or less prior to departure- a 100% cancellation penalty fee applies. We strongly recommend Travel Cancellation & Interruption Insurance. This insurance will cover you in the event of death to the said traveler, someone in their immediate family, (mother, father, sister, brother, children etc.) Additionally, any serious illness or other ailments (with a doctor's note) saying that traveler cannot attend trip, would also be covered. Any circumstances of a personal nature other than the aforementioned are not covered. Please note, Hammond Tours and The Elders are not responsible for any loss, damages or injuries that may happen while on the tour.

Reservation Application

Please reserve _____ seat(s) on your October 16-27, 2016 (ELD101616)

I enclose a deposit of \$ _____ (\$250.00 per person) Deposit Due: **ASAP to hold seats**

2nd Deposit of \$350.00 due by May 10, 2016 FINAL PAYMENT DUE: August 10, 2016

Name (as on passport) _____

D.O.B. _____

Roommate _____

D.O.B. _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Tel: (home): _____ (work): _____

email: _____

Room Type: Twin (2 Beds)/Double (1 Bed): _____ Single: _____

YOU MUST PAY SINGLE RATE IF NOT TRAVELING WITH A COMPANION.

PLEASE ADVISE IF YOU NEED A ROOMMATE

OPTIONAL: Aran Island: \$60.00 _____ YES

Cancellation Insurance per Person: Is Now Age based please call for price

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$599.00 (LIMITED NUMBER AVAILABLE) _____ YES

LAND ONLY: _____ YES

We Accept Visa, MasterCard & American Express.

There is a 3% Charge for this service. No service charges

On initial \$250.00 deposit or first payment *Government Departure Tax is Always Subject
to Change

TOUR IS BASED ON MINIMUM 40 PARTICPANTS
AIRFARE IS NOT GUARANTEED UNTIL PACKAGE IS PAID IN FULL
(Make Check Payable to Hammond Tours)

Send check and application to:

HAMMOND TOURS 34 WEDGEWOOD LANE
VOORHEESVILLE, NY 12186

TEL: 518-765-2056 TEL: 866-486-8772 (TOLL FREE)

EMAIL: jwasserbach@hammondtraveltours.com

