

# Welcome to Healy Tours & The Kinnfolk Music Tour 2026!

If you're new to Healy Tours or Kinnfolk, welcome! We're glad you're here. If you are a returning guest, we are *thrilled* to have you back!

Healy Tours is once again teaming up with Kinnfolk to make a musical tour of Ireland that is rich in culture, music, and all of the scenery and magic you would expect from a trip to Ireland. We pace our tours so that you can enjoy the places you visit and have time to take in the beauty and culture of Ireland. We don't rush you in the morning, and we build in time to stop and hear the music.

Our guests help to make every experience in Ireland special. It's not just about the stunning scenery and history and music of Ireland that makes it amazing – the people and the camaraderie that we build together on our journey leaves us all a bit richer and bit more connected to our humanity as we travel and then return home again to our lives.

Our goal at Healy Tours is to ensure you have smooth travels and authentic experiences that will make memories that last a lifetime.



Healy Tours & Kinnfolk Billy Healy, Nichole Healy, Julie Kinn, Josh Kinn





Trip departure date:

Thursday, September 10, 2026

Trip return date:

Monday, September 21, 2026

 $\stackrel{\circ}{\cap}$  Group size:

18-40

Ireland

Location:

#### The Tour

If Ireland's ancient soul calls to you, and the wild beauty of the northwest stirs your imagination, this journey is your gateway to a land rich in legend and legacy. From myth-shrouded megaliths to serene monastic ruins, we've crafted a tour that weaves together the prehistoric, early Christian, and medieval heritage of counties like Sligo, Donegal, Galway, Mayo, and Meath. You'll walk where High Kings once ruled and stand before tombs aligned with the winter solstice sun—testaments to a civilization deeply attuned to the cosmos.

But this tour isn't just about ancient echoes. You'll also delve into the more recent, poignant history of Ireland's border towns—places shaped by division, resilience, and enduring cultural pride. Through these stories, you'll gain a deeper appreciation for the strength and spirit of the communities that thrive here.

#### The Music

Ireland's music is one of its greatest exports—proof that hard times often give rise to unforgettable art. The country's story is bound to its songs, and your hosts, husband-and-wife duo Josh and Julie Kinn (KINNFOLK Music), bring that spirit to to your travels around Ireland. They'll weave traditional Irish music into the journey, performing along the way and guiding you to authentic Irish music sessions in towns and villages.

On this tour, you'll see breathtaking landscapes and visit small towns that will leave a lasting impression. You'll step off the typical tourist track while still experiencing highlights like the Wild Atlantic Way, Galway, castles, the highest sea cliffs in Europe, ancient ruins, and so much more.



## **Tour days/dates overview**

- Day 1 Land Dublin airport, travel to Malahide (Coastal Dublin)
- Day 2 New Grange Tomb Tour, overnight Malahide (World UNESCO Heritage Site)
- Day 3 Travel to Donegal, overnight Ballybofey (County Donegal)
- Day 4 Slieve League Cliffs overnight Ballybofey
- Day 5 Day trip to Derry overnight Ballybofey
- Day 6 Westport (County Mayo)
- Day 7 Westport
- Day 8 Galway/Salthill (County Galway)
- Day 9 Galway/Salthill
- Day 10 Dublin
- Day 11 Flights return to United States





# **Trip Inclusions**

The below are all pre-paid and are included in your tour costs.



## Land Transportation/Transfers

Full-service luxury coach and driver/guide throughout your trip. Airport transfers included during prime arrival and departure times. Daily driving and guiding to all key sights and visits.



## Tours/Entries/Sightseeing

Malahide Castle and Gardens	Galway
Bru na Boinne/New Grange Megalithic Tomb (World UNESCO Heritage Site)	Salthill Promenade (beach)
Ancient Heritage Sites	Achill Island and Famine Village
Slieve League Cliffs (highest in Europe)	Pubs and music sessions throughout
Derry Walls guided tour	Clonmacnoise Monastic Settlement



#### Meals

Three 3-course dinners
Breakfast daily



#### Hotels/Accommodation

Check In Date	Check Out Date	Hotel Name	Location/Town
Sept 11, 2026	Sept 13, 2026	Dublin area 4-Star	Dublin suburban/coastal
Sept 13, 2026	Sept 16, 2026	Jackson's Donegal	Ballybofey
Sept 16, 2026	Sept 18, 2026	Westport Plaza	Westport
Sept 18, 2026	Sept 20, 2026	Salthill	Galway
Sept 20, 2026	Sept 21, 2026	Dublin 4-Star	Dublin



Day 0

Date:

Thursday Sept 10



# Title Fly to Dublin Ireland

Flights from the USA to Ireland are late afternoon/overnight flights. Depart from your home airport and land in Dublin on the morning of September 11, 2026. Please plan your arrival before **10:00 am.** 

Healy Tours will be in touch when it is time to book your flights. You may book independently from your airport of choice, or if you need assistance booking, we are happy to help, just let us know via email: <a href="mailto:nichole@healytours.com">nichole@healytours.com</a>.

