



## The Grand Hibernian: Grand Tour of Ireland 7 days/ 6 nights



If you've always wanted to experience Ireland in the best way possible – by luxury train, your chance begins in 2016 with this fabulous seven day/six-night Grand Tour of Ireland. There are 10 departures. We would love to welcome you aboard any date that fits your schedule – but especially the Society of IRT group departure! Dates and pricing below.

### **Day One: Dublin - Cork**

Depart Dublin Heuston Station in the early afternoon and enjoy a sumptuous Irish Afternoon tea as the train makes its way through the lush Irish countryside to Cork. You are accompanied by the resident expert on an early evening tour of the historic **Jameson distillery**, home to the world's largest pot still. Rejoin the train for a leisurely dinner followed by local entertainment in the Observation Car.





### **Day Two: Cork - Killarney**

Wake up in your cozy compartment on the Grand Hibernian which has been stabled for the evening so you get a good night's sleep. Breakfast is served as the train travels south for a visit to **Blarney Castle**, home to the legendary Blarney Stone. Enjoy exclusive access a private tour of the ruins with morning tea in the stunning grounds. Afterwards there is the option to visit Cork's enticing English Market, accompanied by a chef from the train, where you can select fresh local produce to be sampled later on board. Lunch is served as the train continues west towards Killarney on the shores of Lough Leane. A ride in a traditional jaunting car (pony and trap) takes you through the beautiful national park to scenic Ross Castle, where you enjoy a boat trip around the islands of the lake. After a delicious dinner on the train, local musicians may inspire you to leap to your feet for some traditional céilí!

Alternative Golf Option: Disembark in Cork to play golf at Cork Golf Club, rejoining the train at Killarney; alternatively disembark in Mallow to tee off at either Killarney Golf & Fishing Club, rejoining the train at Killarney or Tralee. Additional charges apply.



### **Day Three: Limerick – Galway**

The train heads north from Limerick Junction. Enjoy a leisurely breakfast as the train makes its way to Galway. Arriving into Galway you will alight for a city tour. Also take the opportunity to visit one of the many local craft centres including a traditional basket weaving workshop. Lunch will be served in a local pub where you can enjoy local music, Guinness and oysters. Returning to the train, dinner will be served as you bid farewell to Galway.

Tonight, after dinner, enjoy the lounge car of the Grand Hibernian. All drinks are included in our package cost. The train stables overnight in Athlone.



### **Day Four: Galway - Westport**

Spend a relaxing morning on board enjoying a leisurely brunch as the train makes its way north to Westport. On arrival, disembark for a visit to **Ashford Castle in the heart of Connemara National Park**, where you can stride out on a guided walk of the estate or try your hand at fishing, clay pigeon shooting, archery or falconry. During a scenic drive through County Mayo enjoy a brief stop to witness a

sheepdog trial before rejoining the train for dinner as it meanders through the verdant countryside.

### **Day Five: Dublin - Belfast**

Breakfast is served as you return to Dublin for a guided sightseeing tour of the capital. Reboard the train in the early afternoon and enjoy an indulgent Irish Afternoon tea as the train travels north through the Irish countryside. On arrival in Belfast you are accompanied by an expert guide on a private tour of **The Titanic Experience**, an award-winning visitor attraction that brings to life; through special effects, full-scale reconstructions and innovative interactive features, the history of the celebrated but ill-fated ocean liner in the city where it all began. Back on board a leisurely dinner is followed by evening entertainment. Overnight in Belfast.





### **Day Six: Belfast - Coleraine**

This morning the train journeys north to Coleraine and after an early rise you disembark to visit the **Giant's Causeway**, an astonishing area of around 40,000 perfectly interlocking basalt columns. Afterwards, step inside the splendid visitor centre to discover the facts and the myths behind this World Heritage Site. Rejoin the train for a hearty brunch before visiting the wild north coast of Northern Ireland. Take the opportunity to cross the exhilarating Carrick-a-Rede rope bridge joining the mainland to a small island off the coast. Back on board enjoy a visit to Old Bushmills Distillery to discover the secrets behind the 400-year-old whiskey and enjoy a sampling or two. A sumptuous dinner on board is rounded off with a performance by traditional local musicians in the Observation Car.

Alternative Golf Option: Disembark in Coleraine and transfer to Royal Portrush Golf Club, Portstewart Golf Club or Castlerock Golf Club, rejoin the train in Coleraine.

### **Day Seven: Dublin**

A leisurely breakfast is served as the train travels south and returns to Dublin Heuston Station, your journey's end.





Extensions pre and post: We will be sending our proposal to you for pre- and post-train hotels, transfers and Dublin sightseeing soon and a welcome cocktail party for our group journey.

**Pricing:** \$8,500 per person

**2016 Dates:**

August 9, 16, 23, 30

September 6, 13, 20, 27

October 4, 11

\* IRT Group Departure: Tuesday August 30 – Monday Sept 5, 2016



**Booking conditions:**

15% deposit required at time of booking; additional 35% due 6 months before departure and final balance due 120 days before departure. All payments are nonrefundable. We highly recommend tour cancellation insurance, and will send information about it upon booking.

