



Emerald Ireland

Goddess and Sacred Site Tour
with Glamourgan

June 28 to July 3, 2023

Journey into the World of the Goddess and the
Sacred Site of Ireland
The Fire Goddess Tour! Goddess Brigit



Travel with Glamourgan into Emerald Ireland!

Visit some of the most ancient and sacred Goddess Sites in the world.

Stroll through the majestic gardens of Kildare and Dublin.

In a candlelit ceremony, connect with the Goddess Brigit in Kildare, home of her fire temple, sacred wells, churches, and stones. Enjoy tea and making Brigit's crosses with the Brigidine Sisters, the keepers of Brigit's Perpetual Flame.



Wander through the Neolithic monuments, tombs, chambers of Knowth, Newgrange, and Lough Crew Cairns (The Witches Hill).



We will tour through Dublin Castle, St. Patrick's Cathedral, and Brigit's Cathedral. Enjoy a candlelight Irish Dinner, Irish Storytelling and Music. Take a Goddess Liffey River Cruise through the city of Dublin. Explore Tara the Hill of the Kings and Goddesses; it's mounds and the "Stone of

Destiny." Enjoy acres of Irish gardens, horses, faery mounds, and Goddesses.

www.glamourgan.uk and www.lilithtraveltours.com
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/IrelandGoddessTour/>

Welcome to Ireland the Land of the Goddess.

I hope the following information will be of interest and useful for you. Please do take the time to read it as it will cover a lot of your questions.

We are very much looking forward to meeting with you all.

Please take time to read the itinerary as it will help you prepare for your journey. Please print this document and bring it with you.

Your Questions and Needs

Please let Glamourgan know if you have any additional questions about. Local information, banks, supermarkets, cafes, etc. or needs for your hotel room, transport arrangements, medical needs and any information regarding sacred sites, Goddesses, ceremonies, group sharing, etc.,

Your Transport Around Dublin

You will need to book a taxi to and from Dublin International Airport. Please contact a service of our choosing. Glamourgan will be using: Airport Taxi Transfers. In Dublin, Taxi Transfers cost approx. 60 euros each way. <https://airportstaxitransfers.com/> Book ahead of time. You are welcome to share a cab with other participants to share in the cost. As per their website: As many services do, they provide a meet and greet service which means they will come inside the airport and collect you in the pick-up area. Your flight will be monitored for delays to ensure your driver will be waiting for you at the correct time. If your flight is delayed, your reservation will be automatically updated.

Green Hop On and Hop Off Bus! “GREEN” Only take the Green Bus
(Cost at your own expense) Get the 48-hour Ticket!
Adult (24 Hour) €30, Adult (48 Hour) €35

Maps will be provided on the bus. Our first pick-up is at Stephens Green. Extra brochures of the city are also provided for the most popular tourist hotspots.

I highly recommend riding the Hop on and off Bus for one full-trip so you have a chance to really see Dublin, locate where everything is and what you want to see next.



Why the Green Bus?

- They run later than the red bus.
- They provide 25 Great Stops on Route.
- They proudly excel in providing entertaining and interesting live commentary for every Dublin attraction and are at hand to assist you with any query on each bus throughout the tour.
- The City Tour Route is 1 hour 45 minutes.
- The City Tour buses depart every 10 minutes on a loop around the city taking in all the major attractions.
- The green bus give profits back to the community the red bus doesn't.
- Great commentary! Learn about the history of Dublin and Ireland on the GREEN BUS!

You can see more details on their website. This is the place to buy your Ghost Bus tour tickets too. <https://www.dublinsightseeing.ie>

Beautiful Meath Tours!

Our Private Chauffeur Hire will be taking us to Kildare and the Boyne Valley. (Included in the cost of the tour). Tipping our driver each day is customary. Each day I will pass an envelope around and you can drop your tip in the envelope (your own discretion).



Luas: Harcourt Light Rail Station Green Line

There is a light rail between our hotel and Stephens Green that you can take to get faster to Stephens Green. I usually walk but if it rains it's nice to ride.

For those travelling on Luas only for a single or return journey. Ticket Vending Machines are located at every stop. Please note that tickets may not be

purchased onboard the trams. Cost is a couple of euros each way. Ticket pricing: <https://www.luas.ie/single-and-return-tickets.html> (At your own cost)



Airline and Flights

Please check your luggage weight allowance and number of bags for your airline. Some additional charges may apply for extra weight and bags. When leaving the Dublin - Flight safety restrictions still apply from the Ireland – please pack any liquids/gels /perfumes over 100mls into your main luggage. Other smaller items will have to be placed in a clear plastic bag and shown separately when you clear security. No scissors, penknives will be allowed in your hand luggage. Plastic bags can be obtained on arrival at the airport.

Do not leave your luggage or handbags unattended and you are responsible for your own bags.

Here are current TSA Restrictions

Current TSA & Airline Regulations Regarding Liquids

You may carry duty free liquids in secure, tamper-evident bags, more than 3.4 oz or 100 ml in your carry-on bag if:

- The duty free liquids were purchased internationally and you are traveling to the United States with a connecting flight.
- The liquids are packed in a transparent, secure, tamper-evident bag by the retailer and do not show signs of tampering when presented to TSA for screening.
- The original receipt for the liquids is present and the purchase was made within 48 hours.

The items inside the secure, tamper-evident bags must be screened and cleared. Any item that alarms or is unable to be screened will not be permitted in your carry-on bag. We recommend packing all liquids, gels, and aerosols that are over 3.4 oz or 100 ml in your checked baggage, even if they are in a secure, tamper-evident bag.

Please observe the check in times of your flights as a minimum. No responsibility will be taken for missed flights.

For current TSA Restrictions regarding liquids, medications, and infant and child nourishments see: <https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/liquids-rule>

Your Accommodation

The Camden Hotel

Hotel Address: Camden Street Hotel, 84-87 Camden Street Lower, Saint Kevin's, Dublin, D02 DH36, Ireland

Phone: +353 01 475 8444 (From your USA Phone or cell phone)

Email: stay@camdenstreethotel.com

In the center of Dublin City in the vibrant Camden Street District, you'll find



The Camden Street Hotel. More than just another hotel in Dublin City, to our guests we offer an entertainment venue where you can sleep, eat, drink and party. Alongside our onsite bars and nightclub our small central Dublin City hotel offers you 34 newly refurbished bedrooms.

With our onsite Bars & Nightclub our hotel is suitable for adults only. Today's visitors make a point of visiting the hotel's ballroom, the original theatre auditorium which now houses the very popular Palace Nightclub.



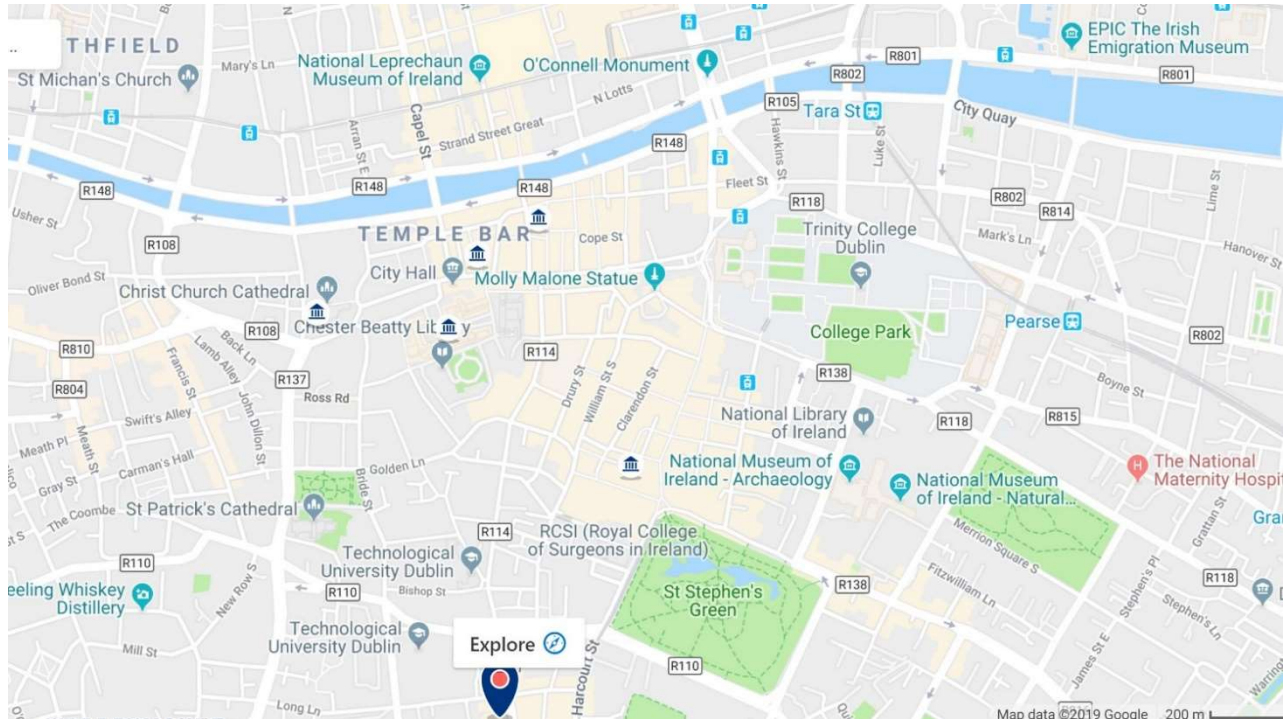
Here is the roommates list:

Room 1: Private Room: Marianne Kildedal

Room 2. Twin Room: Lorena Spencer and Susan Meyer Corbett

Room 3: Private Glamourgan Virgilio

The hotel is close to the southwest corner of St. Stephen's Green in Dublin City Centre. It is on the LUAS (tram system) line which services from Grafton Street (one stop) to the north and to the Green Line Sandyford in the South. Grafton Street and its surrounds would arguably be Ireland's most exclusive shopping district. Temple Bar and all major attractions are all within walking distance of our hotel. So is an amazing shopping mall!



