

September 29- October 7, 2018

LAND ONLY: \$2362.00

\$2698.00 PER PERSON

(plus \$489.00 departure taxes*)

The Gap of Dreams Tour!



Altan's Tour of Ireland September 29- October 7, 2018

<p>Day 1 September 29 Saturday</p>	<p>USA-Dublin-Overnight flight from the US arrive Dublin.</p>
<p>Day 2 September 30 Sunday</p>	<p>Dublin-Galway. Morning arrival at Dublin Airport where you are greeted by your Driver/Guide. We begin our journey by traveling west to Athlone in the center of Ireland. In 1120 the Connaught king built the first of six successive wicker or wooden bridges and in 1129 a castle to defend it. Bridge and castle were destroyed on behalf of the Meath kingdom and rebuilt by the Connaught kings' successively over the next forty years. Then we make our way to Galway. Arty, bohemian Galway is one of Ireland's most engaging cities. Brightly painted pubs heave with live music, while restaurants and cafes offer front-row seats for observing buskers and street theatre. Remnants of the medieval town walls lie between shops selling handcrafted Claddagh rings, books and musical instruments, bridges arch over the salmon-stuffed River Corrib, and a long promenade leads to the seaside suburb of Salthill, on Galway Bay, the source of the area's famous oysters. Enjoy some time on your own in Galway this afternoon. Overnight at the Imperial Hotel Galway.</p>
<p>Day 3 October 1 Monday</p>	<p>Galway- Sligo. After breakfast we head north from Galway as you travel to Sligo. Firstly you will stop at Westport as well as one of Ireland's most famous summits, Croagh Patrick. From there we make our way to Ceide Fields, this otherwise barren site, 8km northwest of Ballycastle, is considered the world's most extensive Stone Age monument. Stone-walled fields, houses and megalithic tombs – about half a million tonnes of stone – have been found so far, the legacy of a 5000-year-old farming community. The visitor centre, in a glass pyramid overlooking the site, gives a fascinating glimpse into these times. We will take a guided tour of the site to fully appreciate the findings. Then onto Sligo. Overnight at the Sligo Southern Hotel.</p>
<p>Day 4 October 2 Tuesday</p>	<p>Sligo- Gaoth Dobhair. After breakfast we leave Sligo and travel to Slieve league. The Cliffs of Moher get more publicity, but the cliffs of Slieve League are higher. In fact, these spectacular sea cliffs are among the highest in Europe, plunging some 600m to the ceaselessly churning sea. The cliffs are particularly scenic when the waves crash dramatically far below and the ocean reflects the rays of the day. Looking down, you'll see two rocks nicknamed the 'giant's desk and chair' for reasons that are immediately obvious. We head to Gaoth Dobhair in North West Donegal. This is where the band got their name from Loch Altan which is cradled beneath the iconic Mount Errigal, the highest peak in the Derryveagh Mountains. Gaoth Dobhair is a Gaeltacht area and visitors will be able to hear the Irish language used by the local people. This will be a very special evening, as it will be like going back to the well, where band got its songs, dance tunes and inspiration. You will hear mythological stories of Balor of the Evil Eye, and Young Turlogh of Doe Castle. Dinner & Overnight at AnChuir Court Hotel.</p>

