

IRELAND PILGRIMAGE



August 25—September 3, 2025

You are invited to join Father Matt Heinrich on this customized and private journey that will immerse you in the rich history and spirituality of Ireland. Highlights include panoramic tours of Dublin's iconic landmarks, the sacred Cliffs of Moher, the historic Galway City, and a journey to the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock, where the Blessed Mother appeared in 1879. Throughout your travels, Mass will be celebrated in significant locations, you will savor traditional meals and enjoy authentic Irish entertainment. Experience Ireland's deep Catholic roots and witness its breathtaking landscapes on this unforgettable pilgrimage. This journey begins and ends in Dublin, and then returns to the USA.



A personal note from Fr. Matt: The rich faith of the Irish people has influenced and served the Church the world over. I look forward to sharing this opportunity with you. Ireland is home to countless people in our neighborhood, but just as important is its legacy of faith. As I helped to organize this trip, my concern was both the beauty of faith and the beauty of the land itself. Combining both religious sites as well as natural sites, I hope to express the glory of God by visiting Ireland.

Father Matthew Heinrich grew up on the Northwest Side of Chicago to a German and Irish Family. The Irish half are long-time north-siders, spending 4 generations here in the city. Fr. Matt went to Quigley Seminary, St. Joseph's College Seminary, was a Basselin Scholar at Catholic University, and studied at Mundelein Seminary. In his time in education, he earned a Masters of Divinity, a License in Philosophy, and a License in Theology, degrees conferred by the Vatican itself.

Trip Information

\$4,899 per person, double occupancy

\$1,719 single supplement (limited availability)

\$200 Price Savings per person if booked by October 1, 2024

Click Here to Complete the Registration Form

Tour Includes:

Round-trip Economy class airfare, Chicago to Dublin

Group airport transfers in Ireland

Luxury Motorcoach with air conditioning

Driver/Guide throughout the tour

8 nights standard hotel accommodation

8 breakfasts and 8 dinners

5 masses scheduled

Baggage handling for one piece of luggage; taxes and fees

Sightseeing as indicated in the itinerary

Flight bags, ticket wallets, baggage tags, and identifying strap

Customized travel journal

Space is limited to one coach.

Reserve early and save!



Contact:

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Affiliated with Viking Travel

IRELAND PILGRIMAGE 2025 ITINERARY

MON. AUG. 25 DEPART THE UNITED STATES

Depart your hometown and take an overnight flight across the Atlantic. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service as you travel to start your vacation.

TUES. AUG. 26 DUBLIN ARRIVAL

After landing at Dublin Airport, complete customs and immigration formalities. Your CIE Tours driver/guide will welcome you to Ireland and escort you and your luggage to the coach. Next, head to the Whitefriar Carmelite Church to celebrate Mass with your fellow travelers. While here, view the stunning Shrine of Our Lady of Dublin, a wood sculpture dating back to the 16th century. Then, continue on to visit the National Botanic Gardens of Ireland. Founded in 1795, the gardens contain wonderful Victorian glasshouses along with plants and trees from all over the world. Motor a short distance to your hotel, check in and settle into your room. In the evening, join your group for a welcome dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: ASHLING HOTEL, DUBLIN

WED. AUG. 27 GUINNESS STOREHOUSE

Today, head to St. Mary's Pro Cathedral to celebrate Mass with your group. Next, visit the nearby Legion of Mary to learn about the life and work of founder, Frank Duff. Then, continue on to visit Kilmainharn Gaol (not confirmed until within 30 days of departure) to see what punishment was like during its years of operation from 1796 to 1924. Learn about political prisoners, especially from the 1916 Rising, detained here because of their efforts to shape Ireland's history. Next, tour Guinness Storehouse to see exhibits on how this world-famous stout was first created and why it is so popular today. Finish your visit in the roof-top bar, where you can sample a draft of Guinness. Head back to your hotel in time to join your fellow travelers in the hotel restaurant for dinner.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: ASHLING HOTEL, DUBLIN

