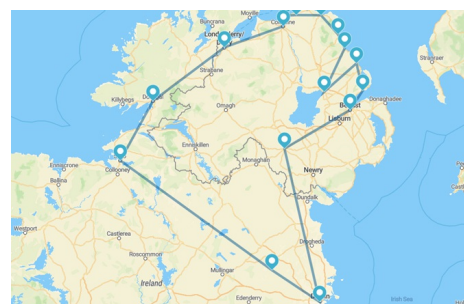




Ireland, 9 Days · Tailor-made by car

Emerald Isle Northern Route with Dublin and the Causeway Coast

Certain places tug at your soul. Northern Ireland, with the legendary Causeway Coastal Route, is one of those places. The dizzying cliffs, mountains draped in mist, serene lakes, remote white-sand beaches, emerald-green valleys, vibrant cities and villages seemingly stuck in time make Northern Ireland a truly magical place. You'll be travelling a land packed with myths and legends, and which boasts unique places such as the Glens of Antrim and the Giant's Causeway UNESCO World Heritage Site. With an ancient history whose secrets are revealed by sites such as the Newgrange, Knowth and Dowth tombs (Boyne Valley), the Mount Sandel fort (Coleraine), the north of Ireland spoils visitors with delicious cuisine and fabulous pubs where they can savour a Guinness while tapping along with their feet to the infectious rhythm of Celtic music. No matter what time of year you visit, Northern Ireland seduces, attracts and captures visitors who will be spellbound by its incredible heritage, rich culture, magnificent architecture, vibrant way of life and interesting calendar of leisure activities and entertainment. Cities like Armagh, Belfast and Derry-Londonderry, as well as charming and historic villages such as Donegal and Sligo, immerse visitors in a warm and fascinating universe which is full of surprises. The route ends in the cosmopolitan and lively city of Dublin, in the south of Ireland. It's one of Europe's most interesting cities! Set off on your Irish road trip. The Emerald Isle is, more than anything, somewhere to take your time exploring. Take it at your own pace and savour every moment. The dramatic and seductive Causeway Coastal Route makes this driving route a real treasure for adventure and nature lovers. Sprinkled with locations that have been a source of inspiration for the acclaimed series Game of Thrones, it is widely seen as one of the world's most beautiful and fascinating driving routes. Come and check it out!



NATURE

Departure date: Departures from June 2026 till May 2027

From: London

Travel details

DAY 1 · CITY OF ORIGIN - DUBLIN

Flight departure from the city of origin to Dublin and rental car pick-up. This fascinating road trip through Ireland begins in its lively capital city. Dublin is one of Europe's oldest cities and strikes a perfect balance between a great medieval and Georgian heritage and modern buildings, fine cafes, cutting-edge restaurants and interesting art and design attractions. You'll have the rest of the day free to get a feel for the city; enjoy the local cuisine and try an authentic Irish coffee, walk in the footsteps of important writers such as James Joyce and Oscar Wilde, and discover unique places like Dublin Castle, the legendary Trinity College, the historic Christ Church and St. Patrick Cathedrals and the Bank of Ireland... At Dublin City Hall, the old Royal Exchange, you can take in the 'Story of the Capital' exhibition, a fascinating display which will immerse you in the city's history. In the late afternoon, cross the Ha'penny Bridge and explore the fabled Temple Bar area on the banks of the River Liffey. Check out the nightlife of this universal city by popping into its historic pubs and savouring a dark and bitter Guinness beer. Overnight stay in Dublin.

DAY 2 · DUBLIN - BOYNE VALLEY - ARMAGH - BELFAST

After enjoying the delights of Dublin, we'll head to Northern Ireland to explore its passionate history and the legends concealed within its vibrant cities and traditional villages, many of which are seemingly stuck in time... Driving at our own pace, we'll pass through astonishing landscapes and savour every moment of the journey. The route northwards crosses the Boyne Valley, a mythical place that will transport you back in time. Along the way, we recommend stopping off at the three large tombs in Newgrange, Knowth and Dowth which, together, form one of the most important prehistoric megalithic sites in Europe. With 5,000 years of history, they hold UNESCO World Heritage status. (Note. This site can only be accessed from the Brú na Bóinne Visitor Centre near the village of Donore. The tours are guided and in English. The site is included on the Heritage Card, which can be purchased in the visitor centre. We recommend visiting in the morning, because only a limited number of visitors are permitted each day). As we continue our journey, to the south of Armagh we'll be met by an astonishing panoramic stretch of road around the slopes of Slieve Gullion. Once we're in the ancient town of Armagh, the ecclesiastical capital of Ireland, we'll visit the two cathedrals bearing the name of St Patrick and a boulevard lined with trees and fine museums... You can touch the biggest meteorite in Ireland at the Planetarium! Then just one hour further down the road is Belfast, a city still being reinvented following the 1998 Good Friday Agreement peace deal. Overnight stay in Belfast.

