

IRELAND

From Aug 22 to Sep 1, 2006

- Before we leave - purchase [Heritage Card](#) (\$16 for Seniors). You have to fill it out on their WEB Site **THEN COPY** the form to an e-mail addressed to
- August 22 PM, fly out of Nashville/Chicago (12:50P/1:00P) to Shannon, Ireland
- **August 23 WED 6:30AM, arrive in Shannon**, Rented two Volvo V70, standard transmission from Avis for **\$723.37** PRE-PAID (\$391.01 GBP) per car. Communications between cars via VHF radio.
 - Drive 40 miles (N24) to **Cashel**, visit **Rock of Cashel** & have lunch: [Brief History](#) , [Tourist pictures](#)
 - Drive 40 miles to [Launard House](#) a B&B in **Kilkenny** (**Stay 4 nights, 23,24,25,26 in Kilkenny**
COST = \$325 Euros/couple)
- **August 24 THU FREE DAY relax and roam Kilkenny**
Nothing planned for this day, except recover from the time change. I suggest you [print a copy of this map](#) of Kilkenny for your use. Everyone should do what they find convenient. Breadfast is in the B&B. Ride or walk into town, roam, and then have lunch. **Kilkenny** has one Pub for every 300 citizens. We'll ask the B&B owners to point us to something "colorful" for the evening.
 - Visit **Old Jail House, Black Abbey, St. Francis Abbey, & Kilkenny Castle**
 - Lunch at **Kyteler's Inn**, once 1323 home of witch Dame Alice Kyteler
- **August 25 FRI 8:30AM go to Dublin**
Breakfast in the B&B. **At 8:30AM** we'll drive to **Dublin** and to the **Guinness Tour** which lasts about an hour, have lunch in a convenient pub and then catch the bus ride around for the 90 minutes discussion of the city highlights and then hop off where-ever.
 - In the morning drive 65 miles to **Dublin** and do [Guinness Storehouse Tour](#) . This tour costs about **\$20pp**. In the **Gravity Bar** we will drink our complimentary pint of Guinness and have lunch.
 - In the afternoon roam **Dublin** using [Hop-On-Off Bus Tour](#). The ticket costs **\$20pp** and the tour lasts 75 minutes. After that you select a spot to get off and do your own thing.
 - Head back to **Kilkenny** around **6:30PM** (we may have to have a lite dinner while driving to avoid driving Ireland roads in the dark.)
- **August 26 SAT 9:00 AM go to Waterford and Wexford**
Breakfast in the B&B. About mid-morning we'll drive about thirty miles to southeast coast and the **Waterford Tour** which lasts about an hour, have lunch in a convenient pub and the drive over to Wexford. Dinner near **Irish National Heritage Park**.
 - **9A to Noon**: Visit [Waterford Crystal](#)
 - We can visit several place in the afternoon such as [Dunbrody Abbey](#), [Jerpoint Abbey](#), or [Dunbrody Famine Ship](#). I suggest we drive to **Wexford** and visit the **Irish National Heritage Park**.
 - **Noon to 4PM**: Visit [Irish National Heritage Park](#) . It is outdoors & requires walking.
 - I suggest we drive into **Wexford** and have an early dinner at **The Sky & Ground Pub** at 112-113 South Main St. It is only an hour drive back to **Kilkenny**.
- **August 27 SUN 9:00 AM go to Killarney through Cork**,
Breakfast in the B&B and pack your bags. About **9AM** we leave for a long drive to **Killarney** in southwest corner of Ireland. Primary stop is **Blarney Castle** for a leisurely visit. I had thought we could visit [Cobh Heritage Center](#), but it is on the other side of **Cork** and trying to fit it into the day is too much.

- **11AM to 2PM:** Visit [Blarney Castle](#) . We are probably going to need a picnic lunch.
- **3PM:** Arrive at our B&B [Wuthering Heights](#) near [Killarney National Park](#) (**stay 3 nights, 27,28, 29 in Killarney COST = \$281 Euros/couple**) (**Warning:** I am very nervous about this B&B selection. It was not my first choice and in 2003 it received some bad reviews)
- **August 28 MON and 29 TUE** are interchangeable depending on the weather. Breakfast in the B&B, then take your pick of the following two day plans.
 - At **9AM** leave for the [Ring of Kerry \(General Info\)](#) Although the *Ring of Kerry* is only 130 miles in length, it is the 2nd most popular tourist destination in Ireland. Travel will be slow and traffic will be heavy. We will easily spend 8 hours doing the loop.
 - At **whenever AM** roam town of **Killarney** and doing a little [sightseeing](#). At **8PM** go to an *Old Irish Banquet* (\$60pp) at [Killarney Manor House](#)
- **August 30 WED 9AM go Galway**
Breakfast in the B&B and pack your bags. About **9AM** we have a long drive along the western coast of Ireland to Galway.
 - At **11:30AM** visit [Cliffs of Moher](#)
 - At **1:00PM** visit [The Burren](#),
 - At **5:00 PM** arrive at [Mandalay by the Sea](#) a B&B in **Galway**, (**stay 2 nights, 30,31 in Galway COST = \$161/couple**)
- **August 31 THU FREE DAY relax and roam Galway**,
 After three days of heavy driving, it is time to relax. Breakfast in the B&B and walk along the coast and into **Galway**. Do what-ever. Dinner that night somewhere in **Galway**. We'll get ideas from the B&B owners.
- **Sept 1 FRI fly out of Shannon**