



Ireland – Yesterday & Today

May 22 – June 5, 2008



An escorted tour that will enable you to see the Ireland that you have heard about. The vibrancy that marks the new, and the monuments that speaks to its antiquity. Take a trip around the beautiful Ring of Kerry, visiting a Heritage Center to learn about the offshore monastic settlement dating to the 6th century. Stand on the Cliffs of Moher rising majestically 700 feet above the Atlantic, and ferry out to the Aran Islands, one of the few remaining Irish-speaking areas of Ireland. Stay overnight in a castle, in a country inn and enjoy the work of Irish chefs. Sit in on a few traditional music sessions, as well as enjoy a play at one of Dublin's famous theaters. See how they make the famous Irish crystal and parien china, and watch a 5th generation loom operator create the intricate designs used in capes and jackets. Tour the famous Rock of Cashel, home of many Irish Kings, meticulously restored Cahir Castle. The town of Cobh from where so many Irish emigrated, as well Glendalough, the site of St. Kevin's monastery. Then close out your 2-week learning experience with a medieval banquet, entertained royally by musicians and a talented chorus. And these are just the highlights!



Escorted by Mary Paige Huey:

A native of Austin and a graduate of the University of Texas, Mary Paige Huey has been involved in the art scene in Austin as an artist and also a volunteer for numerous art organizations all of her adult life. She has traveled extensively in Mexico where her interest in art history led her to many Pre Columbian sites as well as Spanish Colonial areas. She began escorting groups for Laguna Gloria Art Museum in the 70's to various destinations, and in the 80's and 90's she led people on art related tours to San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. She recently had the opportunity to lead the Third Age TravelLearn group to China in May of 2007 and was impressed by the quality of their program. Now she is looking forward to gathering an interested group of Third Age members for this tour to Ireland. "I have traveled to the southwest part of Ireland and I was very impressed by the high standard of living, the friendly people, ancient cultural roots and incredible scenery. I don't know how anyone could NOT like Ireland! As my artistic interest involves photography I will make sure we have ample time to take advantage of the many photo opportunities in Ireland, in fact I would consider the whole country a photo op."

Experience and learn not only about Ireland's ancient traditions and culture, but also gain insights into the contemporary local customs and the current social, economic and political situation of Today's Ireland.

UNESCO World Heritage Sites:

Archaeological Ensemble of the Bend of the Boyne (Boyne Valley) Valley of the Boyne, Newgrange

People to People Experiences: Meet the Irish people while spending two relaxing nights at Hanora's Cottage, a charming Irish Inn. Enjoy an evening of Irish music and laughter as you gather for an evening at a local Pub.

Sample Lectures: "The Call of the Skelligs," "Exploring 6,000 Years of Connemaras' Archaeology and History," "The Titanic Trail," "The Potato Famine and Irish Immigration."



Studies on Tour

Continuing Education

The University of Texas at Austin

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www.TraveLearn.com/texasaustin

Day 1 – May 22nd - Thursday**USA / Shannon**

Depart in the evening for your flight to Shannon, Ireland.

Day 2 – May 23rd - Friday (D)**Shannon / Killarney**

Transfer with assistance to your coach and begin your journey through County Clare to Killarney, renowned for the beauty of its lake and the enchantment of its mountains. Arrive in time for a light lunch at a local pub, then check in at your hotel. Afternoon free to explore the picturesque village of Killarney. Cahernane House Hotel

Day 3 – May 24th - Saturday (B, L, D)**Ring of Kerry**

Lecture by noted naturalist Des Lavelle is planned for this morning. Tour the "Ring of Kerry" known for its breathtaking scenery and historic sites. Short visits will include the home of Daniel O'Connell (The Catholic Emancipator), the picturesque village of Sneem, and Lady's View, which overlooks the world-famous lakes. Many consider the Ring of Kerry and the nearby Skellig Islands to be the most beautiful spot in the world. Cahernane House Hotel

"I loved the Irish landscape! I especially liked the way the vacation was organized and structured. It was well planned and very thorough. The pace facilitated group and individual styles. The Bed and Breakfast experience in the Nire Valley at Hanora's Cottage with the Wall family that included a visit to Melody's Pub and great Irish music from community participants was a significant highlight. A visit to the Aran Islands gave perspective and balance from a historical and cultural viewpoint."