DAY 3 · BELFAST AND SURROUNDING AREA

We'll then continue to enjoy this city located between mountains and the sea. The Northern Irish capital seduces visitors with its authentic historic centre, a true Victorian gem replete with renowned restaurants where you can get a taste for the city's unique cuisine; its emblematic 12th century harbour, the city's economic driving force, the modern and interactive Titanic Belfast museum, where you can learn all the secrets of the world's most famous ocean liner, and the historic murals in the Bogside neighbourhood that illustrate a violent history and a present focused on reconciliation... If you have time, we recommend a trip to the Cave Hill Country Park which is around 20 minutes away. Just five minutes from Belfast Zoo, the park offers a wide range of outdoor activities and a great variety of hiking trails. The park is also home to the city's oldest piece of history, as well as the 19th century Belfast Castle. Overnight stay in Belfast.

DAY 4 · CAUSEWAY COASTAL ROUTE (CARRICKFERGUS - LARNE / ANTRIM - BALLYGALLY - CARNLOUGH, CUSHENDALL - BALLYCASTLE) - MOYLE

We'll now move on and get ready for one of the most striking stages of the journey, the fabled Causeway Coastal Route, one of the world's most staggering driving routes. This legendary route winds through several coastal villages and unforgettable landscapes. Our route will take in the coastal town of Carrickfergus and its 12th century Norman castle, as well as the picturesque town of Larne otherwise known as the gateway to the Glens of Antrim... The route hugs the coastline and goes through beautiful places including Ballygally, Carnlough and Cushendall. We'll come across legendary landscapes and unique places such as the Cushendun Caves and Murlough Bay, which have been used as filming locations for the famous Game of Thrones series. Our last stop for today will be the gorgeous coastal town of Ballycastle. If you have time, we recommend walking the Kingsroad from Game of Thrones (The Dark Hedges). Overnight stay in Moyle and surroundings.

DAY 5 · MOYLE - CAUSEWAY COASTAL ROUTE (BALLYCASTLE - BALLINTOY - LARRYBANE - CARRICK-A-REDE ISLAND AND BRIDGE - GIANT'S CAUSEWAY - BUSHMILLS DISTILLERY - DUNLUCE CASTLE - PORTRUSH - COLERAINE / MOUNT SANDEL FORT - DERRY - LONDONDERRY)

You'll have all day to enjoy the stunning Causeway Coastal Route, which spoils travellers with sublime landscapes, extraordinary beautiful coastline, historic castles, breathtaking ravines and lively cities which are worth taking your time to visit. Heading northwest from Ballycastle, we'll come to the gorgeous village of Ballintoy, whose tiny but picturesque harbour has been used as a filming location for Game of Thrones. The route will then take us down to Larrybane, the starting point for our trip to the Carrick-a-Rede rope bridge. A one-kilometre paved trail will lead you to the legendary bridge that crosses over to the small island of Carrick-a-Rede. Built by local fishermen to access the island, the bridge is suspended over an abyss of up to 30 metres with rough seas at the bottom. Do you dare to cross it? With that thrilling experience complete, we'll head to the legendary Giant's Causeway. Declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, this spectacular site is what gives the route its name. The landscape here is dominated by over 40,000 hexagonal columns which form a path which vanishes into the sea. This enigmatic landscape, created many millennia ago by intense volcanic activity, is claimed by local folktales to have been linked to heroic battles between giants. Legends aside, come and discover all the secrets and curiosities that this mythical place has to offer in the Giant's Causeway Visitor Centre (Note. When you first arrive at the Causeway you'll find a paid car park which often gets full in the morning. If you drive half a kilometre east towards Belfast, you'll find another, smaller car park that is free of charge). On with our journey. If you have time and are curious about how whiskey is made, you can visit the Old Bushmills Distillery, the world's oldest. Back on the coast, you'll be struck by the awe-inspiring sight of the 14th century Dunluce Castle. Built on the edge of a cliff, it looks as though it could collapse into the raging waves at any moment... On the way to the historic city of Derry-Londonderry you can stop off at the golden beaches of Portrush or the ancient (it is estimated to be 9000 years old) Mount Sandel Fort settlement, which is under two kilometres away from the university town of Coleraine. Our final stop will be in Derry-Londonderry, one of the few completely-walled cities left in Europe. After nightfall, there is entertainment to be had by visitors in the city's traditional pubs, cask culture, fine restaurants and renowned nightlife complete with jamming sessions in the early hours of the morning. Overnight stay in Derry-Londonderry.

DAY 6 · DERRY-LONDONDERRY - COUNTY DONEGAL

Within its magnificent 17th-century walls, the lively city of Derry-Londonderry amazes visitors with its labyrinthine alleys, streets, pubs, shops, restaurants and attractions of every kind which make this, one of Ireland's most culturally compelling cities, the perfect finishing point on the Causeway Coastal Route.

During your visit to the city, don't forget to head to the Tower Museum to learn all there is to know about the history of the city, from pre-Hispanic times to the modern day.

