8 Day Pilgrimage to Ireland

Visiting the Cliffs of Moher, Knock, Clonmacnois, Cashel, Glendalough & Dublin



Spiritual Director Rev. John Connaughton

September 22nd – 29th, 2019

YOUR TRIP INCLUDES:

- Roundtrip Air from New York
- Deluxe Motorcoach
- English Speaking Guide
- 4 Star First Class Hotels
- Sightseeing as per itinerary
- Breakfast & Dinner Daily
- Daily Mass and Rosary

HIGHLIGHTS:

- The Cliffs of Moher
- The Shrine of Our Lady of Knock
- The Chapel of Apparitions
- The Cemetery where the Visionaries are buried
- Ballintuber Abbey
- Clonmacnois Monastery
- The Rock of Cashel
- Glendalough Monastery
- Panorama of Dublin
- The Whitefriar Street Carmelite Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel
- Relics of St. Valentine
- St. Albert of Sicily's Holy Well

Pilgrimage Price: \$ 2,899.00 Single Supplement \$ 700.00

ITINERARY

Sun, Sept 22nd: New York/Shannon - Depart on your overnight flight to Shannon. Dinner served in Flight.

Mon, Sept 23rd: Shannon/Cliffs of Moher/Knock - Upon arrival we are met by our guide and driver and transferred to Knock. En route we stop at the Cliffs of Moher, Ireland's most visited sight. The Cliffs of

Moher rise from Hag's Head to the south and reach their highest point just north of O'Briens Tower. On a clear day, the view is tremendous. Upon arrival in Knock we check into our hotel.

Tue, Sept 24th: Knock - We start our day with Mass at the Sanctuary. After breakfast, we have a guided walking tour around the Shrine of Knock including the Parish Church where on August 21, 1879 fifteen people saw a vision of St. Joseph, Our Lady, the Lamb of God and St. John the Evangelist. Next we visit the Basilica of Our Lady, Queen of Ireland and end with a visit of the Cemetery where the visionaries are buried.

Wed, Sept 25th: Knock/Ballintuber Abbey/Croagh Patrick/Knock - This morning we have Mass at Ballintuber Abbey where Mass has been celebrated for over 800 years. After Mass we have a tour of the Abbey grounds. After our visit, continue to Croagh Patrick. According to Christian tradition, St. Patrick went up the sacred mountain at festival time in 441 AD. After fasting at the summit for 40 days, he banished all the snakes and demons from Ireland. The site quickly became an important place of Christian pilgrimage. A stone oratory dating to between 430 and 890 AD was recently discovered on the summit.

Mount Croagh Patrick is the most important Catholic pilgrimage destination in Ireland. Nearly one million visitors, most of them pilgrims, climb to the top every year. Almost 30,000 pilgrims make the trek on the last Sunday in July, known as "Reek Sunday."

Thu, Sept 26th: Knock/Clonmacnois/Cashel - Morning Mass followed by departure to **Cashel**. En route we stop at **Clonmacnois**. Clonmacnois is an Early Christian site founded by St. Ciarán in the mid-6th century on the eastern bank of the River Shannon. The site includes the ruins of a cathedral, seven churches, two round towers, three high crosses and the largest collection of Early Christian graveslabs in Western Europe. The original high crosses and a selection of graveslabs are on display in the visitor center. After our visit, we continue to Cashel.

Upon arrival in Cashel, we meet our local guide who will take us on a walking tour of the Rock of Cashel. Cashel is home to the iconic Rock of Cashel. One of the most spectacular tourist attractions in Ireland and one of the most visited. Cashel's rich history is reflected in its built heritage, from prehistoric raths to medieval monasteries and fortified town houses, a Georgian Cathedral and a 21st century Library

Fri, Sept 27th: Cashel/Gendalough/Dublin - Morning departure to **Dublin**. En route, we visit **Glendalough Monastery**. Glendalough is home to one of the most important monastic sites in Ireland. This early Christian monastic settlement was founded by St. Kevin in the 6th century and from this developed the "Monastic City". Most of the buildings that survive today date from the 10th through 12th centuries. Despite attacks by Vikings over the years, Glendalough thrived as one of Ireland's great ecclesiastical foundations and schools of learning until the Normans destroyed the monastery in 1214 A.D. and the dioceses of Glendalough and Dublin were united.

Glendalough (or Gleann Da Loch, meaning 'The Glen of the Two Lakes') is situated in the heart of the Wicklow Mountains National Park. The ancient monastery on the site is a fascinating site. Set in a glaciated valley with two lakes, the monastic remains include a superb round tower, stone churches and decorated crosses. The round tower is one of the most recognizable landmarks in the area. The site also includes a Celtic high cross, St. Mary's Church and St. Kevin's Church. The remains of three stone crosses and a stone fort are also to be found between the upper and lower lakes. Glendalough has stunning landscape, historic ruins and beautiful walks.

Sat, Sept 28th: Dublin/Whitefriar Street Carmelite Church/Panorama of Dublin

This morning we have Mass at the **Whitefriar Street Carmelite Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel**. The church is run by the Carmelite, Whitefriars. Here we see the relics of St. Valentine and the water from St. Albert of Sicily's Holy Well. After Mass, we have a **Panorama of Dublin**. After our tour, we have lunch, on our own. Remainder of the day is free.

Sun, Sept 29th: Dublin/USA Morning departure to Dublin airport for our return flight to the USA.

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