Once you book your flight, please send Healy Tours your full flight itinerary with flight numbers and details.

General rule of thumb, if you are booking flights that require a transfer, allow at minimum a 2-hour layover (3 is better) in case of flight delays.



Travel Day:

Day 1

Date:

September 11, 2026



#### **Title** Arrive in Ireland!

Land at Dublin Airport, complete customs and immigration formalities before meeting your tour driver/guide, who will welcome you to Ireland. Stretch your legs with a walk around the charming town of Malahide or take rest before meeting up with the group.

Later today, travel a short distance to visit the stunning castle and botanical gardens at **Malahide Castle**. Stroll at leisure through the impeccable gardens, and take a tour of this beautiful castle.

This evening, gather for a group dinner to get acquainted with your traveling companions.

\*Note – hotel room check-in is not guaranteed for morning arrivals. If you would like a room available when you arrive, please inquire about the additional cost for booking the night prior to the tour start date, or take the opportunity to arrive a few days early with a <u>Dublin Tour Package</u>.

Included: Dinner and Overnight at 4\* hotel, Dublin Area



Day 2

**Date:** Sept 12, 2026



#### **Title** Explore the Ancient Sites of Boyne Valley

A short drive today will take you to the Boyne Valley, which is like stepping into a living museum of Ireland's ancient past, wrapped in lush countryside and dotted with mystical ruins.

You will have the opportunity to tour one of the most important heritage sites in Ireland today, a World UNESCO Heritage site, older that the pyramids in Egypt!

<u>Brú na Bóinne</u> is famous for the spectacular prehistoric passage tombs of Knowth, Newgrange and Dowth which were built circa 3200BC. These ceremonial structures are among the most important Neolithic sites in the world and contain the largest collection of megalithic art in Western Europe.

Overnight: 4-star Dublin Hotel



**Travel Day:** 

Day 3

Date:

Sept 13, 2026



# **Title** Donegal

This morning the group will take to the road and head north to County Donegal.

Donegal is a windswept county and is unsurpassed in natural beauty and Irish hospitality.

Tucked into the northwestern corner of the country, it's the most northerly county in the Republic of Ireland—and one of the wildest, in the best possible way.

On today's trip, you will make a stop along the way to visit the town of Monaghan, where you can visit the town, have lunch, or pop into the local museum for a break from the road. Onward to the small town of Ballybofey, Ireland, where you will make your home for the next three nights. A charming town, with pubs and shopping walkable from your hotel.

Overnight: <u>Jackson's Hotel</u>, <u>Ballybofey</u>



Day 4

**Date:** Sept 14, 2026



## Title Slieve League Cliffs and Coastal Donegal

Today you will delight in some of the most outstanding scenery and experiences that Donegal has to offer! Start your day with a visit to the highest sea cliffs in Europe (about 3 times higher and more remote than the famed Cliffs of Moher). The Slieve League Cliffs (or *Sliabh Liag* in Irish) are one of Ireland's most awe-inspiring natural wonders—towering nearly 601 meters (1,972 feet) above the Atlantic Ocean. You will have time to take in the atmosphere and hear some stories of the surrounding area with your hosts.

Dress for the elements today – at the top of the cliffs, high winds are common, so pack your rain gear, hats and scarves for the day – you can always leave them on the bus if you don't need them. Today is all about taking in this breathtaking, remote and mostly untouristy location. Have a pint, sing some songs, and enjoy.

Overnight: Jackson's Hotel, Ballybofey



Travel Day:

Day 5

Date:

Sept 15, 2026



# **Title** The Walled City of Derry

Head off on a day-trip to the town of Derry in Northern Ireland today. Derry is one of Ireland's oldest and most historically rich cities, with a story that spans over 1,400 years. Its history is marked by religious significance, colonial conflict, urban development, and political upheaval. The town of Derry boasts the only fully walled city in Ireland, with walls dating back to 1613. You can walk the entire circuit and enjoy panoramic views of the city and river.

You will learn about the history of Derry and the Irish Troubles today with perspectives from your local guide. A town central to the peace efforts for Ireland, you will gain an understanding of what this time in Irish history still means for the Ireland of today.

Once finished with your tour, Derry offers an abundance of charming pubs and eateries where you can enjoy some time to explore independently.