You are here at the red dot

Additional meals, personal costs, tips, phone calls, papers and insurance at passenger's own expense.

Breakfast close by:

Green Bench Cafe

Address

18 Montague Street

Dublin 2, Ireland

+353 1 549 8229

Opening Hours

Mon – Fri: 8:30 am – 3:00 pm

Suggested places to eat in Dublin

Dublin has many wonderful places to eat. Explore Camden Street.

Contact the concierge desk for a map of restaurants close by. They can call for taxi service if you require that as well.

I have to recommend a few of my favorite places.

The Queen of Tarts: This lovely little Dublin Bakery/Pastry and Tea Shop is one of my favorites. There are two locations.

<http://www.queenoftarts.ie/>

Cows Lane, Dame Street, Dublin 2, Ireland

Tel:+353(01) 633 4681



Bar Italia Restaurant - Near the Liffey Cruise is a lovely Italian Restaurant open for lunch and dinner.

Bar Italia, 26 Ormond Quay, Dublin 1, Open 10am-Late 7 Days a Week, TEL:

01 8741000, Website: <https://www.baritalia.ie/> EMAIL:

bookings@dunneandcrescenzigroup.ie

Temple Bar District is famous for and extremely popular for its traditional Irish bars. In the daytime you find fabulous food and shops in this famous historical area. This is the place to party in Dublin at night! Located on the south bank of the River Liffey in central Dublin, Ireland. The area is bounded by the Liffey to the north, Dame Street to the south, Westmoreland Street to the east and Fishamble Street to the west. Popular venues include The Palace Bar, The Temple Bar Pub, Oliver St. John Gogarty's and The Auld Dubliner (fine boys bar).

Looking for something American try

The Hard Rock Café. Classic Rock and Roll and Burgers! **HARD ROCK CAFE DUBLIN:** Hard Rock Cafe Dublin is located just a few blocks from River Liffey in a pedestrian friendly area of Dublin featuring cobblestone streets, wide sidewalks, and plenty of attractions. Address: 12 Fleet Street Temple Bar, Dublin 2, Ireland, Telephone: +353-1-671-7777

<http://www.hardrock.com/cafes/dublin/>

Hours of operation: Restaurant hours: 12:00 noon till late; Rock Shop® hours: 10:00 am till late.



Shopping

Stephens Green Shopping Mall - The Mall is a short walk from our hotel. It is right across from Stephens Green Park and close to where we will be picking up the "GREEN" Hop on and off bus.

<http://www.stephengreen.com/>

Stephen's Green Shopping Centre has everything you need. Stephen's Green offer you all the services you would expect from a premium quality shopping center. It also provides ATM's, internet, postal services, shoe repair, clothes, cosmetics, and souvenir shops etc. Reminder Bathroom require a small coin charge as they are fully attended bathroom at the Mall. General Opening Times

Monday – Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 8.30am – 7pm

Other Opening Times

Thursday 8.30am – 8pm | Sunday 11am – 6pm

Located at the top of Grafton Street



Jervis Shopping Centre

Another Shopping Mall with 61 Stores (Near the Leprechaun Museum and Temple Bar District)



Address: 125 Abbey Street Upper, North City, Dublin, D01 W3X5, Ireland

Opening Times

Mon - Wed 9:00am - 6:30pm

Thurs - 9:00am - 9:00pm

Fri - 9:00am - 7:00pm

Sat - 9:00am - 7:00pm

Sun - 11:00am - 6:30pm

Tesco Grocery and Supplies

Camden Pl, Saint Kevin's, Dublin, Ireland

Clothes, Shoes and Accessories

Please pack sensible and sturdy footwear for the walking you will be encountering. Dress for 60 degree F weather and around 40 degree F at night. (Day 15 degree C and Night -12 degree C). Dress comfortably for our Irish Storytelling Dinner. We will share a cab to and from the Restaurant.

Postal Services

Located at Stephens Green Shopping Mall: Postal Services A post box is located on the ground floor close to the entrance of Dunnes Stores. Post is collected twice daily and stamps may be purchased from Hallmark Card Gallery (ground floor).

Your Hotel will also provide some outgoing mails services.

Dublin's Famous General Post Office: Dublin's principal post office. Sited in the center of O'Connell Street, the city's main thoroughfare, it is one of Ireland's most famous buildings, and was the last of the great Georgian public buildings erected in the capital. A small museum is attached to the Post Office with historical information about postal service in Ireland and the Easter Rising.



Mail your international packages, get stamps and visit the

General Post Office Museum here. The An Post Museum & Archive, based in Dublin's historic GPO, promotes awareness of the influential role the Post Office has played in the development of Irish life and



society over many generations. Museum Information at this link:

<https://www.anpost.com/Witness-history>

Museum hours: Tuesday – Saturday: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Last Admission 4:00 pm

The GPO Ticket Price for the Museum is approx. €15

General Post Office: O'Connell St Lower, Dublin 1, Ireland

Phone:+353 1 705 7000

Telephones and Internet

To call United States from Ireland, dial:

00 - 1 - Area Code - Land Phone Number

00 - 1 - 10 Digit Mobile Number

To call Australia from Ireland, dial:

00 - 61 - Area Code - Land Phone Number

00 - 61 - 9 Digit Mobile Number

If you are using your own cell phone just call home like you do in the USA!

Internet is available in your room! A password will be provided by the concierge.

Weather in Ireland

Irish weather can be unpredictable. Ireland's climate is influenced most by the Atlantic Ocean. As a result, it doesn't have the extreme temperatures that other countries at similar latitude would have. The average temperature is a mild 50°F.

A major warm ocean current called the North Atlantic Drift keeps sea temperatures mild too. Hills and mountains, mainly around the coast, shelter the rest of the island from strong winds coming off the ocean.

The seasons: Spring and Summer

In spring (February to April), the average highest temperatures range from 46 to 54°F, with April considered particularly pleasant. In summer (May to July), the averages for highest temperatures are between 64 and 68°F.

The warmest months, July and August, get about 18 hours of daylight and it gets dark only after 11pm. Hence the well-worn phrase in Ireland; "sure there's a grand stretch in the evenings". I am expecting the temperature in the day time to be 60's to upper 70's. Low's maybe 50's at night.

General Medical Information

Hospitals Dublin:

St. James's Hospital, James's Street, Dublin 8, Ireland. ·

telephone: (01) 416 2774 or (01) 416 2775

www.stjames.ie/services/med/emergency/

Fee: €100+ for emergencies. Take Taxi to this facility

Medical Facilities Dublin:

Harcourt Clinic is the same building as the Camden Hotel.

They provide both medical and dental services.

35 Upper Camden St., Dublin 2, Ireland. Telephone

014759433 Dental 014759551

www.harcourthealthdoctor.ie



TMB Clinic (Tropical Medical Bureau) Located just North of Stephens Green
The Tropical Medical Bureau is the leading travel medicine clinic in Ireland
with 22 clinics nationwide, specialists in providing the best information and
medical care available for the international traveler

TMB Clinic, 54 Grafton Street, Dublin 2, DO2DAOO, Ireland

Telephone: 00-353-1-2715-272, Email: graftonstreet@tmb.ie

Website: <http://www.tmb.ie> Consultation Fee: 60

Emergency Information in Ireland

Republic of Ireland Tel: 112 or 999

Northern Ireland Tel: 999

The fire, ambulance and police services in Ireland and Northern Ireland are all contactable via the above numbers. When calling emergency services you will be asked to provide the following:

- The exact address of the incident or emergency and/or any noticeable landmarks nearby.
- Directions to the scene of the emergency
- The telephone number you are calling from
- Details on the incident itself, the number of persons involved, the description, any visible injuries and knowledge of any pre-existing medical conditions.

Try to stay calm and listen to the call taker's instructions.

It is also important to keep your own phone on as the emergency service may need to contact you for further information.

