

Travel Classics Post Conference Fam

Wild Atlantic Way NORTH

Wild Atlantic Way

From the wind-whipped tip of Malin Head to the safe haven of Kinsale Harbour, wrap yourself in the wilderness of the west coast of Ireland on the world's longest defined coastal touring route. The Wild Atlantic Way is a sensational journey of soaring cliffs, buzzing towns, hidden beaches and epic bays. So whether you drive it from end-to-end, or dip into it as the mood strikes, it's a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Sunday 21st May

11am Travel Classics Farewell Brunch

1200 Depart Kilkenny on post-conference fam trip and head for the Wild Atlantic Way

Arrive Galway City and check into hotel



Enjoy a Galway City Food Tour with Galway Food Tours

Wander around Galway's finest food destinations replacing lunch with the tour as along the way you sample fresh sushi, the finest cheeses, Galway oysters, mouth-watering breads and savoury bites as well as delicious sweet treats while soaking up the famed atmosphere of Galway city - the 'City of the Tribes'. The tour will give you a great overview of our passionate people and beautiful produce which combine to make Galway one of Ireland's gourmet jewels. <http://www.galwayfoodtours.com/>

Dinner in local restaurant



Overnight in Galway

Monday 22nd May

9am Depart for Connemara

Our journey today will take us by the blanket bog, a stunning mosaic of tiny lakes and peat, where we will stop and view two sites of international historical significance.

Derrigimlagh Signature Discovery Point

Derrigimlagh blanket bog is one of Europe's most magnificent wetland environments and boasts a rich archaeology, dating back over 6,000 years but also has a remarkable modern history. In the early 20th century, Derrigimlagh was at the centre of two outstanding transatlantic technological achievements: the first in communications, the second in transport marking the beginning of an era of modernity. In 1907, the great Irish-Italian innovator, Guglielmo Marconi, achieved the first successful commercial wireless transmission of Morse code across the Atlantic from Derrigimlagh. In 1919, daredevil airmen, John Alcock and Arthur Whitten-Brown, risked life and limb to make the first non-stop transatlantic flight from Newfoundland to Ireland. They landed at Derrigimlagh, making it the first European site to connect directly with North America by aeroplane.

Lunch and tour Connemara Heritage Centre

This award-winning heritage centre offers a unique insight into the history and heritage of Connemara. The centre is based around the restored prefamine cottage of Dan O' Hara who was forced to emigrate in the 1840's when he was evicted from his home. His story illustrates the life of a typical 19th-century Connemara tenant farmer. The multi-lingual audio-visual and history presentation tells both of Dan's tale from his eviction to subsequent emigration to New York and also the history of Connemara down through the ages, from pre-historic to present times. Other features of the heritage centre include reconstructions of a crannóg (pre-historic lake dwelling), ring fort and clochaun (early Christian Oratory).

From the hilltop above the farm, there is a spectacular view of the Roundstone Bog as it stretches towards the Atlantic.



**Overnight & Dinner at
The Lodge at Ashford**
<https://www.thelodgeac.com>

Tuesday 23rd May

9am Hawk Walk - the one hour private Hawk Walks give you the incredible opportunity to fly a Harris Hawk. After we have been introduced to the hawks we'll set off into the magnificent woodlands. You will learn about the hawks' exceptional eyesight, their speed and agility and how they were trained by the Falconry School - the oldest established school in the country.