THU. AUG. 28 ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

After breakfast, tour St. Patrick's Cathedral, which is almost as old as the city itself and famous for its connections with the brilliantly eccentric Dean Jonathan Swift. Next, journey into County Wicklow to visit the 6th century monastic ruins of Glendalough. The visitor centre explains how St. Kevin founded this settlement at a time when Christianity was burgeoning throughout Ireland. While here, celebrate Mass with your fellow travelers. Then, drive into Kilkenny to visit Kilkenny Castle, home of the Butlers, Earls and Dukes of Ormonde. The castle estate boasts both formal and informal gardens, which overlooks the Nore River. Motor a short distance to your hotel, check in and enjoy some time at leisure before dining in the hotel restaurant with your group.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: ORMONDE HOTEL, KILKENNY

FRI. AUG. 29 COBH HERITAGE CENTRE

Leaving Kilkenny, travel into County Tipperary for photos of the Rock of Cashel. These majestic church ruins are clustered high on a limestone outcrop overlooking the surrounding countryside. Next, drive into Cobh to visit the Cobh Heritage Center, which depicts the varied history of emigration from Ireland and many European countries to the United States over the past 150 years. Cobh was the last port of call for the "Titanic" and many liners that carried emigrants to the New World. After, journey into Blarney, where you can climb the battlements of Blarney Castle and kiss the famous "Stone of Eloquence." Continue into Killarney, check into your hotel and settle into your room. Tonight, meet your group in the hotel restaurant for a delicious meal.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: GREAT SOUTHERN HOTEL, KILLARNEY

SAT. AUG. 30 RING OF KERRY

This morning, journey to St. Mary's Catholic Cathedral, with its soaring spire, to celebrate Mass with your group. After, set off to explore the Ring of Kerry, which consist of over 100 miles of marvelous scenery. See some of Ireland's highest peaks on one side of the road and a coastline scattered with golden beaches and rocky headlands on the other. There will also be plenty of stops to take-in the scenery and to snap photos. Head back into Killarney and embark on a horse-drawn jaunting car ride through the grounds of Killarney National Park. Return to your hotel, where you might like to relax or freshen up before tonight's festivities.

This evening, travel to Kate Kearney's Cottage, which is situated at the entrance of the Gap of Dunloe. Your Irish Night will consist of a superb meal and entertainment.

OVERNIGHT: GREAT SOUTHERN HOTEL, KILLARNEY

SUN. AUG. 31 CLIFFS OF MOHER

Today, head to Killarney Cathedral to celebrate Mass with your fellow travelers. After, travel into Tarbert and take a short ferry ride across the River Shannon Estuary. Next, drive along the coast of scenic County Clare to visit the Cliffs of Moher, one of Ireland's most beloved, natural landmarks. See magical vistas, overlooking the shimmering Atlantic Ocean along with Ireland's Western coastline. Continue your journey into Galway and embark on a panoramic tour to see the principal sights of the city. See the Spanish Arch in the Claddagh area, the City Museum and the Cathedral of Our Lady, which is built on the site of the former county jail. Transfer to your nearby hotel, check in and settle into your room. In the evening, join your group for dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: GALMONT HOTEL, GALWAY

MON. SEPT. 01 APPARITION SHRINE CHURCH

After breakfast, celebrate Mass at the Apparition Shrine Church, which depicts the event on August 21, 1879, when the Virgin Mary appeared to 15 people. Then, travel through Ireland's rugged countryside into Cong and stop at the spectacular Ashford Castle. While here, discover the ancient form of falconry at the oldest established Falconry School in Ireland. You will be introduced to the lovely Harris Hawks along with other beautiful captive bred birds. Head back to your hotel in Galway in time to dine in the hotel restaurant with your fellow travelers.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: GALMONT HOTEL, GALWAY

TUES. SEP. 02 CLONMACNOISE

Departing Galway, travel to the center of Ireland to visit Clonmacnoise. This monastic settlement was founded in 545 and is delightfully set on the banks of the River Shannon. Learn about the history of the site and take a walk around to see the ancient monuments. Next, drive into Athlone and stop at Sean's Bar, Ireland's oldest Pub, to enjoy a drink with your fellow travelers. After, journey into Enfield and check into the beautiful Johnstown Estate. Spend the balance of the afternoon free to relax or enjoy the amenities the Estate offers. In the evening, join your fellow travelers for a farewell dinner in Johnstown Estate's fine restaurant.

DINNER & OVERNIGHT: JOHNSTOWN ESTATE HOTEL, ENFIELD

WED. SEP. 03 RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES

All too soon, your vacation has come to its final day. Transfer to Dublin Airport in good time to check in for your flight. You may do some last-minute shopping at the duty-free stores before boarding your aircraft and flying back to the United States.

