



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Traveling Bulldogs™

Enchanting Ireland

A Tour of the Emerald Isle

June 1-13, 2025

13 days from \$6,892 total price from Boston, New York
(\$6,295 air & land inclusive plus \$597 airline taxes and fees)



TRAVEL+
LEISURE
WORLD'S
BEST
HONOREE

This tour is provided by
Odysseys Unlimited,
seven-time honoree
Travel & Leisure's World's
Best Tour Operators award.

A Special Small Group Tour for
Alumni and Friends Mississippi State



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
 Traveling Bulldogs™

Dear Mississippi State Alumni and Friends,

We invite you to travel with us on a special 13-day journey to Ireland – a land familiar to many with breath-taking scenery, rich heritage and mystical appeal.

Begin in Dublin with a tour of Ireland’s beautiful capital. Step into Trinity College, home of the stunning 8th century *Book of Kells*. Next, head west to Galway and intriguing Inishmore, the largest of the fabled Aran Islands. Visit the Cliffs of Moher, the flat-topped “mountains” that rise from the sea for five miles North to South. Travel south along the scenic coastline of County Clare, cross by ferry into County Kerry and explore Killarney. Travel along the Ring of Kerry and visit 15th-century Blarney Castle, home of the celebrated Blarney Stone. Continue onto the Rock of Cashel, medieval ruins atop of limestone, dating back to 432 CE. Finally, tour the cultural capital of Kilkenny before returning to Dublin for a farewell dinner. An optional 4-day/3-night post-tour extension in Northern Ireland is also available.

We are pleased to be sharing this departure with alumni and friends from the University of Colorado Boulder. Space is limited to 24 guests and we expect this tour to fill quickly. Book today!

Sincerely,

Leanna P. Smith

Leanna P. Smith
 Assistant Director of Alumni Partnerships & Business Development
 Mississippi State University Alumni Association

MISSISSIPPI STATE RESERVATION FORM: ENCHANTING IRELAND

To reserve your place on tour, **please call Odysseys Unlimited at (toll-free) 888-370-6765**. Please have the information outlined below available to share with an Odysseys Unlimited Travel Counselor.

If you prefer, you may also complete this Reservation Form and submit it to Odysseys Unlimited’s office. Once this request is received, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to securely take your credit card information for the deposit. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. If paying by check, please make check payable to **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.** and include with the form. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure.

Send to: **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.**
Attn: Special Interest Groups
One Newton Place
275 Washington Street, Suite 300
Newton, MA 02458

ENCHANTING IRELAND • JUNE 1-13, 2025

I/We would like to request _____ place(s). (Deposit amount is \$500 per person.)

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

E-mail(s) _____ Badge Name(s) _____

Please book my/our air from _____ I/We request a Business Class upgrade

I will share a room with _____ I request a single room (limited availability)

Post-Tour “Northern Ireland” Extension: Please sign me/us up

Enchanting Ireland

A Tour of the Emerald Isle

13 days from \$6,892 total price from Boston, New York

(\$6,295 air & land inclusive plus \$597 airline taxes and fees)

It's a beautiful, magical land, where the gentle green landscape dazzles and the people delight; where warmth and hospitality are national traits and poets are national heroes. From Dublin to Galway, Killarney to Kilkenny, this full yet well-paced tour showcases Ireland's many charms – both old and new – to our small band of travelers.



Day 1: Depart U.S. for Dublin, Ireland

Day 2: Arrive Dublin We arrive in the intimate, and beautiful, Irish capital today and check in at our hotel located right on St. Stephen's Green. Tonight we enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. *D*

Day 3: Dublin This morning's city tour includes a visit to Trinity College, home of the stunning 8th-century *Book of Kells* illuminated manuscript; and to St. Patrick's, the national cathedral of the Church of Ireland. This afternoon we embark on an informal walking tour (led by our tour director), passing some of the haunts and hiding places of Ireland's beloved literary sons. Dinner tonight is on our own in this enchanting city. *B*

Day 4: Dublin/Galway We leave Dublin this morning for Galway in the West, the region some consider to be the "most Irish part of Ireland." En route we stop for tea and coffee at Tyrrellspass Castle then continue on to 6th-century Clonmacnoise, Ireland's most important early monastic site. After lunch on our own we resume our journey, reaching Galway City this afternoon. We dine at our hotel located in the village of Bearna just outside the city. *B,D*