Overnight: Jackson's Hotel, Ballybofey



Day 6

**Date:** Sept 16, 2026



# Title Westport Ireland

Onward today to Westport, Ireland—known in Irish as *Cathair na Mart* ("stone fort of the beeves")—is a charming heritage town nestled on the southeast corner of Clew Bay in County Mayo, along the stunning Wild Atlantic Way. It's widely celebrated for its Georgian architecture, vibrant culture, and breathtaking natural surroundings – it has been a winner of Ireland's "Tidy Town" contest multiple times and is delightful to explore.

A renowned music town, Westport has plenty of pubs and shopping with a small-town relaxing atmosphere. Matt Molloy's Pub is a legendary spot where traditional Irish music meets warm hospitality in one of the country's most charming towns. Owned by Matt Molloy, the world-renowned flute player from The Chieftains, this pub is a beacon for music lovers and travelers seeking an authentic Irish experience.

Overnight: The Westport Plaza Hotel



Travel Day:

Day 7

Date:

Sept 17, 2026



#### Title Achill Island

Your excursion today will take you to Achill Island, located off the west coast of County Mayo. This is Ireland's largest island—and one of its most breathtaking. Connected to the mainland by bridge (no ferry needed!), Achill is a place where rugged mountains meet golden beaches, and ancient history blends with vibrant local culture.

Achill, and many places on the west coast of Ireland are Gaeltacht Regions – areas where the Irish language is standard. You will still be able to communicate with the locals but listen for the Irish language being spoken.

The Deserted Village on Achill Island—often called the Famine Village—is one of Ireland's most haunting and historically rich sites. Nestled on the southern slopes of Slievemore Mountain, this mile-long stretch of ruins tells a story of hardship, resilience, and centuries of human habitation.

Overnight: The Westport Plaza Hotel



Travel Day: Day 8

**Date:** Sept 18, 2026



# **Title** Salthill Promenade and Galway

Make your way south today to the town of Salthill just outside of Galway. You will be staying right across from the Promenade known simply as "the Prom," and is one of Ireland's most beloved walks. Tradition says you should kick the wall at the end near Blackrock Diving Tower for good luck; ladies – women were only allowed to swim at Blackrock since the 1970's so go ahead and take a cold plunge if you dare!

Arrive into Salthill this evening, enjoy a group dinner at the hotel, then explore the local area for sessions or make your way into Galway for Friday night in town. There is a full array of live music, eateries, and pubs in the village of Salthill, so whether you go for Galway or Salthill, there is something for everyone in this town.

Walk along the beach, or for those who are feeling more active, it is a lovely .9 mile walk along the prom into Galway Town. Not a walker? Don't fret, we will arrange transport to Galway town. If you plan to stay out late-night in Galway, there are plenty of taxis that can bring you home, and your hosts will help you navigate this.

Dinner and overnight: Salthill Hotel Galway | 4-Star Hotel with Galway Bay Views



Day 9

**Date:** Sept 19, 2026



#### **Title** Free-time in Salthill and Galway

The day is yours to explore as you like!

Take that dive into the Atlantic, walk along the beach, rent a bike, or head to Galway town and take in the sights and sounds. There is so much to do and enjoy in this area, so plan the outing that makes you happy!

Your driver will plan some transport runs in and out of Galway town, but you are also free to walk, bike or taxi on your own schedule. Need help planning your day? Just reach out to Healy Tours and we can help you make a plan if needed.

Your hosts, Josh and Julie know Galway well, and will help find the best music sessions in and around Galway.

Dinner and overnight: Salthill Hotel



**Travel Day:** 

Day10

Date:

Sept 20, 2026



#### Title Midlands of Ireland to Dublin

Traverse the Midlands of Ireland today on the route back to Dublin. The Midlands of Ireland offer a serene and often overlooked slice of the country's heartland—rich in history, natural beauty, and authentic rural charm.

Make a stop at a monastic village dating back to AD 544. Clonmacnoise is one of Ireland's most iconic and spiritually resonant monastic sites—a place where history, faith, and landscape converge in haunting beauty. Nestled on the banks of the River Shannon in County Offaly, this ancient settlement offers a powerful glimpse into Ireland's early Christian heritage.

Arrive in Dublin in time for hotel check in and prepare for you departing group dinner. Gather, eat, laugh and reminisce about your wonderful days in Ireland. Do you want time to explore Dublin City? Add on a day or two to your tour and explore Dublin City independently if you wish! Just let us know and Healy Tours can extend your hotel or help you book.

Overnight and Dinner: Hilton Dublin Kilmainham (Dublin City-Center Hotel)



Travel Day: Day 11

**Date:** Sept 21, 2026



# **Title** Dublin Airport Departures

Your tour will include a couple of airport transfers today, and these transfers will be determined based on the departure flights of the group.

If your flight falls outside of the group transfer times, you can take a taxi from the hotel at a time that suits your flight.

Bid your farewells to Ireland and leave with the dream of returning again!