Ireland - M. Crawford, NY

Day 4 - May 25th - Sunday (B, L, D)**Kerry / Cork**

Start the day with a jaunting car ride will bring you to Muckross House. Tour the Kerry countryside while traveling east to the County of Cork. Following the route of the River Lee, arrive in the lovely village of Blarney, renowned for its Castle and Stone, as well as for the shopping available at the Blarney Woolen Mills. A lengthy visit is planned, providing time to shop and to kiss the stone of eloquence. Proceed into Cork, the second city of Ireland, with its Shandon Bells and famous past. Silver Springs Hotel

Day 5 - May 26th - Monday (B, D)**Cork / Nire Valley**

Travel along the Coast Road to Cobh. Here you will visit St. Colman's Cathedral, built with emigrants' donations, and the Cobh Emigration Museum, which highlights Cobh as the point of

embarkation for thousands of immigrants. A lecture "The Titanic Trail" will be given by Michael Martin. Stop at Middleton to visit the Jameson Heritage Centre, before traveling on through Youghal where Francis Drake introduced the potato to Ireland and where the hated Cromwell departed. Turning West, your coach will take you into the Knockmealdown Mountains, past Lismore Castle, through the scenic Vee into the Golden Vale of Tipperary. Your destination, the Nire Valley is tucked in the beautiful Comeragh Mountains near the village of Ballymacarbery. Bed and breakfast arrangements for two nights in the Nire Valley will provide a special opportunity to meet the people of Ireland. Hanora's Cottage

Day 6 - May 27th - Tuesday (B, D)**Nire Valley**

You may elect to stay in the lovely valley of the Nire, taking the opportunity for long walks, some mountain hiking, pony trekking, or to catch up on reading and rest. Others may board the coach after breakfast for visits to two of Ireland's finest castles: the restored Castle of Cahir and the ancient Rock of Cashel. Hanora's Cottage

Day 7 - May 28th - Wednesday (B, L)**Nire Valley / Dublin**

Board the coach for a lengthy morning journey through Tipperary, along the river Suir, through the ancient Viking town of Waterford, through Wexford and New Ross, famous in the rebellion of 1798, and into Wicklow. You will stop for a tour of Waterford Crystal. A late luncheon is planned at a local restaurant, followed by a leisurely visit and tour of the beautiful Glendalough, the monastic development of St. Kevin, set in the magnificent Wicklow hills. Continue your journey through the mountains to the coast road and arrive in Dublin from the South. Gresham Hotel

Day 8 - May 29th - Thursday (B)**Dublin**

After breakfast board the coach for a morning city tour which includes visits to Trinity College (the Book of Kells) and St. Patrick's Cathedral, with other city highlights pointed out along the way. The afternoon is free to explore Dublin on your own. Wander the streets made famous by Molly Malone, visit the haunts of James Joyce, the National Museum, Kilmainham Jail Gaol or give in to the temptation to shop on the renowned Grafton Street. A local theatrical performance will round out your stay in Dublin. (The production will be chosen on the basis of which presentation best depicts Irish history and culture.) Gresham Hotel

Day 9 - May 30th - Friday (B, D)

Dublin / Donegal

The coach will bring you to the historic Boyne Valley with a tour and visit to the ancient passage grave at Newgrange, a burial ground that predates the Pyramids and is one of Ireland's great wonders. Continuing through the area of the Battle of the Boyne, the 1691 confrontation of William of Orange and James II, the coach will move westward through the center of Ireland, crossing the Shannon, at the lovely village of Carrick on Shannon and finally reach the rugged mountains and scenic coastline of Donegal. Great Northern Hotel

Day 10 - May 31st - Saturday (B, D)

