

Irish Itinerary
Planned expressly for
The Natural Golf Travel Club
September 18th to 26th, 2009

Friday, September 18th

Arrive Shannon airport. Transfer of approximately two hours to Killarney, Co. Kerry for check in and overnight at the Killarney Plaza Hotel.

The Killarney Plaza Hotel is an elegant and sophisticated recent addition to the numerous accommodations options in Ireland's second most visited city. It features spacious, well-appointed guest rooms; fine dining; a couple of lively bars; a 15 meter indoor pool with sauna, steam room and Jacuzzi; and, a superb spa. The Plaza is conveniently located within a short walk (or crawl) of Killarney's best restaurants, pubs and shops.
www.KillarneyPlaza.com

Welcoming dinner in a private room at the Killarney Plaza.

Saturday, September 19th

Breakfast and overnight at the Killarney Plaza.

Golfers play Waterville Golf Links.

Waterville Golf Links...As scenic as any stop on the Ring of Kerry, windy Waterville is a sturdy links course with one of the better back nines in all of golf. Owned by Americans, it is one of the few Irish courses that offer motorized buggies. Recent improvements by Tom Fazio have made the course even better. There are also different sets of tees, making the experience fun for those who would perish on the likes of Ballybunion.
www.WatervilleGolfLinks.ie

Lunch at the Smuggler's Inn across from the Waterville clubhouse.

Tourists see the Ring of Kerry.

The **Ring of Kerry** is part of the mystical & unspoiled Ireland that has attracted visitors for hundreds of years. Its spectacular beauty is beyond question and it is a natural centre for outdoor pursuits including golf, water sports, cycling, walking, riding and the very best fishing for salmon & trout. Above all the Ring of Kerry provides an amazing insight into the ancient heritage of Ireland - see the Iron Age Forts & Ogham Stones, Old Monasteries and a landscape carved out of rock by the last Ice Age 10,000 years ago.
www.ringofkerrytourism.com

Dinner at leisure in Killarney.

Sunday, September 20th

Breakfast and overnight at the Killarney Plaza.

Everyone spends the day touring and shopping in and around Killarney.

Located in the Killarney National Park, **Muckross House and Gardens** are among Ireland's most popular visitor attractions. A visit to the extensive estate with a home restored to Victorian splendor, magnificent gardens, a

pottery, a traditional working farm and much more, offers one a glimpse into the life of Anglo-Irish gentry before the country won its independence in the early 20th century. www.muckcross-house.ie

Dinner at leisure in Killarney.

Monday, September 21st

Check out of the Killarney Plaza.

Golfers play the Old Course at Ballybunion Golf Club.

The Old Course of Ballybunion Golf Club. Certainly one of the most scenic of all links courses, Ballybunion Old Course tumbles over and around and through a veritable jumble of dunes and ridges. The sea is ever present here (as are the tourist buses), and the original designer, an obscure railway employee, made full use of it. There have been redesigns to several holes due to weather and whim, but even the most unseasoned architect could not do damage to this masterpiece. www.BallybunionGolfClub.ie

The tourists visit the Dingle peninsula. www.dingle-peninsula.ie

Overnight at Vaughan Lodge, Lahinch.

Vaughan Lodge, a stylish upscale family run property designed to international 4 star specifications. Each of the 20 bedrooms and 2 suites are contemporary in style, offering the spaciousness and comfort of a hotel with the intimacy and atmosphere of a country lodge. www.VaughanLodge.ie

Dinner at the Vaughan Lodge.

Tuesday, September 22nd

Breakfast and overnight at Vaughan Lodge.

Golfers play the Old Course at Lahinch Golf Club.

Lahinch Golf Club...An Old Tom masterpiece, Lahinch is something of a 19th century course, with several blind holes and crossing fairways. The blind par three "Dell" is one of the most famous par threes in all golf. For sheer fun, we rank this with Prestwick and the West Links in Scotland. As a test of golf, improvements by McKenzie in the 1920s and more recently by Martin Hawtree make it the equal of Ballybunion, one of our favourites. www.lahinchgolf.com

Tourists visit the Burren and Galway City.

For generations **The Burren** in County Clare has been a source of fascination and enjoyment for visitors to the west of Ireland. Its name comes from the Irish for 'rocky place' - an understatement as anyone who's ever experienced the extraordinary limestone landscape at first hand will attest. The Burren is home to a rich variety of flora and fauna and an area of major interest to walkers and nature enthusiasts alike.

