



## Highlights of the Tour

### Dublin | Waterford | Kinsale

Visit Ireland's Ancient East and learn about Viking heritage and where it all started. This tour is all about enjoying the holiday season, being in good company with good people and good food and connecting with the world around you.

This will be a small group tour focused on celebrating the New Year in Ireland, taking in some sights, and enjoying the season. It is the holidays on the Emerald Isle and a very special time to spend with family and friends.

This year, our tour will be focused on castles, fine food, history, and craic. What is "Craic", you say? (/kræk/ KRACK), or "crack" is a term for fun, entertainment, and enjoyable conversation, and is the quintessential Irish way of comradery and enjoyment - we will find plenty of that in the many quaint pubs and restaurants we will visit in Ireland. Come and enjoy the New Year, it will be one to remember!

**COVID-related note:** We have planned and booked the tour as outlined below. Due to the unknowns of the ongoing global pandemic, there is a chance that certain venues or bookings would need to be changed or swapped for other, similar activities as we get into the fall months of 2021. If this tour would need to cancel due to Covid, your deposits and payments will be fully refundable, or you can apply them to a future trip.

### 9 Day Ireland Tour for the Holidays...

- 9-Day Viking City Tours of Southeast Ireland
- 3 Cities + towns in between – Dublin, Waterford, and Kinsale
- Breakfast Daily (except on arrival day)

- 4-Star Hotel Accommodation (including a castle stay)
- 6 Dinners are included, including two castle dining rooms
- Entertainment & Music Venues included
- New Year's Eve Dinner and **Gala Celebration** at the Waterford Golf Club with panoramic views of Waterford City
- All museum entries/events listed are inclusive
- All Transportation and Luggage Handling are included for your comfort

### The Tour - Overview

When the winter winds are blowing and the days are dark, you will find the fires and the hearts warm in Ireland!

Come and experience this 9 day tour of Ireland, which will focus on the Heritage of the Ancient East and will allow you an immersive experience within the Viking Settlement cities of Dublin, Waterford and Kinsale.

We will enjoy the pubs, shopping, entertainment, music, history, a New Year's Gala, session music, and so much more! The winter-time slows everything down a bit, and the tourist season will be long gone. Our focus at Healy Tours is to provide a balance of activities and rest while allowing you the time and space to experience Ireland for what it is – a beautiful and hospitable country that is sure to change your soul by the end of your journey.

Below is the outline of where we will go and what we will do. Keep in mind, often the best times in Ireland are the ones not on paper, but will be found in the laughs, the music, and the magic of Ireland.

## CASTLES, HISTORY, MUSIC, AND HOLIDAYS, OH MY!

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Monday December 27th, 2021

### **Depart the USA for Ireland**

Leave the remainder of the holiday leftovers with your family and depart for your Ireland flight. Flights from the USA to Ireland are late afternoon/overnight flights from most travel points in the US.

Tuesday December 28th

### **Dublin Arrival – Dun Laoghaire**

Land at Dublin Airport, complete customs and immigration formalities before meeting your tour driver/guide, who will welcome you to Ireland. Transfer to your nearby hotel and check-in for your overnight stay. You will have some time to relax prior to our group meeting at 2:00 pm.

When you arrive, enjoy the fresh air with a walk on the famed harbor pier, or explore the town of Dun Laoghaire nearby with shops and pubs and sights geared toward the locals.

We will take a tour of some of the local scenery this afternoon, before returning to the hotel for our group welcome dinner.

Included: Dinner and overnight at the Royal Marine Hotel, Dun Laoghaire Ireland

Wednesday December 29th

### **Port Town, Dublin City, and a Dinner Show**

The sights and sounds of Dublin at Christmas-time are wonderful! What a beautiful city to explore at this festive time of the year. From the beautifully decorated streets, shopping districts, and bars/pubs of Dublin, the action is all around.

We will provide you transportation into the center city, or if you choose, you may wish to explore more locally in the beautiful harbor setting of Dun Laoghaire.

You will have time to explore the city on your own today, as well as have some escorted activities with the group if you chose. Tonight, we will enjoy dinner and a show in Dublin city with the lively entertainment of the evening: *Food, Folklore, and Fairies*.

Included: Dinner, entertainment, and overnight at the Royal Marine Hotel, Dun Laoghaire

### Thursday December 30th

#### **Waterford City**

Today we will make our way south to the oldest city in Ireland - Waterford, and the original home of your tour guides, the Healy Family. This ancient Viking city has many nooks and crannies to explore, and we will plan a fun day in the Ancient East.

