

Cycling Safaris

DUBLIN / WICKLOW

Self-Guided Short Tour 2020

60- 80 km | 3 nights / 4 days



Nestling between the sea and mountains, Dublin has an unrivalled setting, yet few visitors move beyond the city centre to experience this! With some gentle cycling we explore the gentle Southside coast and the foothills of the Dublin Mountains. We then head into the haunting beauty of the Wicklow Mountains where the bustle of a capital city will seem a million miles away.

The roads are all tarmaced and the route is designed to ensure that you spend most of the cycle on quiet back roads. To experience the majestic scenery of this area the route does have some climbs, so it is worth getting a few weekends training on a bike in varied terrain before coming thus ensuring that you can fully enjoy the tour.

TOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 ARRIVAL TO DUBLIN

You will be spending your first night in Dublin (details to follow). The cost of a taxi from Dublin airport into Dublin is approx. €30. Alternatively, there is blue coloured Air Coach, departing every 20 minutes from just outside the Arrivals Hall at Dublin Airport, which will take you into Dublin city. The return ticket costs €16 and the journey should take around 40 minutes.



Once you have checked into your accommodation, you can then spend the rest of the day exploring the many sights and sounds that have made Dublin such a lively and popular destination.

DAY 2

DUBLIN TO ENNISKERRY

18 miles / 30kms



We will arrange for you to be brought to our bike shop in the south side of the city where we will fit you out with your bikes and route details. You begin the day in a leisurely fashion with a cycle along cycle paths and quiet roads to the coastal towns of Dun Laoghaire and the charming village of Dalkey, with its many famous residents where we can stop for lunch. You continue along the scenic Vico Road with spectacular views across Killiney Bay.

You then head inland cycling along green fields to the village of Enniskerry where you overnight. A transfer can be arranged this evening to the famous Johnnie Foxes Pub, the highest pub in Ireland (www.jfp.ie). Here you can enjoy a uniquely traditional Irish night with good food and Guinness, along with entertainment from local musicians.

DAY 3

LOOP CYCLE AROUND ENNISKERRY

30kms or 51kms / 18 or 31 miles



The cycle today sees you take in the peaceful Wicklow countryside with views of the surrounding landscape before then descending down to Powerscourt waterfall. After visiting this beautiful waterfall, you then cycle to Powerscourt House and Gardens for a relaxing lunch overlooking the terraced Italian gardens.



For the keener cyclist, some longer options are available that take in the remote bogland of the military road to Sally Gap and the beauty of Lough Dan.

DAY 4

RETURN TO DUBLIN

We will meet you in Enniskerry after breakfast and transfer you back to our shop in the city leaving you free to explore Dublin before you depart for the airport/next part of your holiday.

2020 TOUR DATES

Our Self guided tours can start any day from April to mid October

2020 TOUR PRICE

- € 580.00 per person sharing off peak (*)
- € 605.00 per person sharing in July and August (*)
- € 200.00 single tour supplement (if travelling with others)
- € 260.00 solo tour supplement (if travelling alone)

* There is a €50.00 per person discount if you do not need the first night's accommodation in Dublin and you make your own way to our shop the following morning.

WHAT THE TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- Three nights' accommodation with full Irish breakfast
- 24 speed touring bike with small pannier bag for day to day items
- Route maps and details
- Luggage transfer each day
- Transfer to our bike shop on the first day if staying in our accommodation
- Transfer back into the city centre on the last day
- GPS tracks available (on request)

Not included:

- Helmet rental (on request) - € 10

Meal expenses

All breakfasts are included in the tour price. Clients buy their own lunches and dinner throughout the trip. You should budget between €10 and €15 for lunch each day. An evening meal each night should cost somewhere between €20 and €30.

We would recommend that you head up to Johnny Foxes pub (a few miles outside Enniskerry) for dinner when you are in Enniskerry (they also typically have music in the main bar at weekends, for more details on the pub you can go to www.jfp.ie)

Price of other extras (these are only approximate prices and will vary from region to region)

Coffee/tea	€2.00	Glass of Beer	€2.80 (this is half a pint!)
Soft drink	€2.00	Pint of Beer	€4.80 (this is a full pint!)
Bottle of water	€1.70	Bottle of wine	€18.00+

Are there facilities to change money?

There are banks in Dublin (open Monday – Friday: 10.00am - 4.00pm). There is also a cash point machine in Enniskerry. Credit cards are also widely accepted.

What if someone needs to contact me during the tour?

We will send you a full list of where you are staying on the tour before departure

BACK UP SUPPORT

As this is a self led trip you do not have the back-up of a guide and support van. Our aim is to allow you feel like an independent traveller, free to cycle each day at your own pace while at the same time having the security of knowing that your luggage will be waiting for you in your next accommodation.

