

Celtic Connections - Scotland, Ireland, Wales
April 25 – May 2
7 nights / 8 days
Approximate Cost \$1,532 Double / \$1,773 Single

Day 1 - Arrival - 25 April 2020

We arrive in Irvine, our base for the next two nights.

Overnight: Riverside Lodge Hotel, Irvine (D)

Day 2 - Robert Burns Birthplace Museum & Culzean

This morning we make our way to the Robert Burns Birthplace Museum, which offers a unique encounter with Scotland's favorite son. Set in 10 acres of the poet's cherished countryside, the museum includes the famous Burns Cottage, where the poet was born, the historic landmarks where he set his greatest work, the elegant monument and gardens created in his honor and a modern museum housing the world's most important collection of his life and works. There is time for lunch here before we continue to Culzean Castle, one of Scotland's best loved castles. Here, we enjoy a guided tour of the castle and free time to explore the gardens, deer park and swan pond before returning to our hotel for dinner.

Overnight: Riverside Lodge Hotel, Irvine (B, D)

Day 3 - Irvine to Dublin

Today we say goodbye to the Riverside Lodge Hotel and travel to Cairnryan to board our 2 hour 20 minute ferry sailing to Belfast, from where we continue on to our hotel for the next 3 nights in Dundalk.

Overnight: Ballymascanlon House Hotel, Dundalk (B, D)

Day 4 - Dublin & Liffey River Cruise

This morning we travel to Dublin where we enjoy a 45 minute guided cruise on the River Liffey before enjoying free time to explore the many attractions Dublin has to offer, including the Guinness Store House, Jameson's Distillery, Trinity College, Dublin Castle, St Patricks Cathedral or one of Dublin's newer attractions such as EPIC Ireland or the GPO Witness History exhibition.

Overnight: Ballymascanlon House Hotel, Dundalk (B, D)

Day 5 - Belfast Harbour Cruise & Titanic Belfast

Today we travel to Belfast where our guide joins us for a half day step-on guided tour of this fascinating city. After our tour, we visit Titanic Belfast, the world's largest Titanic exhibition and a must see for any tour of Belfast. Located in the Titanic Quarter, right beside the historic site of the world famous ship's construction, the exhibition is housed in an iconic 6 floor building. This state-of-the-art visitor experience tells the story of the Titanic, from her conception in Belfast in the early 1900s, through her construction and launch, to her famous maiden voyage and tragic end. We spend the rest of the afternoon at leisure in the city.

Overnight: Ballymascanlon House Hotel, Dundalk (B, D)

Day 6 - Malahide Castle & Journey to Caernarfon

This morning, we visit Malahide Castle & Gardens where we enjoy a 45 minute guided tour when we will gain an extraordinary glimpse into the life of the castle and the Talbot family who resided there for 800 years! After our tour, we travel to nearby Dublin Port and board the afternoon sailing to Holyhead, from where we continue on to our base for the last two nights, in Caernarfon.

Overnight: Celtic Royal Hotel, Caernarfon (B, D)

Day 7 - Caernarfon

This morning we visit the wonderful Caernarfon Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage Site with a stunning location on the banks of the River Seiont. In the afternoon we enjoy time at leisure to explore our base of Caernarfon, Gwynedd's county town. We can take a stroll around the town's narrow streets or stylishly redeveloped waterfront.

Overnight: Celtic Royal Hotel, Caernarfon (B, D)

Day 8 - Departure

After breakfast, the group will be transferred to Manchester Airport where Albatross Tours services end.

Overnight: N/A (B)