<p>Day 5 October 3 Wednesday</p>	<p>Gaoth Dabhair- Donegal. Today after leaving Gaoth Dabhair we travel to Ireland's second largest national park, Glenveagh is a sublime panoply of lakes overlooked by brooding mountains, with valleys scooped from the land and scattered with both forest and swaths of bog that offer an enticing, unspoilt landscape coupled with almost perfect options for trekking. Its wealth of wildlife includes the golden eagle, which was hunted to extinction here in the 19th century but reintroduced in 2000, and the nation's largest herd of red deer. The Visitor's Centre houses exhibitions, an audio- visual show and restaurant. From there we travel to DruPoet and Playwright. W. B. Yeats' heritage was Protestant Anglo-Irish. Although the minority in Ireland, they controlled the economic, political, social, and cultural life of this country since at least the end of the 17th century. Most considered themselves as "English people" who happened to have been born in Ireland, but not Yeats, who was proud of his Irish nationality. It was this pride that emerged in his writings. Then we make our way to the five-star Solis Lough Eske Castle Hotel, located on a secluded estate just outside Donegal Town. Lough Eske has a rich history dating back to the 1400's. Dinner & Overnight at Solis Lough Eske Castle Hotel.</p>
<p>Day 6 October 4 Thursday</p>	<p>Donegal-Derry. After breakfast today we head north to Derry. On our way we stop to see Fanad Lighthouse, in Letterkenny. Standing between idyllic Lough Swilly and sandy Mulroy Bay, Fanad Head Lighthouse has been voted one of the most beautiful lighthouses in the world. Its location within the Donegal Gaeltacht (an Irish speaking area), on the eastern shore of the Fanad Peninsula, is truly breathtaking. No wonder it's a highlight of the Wild Atlantic Way. Then we make our way to Derry. Overnight at City Hotel Derry.</p>
<p>Day 7 October 5 Friday</p>	<p>Derry-Enniskillen. This morning after breakfast we will tour Derry. To really experience Derry's history, we stroll along the parapet walkways as we do the "Walled in City Tour" with Ronan McNamara. The history of this area and the fact that Derry is one of the last fully intact walled in cities left in all of Europe makes this a must for every visitor. Derry's walled city is Ireland's earliest example of town planning. It's thought to have been modelled on the French Renaissance town of Vitry-le-François, designed in 1545 by Italian engineer Hieronimo Marino – both are based on the grid plan of a Roman military camp, with two main streets at right angles to each other, and four city gates, one at either end of each street. It is then onto Enniskillen, perched amid the web of waterways that link Upper and Lower Lough Erne, Enniskillen is an appealing island town. Its attractive waterside setting, plus its range of lively pubs and restaurants makes Enniskillen a lovely town. Dinner & Overnight at Lough Erne Resort.</p>
<p>Day 8 October 6 Saturday</p>	<p>Enniskillen-Dublin. Today after breakfast we start out for Dublin. Along the way we will travel through Cavan. Cavan is a remote paradise for boaters, anglers, walkers and cyclists. Known as the 'Lake Country', there's supposedly a lake for every day of the year (including leap years). Between them is a gentle landscape of meandering streams, bogs and drumlins, enjoy the views that appear unexpectedly around each bend. Continuing on to Dublin. Enjoy some time this afternoon walking the streets are a busy fusion of both past and present – a 1,000-year-old mix that has inspired writers, visitors and political firebrands alike. From the city's Viking roots by the banks of the river Liffey, to its atmospheric medieval churches along gracious Georgian streets, walk these streets and you'll be taking a journey through history. Overnight at the Herbert Park Hotel.</p>
<p>Day 9 October 7 Sunday</p>	<p>Dublin--USA. After breakfast we transfer to Dublin Airport for our flight home. Arrive home the same day. In the true Irish Tradition we wish you a "Safe Home".</p>

Your Tour Includes:

- **Round Trip Airfare from NYC Area (Flight Schedule announced 90 days prior to departure)**
- **Deluxe motorcoach vehicle throughout your tour, including all transfers and sightseeing**
- **Services of professional Irish Driver and Guide.**
- **Full Irish Breakfast daily**
- **Seven (7 Nights) First Class Accommodations as follows or similar:**
 - Galway- Imperial Hotel -1 Night *** www.imperialhotelgalway.com**
 - Sligo-Sligo Southern Hotel-1 Nights *** www.sligosouthernhotel.ie**
 - Gaoth Dabhair- AnChuir Gweedore Court Hotel- 1 Nights **** www.greedorecourthotel.com**
 - Donegal- Solis Lough Eske Castle- 1 Night ***** www.solislougheske.com**
 - Derry-City Hotel-1 Night **** www.cityhotelderry.com**
 - Enniskillen- Lough Erne Resort- 1 Night ***** www.loughernereresort.com**
 - Dublin- Herbert Park-1 Night **** www.herbertparkhotel.ie**
- **Three Dinners: 1 in Gaoth Dabhair & 1 in Solis Lough Eske Castle & 1 at Lough Erne Resort.**
- **Admission to Admission to Ceide Fields, Slieve League, Glenveagh National Park, Fanad Lighthouse, Walking Tour of Derry**
- **Porterage of one suitcases per person**
- **Hotel tips and taxes throughout (Except tips to your personal Driver/Guide)**

Reservation Application

Please reserve _____ seat(s) on your September 29 October 7, 2018 Ireland Tour (ALT02118)

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

2nd Deposit of \$450.00 due by May 29, 2018, FINAL PAYMENT DUE: July 29, 2018

Name (as on passport) _____ D.O.B. _____

Companion Name: _____ D.O.B. _____

Address: _____

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

Other passengers traveling with me _____

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

Cancellation Insurance is available through Travel Guard (www.travelguard.com) or Allianz (www.allianztravelinsurance.com)

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

LAND ONLY: _____ YES

******There are no deviations on group flights, if deviating dates please select Land Only and you can purchase your own airfare direct from airline. We also cannot select seats on group air blocks. If you require a special seat or have to sit next to a specific person on the flights, please select land only******
We Accept Visa, MasterCard & American Express. *Government Departure Tax is Always Subject to Change

TOUR IS BASED ON MINIMUM 30 PARTICPANTS

AIRFARE IS NOT GUARANTEED UNTIL PACKAGE IS PAID IN FULL

(Make Check Payable to Hammond Tours)

Send check and application to:

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Voorheesville, NY 12186

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TEL: 866-486-8772 (TOLL FREE)

Email: jwasserbach@hammondtraveltours.com