

WILD WEST TOUR OF IRELAND 2027

A Private Chauffeur-Driven Tour

Explore the wild, rugged west of Ireland with your own private chauffeur driver/guide in a deluxe vehicle, from Achill Island and Donegal to Galway, the Cliffs of Moher and much more.

DAY 1 SHANNON – WESTPORT

Morning arrival at Shannon Airport, where after clearing customs you are met by your professional Irish Driver Guide. We travel north via Ennis and Gort to Galway, where we stop for a traditional Irish breakfast (on own). We then head towards Westport, where we check into our hotel for a brief rest. This afternoon we tour Achill Island, the largest island off the coast of Ireland, connected to the mainland by a bridge and noted for its dramatic cliffs and pristine seascapes. It is also one of the best-known spots in Ireland for deep-sea and shark fishing, with many boats and guides for hire. Westport is noted for its marvelous Georgian houses and traditional storefronts. This evening, enjoy one of the many fine restaurants for which Westport is known. **Overnight in Westport.**

DAY 2 WESTPORT – DONEGAL

After breakfast we can visit Ballintubber Abbey, south of the town. This abbey has been in continuous use since it was founded in the 13th century, even though it was partly destroyed by English armies during those turbulent times. Afterwards, weather permitting, there is an opportunity to climb Croagh Patrick, the mountain named for St. Patrick, who is said to have spent forty days and nights there in penance and to have cast the snakes out of Ireland. Thousands of people of all ages climb it each year; allow three to five hours to go up and down comfortably. Our journey today ends in Donegal Town, at the mouth of Donegal Bay in the northwest of Ireland, surrounded by the Blue Stack Mountains. The area offers a rugged beauty and mystique you are unlikely to find anywhere else in the world. From Slieve League, among the highest sea cliffs in Europe, to miles of golden sandy beaches, the region offers everything from high-octane water sports to unforgettable country strolls. **Overnight in Donegal.**

DAY 3 DONEGAL – SLIGO – KNOCK – GALWAY

After breakfast we depart Donegal and travel south, stopping first in Sligo, home of William Butler Yeats. Sligo is noted for good shopping, thriving art galleries and theatre, all set against the backdrop of Benbulbin, a distinctive flat-topped mountain. We then continue to Knock. The story of Knock began on August 21, 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, and Knock has since grown into an internationally recognized Marian shrine. Traveling south, we head into Galway City, a youthful, bustling town with a uniqueness all its own. The city center is based at Eyre Square, and beside this hub you will find many pedestrian walkways. It is a great feeling to shop and cross streets over stones that were originally used as ballast on ships coming into Galway's port. If you are in the market for a Claddagh ring, Galway is generally accepted as the place where it originated, and you will see it here in many different designs. **Overnight in Galway.**

DAY 4 ARAN ISLANDS (OPTIONAL)	Today you may arrange an optional trip to the Aran Islands through your hotel. It is a full-day excursion, so choose it only if you are up to it. On the islands the way of life has remained much as it was in the 19th century, apart from the minibuses that take tourists sightseeing. Here you will find Dún Aonghasa (Dun Aengus), among the most impressive prehistoric forts in Europe. Built for defense, it is surrounded by high walls on three sides, while the fourth is a sheer drop of about 330 feet to the ocean. Otherwise, enjoy a free day in Galway. Overnight in Galway.
DAY 5 GALWAY – CLIFFS OF MOHER – BUNRATTY	This morning's departure takes us through the rugged Burren, then via Lisdoonvarna, where the famous Matchmaking Festival is held every September, to the majestic Cliffs of Moher. The cliffs rise up to 700 feet and stretch along the Atlantic coastline for five miles. As your tour continues, enjoy a panoramic tour of Limerick, Ireland's third-largest city and home of Frank McCourt, author of Angela's Ashes. Your Driver Guide then drops you at your accommodation in the Shannon area. Perhaps enjoy a traditional medieval banquet at Bunratty Castle this evening (optional). Overnight in the Shannon region (Bunratty).
DAY 6 SHANNON – USA	After breakfast, make your way by taxi to Shannon Airport. There is plenty of time for last-minute duty-free shopping before boarding your flight home. Arrive home the same day.

YOUR DISTINGUISHED PRIVATE TOUR INCLUDES

DRIVER GUIDE	Professional Irish Driver Guide with chauffeured vehicle from your arrival at Shannon Airport on Day 1 until arrival in the Shannon region on Day 5 (Day 4 is at leisure or on the optional Aran Islands excursion)
ACCOMMODATIONS	5 nights as follows, or similar: Westport – Hotel Westport – 1 night, 4-star hotelwestport.ie Donegal – Abbey Hotel – 1 night, 3-star abbeyhoteldonegal.ie Galway – Hardiman Hotel – 2 nights, 4-star hardimanhotel.ie Bunratty – Bunratty Castle Hotel – 1 night, 3-star bunrattycastlehotel.com
MEALS	Full Irish breakfast daily
ALSO INCLUDED	Hotel taxes
NOT INCLUDED	- Tip to your Driver Guide - Any items of a personal nature - Dinners and suggested optional sightseeing mentioned in the itinerary - Admissions not listed above. These are paid directly to each venue so that, because a private tour is meant to be flexible, you never pay for a site you later decide not to visit

This is a suggested itinerary and can be customized to your interests. Dates, hotels and pricing are provided on request.