Cycling Safaris

CONNEMARA, GALWAY & MAYO
THE WILD ATLANTIC CYCLING COLLECTION
Self Guided Premium tour 2027



This tour explores the beautiful region of Connemara, famous for its rugged granite landscape as well as its beautiful lakes and rivers. The route offers an incredible variety of scenery each day. In the morning you can be cycling along beautiful coastline while in the afternoon you could be on a quiet bog road with stunning views of the surrounding mountains.

On this tour we have picked the premium hotels in the region, so you can relax in the best of what Connemara has to offer. Apart from the first and last day the distances are not long, giving you plenty of time to enjoy your overnight surroundings!

As always the route is designed to ensure that you spend most of the week on quiet back roads, away from the main tourist routes. The emphasis of our cycling holidays is to give you the freedom to fully enjoy Connemara and its beautiful landscape at your own pace whilst having the security of everything being organised for you.

YOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 **ARRIVE GALWAY CITY : OVERNIGHT CONG**

On arrival in Galway city we will meet you and bring you to our bike shop to collect your bike and then onwards into Connemara



Your first nights accommodation is in Ashford Lodge near the village of Cong and the iconic Ashford Castle.

The Lodge offers the welcoming charm and relaxed atmosphere of a traditional Irish country house hotel, set within the magnificent and historic Ashford Castle estate. Once the home of the Guinness family, this remarkable 350-acre estate is renowned for its award-winning gardens, beautifully manicured grounds and extensive woodlands, rich in wildlife and natural beauty.

Overlooking the shores of Lough Corrib, just beyond the picturesque village of Cong in the heart of County Mayo, part of the prestigious Red Carnation Hotel Collection, it offers a distinctive blend of country house charm and understated luxury.

If you arrive in Galway late on the day we will arrange for you to stay over night in the city and organise your bikes and transfer you to the tour start point in Cong the following morning
Galway overnight Hardiman Hotel or Park Hotel

Day 2 **CYCLE TO WESTPORT** **(60km / 30 miles)**

The day starts heading north along the quiet back roads through rolling green fields full of grazing sheep, before descending down to Lough Mask and a wonderful cycle along the shores of the lake.

After lunch you have your biggest climb of the week over the Partry Mountains and then along quiet back roads with stunning views of the surrounding landscape all the way to the colourful village of Westport.

Overnight Westport Coast Hotel or Westport Woods Hotel



Day 3 **WESTPORT TO DELPHI** **(36 km / 23 miles)**



You cycle between Croagh Patrick and the beautiful Clew Bay with its many small islands, to the village of Louisburgh where you can stop for lunch.



In the afternoon you head south through one of the highlights of the week, the stunning Delphi Valley with its beautiful lakes overlooked by Ben Bury, the highest mountain in Connemara. That night you stay in Delphi Resort near the small village of Leenane which looks out over Killary Harbour, Ireland's only fjord.

Overnight Delphi Resort Hotel

Day 4 **DELPHI TO LETTERFRACK** **(40 km / 25 miles)**

Leaving Leenane, you head westwards, alongside the fjord and its mountains providing a spectacular backdrop. As you leave the fjord behind, the route takes you towards the Renvyle Peninsula, where the scenery becomes increasingly coastal, with glimpses of the Atlantic, beautiful beaches, rocky headlands and scattered islands.



You continue towards the charming village of Tullycross, known for its traditional thatched cottages and welcoming rural atmosphere.

There is an option to visit Kylemore Abbey, a wedding gift from a wealthy Liverpool businessman to his wife in 1868, before your arrival in our overnight stop

Overnight Rossleague Manor

Resting on the quiet shores of Ballinakill Bay, and beautifully secluded within 30 acres of its own private woodland, Rosleague Manor in Connemara is one of Ireland's finest regency hotels.

The Manor has been discreetly converted in to a first class hotel by its owners and proprietors, the Foyle Family, with meticulous care and attention to detail to retain its 19th Century charm and character.



Day 5 **LETTERFRACK TO CLIFDEN** **(44 km / 28 miles)**



The cycle continues along quiet backroads past small fields with grazing cattle to the seaside village of Cleggan where you stop for lunch. In the afternoon you follow the scenic coast road to Clifden where you can watch cars travel across the beach to Omey Island only accessible when the tide is out!

Clifden, the capital of Connemara , where you spend the next two nights is a pretty and bustling town of art galleries, cafes, pubs and restaurants established 200years ago at the whim of John D'Arcy.