Banks, Money, and ATM

There are many ATM machine around Dublin
The Bank of Ireland is near to our hotel with ATM machine.
88-90 Camden Street Lower, Saint Kevin's, Dublin, Ireland
phone 01 4784766

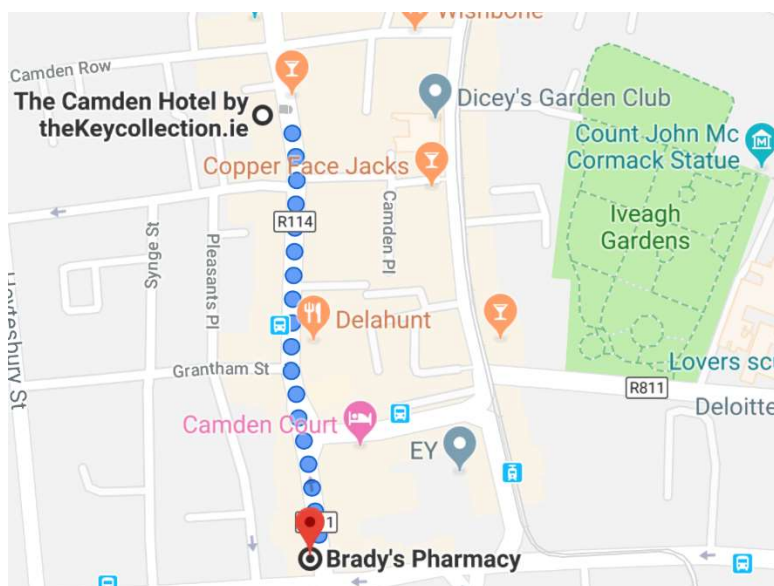
Mon. Tues. Wed. Thurs. Fri. 10 AM - 4 PM
Closed – Sat. and Sun.

Smoking

Smoking is not permitted in Airports, buses, coach, accommodation, Pubs (most have smoking areas outside), cafes and most public places etc.

Chemists/ Pharmacists:

Brady's Pharmacy- 12 Upper Camden Street Dublin 2



Safety in the Ireland

Many people – including those who say they are in excellent shape – sometimes struggle with walking the hillsides and have found themselves just dehydrated getting around this area. So sturdy walking shoes, lots of and plenty of time for breaks, if you need them. Bring bottled water with you on day trips.

Note you will be in the city of Dublin. UN statistics from 1998-2000 show that Ireland has a low crime rate compared to the US and most of its European neighbors. Walking around the Dublin is a very friendly city center. I have enjoyed the people very much. It is important to be responsible for your property and well-being at all times.

Dublin is a big city and as with any big city just take appropriate precautions. I have enjoyed being out late at night in Dublin with a companion and find getting a cab instead of walking back to the hotel works well.

Drinking heavily after midnight is common in many of Dublin's bars and clubs, especially around the Temple Bar area and Dame Street. Avoid more deprived areas late at night.

Kildare and the Boyne Valley are much smaller communities, so they have a small town feel. Lots of tourists at the Newgrange Center so again be responsible with your personal property.

Journey times

Please do be prompt for all meeting and departure times at the various locations.

Journey times are subject to traffic. See itinerary for departure times. Please note meetings and departures can change so check with Glamourgan and write down any changes in your Travel Packet.

What is the Easter Rising?

The Easter Rising (Irish: Éirí Amach na Cásca), also known as the Easter Rebellion, was an armed insurrection in Ireland during Easter Week, April 1916. The Rising was launched by Irish republicans to end British rule in Ireland and establish an independent Irish Republic while the United Kingdom was heavily engaged in World War I. It was the most significant uprising in Ireland since the rebellion of 1798, and the first armed action of the Irish revolutionary period.

Check out the Post office on O'Connell St Lower, Dublin 1, Ireland. This is where much of the Rising took place.

Organized by a seven-man Military Council of the Irish Republican



Brotherhood, the Rising began on Easter Monday, 24 April 1916, and lasted for six days. Members of the Irish Volunteers — led by schoolmaster and Irish language activist Patrick Pearse, joined by the smaller Irish Citizen Army of James Connolly and 200 women of Cumann na mBan — seized key

locations in Dublin and proclaimed an Irish Republic.

The British Army brought in thousands of reinforcements as well as artillery and a gunboat. There was fierce street fighting on the routes into the city center, where the rebels put up stiff resistance, slowing the British advance and inflicting heavy casualties. Elsewhere in Dublin, the fighting mainly consisted of sniping and long-range gun battles.

The main rebel positions were gradually surrounded and bombarded with artillery. There were isolated actions in other parts of Ireland, with attacks on the Royal Irish Constabulary barracks at Ashbourne, County Meath and in County Galway, and the seizure of the town of Enniscorthy, County Wexford. Germany agreed to send an arms shipment to the rebels, but the British had intercepted it just before the Rising began. Volunteer leader Eoin MacNeill had then issued a countermand in a bid to halt the Rising, which greatly reduced the number of rebels who mobilized.

With much greater numbers and heavier weapons, the British Army suppressed the Rising. Pearse agreed to an unconditional surrender on Saturday 29 April, although sporadic fighting continued until Sunday, when word reached the other rebel positions. After the surrender the country remained under martial law.

About 3,500 people were taken prisoner by the British, many of whom had played no part in the Rising, and 1,800 of them were sent to internment camps or prisons in Britain. Most of the leaders of the Rising were executed following courts-martial.

The Rising brought physical force republicanism back to the forefront of Irish politics, which for nearly 50 years had been dominated by constitutional nationalism. It, and the British reaction to it, led to increased popular support for Irish independence.

**POBLACHT NA H EIREANN.
THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT
OF THE
IRISH REPUBLIC
TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND.**

IRISHMEN AND IRISHWOMEN In the name of God and of the dead generations from which she receives her old tradition of nationhood, Ireland, through us, summons her children to her flag and strikes for her freedom.

Having organised and trained her manhood through her secret revolutionary organisation, the Irish Republican Brotherhood, and through her open military organisations, the Irish Volunteers and the Irish Citizen Army, having patiently perfected her discipline, having resolutely waited for the right moment to reveal itself, she now seizes that moment, and, supported by her exiled children in America and by gallant allies in Europe, but relying in the first on her own strength, she strikes in full confidence of victory.

We declare the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland, and to the unfettered control of Irish destinies, to be sovereign and indefeasible. The long usurpation of that right by a foreign people and government has extinguished the right, nor can it ever be extinguished except by the destruction of the Irish people. In every generation the Irish people have asserted their right to national freedom and sovereignty: six times during the past three hundred years they have asserted it in arms. Standing on that fundamental right, and again asserting it in arms in the face of the world, we hereby proclaim the Irish Republic as a Sovereign Independent State, and we pledge, our lives and the lives of our comrades in arms to the cause of its freedom, of its welfare, and of its exaltation among the nations.

The Irish Republic is entitled to, and hereby claims, the allegiance of every Irishman and Irishwoman. The Republic guarantees religious and civil liberty, equal rights and equal opportunities to all its citizens, and declares its resolve to pursue the happiness and prosperity of the whole nation and of all its parts, cherishing all the children of the nation equally, and oblivious of the differences carefully fostered by an alien government, which have divided a minority from the majority in the past.

Until our arms have brought the opportune moment for the establishment of a permanent National Government, representative of the whole people of Ireland and elected by the suffrages of all her men and women, the Provisional Government, hereby constituted, will administer the civil and military affairs of the Republic in trust for the people.

We place the cause of the Irish Republic under the protection of the Most High God. Whose blessing we invoke upon our arms, and we pray that no one who serves that cause will dishonour it by cowardice, inhumanity, or rapine. In this supreme hour the Irish nation must, by its valor and discipline and by the readiness of its children to sacrifice themselves for the common good, prove itself worthy of the august destiny to which it is called.

Signed on Behalf of the Provisional Government,
THOMAS J. CLARKE.
SEAN MAC DIARADA, THOMAS MACDONAGH,
P. H. PEARSE, EAMONN CENNITT,
JAMES CONNOLLY, JOSEPH PLUNKETT.

In December 1918, republicans, represented by the reconstituted Sinn Féin party, won a landslide victory in the general election to the British Parliament. They did not take their seats, but instead convened the First Dáil and declared the independence of the Irish Republic, which led to the War of Independence.

Almost 500 people were killed in the Easter Rising. About 54% were civilians, 30% were British military and police, and 16% were Irish rebels. More than 2,600 were wounded. Many of the civilians were killed as a result of the British using artillery and heavy machine guns, or mistaking civilians for rebels. Others were caught in the crossfire in a crowded city. The shelling and the fires it caused left parts of inner city Dublin in ruins.

Please Note: The Easter Rising is a very emotional thing for many people. Some of you may even have a past life during this time or maybe your family is rich in Irish ancestry and may be returning for this reason. We honor your feelings and recommend tissue at any historical site so tears may come unexpectedly. If you need any extra support please do not hesitate to ask.

Day 1

Wednesday, June 28, 2023

Arrive in Dublin Airport and take a taxi to your hotel. Explore Dublin.

Arriving Early? Concierge can check your bag for you.

Free Day to Relax and to Explore Dublin

First Dinner 6:00 pm The
Bleeding Horse
24-25 Camden Street
Upper, Saint Kevin's, Dublin,
Ireland

Menu: <https://bleedinghorse.ie/food-menu/>



Ha' Penny Bride over the Liffey

Day 2

Thursday, June 29, 2023

Explore Dublin

- Dublin Castle,
- St. Patricks Cathedral,
- Liffey River Cruise
- Story Telling Show

8:45 am Meet in Hotel Lobby for a morning walk to the Hop on Hop off Bus to Stephens Green. Buy Tickets on Hop on and off bus at your own expense. (Buy 2-day passes)

Take the 9:17 Bus to Dublin Castle

10:00 am Reservations Tickets have already been purchased for the Dublin Castle and is included in the price of the tour. (If for any reason we do not have enough time to get to Dublin Castle on the Green Bus be prepared to share the cost of a cab (Tour is 1 hour) Get the 48-hour Ticket!