Donegal

Board the coach for a scenic tour of Donegal's beautiful mountains and coast, including Glencolumbkille, a village depicting the life in the west of Ireland a hundred years ago. Your program will carry you on a loop through Killybegs, Kilcar, Carrick, Ardara, and back to Donegal Town. Great Northern Hotel

Day 11 - June 1st - Sunday (B, D)

Donegal / Sligo / Mayo

Tour Yeats' country, including a stop at the grave of Ireland's greatest poet. The Sligo countryside offers magnificent views, including Ben Bulbin and the Cairn of Queen Maeve all part of the inspiration for Yeats' work. You will proceed into Mayo, before heading toward Cong, famous for the filming of *The Quiet Man* and for beautiful Ashford Castle. Ashford Castle

Day 12 - June 2nd - Monday (B, L, D)

Connemara / Galway

Time to enjoy the beauty and grace of Ashford Castle before departing in the late morning. The day's coach tour will include the rugged and rocky countryside of Connemara. Traveling through historic Clifden, where you will stop for lunch and a lecture by one of Ireland's foremost archaeologists, your day's journey will bring you to Galway, City of the Kings, along the coast of the renowned Galway Bay. An afternoon visit is planned at the Connemara marble factory. Galway Radisson Hotel

Day 13 - June 3rd - Tuesday (B, D)

Galway

Visit the famous Kenny's Bookstore, and the Galway Cathedral. For the somewhat adventurous (and those interested in some physical exertion) a boat trip to the Aran Islands is available. The Arans preserve an early version of Irish life and are the site of Dun Aengus, a fort that has overlooked the Atlantic for 3,000 years, and the Aran Heritage Centre. The rugged Aran

Islands are of great significance to the serious student of Irish culture, history, and folklore. Galway Radisson Hotel

"The Irish countryside was as beautiful and green as I'd imagined, and the people are so friendly and outgoing, not a situation you find everywhere in the world today. When I take these small group tours, I enjoy getting to know the other travelers and the familiar atmosphere that develops." Ireland - L. Bennett, KS

Day 14 - June 4th - Wednesday (B, D)

Galway / Shannon

Saving perhaps the best for last, your final day's journey takes you around Galway Bay and back into County Clare, the best known of Ireland's domains, through the lunar landscape of the Burren and on to the Cliffs of Moher, the most dramatic example of Ireland's coastal wonders. Continue through the resort town of Lahinch and on to Shannon. A banquet at Bunratty Castle will make the last night in Ireland a truly special memory. Bunratty Shannon Shamrock Hotel

Day 15 - June 5th - Thursday (B)

Shannon / USA

Transfer to Shannon Airport in time for some last-minute shopping at one of the largest duty-free facilities in the world.

B - Breakfast

L - Lunch

D - Dinner

Drinks are not included.

PROGRAM PRICE

\$4,295 p. p. double occupancy Land Only - Plus Airfare (does not include international airfare, giving you the flexibility to use frequent flyer miles or search the internet for the best airfares available.)

\$795 single-room supplement

PROGRAM FEATURES

* Accommodations on a double-occupancy basis at first-class hotels throughout, except in the Nire Valley where your accommodations will be at a delightful B&B. Meals as indicated in the itinerary. Also includes a special luncheon and a medieval banquet at a castle.

* All specially arranged lecture/seminars and field experiences as indicated in the itinerary. Transfers and all sightseeing, including baggage handling, by private motor coach.

* All sightseeing and park entrance fees, and tips and taxes normally added to your hotel bills.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

RESERVATIONS & DEPOSITS

Early reservations are essential. A deposit of \$500.00 per person is required at the time of registration. Balance is due 60 days prior to departure with an additional deposit due 90 days prior to departure. All pricing is in \$US dollars.

SINGLE TRAVELERS

Accommodations are based on double occupancy. Single accommodations are sometimes difficult to obtain but should a request be made, TravelLearn, Inc. will do its best to secure these accommodations.

AIR FARE / FLIGHT ITINERARY

We can assist you with getting airfare. There is a \$50 per person air ticket fee for this service. Tickets are express mailed to you with your final documents approximately two weeks prior to your departure.