If for any reason you are unable to cycle please contact our Dublin office (+353 1 2600749) so we can liaise with the luggage transfers to organise the transfer of bike(s) and person(s). Please note that you will be charged for any additional runs made on your behalf.

Our bikes are serviced after each tour so they should be humming perfectly! If you experience small problems with the bike (i.e., a puncture) you will have a spare tube, pump and tyre lever. You can of course phone our office if you experience any major problems (+353 1 2600749).

WHAT TO BRING

*We would seriously recommend that you bring **padded cycling shorts and / or a gel saddle cover** which will definitely make your days cycling more comfortable. Cycling gloves are also a good investment. You can also bring your own saddle which should be possible to attach to our bikes.

*We provide small **pannier bags** (not waterproof) in which you can keep your day-to-day items. Otherwise you may prefer to use a daypack and there are back carriers on each bike for this purpose.

*We do not provide **rain gear** so be sure to bring your own light weight waterproofs.

*Don't forget **sun cream, sunglasses , sun hat** as well as a bathing suit for that refreshing dip in the Irish Sea!

*Our rental bikes don't have **lights** - no problem on the long summer evenings, but if you are travelling in May or September, please bring your own light or high-visibility vest.

*Finally if you wish to use **toe clips** please bring your own pedals with toe clips which can be attached to our bikes (the pedals on our bikes do not accommodate toe clips).

In 2012 we will be using the **GIANT CITY** bicycles for our tours.



To see the specification for this you can visit the website:

www.giant-bicycles.com/gb/escape-city (Gents model)

www.giant-bicycles.com/en-ie/bikes/model/alight.2.city/28581/99470/ (Ladies model)

Bikes come in different sizes and in gents and ladies style frames.

It is important you give us your height on booking so that we can allocate the correct bike to you.

The advantage of a cycling safari is that because you have your own map and route details you can enjoy each day's cycle at your own pace. This is a moderately difficult route as there are hill climbs so we would recommend that you do try to do some cycling before the tour in order to make your week more enjoyable. Try to get out for a few hours cycling during the weekends coming up to your trip and if possible do it on varied terrain and include some hill climbing.

ACCOMMODATION

The accommodation is allocated on a twin sharing basis. We stay in a mixture of B&Bs and small hotels, where we hope to fuse the best standard we can get with the warmest welcome. We ensure en suite facilities. We do reserve the right to change the accommodation around during the tour, but we will always endeavour to provide a high standard.

Extra Accommodation.

If you are planning to spend a few days in Dublin at the beginning or end of the tour, the following websites will give you some good ideas about accommodation and things to see and do while visiting our capital city

(www.visitdublin.com) Dublin Tourism, Tourism Centre, Suffolk Street, Dublin 2
Calling within Ireland - 1850 230 330 Calling within the U.K. - 0800 039 7000
Calling from any other country - 00353 66 979 2083
www.dublinuncovered.net www.indublin.ie www.irishfolktours.com

Other accommodation websites for Dublin/Ireland

www.discoverireland.ie www.dublinhotels.com www.irelandhotels.com
www.hiddenireland.com www.booking.com

Below is the accommodation we typically use on this tour but of course subject to availability

Day 1: Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin [The Haddington Hotel](#)



Day 1: Dublin [Donnybrook Hall](#)



Day 2 & 3: Enniskerry [Enniskerry Inn](#)



Day 2 & 3: Enniskerry [Powerscourt Arms Country House](#)



Weather

Because we are an island located near the gulf stream Ireland has a very mild climate making it ideal for cycling. We recommend that you bring your rain gear as well as your sun hat as a day that starts with rain can end with glorious sunshine! The temperature range during the summer is between 15 and 22 degrees centigrade (60 to 72 degrees Fahrenheit)

Visa requirements

If you hold an EU passport you only need to make sure your passport is valid for the period of your stay. You will need photo identification travelling between Britain and Ireland.

All other nationalities require a passport that is valid for 3 months beyond the intended length of stay. Most nationalities including the USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand do not require visas for Ireland and receive an automatic 90 day visitor's visa on arrival. If your nationality is not mentioned here you should check with your travel agent or consular office.

Electrical current/Mobile Phone

The standard electrical supply is 220 volts AC (50 cycles). To use small appliances mainland European visitors may require a plug adaptor to fit our 3-pin flat or 2-pin round wall sockets. The mobile phone system in use is a digital GSM 900 system.

Websites on Ireland

Some recommended websites on Ireland that might help you organise your trip if you are planning to spend more time in the country before or after your holiday with us.

www.discoverireland.com – Irish Tourist Board (Failte Ireland) official website

www.heritageireland.ie info on historical sites