## WEST COAST CHARM HIKES, ISLANDS, & PUBS MAY 13-23, 2023 \$2,685.00 PER PERSON LAND ONLY

- **Sat. 13** Depart for overnight flight to Dublin. Meal served on board.
- **Sun. 14** Arrival in Dublin in the morning where we will be met by our driver/guide, Liam Finnegan. Liam will escort us to our private motor coach and begin our journey together. Our first stop will be in the town of **Trim** where we will enjoy a **guided tour of Trim Castle**, home to the filming of Braveheart with Mel Gibson. This is a great way to stretch our legs after the journey. We then continue on to the great little town of **Westport, Co. Mayo** to check into our hotel and relax a bit before we meet for **dinner** in our hotel tonight and get ready for a fantastic week. **Westport Plaza Hotel (dinner)**
- Mon. 15 After breakfast we head out to the magnificent Achill Island for our first hike. This 4.1 mile Sli Grainne Mhaol hike is "moderate" and should take about 2.5 hours. There are some steep hills and narrow paths but this isn't a race. This loop walk is named after the legendary Pirate Queen Grace O'Malley. Those not interested in walking can stay with Liam and he'll take you further out into Achill Island and visit the Deserted Village. The Deserted Village at Slievemore is a haunting reminder of times past. An hour spent meandering from cottage to neighbouring cottage, along the ancient track and through adjacent fields with their lazybed ridges and furrows is a journey back in time. After our hike or visit we head back to the quaint little town of Westport. Take the remainder of the day and evening to check out the shops, restaurants and pubs. We'll be sure to stop into Matt Molloy's as they have a great session on a Monday night! Westport Plaza Hotel (breakfast)
- **Tue. 16** We depart Westport this morning and travel through part of beautiful **Connemara** with photo stops along the way. We will head for the 11:30 **ferry** to take us to the "magical island" of **Inishbofin**. We leave the bus behind for the next two days. Once on the Island we will meet the **local guide Tommy Burke** to give us a walking history tour of the Island. There will be time for some hiking before we enjoy **dinner** together tonight in our hotel. **Overnight Doonmore Hotel, Inishbofin ( breakfast & dinner)**
- **Wed. 17** Today is a day to explore; hike, walk, bike, horseback ride or just chill on your own. There are 3 Loop Walks to choose from, **Westquarter**, **Cloonamore and Middle Quarter**, each spectacular in their own way. Inishbofin is like going back in time...Enjoy its beauty and find your serenity. **Doonmore Hotel**, **(breakfast)**
- Thur. 18 We say so long to InishBofin today and take the 9:00 am ferry back to the mainland. We continue thru

  Connemara to Letterfrack and visit the Connemara National Park. Here we will take the Lower Diamond Hill Walk 3

  km 1 hour moderate climb. After our hike it's on to Galway City with the remainder of the afternoon and evening free to check out the shops, restaurants and pubs. Great city for a pub crawl!! Park House Hotel, Galway (breakfast)
- **Fri. 19** After breakfast we'll make the drive along the coast to the majestic **Cliffs of Moher.** Take some time do a little hiking along the cliffs for some great photos. We then continue on our journey down to catch the **ferry** to cross the **River Shannon** to the **Dingle Peninsula**. Take some time to relax or check out the pubs before we meet for **dinner** in our hotel and enjoy some spectacular views as we dine. **Overnight Dingle Skellig Hotel (breakfast & dinner)**
- Sat. 20 Today we will start our journey at the Great Blasket Center to enjoy the 2.8 mile Dun Chaoin Coastal Loop walk. (moderate) The scenery will be magnificent and you may encounter loads of sheep. Those not interested in walking may wish to visit the Blasket Center. Blasket Centre is a fascinating heritage and cultural center/ museum, honoring the unique community who lived on the remote Blasket Islands until their evacuation in 1953. It's then back to Dingle town to relax and check out the most unique pubs you will ever find in all of Ireland. Overnight Dingle Skelligs Hotel. (breakfast)

**Sun. 21** So long to Dingle as we make our way to **Blarney Castle & Woolen Mills** for some great **shopping** and an opportunity to **climb to the top of the castle and kiss the "magical stone".** It's then on to the **Rock of Cashel**, the most amazing cluster of medieval buildings in all of Ireland. After our **guided tour** we check into our hotel just down the road in the town of Cashel. How about a pint at **T. J. Ryan's Pub** right next door. **Bailey's Hotel, Cashel (breakfast)** 

**Mon. 22** So long to Cashel as we head straight for **Dublin** for a **free day** to explore all that Dublin has to offer. Guinness Storehouse, Jameson Distillery, Book of Kells, Museums, shops, pubs and more. Overnight **Gresham Hotel** 

**Tue. 23** Sadly our journey together has come to an end. Liam will get us to the airport in plenty of time to check in for our flights.

<u>COST</u>: \$2,685.00 per person sharing a room. This price is based on a minimum of 20 passengers. <u>This tour is limited to the first 25 to sign up.</u> If we fail to reach this minimum a price adjustment will become necessary or the tour may be cancelled. If we go over 25 there will be a wait list. **Single Room is available for an additional \$ 595.00** 

<u>INCLUDES:</u> 9 nights accommodations at 3 & 4 star hotels, full Irish breakfast each day except arrival day, 3 dinners, private motor coach throughout with Board Failte Approved Driver/Guide. All taxes and surcharges, porterage of one suitcase and portfolio of tour documents.

<u>VISITS & ADMISSIONS</u>: Trim Castle, Guided Hike Sli Grainne Mhaol, Ferry to Inishbofin, walking tour of Inishbofin with local guide, Connemara National Park & Lower Diamond Hill Hike with guide, Cliffs of Moher, Ferry across the River Shannon, guided walk Dun Chaoin Coastal Loop Dingle, Blarney Castle & Woolen Mills, Rock of Cashel.

**NOT INCLUDED:** Airfare, Trip Insurance & tip to the driver. We recommend €12 - €13 per day per person to the driver.

**TRIP INSURANCE:** We do not offer trip insurance but we highly recommend you purchase some type of insurance. You can do this on line and compare policies and choose what is best for you.

**CLOTHING:** Because we will be doing some hiking you need to be prepared for all types of weather...because this is Ireland. Rain gear, sun screen, windbreaker, good hiking shoes that are waterproof etc.

FIRST DEPOSIT: \$500 is due immediately to reserve your space, \$250 becomes non-refundable. If you cancel after final payment is made, entire deposit is non-refundable

SECOND DEPOSIT \$500 DUE BY FEBRUARY 23, 2023 FINAL PAYMENT IS DUE BY APRIL 1, 2023

Checks only for your deposits please.

Make checks payable to: Tours Galore and mail to: 4602 Wood Stork Drive, Merritt Island, FL 32953 (Nov.1 – April 30) 26 Juniper Lane, Duluth, MN 55810 (May 1 – Oct. 31)

The following credit cards are accepted but checks are preferred due to the fees encountered.

Visa, Mastercard, Discover

For further information please feel free to contact:

MARY NOLAN <u>nolanmary53@mail.com</u> or <u>toursgalore1994@gmail.com</u> www.toursgalore.co

The itinerary is subject to change due to weather conditions or the discretion of Tours Galore or your driver.

Price is based on estimated exchange rates. Should a radical change occur a price adjustment may become necessary.