BAGGAGE

Airline baggage restrictions vary greatly from airline to airline. The most common, on regularly scheduled flights to and from the U.S. is two checked pieces, the total dimensions (Width+Height+Length) of which do not exceed 107 inches provided neither piece exceeds 62 inches. One unchecked piece of carry-on luggage, the total dimensions of which do not exceed 45 inches. Please note that some destinations have not approved the piece count rules, and the international weight rule of a maximum of 44 lbs. still applies.

ELIGIBILITY / HEALTH

Information on health requirements for this program will be mailed to you upon registration. We recommend that all travelers check with their personal physician about medications and inoculations. Any physical condition requiring special attention, diet, or treatment must be reported in writing when the reservation is made. By forwarding a signed registration form and trip deposit, you certify that you do not knowingly have any physical or other conditions of disability that would create a risk for you or other trip participants. We assume no responsibility for medical care or for special dietary requirements. Hospital facilities for serious problems are often unavailable and evacuation can be prolonged, difficult, and expensive. A parent or guardian for the entire journey must accompany individuals under the age of 18. There is no maximum age limit, but all participants must be in good health and physically fit. The Educational Institution and TravelLearn, Inc. reserves the right to decline to accept any person as a member of a program or to require any participant to withdraw from a program at any time when such action is determined to be in the best interests of the health, safety, and general welfare of the group or individual.

NOT INCLUDED IN TOUR COST

Cost of obtaining passport or visa; expenses on the U.S. mainland; personal expenses such as beverages; laundry; phone calls; faxes; cables; travel insurance; excess baggage fees; items not on regular menus; expenses of guides, buses, or cars for sightseeing not included in the itinerary; gratuities to guides; airport taxes and other items not mentioned as being included. Transfers to / from the airport unless schedule is sent to TravelLearn.

CANCELLATION / INSURANCE

TravelLearn, Inc. is required to make various deposits to reserve accommodations, transportation arrangements, tickets, etc. in organizing these Learning Vacations. Therefore, if you must withdraw from the program, irrespective of reason after your date of registration you will forfeit whatever portion of the deposits that cannot be retrieved from various airlines and land operators plus a \$100 cancellation penalty per person. The expected cancellation penalties are as follow: From the date of registration to 90 days prior to departure - \$100; 89 to 60 days prior - 30% of total program price; 59 to 30 days prior - 60% of price; less than 29 days prior to departure - refund, if any, will be only the amount recovered by TravelLearn, Inc. Cancellation penalties vary with different types of airfares. No refund will be made for unused portions of the trip and all cancellation/ withdrawal notifications MUST be received in writing. The date the WRITTEN cancellation is received by

TravelLearn, Inc. will determine the cancellation date. If final payments are not made by the designated date it will be assumed that the participant has withdrawn from the travel program and cancellation fees will be charged accordingly. Cost increases may occur unexpectedly. Rates are based on group tariffs; if the trip does not have sufficient registration, a small party supplement may have to be charged. The Educational Institution and TravelLearn, Inc. may be compelled to amend prices, and we reserve the right to do so without prior notice. An increase in trip prices shall not be sufficient grounds for any refund of funds paid for the trip other than our normal cancellation policy terms. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. Insurance is a personal matter, the Educational Institution and TravelLearn, Inc. encourages each participant to consider the purchase of trip cancellation, baggage, and all other forms of travel insurance to provide the level of protection deemed necessary. TravelLearn, Inc will provide information on insurance options for this program after the receipt of your registration. The right is reserved to cancel any trip prior to departure, in which case full refund of the paid trip funds to the Educational Institution and TravelLearn, Inc. will be given, but the Educational Institution and TravelLearn, Inc. are not responsible for any other trip preparation expenses, such as penalized or non-refundable air tickets, insurance fees, visa fees, and medical expenses.