Adult (24 Hour) €30, Adult (48 Hour) €35

10:00 am to 11:00 am Dublin Castle

Cost: (Included in your Tour Price)

Address: Dame St, Dublin 2, Ireland

Dublin Castle is one of the most important buildings in Irish history. From 1204 until 1922, it was the seat of English, and later British rule in Ireland. During that time, it served principally as a residence for the British monarch's Irish representative, the Viceroy of Ireland, and



as a ceremonial and administrative center.

The Castle was originally developed as a medieval fortress under the orders of King John of England. It had four corner towers linked by high curtain walls and was built around a large central enclosure. Constructed on elevated ground once occupied by an earlier Viking settlement, the old Castle stood approximately on the site of the present Upper Castle Yard. It remained mostly intact until April 1684, when a major fire caused severe damage to much of the building. Despite the extent of the fire, parts of the medieval and Viking structures survived and can still be explored by visitors today.

The State Apartments are among the most prestigious Staterooms in the country.

Until 1922 it was the seat of British rule in Ireland and is now a major Irish government complex. Dublin Castle fulfilled a number of roles throughout its history. Originally built as a defensive fortification for the Norman city of Dublin, it later evolved into a royal residence.

The State Apartment include the St. Patrick's Hall, The Throne Room. State Drawing Room and the State Room

The State Drawing Room was created in 1838 and was used mainly by successive Vicereines (the wives of the Viceroy) as a formal sitting room and for holding audiences with Irish courtiers. During the royal visits of 1907 and 1911, Queen Alexandra and Queen Mary also received guests in this room. Today the room houses one of the most significant paintings in the Dublin Castle collection, a late portrait by one of the leading European portrait painters of the seventeenth century, Sir



Anthony Van Dyck. The President of Ireland still uses the room for the reception of visiting dignitaries.

St. Patrick's Hall was a ballroom, and now it is used for Presidential inaugurations. It is one of the oldest rooms in the castle, dating from the 1740s, though its decoration dates from c. 1790, including the most significant painted ceiling in Ireland executed by Vincenzo Valdre (c. 1742–1814)



Built initially as the Battleaxe Hall in the 1740s, it was converted to a Presence Chamber around 1790. The regal decoration dates from that time and from alterations in the 1830s. It contains a throne built for the visit of King George IV to Ireland in 1821.

The Throne Room was once the epicenter of royal ceremony in Ireland. It was created in 1788 as an audience chamber in which the Viceroy received guests on behalf of the British monarch. It was also where young debutantes were presented at court to mark their formal entry into aristocratic society. The



Throne Room throne was made for the visit to Ireland of King George IV in 1821. Queen Victoria and King Edward VII later used it during their visits to the Castle. The last monarch to use it before Irish independence was King George V in 1911. On display over the doors in this

space are six famous mythological paintings by the Italian artist Gaetano Gandolfi, painted in 1767.

11:30 am Lunch - Queen of Tarts:

Cost: (At your own expense)

Address: 4 Cork Hill, Dublin Southside, Dublin 2, Ireland. Webpage:

www.queenoftarts.ie Telephone: +353 1 670 7499

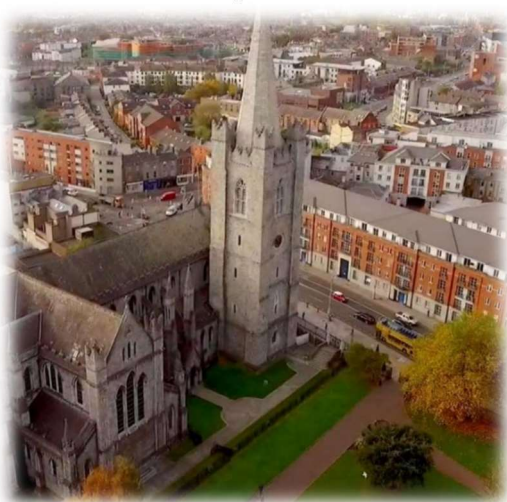
1:30 pm arrival - St. Patrick's Cathedral - 45 min self-guided tour

Cost: (Included in your Tour Price)

Address: St Patrick's Close, Dublin 8, Ireland

As the largest cathedral and one of the most important pilgrimage sites in Ireland, Saint Patrick's has been at the heart of Dublin and Ireland's history and culture for over 800 years.

The parish church of Saint Patrick on this site was granted collegiate status in 1191 and raised to cathedral status in 1224. The present building dates from 1220.



The Cathedral is today the National Cathedral of the Church of Ireland (a church of the Anglican communion) and also serves as a popular tourist attraction in Ireland.

Knights of St Patrick: From 1783 until 1871, the cathedral served as the Chapel of the Most Illustrious Order of Saint Patrick, members of which were the Knights of St. Patrick. With the disestablishment of the Church of Ireland in 1871, the installation ceremony moved to St. Patrick's Hall, Dublin Castle. The heraldic banners of the knights at the time of the change still hang over the choir stalls to this day.

2:00 pm or earlier Ride Hop on and Off Bus around the city to Liffey River Cruise or if needed share cab (shared cost). Arrive at the Boats at 3:00 pm

3:15 pm Liffey River Cruise - Ride the Liffey River Cruise through the city of Dublin. Tour: Arrive 15 minutes Early 3:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Liffey River Cruise and Dublin Discovered Boat Tours

Address: Sean O'Casey Bridge Dublin Dublin 1 County Dublin IE
(Included in your Tour Price)

We cruise the Liffey River named after the **Goddess Anna Livia**.

Drift down the River Liffey on a leisurely cruise from the heart of Dublin. With a local guide providing professional commentary, your all-weather, purpose-built



vessel can accommodate up to 48 passengers, offering maximum comfort and safety. The boat is wheelchair accessible and suitable for young and old alike.

Highlights! Scenic cruise past Dublin's city center sights. See Custom House, docklands, bridges and 18th-century buildings

Sights seen include the Ha'penny Bridge, Custom House, Famine Memorial, Jeanie Johnston Ship, as well as lovely vistas of Georgian and modern bridges and quayside buildings.

4:00 Leave the Liffey River Cruise Together – Share a cab to The Stag's Head (price of cab not included in the cost of tour)

Address: The Stag's Head Pub, 1 Dame Court
Dublin, D02 TW84
Tel: +353 1 2188555

4:15 pm Beverages at the Stag- Menu: <https://stagshead.ie/menus/>

4:50 pm Arrival: Special Evening Entertainment

Irish Folklore and Story Telling Show – An Evening with the Fairies

Get drinks first at bar. Go upstairs located at the back of the Pub for Show starts at 5:00 pm Tickets for show are included. 2-insightful presentations on Irish fairy lore and storytelling in a private intimate setting. Show finishes at 6:30 pm. Drinks are at your own cost.



Experience an enchanting evening of Irish Folklore and Storytelling as you relax in an intimate setting above The Stag's Head, voted 'Ireland's Best Traditional Irish Pub' in 2019.

We have been entertaining guests since 2006 with our wonderful dinner show which was consistently voted the Number 1 Dinner Theatre Entertainment in Dublin on 'Trip Advisor' from 2011 to 2021!

Due to post pandemic circumstances we have changed the format of the show and are now delighted to continue offering this unique folklore and storytelling experience as a pre-dinner show for you to enjoy before you head out for somewhere to eat in the many restaurants located nearby.

Our new setting is the Stag's Head Pub, a hidden gem in the heart of Dublin's nightlife area. As you relax in a cosy private setting above this atmospheric traditional Irish Pub, we invite you to sit back and let our renowned storytellers take you into another world of the imagination with wonderful insights and mystical tales of Irish life in times past.

You will leave this unique evening with a deeper understanding of Irish culture and the Irish landscape, bringing the stories of Ireland with you on your journey.

Highlights

Explore Irish people's beliefs and superstitions surrounding the other world of the Fairies.

Listen to the magical tales they told as they gathered around the fire at night.

Let our storytellers take you back in time to the fascinating world of Ireland long ago where the culture was one of the mind, spirit and the imagination and where the unseen world was never far away.

6:30 pm Leave the Stag's Head and go to the Old Mill for Dinner

6: 45 pm Dinner Option – The Old Mill

(cost at your own expense)

The Old Mill

Address: 14 Temple Bar Square, Dublin 2, Ireland

Phone: +353 1 671 9266

<http://oldmillrestaurant.ie/>

After dinner will share a cab back to our hotel

Day 3

Friday, June 30, 2023

Explore Dublin: FREE Day to explore all the sites of Dublin.

Dublin (At your own cost some places are free)

Things to Do on Your Free Days in Dublin

To Dos in Dublin:

Some places charge a fee and they are not included in the cost of the tour: Fee prices are approximate. More details of these sites are available upon request.