Day 5: Galway/Connemara A day of scenic highlights is in store as we travel through western County Galway in the legendary region known as Connemara, a rugged, silent landscape of mountains, glacial lakes, endless roads, and uninhabited bog lands. Our first stop is at beautiful Kylemore Abbey, built as a private home in 1861 and one of Ireland's most photographed castles. We continue on through this rugged region with spectacular views, stopping for lunch en route. Tonight we enjoy dinner with traditional Irish entertainment. *B,D*

Day 6: Galway/Aran Islands Today we embark on an excursion to Inishmore, the largest of the fabled Aran Islands, whose unique culture and history have been an inspiration to artists, writers, and filmmakers. Sitting across Galway Bay in the midst of the Atlantic, the islands feature primitive stone forests, early Christian churches, and medieval castles – as well as shops, galleries, and restaurants. An islander guides our tour

Physical Activity Level

2 **Easy/Moderate**

Walk 1-3 miles per day, often on uneven terrain or cobblestones; multiple days spent outside in natural settings; many stairs throughout tour, including 100+ at Blarney Castle

Your Tour at a Glance

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Dublin		
2-3	Dublin	The Shelbourne	Deluxe
4-6	Galway	The Twelve Hotel	Sup. First Class
7-9	Killarney	Killarney Royal Hotel	Sup. First Class
10-11	Kilkenny	Pembroke Kilkenny	Sup. First Class
12	Dublin	Barberstown Castle Hotel	Sup. First Class
13	Depart Dublin for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.



The sun shines down on the Cliffs of Moher, as we see on Day 7.

here, imparting local lore along the way. We stop at Dun Aenghus Fortress, the three prehistoric stone walls crowning the tallest cliffs of Inishmore; have lunch in a local pub; and enjoy some free time before returning to the mainland and our hotel late this afternoon. Dinner tonight is at a local restaurant in the village of Bearna. *B,L,D*

Day 7: Galway/County Clare/Killarney Another day of breathtaking scenery as we leave Galway for Killarney, traveling south along the fabled coastline of County Clare. We pass through the Burren, the 116-square-mile “rocky place” of craggy gray *karst* (limestone) formations that stretch endlessly in all directions. Then we visit the Cliffs of Moher, the majestic flat-topped “mountains” that rise vertically from the sea for five miles from north to south. After lunch on our own here, we cross by ferry into County Kerry, reaching Killarney in beautiful Killarney National Park late this afternoon. This evening we enjoy dinners with local families. *B,D*

Day 8: Killarney Our exploration of this attractive town, founded as a resort in the 18th century, begins with a jaunting cart ride from the center of town to 15th-century Ross Castle, the last stronghold to fall to Oliver Cromwell’s forces in 1652. Then we travel by boat to Muckross House, a 19th-century Elizabethan-style manor, which showcases the art and craft of bookbinding, pottery, and weaving. We tour the elegantly furnished rooms, as well as the informal garden. Lunch is on our own here before we return to Killarney mid-afternoon. Dinner tonight is on our own in this charming town. *B*

Day 9: Killarney/Ring of Kerry Today we experience one of Ireland’s most popular attractions, the stunning mountain and coastal scenery of the Ring of Kerry, a

110-mile route connecting Dingle, Iveragh, and Beara peninsulas. This is the Ireland of postcards and pictures, with tiny villages dotting the breathtaking landscape; we stop in one of them for an Irish sheepdog demonstration and in another for lunch. We return to Killarney late this afternoon then dine tonight at our hotel. *B,L,D*

Day 10: Blarney/Cashel/Kilkenny On our way to Kilkenny this morning we stop in the small town of Blarney to visit the ruins of the 15th-century castle,

Post-Tour Extension

June 13-16, 2025

Northern Ireland

4 days/3 nights for \$1,495 total price

Single Supplement: \$345

Savor the dramatic beauty of the Antrim Coast, one of the most scenic in all of Ireland and the British Isles, and encounter the lively capital city of Belfast.