DOCUMENTS / RESPONSIBILITY

Most destinations require a current passport, which has at least 6 months validity left from your intended return date. It is the responsibility of the passenger to ensure that he is in possession of a valid passport and travel documents, visas, and health certificates as required by countries visited. Any delays or cancellations created by clients doing their own visa processing is the sole responsibility of the client. Final documents will be express mailed to you approximately two weeks prior to your departure. Services in connection with this itinerary are rendered by suppliers acting as independent contractors and not as agents or employees of the Educational Institution and TravelLearn, Inc. TravelLearn, Inc., its Owners, Outfitters, Agents, and Employees give notice that they act only as the agent for the owners, contractors, and suppliers providing means of transportation and/or all other related travel services and assume no responsibility whatsoever caused by injury, loss or damage to person or property in connection with any service resulting directly from: acts of God, detention, annoyance, delays, expenses arising from quarantine, strikes, thefts, pillage, force majeure, failure of any means of conveyance to arrive or depart as scheduled, civil disturbances, terrorism, government restrictions or regulations, and discrepancies or changes in transit or hotel services over which it has no control. Costs for each Learning Vacation were based on air fares and international exchange rates as of June 2007. The Educational Institution and TravelLearn, Inc. has tried to prevent any additional charges and they do not anticipate that any increase will need to be made on the ground portion of these programs. The Educational Institution and TravelLearn, Inc. reserves the right to make changes or substitutions in the dates, itinerary, speakers/lecturers, or costs as it becomes necessary or desirable without liability to itself or its co-sponsoring or affiliated associations and organizations or their agents. In the event of the tour being cancelled by the operator, we shall have no responsibility other than the refund of all deposits and monies paid to him by tour participants. No refund will be made for the unused portion of the tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. All cooperating airlines and steamship companies are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are on board; the limit of their liability is that of a common carrier and the passage contract in use by such carriers, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between companies and the purchaser of this tour and/or passenger. Acceptance of the services of TravelLearn, Inc. by institutions and/or travelers constitutes acceptance by them of all of the above noted terms and conditions. The aforementioned conditions apply equally to the institutions cosponsoring this tour that assume no responsibility for any loss, injury, or damage to participants or their property in connection with any aspect of this tour.

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Learning Vacation



Ireland – Yesterday & Today May 22 – June 5, 2008

TO REGISTER: Please mail this completed registration form with your **\$500 per person** deposit check made payable to **TraveLearn Escrow Account** to:

**Studies on Tour - Continuing Education
The University of Texas at Austin
P.O. Box 7879
Austin, Texas 78713-7879**

For those who wish to pay by credit card please provide the information requested below:

_____ MasterCard _____ VISA _____ Discover Card _____ AMEX

Full Name of Card Holder _____

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature _____ Digits on back of card _____

An additional deposit will be due **90 days prior to departure**. Full payment must be made **60 days prior to departure**. Enrollments received after this date must be accompanied by full payment.

ENCLOSED IS MY (OUR) PAYMENT TO RESERVE ___ SPACE(S) FOR THIS PROGRAM:

(Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms) _____ Birth date ___/___/___ Gender: M / F
NAME (Participant #1) month / day / year

STREET ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIPCODE _____

(____) _____ (____) _____ (____) _____

WORK PHONE _____ HOME PHONE _____ FAX _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON YOUR PASSPORT _____ OCCUPATION _____

(Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms) _____ Birth date ___/___/___ Gender: M / F
NAME (Participant #2) month / day / year

STREET ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIPCODE _____

(____) _____ (____) _____ (____) _____

WORK PHONE _____ HOME PHONE _____ FAX _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON YOUR PASSPORT _____ OCCUPATION _____

PLEASE CHECK OR FILL IN ALL THAT APPLY:

I will share a double room with _____

_____ I would like TraveLearn to find me a roommate (Smoking / Non-smoking).

_____ I am requesting a single room supplement.

_____ I/We would like TraveLearn to assist with my air arrangements.

_____ I/We plan to make our own air arrangements (Land Only Price).

AGREEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING: I have examined the conditions under which enrollment is completed, along with program descriptions, costs, terms and conditions, and find them acceptable.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____