- Ride the Green Hop On and Hop Off Bus Tour
- Christ Church Cathedral: Self-guided tour of the cathedral & crypt, including an audio guide. €10.00
- Dublinia Museum in Ireland: Viking Experience €14.00
- National Library of Ireland and See W. B. Yeates - Golden Dawn Exhibit: Free
- Dublin Castle: (included in your tour)
- St. Patrick's Cathedral: (included in your tour)
- The National Gallery Free: beautiful painting of Mary Magdalene and a Picasso
- Guinness Beer Storehouse Tour: Storehouse Experience Only €26
- Temple Bar Restaurant – Famous bar of Ireland
- Irish Museum of Modern Art: Free
- Museum of Archaeology and History – Free (Sheela na Gigs)
- National History Museum – Free
- Liffey River Cruise: (Included in your tour)
- The Phoenix Park: Dublin Zoo
- The Old Jameson Distillery: Bow St. Experience From €26 (45-Minutes fully guided tour)
- Ghost Bus Tour and Dracula Dublin Origins: Haunted Tour of Dublin

- Marsh Library: Oldest Library in Ireland - Bram Stoker came to read in Marsh's in 1866. In 1902, James Joyce came to Marsh's to read and signed the visitors' book. €5
- Trinity College and the Book of Kells. Visit Campus Free, Book of Kells €18.50, Official Tour of Trinity College €15.00
- Dublin Writer Museum €7.50
- Leprechaun Museum Day (Guided Storytelling 45 min.) €10-16, Night (Dark and Twisted Tales 60 min.) €18
- St. Stephens Green Gardens and much more will be included in your map of the City Free
- Queen Maeve Bridge: 1764 – Mellows Bridge, Dublin

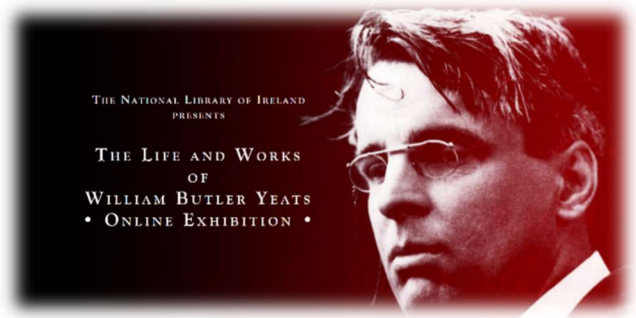
National Library - For those interested in the occult and the Golden Dawn a stop at the W.B. Yeates exhibit is a must, located at the National Library of Ireland (FREE)

Yeats: The Life and Works of William Butler Yeats
The exhibition, Yeats: The Life and Works of William Butler Yeats, which has been described in The Irish Times as "one of the most important literary exhibitions yet staged internationally," opened to unanimous acclaim on May 25, 2006.



Since then, some 35,000 people of all ages and nationalities have delighted in exploring the multimedia rich experience. In November 2006 the exhibition won the prestigious Association of Heritage Interpretation Interpret Britain and Ireland Award, and in January 2007, the exhibition companion book, Works and Days, won the CLÉ Best Overall Production Award.

<https://www.nli.ie/exhibitions-events/exhibition-yeats-life-and-works-william-butler-yeats-0>



Exhibition opening hours

Thursday - Monday, 9.30am - 5pm (last admission 4.30pm)

Tuesday - Wednesday, 9.30am - 7pm (last admission 6.30pm)

Public Holiday Mondays: 12pm - 5pm (last admission 4:45pm)

Iveagh Gardens! Near our hotel. A short walk. Great for a morning stroll. Iveagh Gardens are open all year round.

Iveagh Gardens are located on Clonmel Street, off Harcourt Street in Dublin 2. Access is by Clonmel Street, Hatch Street, and to the rear of the National Concert Hall on Earlsfort Terrace.

<https://iveaghgardens.ie/>



As soon as the sun makes its presence felt in Dublin city Parks people flock to the lovely gardens. Enjoy and wander through the gorgeous Iveagh Gardens. The best news? They're just a short stroll down the street from Stephen's Green - you'll find them perched off Harcourt Street. A total gem. Hiding in the heart of the capital.

Hours Open: Monday – Saturday: 8 am opening, Sunday and Bank Holidays: 10am opening. Closing times are approximate.

Stephens Green Gardens

Ireland's best known Victorian public park. Re-opened by Lord Ardilaun in 1880 for the citizens of Dublin. These 9 hectares / 22 acre park has been maintained in the original Victorian layout with extensive perimeter tree and shrub planting, spectacular spring and summer Victorian bedding. The herbaceous border also provides colour from early spring to late autumn. Sanctuary from inclement weather can be obtained in the Victorian lakeside shelter or in the Victorian Swiss shelters in the center of the park.



Stephens Green Pond

River Dance – Live Show

Riverdance is a theatrical show that consists mainly of traditional Irish music and dance. With a score composed by Bill Whelan.

Riverdance is rooted in a three-part suite of baroque-influenced traditional music called Timedance. Timedance was composed, recorded and performed for the 1981 Eurovision Song Contest, which was hosted by Ireland.



Twenty-five years on from the first time Riverdance the Show premiered at The Point Theatre Dublin, composer Bill Whelan has rerecorded his mesmerising soundtrack while producer Moya Doherty and director John McColgan have completely reimagined the ground-breaking show with innovative and spectacular lighting, projection and stage designs with new costume designs by Joan Bergin, to create Riverdance 25th Anniversary Show.

Gaiety Theatre Box Office, South King Street, Dublin 2
Tuesday to Saturday at 7.30pm. Sunday at 5pm.
Saturday Matinee at 3.30pm €25.00 each and up

<https://riverdance.com/tours/dublin/>

Jeanie Johnston Ship

The original Jeanie Johnston made 16 emigrant journeys to North America between 1847 and 1855, carrying over 2,500 people with no loss of life. The ship is an authentic replica, built in Tralee, Co. Kerry. It has sailed to North America and various points in Europe. This beautiful ship is one of Dublin's most popular attractions.



The Ha'penny Bridge

The first pedestrian bridge to cross the Liffey, it was a welcome relief for Dubliners accustomed to vying with a horse, carriage, and cart in an era before any demarcation between vehicle and man on the public highways or bridges. Originally called the Wellington Bridge (after the Duke of Wellington), the name of the bridge changed to Liffey Bridge. The Liffey Bridge and remains the bridge's official name to this day, although it is most commonly referred to as the Ha'penny Bridge. This bridge use to cost a penny to cross, and now, of course, it is free. The Liffey River was named after the Goddess Anna Livia.



Dublin's General Post Office - (There is a charge to visit the GPO Museum, this fee is at your own expense) It is the 100-year anniversary of the Easter Rising was in 2016. This is Dublin's principal post office. Sited in the center of O'Connell Street, the city's main thoroughfare, it is one of Ireland's most famous buildings, and was the last of the great Georgian public buildings erected in the capital. A small museum is attached to the Post Office with historical information about postal service in Ireland and the Easter Rising.



Mail your international packages, get stamps and visit the General Post Office museum here. The An Post Museum & Archive, based in Dublin's historic GPO, promotes awareness of the influential role the Post Office has played in the development of Irish life and society over many generations. Take a virtual tour of the museum at this link:

<http://www.anpost.ie/AnPost/History+and+Heritage/Museum/Letters+Lives+Liberty/Virtual+tour/Virtual+tour.htm>

The GPO Ticket Price for the Museum (at your own expense)

Opening Times

Tuesday – Saturday: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Last Admission 4:00 pm

Closed Public Holidays and Christmas Eve.

Ticket Prices:

Adult - €15.00

National History Museum (FREE!) for Special Exhibit for Easter Rising.

Natural History,

Merrion Street,

Dublin 2,

D02 F627

+353 1 677 7444



National History Museum Dublin

Opening hours

Tuesday to Saturday 10am - 5pm

Sunday & Monday 1pm - 5pm

Closed Christmas Day, St. Stephen's Day and Good Friday

The National Museum of Dublin at Collins Barracks will open a major new exhibition to mark the centenary of the 1916 Rising. This is due to open Thursday 3rd March 2016. Very exciting to do this on your free day in Ireland.

Day 4

Saturday, July 1

Brú na Bóinne Complex Prehistoric UNESCO Site

- Newgrange -Prehistoric Monument
- Knowth – Prehistoric Passage Graves
- Hill of Tara - Home and Reign of the Kings of Ireland, Stone of Destiny, Mound of Hostages, St Patrick's Holy Well, Jack's Seat. (Queen Maeve's Rath of Maeve is close by but unable to see)
- Loughcrew Cairns. The Hill of the Witch
- St. Ciaran's or (Kieran's) Well Holy Well

7:50 am - Meet in Hotel Lobby

8:00 am - Our private coach will pick us up in front of the hotel.

9:00 am – Enter Knowth and Newgrange (Tickets are included)

Newgrange and Knowth and Megalithic Passage Tomb - World Heritage Site. Arrive at Brú na Bóinne Visitor Centre, Donore, Co. Meath. at for Guided Tour, Hill of Tara, and Lough Crew Cairns

Newgrange Guided Tour

Newgrange is a prehistoric monument located in County Meath. It was built around 3200 BC, during the Neolithic period. There is no agreement about what the site was used for, but it has been speculated that it had some form of religious significance because it is aligned with the rising sun, which floods the stone room with light on the winter solstice.



Newgrange is also older than

Stonehenge and the great pyramids of Giza. It is, in fact, just one monument within the Neolithic Brú na Bóinne complex, alongside the similar passage tomb mounds of Knowth and Dowth, and as such is a part of the Brú na Bóinne UNESCO World Heritage Site.

After its initial use, the entrance to Newgrange was sealed, and it remained closed for several millennia, subsequently gaining several associations in local folklore and mythology. It first began to be studied as a prehistoric monument by antiquarians in the seventeenth century AD, and over subsequent centuries various archaeological excavations took place at the site before it was largely restored to an interpretation of its original Neolithic appearance by conservators in the 1970s. Today, Newgrange is a popular tourist site. According to the archaeologist Colin Renfrew, it is "unhesitatingly regarded by the pre-historian as the great national monument of Ireland." It is also widely recognized as one of the most important megalithic structures in Europe.