Overnight Abbeyglen Castle Hotel



Day 6 **REST DAY in CLIFDEN**

The day can be spent in rest and relaxation, or you can take part in a variety of activities including walking, golf or horse riding. You can cycle to nearby Dogs Bay Beach and have lunch in the seaside village of Roundstone

The town itself is a nice place to spend time visiting the museum, art galleries and book shops and cafés. In the evening there are several bars which have traditional music sessions.

Overnight Abbeyglen Castle Hotel





Day 7 CLIFDEN TO GALWAY (41 km / 25 miles)

You cycle out of Clifden along beautiful waterside roads crossing extensive wild bogs with freshly cut peat waiting to be harvested against a backdrop of the Twelve Bens Mountains.

The afternoon cycle takes you through Gaelic speaking areas to Screebe where in the late afternoon there will be a private transfer back to Galway city for a final night on the tour

Overnight Hardiman Hotel or Park Hotel



2027 TOUR DATES

Our Self guided tours can start any day from mid April to early October 2027

2027 TOUR PRICE

- € 2280.00 per person sharing May, June & September
- € 250.00 per person high season supplement July & August
- € .00 single occupancy (on request only)

Solo travel surcharge on request (if you are traveling on your own).

Note that bike hire is separated out of the tour price

- €150.00 24 speed touring bike with bag carrier, water bottle carrier, helmet and a small pannier bag
- €280.00 E-bike

WHAT THE BROCHURE PRICE INCLUDES

- Seven nights accommodation in 4 star hotels with full Irish breakfast
- GPS Route details
- One set printed route details and map per booking
- Information on where you are staying each night and recommended options of restaurants
- Luggage transfer each day
- Private transfer from Galway to Cong and back to Galway at the end of the tour.

Meal expenses
All breakfasts are included in the tour price. Clients buy their own lunches and dinner throughout the trip. You should budget between €15 and €25 for lunch each day and an evening meal each night costing somewhere between €25 and €40.

Are there facilities to change money?
There are banks in Galway, Westport and Clifden (open Monday – Friday: 10.00am - 4.00pm). Credit cards are also widely accepted. Cashpoint machines are available in Galway, Westport and Clifden.

WHAT TO BRING

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

*We provide **pannier bags** (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 Atlantic Ocean.

*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 lights or high-visibility vest.

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

BACK UP SERVICE

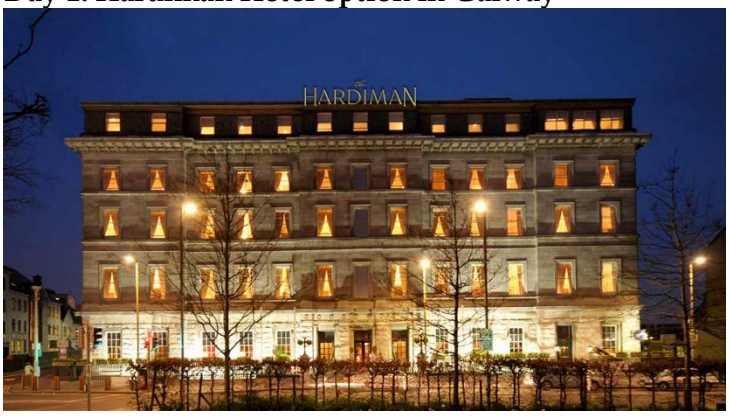
As this is a self led trip you do not have the back-up of a guide and support van. Our aim is to allow you feel like an independent traveller, free to cycle each day at your own pace while at the same time having the security of knowing that your luggage will be waiting for you in your next accommodation.

You will be given a mobile number which you can phone if you have any queries or issues on the cycle

ACCOMMODATION

Sample Accommodation list – subject to availability

Day 1: Hardiman Hotel option in Galway



If you arrive too late in Galway on the first day you have the option to stay in the city centre

Day 1 : Ashford Lodge Cong



We stay in the grounds near Ashford Castle

Day 2 : Westport



Westport Woods Hotel is one of our options

Day 3 Delphi Resort



A beautiful place to relax

Day 4 : Rosleague Manor



Day 5 & 6: Abbeyglen Castle Hotel



BIKE & FITNESS

Bike Rental is not included in the tour price. In 2027 we will be renting hybrid Cannondale 5 in Connemara

They will be equipped with a kick stand mudguards and back carrier. Locks and repair kit provided. Helmets are available on request.



To see the specification for this you can visit the website:
https://www.cannondale.com/en/bikes/active/fitness/quick/quick-5

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

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

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 providing a wealth of information on all regions of the country.
www.connemara.ie - a good source of information on the region we will be exploring
www.heritageireland.ie info on historical sites

If you plan to spend some extra time in Dublin, the following will give you some more ideas of things to see and do: www.visitdublin.com (Dublin Tourism)

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