

IRELAND - JULY 2024 - SELF-DRIVE VACATION

JULY 2024

1st DUBLIN AIRPORT/CITY

You will be transferred from the airport to your city hotel and here you will check in for three nights and you will now have today and the next two days to explore Dublin City.

2nd & 3rd DUBLIN CITY

Continue visiting the sites in Dublin and if you are interested in visiting Kilkenny City you can take a train there from Dublin and back.

OVERNIGHTS: DUBLIN CITY - 4 star centre hotel

4th NEWGRANGE/BOYNE VALLEY & DROGHEDA (or nearby)

You collect your self-drive car this morning and leave Dublin.

Today you can explore the Boyne Valley, at your own pace, and visit Newgrange (booking is essential but this cannot be done until 30 days prior to your visit date).

Towards the end of the day travel northwards and overnight in the Drogheda/Dundalk area. These are both short distances from the border so this will allow you more time to tour in Northern Ireland before going to Belfast tomorrow.

OVERNIGHT: DUNDALK/DROGHEDA - country house or hotel

5th to BELFAST

You may like to get to Belfast early to spend most of the day there. Alternatively, you might like to tour and sightsee enroute as you do not need to leave Belfast early tomorrow if you wish,

OVERNIGHT: BELFAST

6th & 7th NORTH ANTRIM COASTLINE

On the 6th you travel to the Giants Causeway and I suggest that you stay in the Causeway Hotel (3 star) overlooking the Causeway. You spend these two days touring and you can do so at a leisurely pace.

OVERNIGHT: BUSHMILLS, NORTHERN IRELAND (3 star hotel).

8th DERRY/DONEGAL/INISHOWEN

You can visit Derry City after leaving Bushmills today and this is on the way to Donegal.

You may also consider touring the Inishowen Peninsula - this is often referred to as the most beautiful part of Ireland. It will add a lot of driving time to your journey and you do not need to decide until the day perhaps and you will not have had any long distances to drive over the past two days.

Then when you are ready you continue to Donegal and I suggest Harvey's Point for the next three nights.

OVERNIGHT: HARVEY'S POINT, DONEGAL

9th & 10th DONEGAL

You will have these two days to explore this region and it is a big area but you can do so at a leisurely pace.

OVERNIGHTS: HARVEY'S POINT

11th to SLIGO - and your daughter and her family will join you.

As it is not a long drive from Donegal to Sligo you can set off when you are ready and meet up with your family and you all check into your hotel for two nights.

12th SLIGO AREA

13th MAYO/ACHILL ISLAND/BALLYNAHINCH

You travel southwards today and Achill Island is extremely beautiful (connected to the mainland) and you might like to visit there. Other great places also to visit and enjoy before checking into Ballynahinch Castle for three nights (only one night perhaps for your daughter).

OVERNIGHT: BALLYNAHINCH

14th & 15th CONNEMARA

Enjoy these two days around Connemara and the lovely surroundings of your hotel.

OVERNIGHT: BALLYNAHINCH CASTLE.

16th GALWAY CITY & CLARE

Visit Galway City on the way to Co. Clare and explore north Clare before checking into Gregans Castle Hotel for three nights.

OVERNIGHT: GREGANS CASTLE HOTEL

17th & 18th CLARE/THE BURREN/ARAN ISLANDS?

As you will have done a lot of travelling since your arrival you may like a relaxing day in the beautiful surroundings of your hotel. There is a lot to see and do around Clare including the Burren region and the Cliffs of Moher.

Should you be interested in visiting the Aran Islands for a day, one of these days is the time to do so.

OVERNIGHTS: GREGANS CASTLE HOTEL

19th to MALAHIDE, Co. DUBLIN

I think that Malahide is a lovely location to spend your last night in Ireland. This is a village about 20 minutes north of Dublin Airport and you may choose to arrive there in the mid-afternoon or you may still have more sightseeing along the way.

OVERNIGHT: The Grand Hotel, Malahide

20th to DUBLIN AIRPORT

You drive the short distance to Dublin Airport and return your car before checking in for your flights to England.