The Center Stone at the entrance is engraved with many spirals, and there are many more spirals inside the tomb.

Knowth Guided Tour

Knowth is the largest of all passage graves situated within the Brú na Bóinne complex. The site consists of one large mound (known as Site 1 or the Great Mound) and 17 smaller satellite tombs.



Essentially The Great Mound is a large mound (about 12 meters (40 ft.) high and 67 meters (220 ft.) in diameter, covering roughly a hectare) and contains two passages, placed along an east-west line. It is encircled by 127 kerbstones (three of which are missing and four of which

are severely damaged). The large mound has been estimated to date from between 2500 and 2000 BCE.



The passages are independent of each other, and each leads to a burial chamber. The eastern passage leads to a cruciform chamber, not unlike that found at Newgrange. It contains three recesses and basin stones into which the cremated remains of the dead were placed.

The right-hand recess is larger and more elaborately decorated with megalithic art than the others, which is typical for Irish passage graves of this type. The reason for this is unknown. The western passage ends in an undifferentiated chamber. This chamber is separated from the passage by a sillstone. The chamber seems to have also contained a basin stone. The stone was later removed and is now located about two-thirds down the passageway.

Hill of Tara Visitor Center: Home and Reign of the Kings of Ireland

Arrive at Hill of Tara Visitor Center - Gift Shop

1:00 pm Lunch at Maguires Café at the Hill of Tara

2:00 pm Hill of Tara: Home and Reign of the Kings of Ireland at

The Hill of Tara

The Hill of Tara is located near the River Boyne, and it is an archaeological complex that runs between Navan and Dunshaughlin in County Meath. It contains several ancient monuments, and, according to tradition, was the seat of Árd Rí na hÉireann, or the High King of Ireland.



The role played by the Hill of Tara in Irish history is as the seat of the kings of Ireland until the 6th century.

This role extended until the 12th century, albeit without its earlier splendor. Regardless, the significance of the Hill of Tara predates Celtic times.



Goddess Maeve or Madb and Irish Goddess and Queen ruled these lands. Without her permission, no one was ordained King at the Hill of

Tara. She chose the King. She was the only one who could grant him sovereignty over her territory. Her name means "mead" or "intoxication." She offers the King a cup at his inauguration.

She had many husbands and was known for her freedom to take any lover she wished. She put men on their throne, and she took them down when they no longer served her needs. She was the consort of no less than nine high kings. She has a famous stone at the site of Hill of Tara, Ireland. It is believed if you sit on it, you can feel the energy of the ley line on which it sits.

She is fiery and self-willed. She was wealthy and wise. She is a glamorous and fierce warrior Goddess in battle. Stops battles whenever she is menstruating. She was strongly associated with the Hill of Tara; it's pre-Christian coronation place of the Kings of Ireland. She has a sacred site next to the Hill of Tara, which is now overrun by cows with little to no care.



The Stone of the Goddess Maeve (the round stone) and Ancient standing stone (tall stone)

with the Goddess Sheela na Gig. The Sheela stone is known as the standing stone of St. Adamnan's Pillar.

This stone is considered by Sheela na Gig researchers to possibly be one of the earliest Sheela na Gigs in Ireland. The Maeve stone is believed to rest along a ley line. Both located at the Hill of Tara.



Mound of Hostages -The megalithic passage tomb called the Mound of the Hostages (Duma na nGiall) is the oldest monument on the Hill of Tara, dating back to between 2500 BC and 3000 BC. The passage, 4m in length and 1m wide, was subdivided by sill stones into three compartments, each containing cremated remains.



Stone of Destiny on the Hill of Tara. Sitting on top of the King's seat is The Lia Fáil (Irish for "big stone of Fál." It is also known as the Coronation Stone of Tara, which is a stone at the Inauguration Mound (Irish: a Forrad) on the Hill of Tara in County Meath in Ireland, which served as the coronation stone for the High Kings of Ireland. In legend, all of the kings of Ireland were crowned on the stone up to Muirchertach mac Ercae c. AD 500.



Story of the Stone

The famous stone most of Tara's monuments - Ireland's ancient coronation stone of Tara - the Lia Fail or "Stone of Destiny," which

was brought here according to mythology by the godlike people, the Tuatha Dé Danann, as one of their sacred objects. It was said to roar when touched by the rightful King of Tara.

Faery Tree - Hawthorn Tree One important faerie tree stands on the Hill of Tara in County Meath. Also known as a Wishing Tree, the lone hawthorn tree standing on the Hill of Tara is extremely important. The area around it was once an ancient burial site and later became the seat of the high kings of Ireland.

St Patrick's Holy Well St Patrick's holy well: water is important for rituals, and there are a number of spring around Tara, all of them viewed as 'sacred' or 'holy'. The one known as St Patrick's is just five-minutes walk along the footpath, past the church. The well has been cleaned recently, and trees planted beside it in memory of local people – evidence that Tara, in use for over 6,000 years, is still in use today.

Loughcrew Cairns. The Hill of the Witch

The grandest concentration of Neolithic passage tombs in Ireland can be found at Loughcrew.

The Loughcrew passage tombs, also known as Slieve na Calliagh, meaning Hill of the Witch, are situated South East of Olcastle, Co Meath. There are over 30 mounds and cairns, mostly on the two main hills, Carnbane East and Carnbane West.

The Loughcrew Complex is believed to have been constructed 3,500 BC by our Neolithic ancestors as burial chambers. If we try to look for scientific evidence to back this up, we find very little, nor will we find any account of archaeological works carried out at the Loughcrew Complex.



Local folklore maintains that the site is the work of the "monster woman" who once ruled the area. Loughcrew's name in Irish is Sliabh na Callaí, meaning "Hill of the Witch" or "Hags Hill." The name of the ancient hag was Garavogue, known locally as A Cailleach Bhéara. This witch or hag may have had her origins in the Celtic Goddess Buí, whom we encounter at Knowth in Brú na Bóinne. She was a Moon Goddess or Earth Mother. She was a supernatural figure responsible for the landscape, placing large boulders in rivers and creating rock formations on hillsides.



The Hags Chair

Local legend recounts the story of Cailleach Bhéara jumping from one hill to the next dropping stones from her apron. The fallen stones formed the Cairns we see today. She was attempting this magical feat to attain great power and rule over all of Ireland. She was able to drop her cairns of stones on the first three peaks. As she jumped to the fourth hill, she missed her mark and fell to her death on her last leap. The story claims that she was buried where she fell on the slopes of Patrickstown Hill. Indeed, visitors today can sit on the Hag's Chair at Cairn T. Local belief claims that if you make a wish while sitting on this kerbstone the witch will grant it.



St. Ciaran's or (Kieran's) Well Holy Well



St. Ciaran's Well is a holy well situated where St. Kieran founded a monastery. Drinking water from the well is said to heal ailments of the throat.

Ribbons and other objects are tied to the tree as a sort of wish/prayer/offering.

The water from the well runs down the site to a small stream along the road. The water between the well and stream is said to heal ailments of the feet and ankles. Water in the stream is said to heal back problems.

St Ciarán's Holy Well, named after the 8th century St. Ciarán who founded the nearby monastery. The Patron Day is the first Sunday of August, a date that links it to the Celtic quarter-day feast of Lughnasa. The healing powers of the water are said to be strongest then and that three fish appear in the well at midnight on the first Saturday of August. They swim out of the rocks and cross each other before disappearing again for another year.



Day 5
Sunday, July 2, 2023

Kildare – Home of Goddess and Saint Brigit

- The Stud Farm, St. Fiachra's Garden, and the Japanese Garden
- Brigit's Cathedral, Brigit's Fire Temple, Round Tower, High Cross,
- Brigit's Parish Church (no stop)
- Brigit's Wayside Well
- Brigit's Holy Well and Prayer Stones
- Black Abbey

7:50 am - Meet in Hotel Lobby

8:00 am - Our private coach will pick us up in front of the hotel.

9:00 am – Enter the Irish National Stud Horse Farm (Tickets are included in the cost of the tour)

The Irish National Stud Horse Farm

Self-Guided Tours: Horse Museum, Japanese Garden and St. Fiachra's Garden

The farm at Tully was purchased from the Fay family in 1900 by Colonel William Hall Walker. Hall Walker became the most successful breeder of the age, enjoying his finest hour when King Edward VII led MINORU, born and raised at Tully, into Epsom's winner's enclosure following a famous victory in the 1909 Derby.



In 1917 the farm and all its stock were gifted to the Crown and became The National Stud under the leadership of Sir Henry Greer. The success continued with the farm producing the winners of all five Classics. In 1942, SUN CHARIOT, born and bred at Tully, earned herself an indelible place in racing history when landing the fillies' Triple Crown - the 1,000 Guineas, Oaks and St. Leger – for King George VI.

Almost seven decades later, in May 2011, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II came to the Irish National Stud to see for herself where the winners of five Classics for her family were produced.

The Irish Stud Horse Museum: Self-Guided -The future and the past entwine beautifully at the Irish National Stud, whose museum is a legacy to not only the horses in Ireland but also the greatest and most famous of all Irish horses.

Mares with heaving stomachs and wide-eyed foals standing close to their mothers are the tomorrow of Irish racing. Its yesterday will forever be associated with the mighty and incomparable Arkle, to whose legion of fans was far more than just mere flesh and blood. He was iconic, an animal worthy of worship and reverence. And now, more than 40 years after his death, he reigns supreme in the stud's museum, where his skeleton holds pride of place.