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Reservation Details and Information

Contact: Anne Wolf, AnneVacations@gmail.com, 224 366 0881

Deposit: \$750.00 per person, along with reservation form, insurance payment, and copy of passport. Your per person deposit includes a \$300.00 non-refundable fee.

Form of Payment: Check or Credit Card (credit card payments will be assessed a 3% fee).

Make Checks Payable to: Viking Travel Service

Mail To: 700 East Ogden Avenue, Suite # 106, Westmont, IL 60559

Final Payment: Due no later than May 31, 2025. Late payments subject to late charge fee.

Documentation requirement: Passports must be valid for a minimum of 6 months from return date and have a few empty pages. Names on reservations must match exactly what appears on passports. Passport and entry requirements are subject to change at any time without notice.

Not included: Insurance protection, gratuities for driver/guide and local guides and any items of personal nature or not indicated as included.

Pricing and Operation: Prices and operation are based on a minimum of 20 passengers. Group air included is estimated, round trip in economy class and will be reviewed and advised once schedules become available. (Subject to all airline terms and conditions.) Pricing subject to currency fluctuations and any other surcharges imposed by the airline, hotels, motor coaches and/or government beyond our control.

Terms and Conditions: Prices are quoted in US dollars. Prices are subject to any fluctuations in the Euro, increases in taxes, and/or government or items beyond our control.

Notice: As the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic remains ongoing at this time, and travel resumes around the world, all destinations and suppliers have established COVID-19 safety measures and precautions which may change from day to day. These safety measures may include wearing masks at certain times, size of group gatherings, social distancing requirements, health screenings, and requiring Covid vaccination cards.

Participation on the tour acknowledges the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily assume the risk that I may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 while traveling. Participants also understand and agree to follow all the protocols and the acceptance that travel plans may be altered, interrupted, changed or canceled and that Viking Travel has no control over these unforeseeable conditions.

Cancellation Policy: All cancellations must be in writing to Anne Vacations/Viking Travel, thus making cancellation effective on the date of receipt. Insurance and unused portions of this tour package are non-refundable. No refunds for no shows or unused services. Credit card fees are non-refundable.

Air Cancellation Penalty: Penalties will apply based on the airline booked. Airline conditions will be advised when airline seats are confirmed by the airline.

LAND CANCELLATION PENALTIES:

Deposit date to February 1, 2025	\$300 per person, and insurance is non refundable
February 2, 2025 - May 30, 2025	Deposit and insurance are non refundable
May 31, 2025 – day of departure	100% penalty

Travel Insurance: We recommend travel insurance protection. Travel Guard’s Preferred Plan is a popular plan for good reason. You’ll not only get 24/7 emergency travel assistance services, but amazing coverage for medical expenses, Trip Cancellation, Trip Interruption, lost or delayed baggage, and medical evacuations. As with all insurance policies, the cost of insurance is non-refundable and subject to change at any time.

Pre-Existing Medical Condition Exclusion Waiver – must be purchased within 14 days of the Initial Trip Payment. With this waiver it’s possible to be covered for some medical issues on your Trip, despite your pre-existing condition. The Company will waive the pre-existing medical condition exclusion if the following conditions are met: Purchasing the travel insurance with your first Trip deposit, or shortly thereafter as explained in the Policy; The amount of coverage purchased equals all prepaid, non-refundable Trip payments or deposits, and the cost of any subsequent arrangements added to the same Trip are insured by the date of payment or deposit for the additional arrangements; You are medically able to travel when your travel insurance Policy is purchased. For specific information on Preferred Plan Coverages: <https://www.travelguard.com/travel-insurance/plans/preferred>

Travel Guard Group Insurance Coverage

<u>Coverage</u>	<u>Maximum Benefits</u>	<u>Coverage</u>	<u>Maximum Benefits</u>
Trip Cancellation	Trip Cost	Medical Expenses	\$20,000
Trip Interruption	125% Trip Cost	Emergency Medical Transportation	\$50,000
Travel Delay	\$500 (<i>Maximum of \$150 per day</i>)	Baggage Delay	\$500
Missed Connection	\$500	Baggage & Personal Effects Loss	\$1,000