Everyone visits the Cliffs of Moher.

Cliffs of Moher. These majestic cliffs rise from the Atlantic Ocean to a height of nearly more than 600 feet and extend for a distance of five miles from Hag's Head due west of Liscannor to a point beyond O'Brien's Tower.

They take their name from a ruined promontory fort, Mothar, which was demolished during the Napoleonic wars to make room for a signal tower.

www.cliffsofmoher.ie

“Pub grub” dinner in a local pub.

Wednesday, September 23rd

Check out of Vaughan Lodge for a day of touring and traveling across Ireland.

Bunratty Castle & Folk Park. Bunratty Castle is one of the finest surviving examples of an Irish tower house. The castle has had a bloody and violent history. Its strategic position on the river Shannon made it the centre of many a battle, and it has been destroyed and re-built on at least eight occasions. The Folk Park adjoins the castle and aims to show what everyday life was like in rural Ireland about 100 years ago. It contains reconstructed farmhouses, cottages and shops, and care has been taken to make them as authentic as possible, particularly with regard to furnishings.

King Johns Castle. The Castle was built between 1200 and 1210 and was repaired and extended many times in the following centuries. The visitors centre at the Castle contains an imaginative historical exhibition which tells the story of the Castle. Archaeological excavations have revealed Pre-Norman (Viking) settlements and evidence from the traumatic siege of 1642. The courtyard and castle display some of the trades and traditions of the 16th century with the aid of costumed characters.

Check in for overnight at the Conrad, Dublin.

Conrad Dublin. A member of the prestige luxury collection of the same name, located in the heart of Dublin's city centre, just opposite the National Concert Hall and just down the street from beautiful St. Stephens Green. Each room has an ergonomic workstation with broadband internet, data ports and international power connections, complemented by an array of modern guest services that include goose down duvets and oversized pillows, spacious bathrooms with generous tubs, CD players and multi-channel televisions, dual-line telephones and voicemail. Alfie Byrnes, the hotel's extremely popular local pub, is a good choice for lunch or an evening libation. www.conrad-international.ie

Dinner at leisure in Dublin.

Thursday, September 24th

Breakfast and overnight at the Conrad Dublin.

Golfers enjoy a 4 course meal with drink and play at Royal Dublin Golf Club.

Royal Dublin Golf Club. A traditional out and back links layout whose greens are amongst the best in Ireland, Royal Dublin is the second oldest club in Ireland and the only “Royal” in the Republic. The present course was designed after WWI by famed English architect, Harry Colt, and revised by Fred Hawtree. Because the club's long time professional, Christy O'Connor, played in more Ryder Cups than any other European, the clubhouse sports an interesting collection of Cup photographs and memorabilia. www.TheRoyalDublinGolfClub.com

Tourists enjoy a privately-guided Dublin city tour.

Dublin: Ireland's Capital City and Literary Soul... See the Book of Kells; tour the magnificent Long Room of the Trinity College library, shop on Grafton Street, lunch in the very pub where James Joyce penned Ulysses.

Four course meal plus drink at Royal Dublin Golf Club. (Tourist meals paid for by NGTC.)

Friday, September 25th

Breakfast and overnight at the Conrad Dublin.

Golfers play Portmarnock Golf Club.

Portmarnock Golf Club...A most exclusive private club, Portmarnock is considered one of the "big four" in Ireland, and has hosted more Irish Opens than any other course. There are no weak holes here, but it is a subtle course. Portmarnock can go unappreciated the first time around, especially if there's no wind.

www.portmarnockgolfclub.ie

Tourists shop and explore Dublin at their leisure.

Fairwell dinner in Dublin.

Saturday, September 26th

Breakfast at the Conrad Dublin precedes half hour transfer to the Dublin Airport for flights home.

*All arrangements are subject to availability. Price does not include round trip air in to and out of Ireland. However air can be arranged for you.

Price - \$5925.00 per person, double occupancy – Golfer

Price - \$4655.00 per person, double occupancy – Non-Golfer

Single Supplements may apply, please call for pricing. Pricing may change at any time. Prices above are based on 14 travelers. If the amount of travelers is less than 14 then the price of the trip will increase.