

Join Belmont High School Choir on a Performance Tour to Ireland

April 12 – 19, 2019

8 Days / 6 Nights

Day 1: April 12th, 2019: Depart the USA

Day 2: April 13th, 2019: Arrival Dublin-Galway

Morning arrival into Dublin airport. After customs formalities the group will be welcomed by our local professional tour guide. Board our waiting motor coach and we transfer to Galway via the magnificent Cliffs of Moher. Rising to a height of 700 feet above the Atlantic Ocean and extending for almost 5 miles along the coastline we enjoy some fantastic views. Finally we arrive into Galway, known as the capital of the “Western World”. Our orientation tour includes the famous Spanish Arch and the church of St. Nicholas where tradition holds that Columbus prayed before sailing to America. Dinner in the hotel.

Day 3: April 14th, 2019: Galway/Recital

Today we'll take an excursion through the Connemara National Park, a wild and beautiful area encompassing bogs, mountains, lakes, streams and panoramic views. One of the main highlights of the day is Kylemore Abbey, which is a stunning turreted neo-Gothic mansion on the lake and also a lovely little Gothic church that is a replica of Norwich Cathedral. It is anticipated the choir can sing an informal lunchtime recital in the Gothic Church. We return to Galway, free time followed by dinner in a local venue.

Day 4: April 15th, 2019: Galway/Performance

After breakfast, we depart the hotel for a visit to the Burren Region. Burren, meaning “large stones,” describes this strange and unique region perfectly. The Burren is a high plateau of porous limestone and here, we discover its rich history of countless castles and monastic ruins. From the Burren we continue to Bunratty Castle, one of the most complete and authentic medieval castles in Ireland. While here, we experience Bunratty Folk Park and see demonstrations of everyday rural life in Ireland in the 19th century. Later on, we continue back to Galway for our evening performance before having dinner together this evening.

Day 5: April 16th, 2019: Galway – Kilkenny Excursion - Dublin

This morning after breakfast, before continuing to Dublin we transfer to Kilkenny a quaint town for a tour of Kilkenny Castle, to learn about what life was like here over the many centuries of its existence. Free time for lunch before continuing to Dublin, where we enjoy a panoramic tour of Dublin, whose north side of the River Liffey offers sights of great striking monuments such as the General Post Office on the city main thoroughfare, O’Connell Street, the Custom House along the quays, as well as Phoenix Park, the largest public park in Europe. The south side appears more sophisticated with its vast Georgian Squares, such as Merrion Square, where Oscar Wilde’s House can still be found. Not so far from St. Stephen’s Green, on Kildare Street, you may see the house of Bram Stoker, author of *Dracula*. We dine together this evening.

Day 6: April 17th, 2019: Dublin

Following breakfast this morning, we visit EPIC Ireland, the Irish Emigration Museum located in Dublin's Docklands which was the original departure point for the majority of Irish immigrants. Upon arrival, we experience the hi-tech exhibits, exploring various themed galleries that immerse us into the remarkable stories of Ireland's descendants. After our visit, we have free time for lunch and independent exploration. This evening, we have dinner together at the Brazen Head, standing on the site of the original 12th century tavern or perhaps Merry Ploughboys with traditional Irish entertainment.

Day 7: April 18th, 2019: Dublin/Performance

Continue Dublin sightseeing this morning where we visit Trinity College, founded in 1592 by Queen Elizabeth I. It is the oldest university in Ireland and houses the famous *Book of Kells*. We also visit St. Patrick's Cathedral which stands on the oldest Christian site in Dublin where it is said that the Saint baptised converts to the Christian faith. Finally we tour the world famous Guinness Storehouse where this legendary drink is brewed. Some free time before tonight's final concert which it is hoped will be with a local Irish choir joining us.

Day 8: April 19th, 2019 Departure

Morning departure to Dublin airport for your return flight to the USA.

Tour Inclusions:

Round Trip Airfare with Air Taxes up to \$350
Professional Tour Manager Throughout Tour
Motor Coach Transportation Throughout Itinerary
6 Nights Hotel Accommodations
Breakfast Daily
Welcome Dinner
4 Additional Dinners
Farewell Dinner

Entrance Fees –

- Kylemore Abbey
- Bunatty Castle
- Kilkenny Castle
- EPIC Ireland
- Trinity College
- St. Patrick's Cathedral
- Guinness Storehouse

2 Performances + 1 Recital

Services Fees & Taxes

Gratuities to Tour Manager, Local Guides, & Drivers

Pricing Tier:**Based on 50 Paying Passengers -**

\$2,699 P/P Double Occupancy (Inclusive of \$350 in Air Taxes & Fuel Surcharges)

\$3,199 P/P Single Occupancy (Inclusive of \$350 in Air Taxes & Fuel Surcharges)

Based on 40 Paying Passengers –

\$2,799 P/P Double Occupancy (Inclusive of \$350 in Air Taxes & Fuel Surcharges)

\$3,299 P/P Single Occupancy (Inclusive of \$350 in Air Taxes & Fuel Surcharges)

Comp Policy:

1 Complimentary Tour is provided for every 10 Paying Passengers achieved
Air Taxes & Fuel Surcharges will be included for complimentary tours for actual traveling passengers