Three times the winner of jumping's ultimate prize, the Cheltenham Gold Cup, Arkle remains the greatest steeplechaser to have lived anywhere and at any time. Like many Irishmen, he was partial to a pint of Guinness, and such was his fame that fan mail addressed simply to "Arkle, Ireland" invariably found its way to his stable.

While Arkle's time here has come only since his passing, one of Flat racing's modern-day legends, Sea The Stars, was bred and raised at the Irish National Stud. Those visiting the museum can see memorabilia connected to County Kildare's champion, while also on display are the silks carried to success in Australia's signature race, the Melbourne Cup, by another Kildare superstar, Vintage Crop.

St. Fiachra's Garden: Self-Guided - On four acres of woodland, you will find an Irish garden with native plants and beautiful walks. Some (not absolutely authentic) monastic cells and Waterford Crystal provide the link to St. Fiachra, whose statue can be found in a lake. He is the patron saint of gardeners and also helps those struck down with sexually transmitted diseases.

How can something so new transport us back to a time that none of us knew? Step into St. Fiachra's Garden and enter another world, one to which you will wish to return again and again.

The garden was designed in 1999 by award-winning landscape architect Professor Martin Hallinan and named to commemorate St. Fiachra. The patron saint of gardeners, provides a perfect partner to the Irish National Stud's Japanese Gardens while, at the same time, opening up a wholly different yet equally satisfying experience.



This stunning attraction seeks to capture that which inspired those involved in Ireland's monastic movement in the 6th and 7th centuries. It does so principally by paying handsome tribute to the Irish landscape in its rawest state. Rock and water are rulers in a garden rejoicing in the natural beauty of woodland, wetland, waterfalls, lakes, and streams.



Walk the nature trail through this garden, enjoying the trees, learning about swan life, the food web, and the ages of trees.

Monastic cells of fissured limestone are surrounded by water while an inner subterranean garden is home to magnificent Waterford Crystalshaped rocks, ferns, and orchids.

St. Fiachra's Garden is the very essence of Ireland's natural beauty, as it was then and as it is now. A tribute to an Irish saint, it is also a fitting tribute to Ireland herself.

The Japanese Gardens: Self-Guided - This garden was created in 1906 by Tassa Eida and his son Minoru. This genuine Japanese garden is laid out according to philosophical principles. Best enjoyed very early or outside the season as too many other visitors will detract from the spiritual aspects.

The Irish National Stud's Japanese Gardens, renowned throughout the world and the finest of their kind in Europe, are far more than merely a treat for the eye. They also provide comfort to the soul, achieving precisely the objective that was set out when the gardens were created between 1906 and 1910.

Japanese Gardens at The Irish Stud - Devised by Colonel William Hall Walker, a wealthy Scotsman from a famous brewing family, the gardens were laid out by Japanese master horticulturist Tassa Eida and his son Minoru. Their aim was, through trees, plants, flowers, lawns, rocks, and water, to symbolize the "Life of Man." That plan was executed to perfection, and Eida's legacy is now admired by the 150,000 visitors who soak up the peace of the gardens every year.

Very much representative of Japanese gardens from the early 20th century, Eida's work traces the journey of a soul from oblivion to eternity and



portrays the human experience of its embodiment as it journeys by paths of its own choice through life. Birth, childhood, marriage, parenthood, old age, death, and the afterlife are all brought to mind as the gardens, a seamless mixture of Eastern and Western cultures, are explored.

Eida left Tully in 1912 with 34 years passing before the gardens gained their next supervisor, Patrick Doyle, who remained in charge until 1972, since when the gardens have continued to flourish and surge in popularity.

Among the most loved of all Ireland's gardens, the Irish National Stud's Japanese Gardens are a veritable feast for the eye and ear. Notice the sight and sound of trickling streams perfectly complementing the greenery and vivid colors that provide a tranquil backdrop to the beautiful Bridge of Life and Tea House.

The Japanese Gardens are a place for contemplation, meditation, and reflection. Since they were first enjoyed more than 100 years ago, they have never failed to please.

10:50 am Meet for Guided Tour

11:00 am Irish Racehorse Experience- Stud Farm: Guided Tour 45 min.

Racehorses are conceived, born, and raised on Tully's famous stud farm, which has long been and continues to be the source of thoroughbred champions.

Stars of the show on the stud farm are the six stallions, whose performances on the track as racehorses have enabled them to spend the years of their retirement living a life that many would envy. Some of racing's most successful and regally-bred mares are sent to Tully to be covered by the stallions, the outcome of their encounters being the foals who never fail to enthrall visitors.

Colonel William Hall Walker purchased the farm at the turn of the



20th century. The Irish people now own it. Still, it is operated as a commercial entity, its management working hard to maintain its competitiveness in a major global industry in which Ireland has long played a leading role alongside Britain, France, the USA, and Australia.

12:00 Lunch at The Stud Farm at The Japanese Gardens Restaurant 45 min.

12: 50 pm St. Brigid's Wayside Well - Short 10 Min. Camera Stop

Brigid's Wayside Well- Situated Next to to the Irish Stud is Brigid's Wayside Well. Stone steps lead down to the murky and stagnant water. The well is embraced by an arc-shaped stone surrounded with an inscription in Irish which reads. A Naoimh Bhrid, Muire nan Gael, gui orainn", meaning St. Brigid, Mary of the Gael, pray for us.

1:15 pm Black Abbey Ruins - Short 15 min. Camera Stop

Black Abbey Ruins - This abbey was home to a branch of the Knights hospitaller or Knights of St. John in the 13th Century. They were black knights because of their black habit emblazoned with a white cross. The knights were founded in Jerusalem during the time of the crusades. Originally founded to to run a hospital in Jerusalem. This place was used as a guest house.

2:00 pm ST. Brigid's Cathedral - The Cathedral is open to the public in the summer months and a entry fee of €2 is asked of visitors. Monday-Saturday 10am -1pm and 2pm to 5pm Sundays 2pm to 5pm. Last entrance is 4.45pm daily.

ST. Brigid's Cathedral is 13th Century Cathedral: The Cathedral Church of St. Brigid, Kildare in Kildare, County Kildare is one of two cathedrals in the United Dioceses of Meath and Kildare of the Church of Ireland in Ireland. It is in the ecclesiastical province of Dublin.

Thirty-five years after Saint Patrick settled in Armagh, St. Brigid arrived in Kildare with her nuns in the year 480A.D. Her original abbey church would have been a simple wooden building. So great was her fame, that soon after her death in 523 AD, a costly shrine was erected in her honor in a new and larger building. For many centuries Kildare maintained a unique Irish experiment; the Abbess ruled over a double community of women and men, and the Bishop was subordinate in jurisdiction to the Abbess. Between the years 835 and 998, the cathedral was devastated no less than 16 times, so that when the Norman, Ralph of Bristol, became Bishop in 1223, it was virtually in ruins.



Between then and 1230, it was largely rebuilt. It was semi-ruinous by 1500A.D. It was derelict by 1649. In 1686 it was partially restored.

Previously the cathedral of the Diocese of Kildare, it is now one of two cathedrals in the United Dioceses of Meath and Kildare.

The present building is a restored Norman cathedral dating from 1223. The site occupied by the cathedral is likely the site of a pagan shrine to the Goddess Brigid and the later of the church of Saint Brigid. Beside it stands one of County Kildare's five-round towers, which is 32 meters (105 ft.) high, and which can be climbed at certain times.

The austere cathedral built in the years following 1223, probably by Ralph of Bristol. He was made Bishop of in 1222 and died in 1232. It is cruciform in floor plan without aisles in the early gothic style with a massive square central tower. All the windows are lancet windows, singles or doubles, but triple lancets in the four gables. Unique and attractive features of the design are the arches that span between buttress to buttress in advance of the side walls. The parapets were restored to the stepped Irish type. They probably date back to 1395 AD, the year in which a Papal relaxation was given to those who visited Kildare. At that time, he gave alms for the conservation of the church. The interior treatment is very plain, and the window splays are

not molded. The rear-arches, which are spring from shafts with molded capitals. These shafts are short and terminate in small curved tails.

St. Brigid's Cathedral is located on the original grounds of St. Brigid's wooden church. Between 1223 and 1230, the present Cathedral was built. It was semi-ruinous by the year 1500, derelict by 1649, partially rebuilt in 1686, and finally restored to its present form from 1875 – 1896. Its environs include a Round Tower and a high cross. Major Restoration works took place in 1996.

Highlight: Goddess Sheela Na Gig will also be hiding in the churches and awaiting your arrival in the most surprising places.

The Fire Temple - Fire is the central image in the Brigidine tradition. On the north side of the cathedral are the restored foundations of an ancient fire temple. Research suggests that in pre-Christian times priestesses used to gather here to tend the ritual fires invoking the Goddess Brigid to protect the herds and provide a fruitful harvest.



The Round Tower - Round Towers were built in connection with monastic establishment.

They had a twofold use: as belfries, and as places of safety to store monastic treasures in case of a sudden attack from an invader. They also may have been used as beacons and watchtowers. The 11th century or earlier round tower is one of the prized treasure of Kildare. Its



base is made of cut granite, while the rest is of limestone. The doorway is of red sandstone.