Enjoy the music of *The Whiskey Stillers*, the resident band of Healy Tours, with a traditional Irish music session held locally.

Included: Overnight and entertainment at the Waterford Tower Hotel, Waterford

### Friday December 31st

#### **New Year Gala at the Waterford Golf Resort**

Tonight, we celebrate with a wonderful **Gala New Year's Eve** event taking place at the Waterford Golf Course. Feast on a 3 course meal, dance, enjoy music, and ring in the New Year in style! (No official dress code, but dressy casual is great - bring your dancing shoes!)

With excellent food and panoramic views of the city of Waterford below, it will surely be an evening to remember!

Included: Dinner, Entertainment, and overnight at the Tower Hotel, Waterford City

### Saturday January 1st

#### **Waterford Castle and dinner in the Munster Dining Room**

Rest in today, we will have a later start, as late nights do not make for early mornings.

We will enjoy some local sights around the city of Waterford today, and plan some activities for those who are still full of energy. For those who want to take it easy, there are plenty of activities within walking distance of the hotel or take some time to rest and rejuvenate.

We have a special evening planned to celebrate the first day of the New Year, as we venture to the Little Island just outside of Waterford City that houses Waterford Castle, built by the Fitzgerald family dating back to the Viking days. The castle and private island are a beautiful sight, and dinner in the Muster Dining room of the castle will be a treat!

Included: Fine dining at the Waterford Castle, and overnight at the Waterford Tower Hotel

### Sunday January 2nd

#### **Jameson Distillery, Co Cork**

This morning we will travel westbound to County Cork and stop for a tour of the original Jameson distillery located in Midleton. Arrive into Cork in time for an independent lunch, then enjoy a great tour and history of whiskey distilling that can be enjoyed by all.

After your visit to Jameson, we will continue traveling west to the quaint seaside fishing village of Kinsale.

Included: Jameson Tour, dinner, and overnight at The Trident Hotel, Kinsale

#### Monday January 3rd

#### **The Charming Sights and Sounds of Kinsale Ireland**

Today we will start the day with a short drive to James Fort, where we can stretch our legs and enjoy the sea air and walk the historic site on an outcrop of land in Kinsale. Enjoy the views and the ancient history at this sight.

We will also have time to enjoy the town of Kinsale today, visit the shops, the crafters, and the pubs that make up this colorful town by the sea. Enjoy dinner independently at one of the many pubs and restaurants in Kinsale.

Included: Day tours and overnight at the Trident Hotel, Kinsale

#### Tuesday January 4th

#### **Blarney Castle and Woolen Mills**

Set out this morning to tour the famous and imposing Blarney Castle and take a tour of the castle and grounds. We will stop at the Blarney Woolen Mills, often termed “The largest Irish store anywhere”, where Irish products from crystal to Aran sweaters, to the finest in Irish crafts are proudly on display.

We will stay at the Trident Hotel in Kinsale tonight.

Included: Admission to Blarney Castle, overnight at the Trident Hotel in Kinsale

Wednesday January 5th

We will set out on the road back to Dublin this morning and enjoy our final day in Ireland together.

We will pull into our last castle of the journey, Clontarf Castle, where we will dine like Lords and Ladies in the castle dining room for our departing dinner.

Included: Dinner and Overnight at Clontarf Castle

Thursday January 6<sup>th</sup>

Departures for the airport begin in the morning. You will be escorted to the airport by group departures, based on the flight times of our passengers. Or if you have more time, we are happy to help you plan an extension to your trip.

**THE DETAILS**

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Departing Flights USA to Dublin December 27th from your home airport

We will be happy to help you book your flights if needed

Return Flights Dublin to USA on January 6th back to your home airport and will arrive on January 6th

Trip Costs

**2021-2022 Ancient East New Year Tour of Ireland**

- \$3,199.00 per person sharing



## New Year's Tour of Ireland – 2021/2022

- \$250.00 single room supplement

### 9-Day Trip Includes:

- Viking City Tours of Southeast Ireland Dublin, Waterford, Kinsale
- Breakfast Daily
- 6 Dinners
- 4-Star Hotel Accommodation (including a castle stay)
- Entertainment & Music Venues
- New Year's Dinner and Gala Celebration at the Waterford Golf Club with panoramic views of Waterford City
- All museum entries/events listed are inclusive
- All Transportation and Luggage Handling are included

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We are very happy to talk about Ireland with you. Please see our Facebook Page as well, for stories, pics, and more from past tours.

Nichole Healy - 484-241-0862  
[nichole@healytours.com](mailto:nichole@healytours.com)