10.30am Depart for Sligo

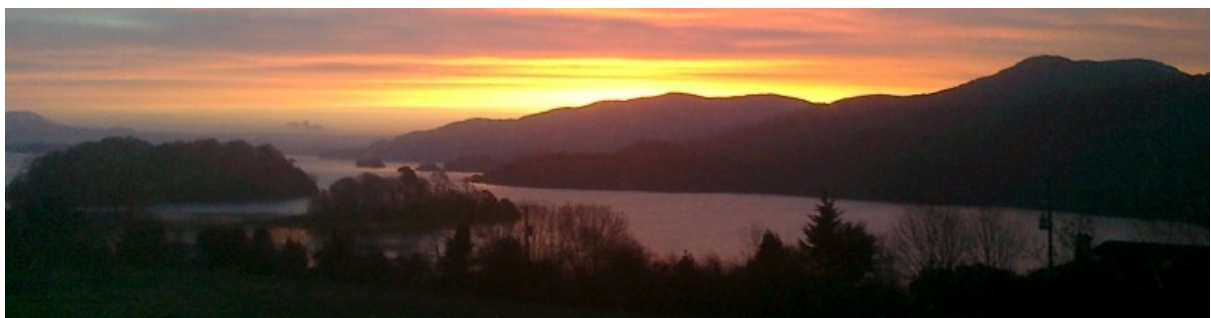
1pm Lunch and tour Lisadell House and Gardens

The historic and literary associations of Lisadell and the natural beauty of its setting with sea, woodland and mountains makes Lisadell one of the North West's premier tourism attractions. Lisadell was the birthplace of Constance Markievicz, one of the leaders of the 1916 Rising, and was also a favourite retreat for the poet William Butler Yeats.

www.lissadellhouse.com

Check into Strandhill Suites

The Yeats Experience Dinner



Dine at the heart of the Yeats Country, Sligo, Ireland at a family table while enjoying the best of Irish food and the poetry of William Butler Yeats. Between courses, as you take time to

digest, Damien Brennan brings you the life and poetry of William Butler Yeats. Whether you love the poetry already, have a vague remembrance of it from high school or college or indeed know nothing of it Damien promises you will leave Broc House vowing to buy a Yeats Selection on the morrow!

<http://www.yeatssligoireland.com/>

Wednesday 24th May

8.30am Learn to catch the waves at Strandhill Beach with Strandhill Surf School. Located in the adventure hub of the North West, Strandhill is world famous for surfing. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced surfer just looking for advice – you'll find exactly what you are looking for in a safe and fun environment.

<http://www.strandhillsurfschool.com/>

Return to hotel for freshen up.

11am Depart hotel

Visit Yeats Grave at Drumcliffe

Drumcliffe is the final resting place of poet W B Yeats whose grave is in the Churchyard here. Yeats great-grandfather was rector here. A bronze and stone sculpture by Jackie McKenna of the Leitrim Sculpture Centre featuring the words of William Butler Yeats, "He Wishes For the Cloths of Heaven", is located in the car park

1.30pm Enjoy a delicious homemade lunch at Ti Linn Café, located within Sliabh Liag Cliffs Centre, Teelin, Co. Donegal www.slieveleaguecliffs.ie

Transfer to local bus and head up to enjoy the spectacular sight of the tallest sea cliffs in Europe at Slieve League.

Overnight & Dinner in Lough Eske Castle
Wonderful 5* castle hotel on the shores of the lake.



Thursday 25th May

Some free time to relax in the hotel's leisure centre, take a history tour of the castle or go for a walk in the grounds and discover the great sculptures

11am Depart hotel

3pm Trim Castle

A nervous King Henry II allowed this dramatic castle, the largest Anglo-Norman castle in Ireland, to be built in the 12th century to keep his enemies in check, and since then, the massive 20-sided tower has been a family home, a prison and even a film set for Braveheart. In Medieval times, Trim Castle stood like an imposing stone sentinel and powerful symbol of Norman strength at the edge of the Pale, the small area of Anglo-Norman influence on Ireland's eastern coast. To go beyond the Pale was to enter the hostile world of the Gaelic Irish. Here at the edge, the two sides would have met - in conflict and in battle.

www.heritageireland.ie

Overnight Shelbourne Hotel. Dinner in local restaurant.



Friday 26th May

Depart for Dublin Airport

ITINERARY SUBJECT TO CHANGE