The High Cross- Walking around the grounds of the Cathedral, you will notice the High Cross of Kildare. Facing the east, it is an ancient cross of granite, with no carving on its surface. It was partially restored in the 19th century. For the church, it symbolizes salvation and hope.



It

2:30 pm St. Brigit's Well and Prayer Stones - 20 min.

St. Brigit's Well and Prayer Stones - Rest and pray at this sacred Brigid site. Brigid was very much a woman of the land. She is associated with the cow, churning the milk, making butter, shepherding her flocks of sheep, and harvesting and brewing ale. Her sacred feast day is February 1, the pre-Christian festival called Imbolc.



She is the peacemaker, the healer, and the Goddess of Fire. We will stop at Brigit's well and each one of her prayer stones.

3.00pm – 4.30pm Solas Bhride Ceter and Hermitages

Solas Bhride Ceter and Hermitages

Solas Bhride Centre & Hermitages CLG Tully Road Kildare Town Co. Kildare Ireland R51Y281. Phone: +353 (0)45 522890 Email: info@solasbhride.ie

Solas Bhride Centre & Hermitages is an initiative of the Brigidine Sisters. The Centre evolved from 25 years of Brigidine ministry in Kildare Town. The Brigidine Sisters came to Kildare 1992 with the intention of reconnecting with their Celtic Christian roots, and reclaiming St. Brigid of Kildare in a new

way for a new millennium. A resurgence of interest in the life and legacy of St. Brigid worldwide and an increasing number of pilgrims and visitors coming to 14 Dara Park, home of the sisters, led to the dreaming, building and official opening of Solas Bhride Centre & Hermitages in 2015.

Solas Bhride Centre & Hermitages is a limited company with charitable status. It is governed by a Board of Directors and a Centre Management Team

Spirituality Centre - Inspired by the legacy and values of St Brigid, the Centre is an ecologically sustainable building in the shape of a St Brigids Cross. From the main foyer of the building, you can orientate yourself by the circular rooms projecting into it, the Cill Dara room to the north and the Brigid Room to the south. The symbolic line that connects St. Brigid's Cathedral to St. Brigid's well, runs through these two rooms, and the small courtyard in the centre of the building. All other spaces radiate from this central foyer, such as the hospitality area and the prayer and anamchara rooms.



Meditative Walk - As you enter the grounds you are invited to take some time to enjoy the stillness, peace and tranquillity of the sounds, smells and sights of nature all around. You may follow the meditative walk and pause as you reach the significant points along the way.

These points marked by symbols invite you to reflect, to rest awhile, and to take notice of the abundance of nature all around, to journey within and restore, body, mind, heart and soul: walk the labyrinth, rest and reflect at the willow bower, observe the diversity of wild life at the ARC, sit by the fire pit and reflect on the stories and legends depicted on the St. Brigid sculpture nearby. As you complete your walk take time for a quiet, peaceful moment by the oaks in the oak grove and return to the Brigid room refreshed, renewed and replenished.

Labyrinth - A labyrinth is an ancient symbol that relates to wholeness. It combines the imagery of the circle and the spiral into a meandering but purposeful path. The labyrinth has long been used as a meditation and prayer tool.

“Step into the circle, step on to your path, find your place of journey, where your life is mapped.” “Labyrinth” by Liam Lawton

Oak Grove - The Sisters of St. Brigid were restored by Bishop Daniel Delany, in Tullow, Co. Carlow, on 1st February 1807. The Brigidine Annals record that he restored the ancient Order of St. Brigid to the diocese of Kildare and Leighlin. He planted an oak sapling from Kildare in the grounds in Tullow to symbolise the historic link. In 2007, the bicentenary year of the Brigidine sisters, a group of pilgrims walked from Tullow to Kildare, carrying 7 oak saplings. These were symbolically planted at the site of the Centre. The oak grove was planted on Earth Day 2015. Each of the oaks have a story.

“The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn.” Ralph Waldo Emerson

There are many other native species of trees planted in the grounds, hazel, holly, yew, rowan, crab apple and alder. These trees were planted to encourage and enhance biodiversity.

The Perpetual Flame **Lighting the Perpetual Flame – A Brief history**

A sacred fire burned in Kildare reaching back into pre-Christian times. Scholars suggest that priestesses used to gather on the hill of Kildare to tend their ritual fires while invoking a goddess named Brigid to protect their herds and to provide a fruitful harvest.



When St. Brigid built her monastery and church in Kildare she continued the custom of keeping the fire alight. For her

and her nuns the fire represented the new light of Christianity, which reached our shores early in the fifth century.

Gerald of Wales (Giraldus Cambrensis) a Welsh Chronicler, visited Kildare in the twelfth century, he reported that the fire of St. Brigid was still burning in Kildare and that it was being tended by nuns of St. Brigid. Some historians record that a few attempts were made to have the fire extinguished but without success. It survived possibly up to the suppression of the monasteries in the sixteenth century.

The sacred fire/flame was re-lit in 1993, in the Market Square, Kildare, by Mary Teresa Cullen, the then leader of the Brigidine Sisters, at the opening of a justice and peace conference. The conference, entitled “Brigid: Prophetess, Earthwoman, Peacemaker” was organised by Afri, (Action from Ireland), a justice, peace and human rights organisation, to celebrate the tenth anniversary of St. Brigid’s Peace Cross Project. Since then, the Brigidine Sisters in Kildare have tended the flame in their Centre, Solas Bhride.

Brigid of Kildare has left an inspiring legacy as: a spiritual leader, a peacemaker, a woman of the land, an advocate for the poor, a woman of legendary hospitality. We seek to unfold this legacy and its relevance for our world by: Providing a place of welcome, tranquillity and peace where people can come and find nourishment for life’s journey. Offering hospitality to people of all faiths and none. Sharing and celebrating the story of Brigid in a life-giving, creative and challenging way. Facilitating pilgrimages to Brigid’s sites.

Creating an environment where right relationship with self, others, the cosmos and God is nurtured. Providing opportunities for people to deepen their spirituality with reflection, prayer, ritual, spiritual accompanying, education and culture.

<http://solasbhride.ie/hermitages/>

Brigit's Flame:

A sacred fire burned in Kildare, reaching back into pre-Christian times. Scholars suggest that priestesses used to gather on the hill of Kildare to tend their ritual fires while invoking a goddess named Brigid to protect their herds and to provide a fruitful harvest.

When Brigid built her monastery and church in Kildare, she continued the custom of keeping the fire alight. For her and her nuns, the fire represented the new light of Christianity, which reached Irish shores early in the fifth century. In Brigid's time, the number of her nuns who tended the flame was 19. On the 20th day, Brigid tended it herself.



The sacred flame survived possibly up to the suppression of the monasteries in the sixteenth century. In 1993 the flame was re-lit in the Market Square, Kildare, by Sister Mary Teresa Cullen, then congregational leader of the Brigidine Sisters.

Kildare County Council commissioned a sculpture to house the flame in Kildare Town Square in 2005. President of Ireland, Mary McAleese, presided at the lighting of the Perpetual Flame in the Town Square on St. Brigid's Day 2006. The flame was lit from the flame tended by the Brigidine Sisters in Solas Bhríde. The Brigid Light is still guarded and tended in Solas Bhríde as it was in Kildare many centuries ago by the Sisters of St Brigid. The flame burns as a beacon of hope, justice, and peace for Ireland and our world.

Day 6:

Taxi back to Dublin Airport (your own arrangements) Suggested taxi service available.

What does the Ireland Goddess Tour Include?

Includes: Private Coach, hotel accommodations, entrance fees to: Dublin Castle, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Liffey River Cruise, Irish Folklore and Story Telling Show – An Evening with the Fairies, Private Tour Guides, Newgrange, Knowth, Solas Bhride, Stud Farm, Horse Museum, Japanese Garden, St. Fiachra's Garden, Hill of Tara, Lough Crew, Churches or Cathedrals Kildare, Private ceremony at Solas Bhride with Brigidine Sisters. Double Occupancy: Rooms are shared with a group member - two (2) beds per room, (unless otherwise pre-arranged for an extra cost.)

Not Included: Airfare to Dublin, Ireland, is not included. Meals not included. Hop on and off bus not included. You will need to purchase a two-day ticket Green Hop on and Hop off bus. (Get the 48-hour Ticket! Adult (24 Hour) €30, Adult (48 Hour) €35.) Free Day Events and Tickets Not included. Tipping not included. Donations to churches not included. Travel insurance is highly expected and will provide for medical emergencies and unexpected cancellations. Please contact a provider. Travel insurance is not included.



Your Hostess and Guide



Glamourgan

Glamourgan is an International Psychic Advisor with a worldwide client base at www.glamourgan.uk.

Journey into the world of the Goddess with Glamourgan as provides a one to four years, online, Priestess of the Goddess Study and Certification Program for women who wish to learn more about the Goddess.

She is the author of Goddess Scopes Horoscopes, sun sign based monthly horoscopes interpreted through the eyes of the Goddess.

Explore the world of the Goddess with Glamourgan as she hosts many Goddess and Sacred Site Tours to England, Ireland, Scotland, France.

Glamourgan has been a radio host for many years on 12Radio, and a special guest featured on many radio shows such as CBS-owned New Sky Radio and Hayhouse Radio. For more information about Glamourgan, visit her website.

Feel free to email Glamourgan at glamourgan@glamourgan.uk

Or contact her on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/glamourgan>