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip private motorcoach or van transportation Dublin/Belfast
- 3 nights’ accommodations: 2 nights in Belfast at Fitzwilliam Hotel (Deluxe); 1 night in Dublin at Carlton Hotel Dublin Airport (Superior First Class)
- 7 meals: 3 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 3 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing including Belfast, Antrim Coast (Giant’s Causeway UNESCO site, Bushmills Distillery, Carrick-a-rede Bridge), new Titanic Museum in Belfast
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Gratuities for dining room servers and airport and hotel porters



YOUR FEET WILL BRING YOU
TO WHERE YOUR HEART IS.”

– IRISH PROVERB

with its celebrated Blarney Stone believed to bestow the “gift of gab” on those who kiss it. We also visit the Blarney Woolen Mills, housing an excellent selection of Irish crafts as well as knits and woolens of all kinds. After lunch on our own in Blarney, we continue on to the Rock of Cashel, the celebrated – and beloved – archaeological complex (c. 432 CE) of medieval ruins atop a limestone outcropping that presides over the surrounding plain. Late this afternoon we return to Kilkenny and our hotel, where we dine tonight. *B,D*

Day 11: Kilkenny Today is devoted to Kilkenny, a well-preserved medieval city known as Ireland’s cultural capital – and the country’s smallest city. We tour 12th-century Kilkenny Castle, considered one of the country’s most beautiful, then embark on an informal walking

tour of Kilkenny itself, noting the many buildings of “black” or Kilkenny marble, quarried locally. After lunch together at a local pub, the remainder of the day is at leisure. *B,L*



Titanic Museum, optional extension

tour of Kilkenny itself, noting the many buildings of “black” or Kilkenny marble, quarried locally. After lunch together at a local pub, the remainder of the day is at leisure. *B,L*

Day 12: Kilkenny/Dublin (Barberstown) We leave Kilkenny this morning for a final visit to Dublin, where we tour

fascinating EPIC, The Irish Emigration Museum depicting 1,500 years of Irish history in an interactive environment. Mid-afternoon we reach our hotel outside Dublin; tonight we celebrate our adventure over a farewell dinner. *B,D*

Day 13: Depart for U.S. We leave this morning for the Dublin airport and our return flights to the United States. *B*

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
- 11 nights’ accommodations in Deluxe and Superior First Class hotels
- 22 meals: 11 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 8 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers



We spend Day 6 on the Aran Islands’ Inishmore.

Tour Departs: June 1, 2025

Prices include int’l airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

Boston, New York	\$6,892
Chicago, Washington, DC,	\$7,192
Atlanta, Baltimore, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Philadelphia	\$7,292
Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, Orlando, Phoenix, Portland (OR), San Francisco, Seattle, Tampa	\$7,392
Colombus	\$7,592
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$6,095

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$597, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,795. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Business Class upgrade on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: \$3,995 per person from Newark, Washington, DC, in addition to the above costs (upgrade is subject to availability and pricing is subject to change).

For reservations and information, please call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765

Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–7:00 PM, Eastern Time

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The following is intended to provide you with a description of what to expect when you reserve this tour. Upon booking, you will be asked to acknowledge your acceptance of the full Terms and Conditions on the secure on-line portal, My Odyssey.

Not Included in Tour Price: Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas; immunizations and inoculations; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per traveler, per day); optional sightseeing; and travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Cancellations, Refunds, and Changes: If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.'s receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$200 charge; cancel 94-65 days before departure: 25% of tour price; cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 29-0 days before departure: no refund.** If you make any changes to your reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a \$100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. **No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure.**

Upon reservation, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, as well as your date of birth and gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.

Travel Insurance: An application for trip cancellation, baggage and medical insurance will be sent to you by the MSU Alumni Association's travel program once you are registered for the tour. Travel insurance is strongly recommended. Contact Leanna Smith at 662-325-3360 or email lsmith@alumni.msstate.edu for further information.

Responsibility: The liability of the Mississippi State Alumni Association, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. The Mississippi State Alumni Association and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

Health and Medical Issues: We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a considerable amount of walking, and you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own. We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our tour itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, the Mississippi State Alumni Association and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Air Transportation – Important Information: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown, and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignment on your international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. **Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.**



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Traveling Bulldogsm

Mississippi State University Alumni Association
Post Office Box AA
Mississippi State, MS 39762-5526

Presorted
Standard
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Odysseys
Unlimited, Inc.



**JOIN MISSISSIPPI STATE
ON A SPECIAL TOUR
TO IRELAND!**

*Guaranteed Small Group:
Limited to 24 Guests*