We'll now continue our journey towards the Donegal region. Here the grass takes on a yellowish hue and the wind blows hard, forming a wild, dramatic and beautiful coastline. As you follow the road along this epic stretch of coastline, you'll pass small cliffs, abrupt landscapes and perfect spots for lovers of photography and nature. You'll come across Gaelic-speaking villages which are the legacy of ancient Celts. If time allows, we recommend two additional excursions.

The first will take you to Muff, at the start of the Wild Atlantic Way. This arched route will take you to the very tip of Malin Head on the Inishowen Peninsula, the northernmost point of the island of Ireland and a great place to 'hunt' the Aurora Borealis and stroll along remote white-sand beaches.

Alternatively, lovers of ecotourism can take a trip to Glenveagh National Park and Ards Forest Park, two of Ireland's natural gems. Today's journey will end in the town of Donegal, located in a valley between the Barnesmore mountains and Donegal Bay. Don't forget Donegal Castle, the artisan town, the Donegal Bay Waterbus and the lively marketplace.

Overnight stay in Donegal.

● DAY 7 · DONEGAL - ENNISKILLEN - SLIGO

We'll continue our fascinating journey through one of the most unknown and compelling parts of the Emerald Isle. Here, more adventurous travellers will continue to enjoy rural settlements and wild landscapes which provide a genuine opportunity for 'escape' far from the madding crowd. Today's route will take you to unique places such as Fermanagh Lake in Enniskillen, the Marble Arch Caves and the majestic Castle Coole. Renowned for its literary history, Sligo is one of the most picturesque counties in the northwest. Its history and landscapes were a source of inspiration for the poet WB Yeats. Today, its gorgeous mountain landscapes, idyllic lakes and beautiful beaches perfect for surfing continue to seduce romantics, artists and nostalgic visitors from all corners of the world. The town of Sligo itself amazes visitors with its hubbub and atmosphere, cultural centres such as the Yeats Memorial Building, fine restaurants, shops for every taste and legendary pubs where you'll be able to listen to Celtic music and savour an authentic Guinness. Overnight stay in Sligo.

● DAY 8 · SLIGO - MARBLE ARCH CAVES - TRIM CASTLE - DUBLIN

First thing in the morning, we'll begin our return trip to Dublin. The journey will take about three or four hours, depending on the route you take and the stops that you make. Around 1 hour 15 minutes into the journey, we'll arrive at the Marble Arch Caves in County Fermanagh, some of the most beautiful caves in Europe and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. (Please check visits schedules. Parking. The tour lasts around 75 minutes). Two hours further down the road we'll come to our next stop, Trim Castle (in the town of Trim, County Meath), Ireland's largest Anglo-Norman building. (Please check visits schedules. The tour lasts between 1 and 2 hours). If time allows, we recommend visiting this beautiful town which full of old traditions. Once we are back in Dublin (a further 1 hour 15 minutes), we'll enjoy spending time in a vibrant city that spoils visitors with interesting art, cuisine and leisure activities. We'll bid farewell to the 'Emerald Isle Northern Route and Causeway Coastal Route' by saying a toast over a pint in the fabled Temple Bar area of the city. Overnight stay in Dublin.

● DAY 9 · DUBLIN - CITY OF ORIGIN

Arrival at the airport with enough time to drop off your rental car and flight back to the city of origin.

Arrival. End of the trip and our services.

Your trip includes

Your trip includes

- ✓ Return flight.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Dublin.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Dublin.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Belfast.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Belfast.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Moyle.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Moyle.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Londonderry.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Londonderry.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Donegal.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Donegal.
- ✓ Stay in selected hotel in Sligo.
- ✓ Selected meal plan in Sligo.
- ✓ Rent-a-car.
- ✓ Insolvency protection.

Your trip doesn't include

- ✗ Possible toll charges.

Destinations Visited

Dublin



Armagh



Belfast



Carrickfergus BT



Ballygalley



Antrim



Carnlough



Cushendall



Ballycastle



Bushmills



Portrush



Coleraine



Londonderry



Donegal



Sligo



Trim



Important remarks

- Triple rooms in Europe are generally rooms with twin beds or a double, in which a folding bed is installed to accommodate the third person. Due to the inconvenience this causes, we advise against using this option as far as possible.
- Check-in time at the hotel on the day of arrival depends on each establishment, but in no case will it be before 3:00 p.m., unless otherwise indicated.
- From 5 March 2025, it is mandatory to obtain an ETA Electronic Travel Authorisation in advance and online to enter the United Kingdom. This form must be obtained through the website Apply for an electronic travel authorisation (ETA) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk).
- The proposed excursions and tours for each day are purely suggestions, as you can tailor the trip to suit your times, tastes and needs.
- A credit card is considered a guarantee, so sometimes you will need one for check-in at hotels.
- Hotels usually have cots available. Otherwise, babies will have to share a bed with an adult.
- To pick up your rental car, you'll need a credit (not debit) card in the name of the person who made the booking, who must also be the named driver of the vehicle.
- Consult the necessary documentation to enter the destinations visited and for transit in the countries where air stopovers are made.
- This itinerary has been developed in collaboration with the Irish Tourist Office.