

Self-Guided Hiking tour

Ireland



Irish Kerry Walk

Tour description

Day 1	
Arrival Glenbeigh	
Day 2	19 km
To Cahirciveen	
Day 3	21 km
To Waterville	
Day 4	14 km
To Caherdaniel	
Day 5	18 km
To Sneem	
Day 6	21 km or 30km
To Kenmare	
Day 7	25 km
To Killarney	
Day 8	
Departure	

The **Ring of Kerry** is part of the mystical & unspoiled region of Ireland that has attracted visitors for hundreds of years. Its spectacular beauty is beyond imagination, and it is a natural centre for outdoor activities including golf, water sports, cycling, hiking, as well as one of best fishing regions for salmon & trout.

This area also has some of the finest beaches in Europe, which provide all the facilities for a traditional seaside holiday. Above all, this region provides an amazing insight into the ancient heritage of Ireland, including the Iron Age Forts & Ogham Stones, Old Monasteries and a landscape carved out of rock by the last Ice Age some 10,000 years ago.

The Kerry Way is Ireland's longest waymarked walking trail with a total distance of 215 km. From this we have chosen an 8-day tour (124 km's) along one of the finest landscapes to be found in this county. Along the way you will encounter small market towns and quaint villages, old roads, castles, traditional farms, lakes, rivers and streams. The trail starts in the peaceful village of Glenbeigh and finishes in the popular tourist destination of Killarney.

The daily stages take you across the countryside, and the landscape can be quite hilly at times. During the week you'll experience dramatic, almost wild, scenery, along with picturesque coastal villages. It's quite an adventure, one that you're sure to remember for the rest of your life.



Tour Details

Daily March to October

Cost: \$1595 per person

Single Supplement: \$495

Length: 8 days / 7 nights

Grade: Moderate

Starts: Glenbeigh

Ends: Killarney

Fast Facts

Includes:

- 7 nights in B&Bs with breakfasts
- Luggage transfers, route notes & maps
- Local support and back up service

Highlights:

- Killarney National Park
- 19th C Muckross House
- Trails along the Atlantic ocean
- Traditional Irish music in local pubs

Day 1 Arrive in Glenbeigh

Arrive at Cork, Shannon or Kerry Airport and take a bus to your first accommodation in Glenbeigh, situated on the edge of the Atlantic Ocean. A village that welcomes you with traditional music and dance in its old world pubs.

Day 2 Glenbeigh to Cahirciveen 19 km

The trail takes you out of Glenbeigh to cross the river Behy, over Rossbeigh Hill where you will have fantastic views looking out across the Dingle Bay and over to the Dingle Peninsula. The Kerry Way continues onto the slopes of Drung Hill to follow an old coach road, giving spectacular views over the Atlantic. Ascent: 420m

Day 3 Cahirciveen to Waterville 21 km

This section takes you inland along a gentle ridge that is covered in a blanket of heather and peat. You will cross over a series of small hills like Keelmagore, Kanckayahaun, Coomduff and Knag and across the Inny Valley. The day offers you a mixture of fantastic views of both land and sea. A network of minor roads leads you into the town of Waterville (An CoireÁn) "The Little Whirlpool". One of Waterville's most famous sons was the great Charlie Chaplin. Ascent 900m

Day 4 Waterville to Caherdaniel 14 km

Today's walk is short but exceptionally beautiful, taking you along some minor roads, through a forest of hazel trees and fuchsia hedgerows. You will have a chance to take a short detour to visit Derrynane House, the ancestral home of Daniel O'Connell. Better known to the Irish people as the great liberator. Ascent 300m

Day 5 Caherdaniel to Sneem 18 km

Leaving Caherdaniel the trail takes you somewhat inland to round the base of Ballycarnahan Hill before revealing some lovely views across the inlet of Kenmare. You will travel along "The Old Butter Road", which was used to transport butter to Cork in the 19th century for export to foreign shores. Along the way you can take a short detour to visit Staigue fort, one of the largest and finest ring forts to be found in Ireland. Ascent 350m

Day 6 Sneem to Kenmare 21 or 30 km

The trail leaves Sneem to take you through Derryquin Forest and along by the headland of Kenmare Bay. This section of the Kerry Way is relatively easy with only minor rises and falls. The final stage takes you on a short ascent to reach the summit of Gortamullin Hill before descending into Kenmare for your overnight stay. Ascent 520 m with an option to shorten the walk to 15 km

Day 7 Kenmare to Killarney 25 km

Your final days walk takes you along what is known as the old Kenmare Road. On this very scenic walk, you may also encounter some native red deer that roam this land. Your tour finishes in the lively town of Killarney, which features a fine cathedral, Ross Castle and Muckcross House; the perfect place to end your Kerry experience. Ascent 560 m

Day 8

End of tour after breakfast.



What to Expect

What will the weather be like?

The daytime temperature will be around 15 to mid-20 degrees C (60's to 70's F), with moderate rainfall. It often rains in Ireland, making the countryside lush and green. It is usually misty and not torrential downpours, but rain gear is still necessary, both a jacket and a pair of pants.

How many hours of hiking a day?

Be prepared to hike between 4 to 6 hours daily. This is not a supported tour, so you must be able to get to the next destination en route. If you need to take a day off and rest, you can easily get to the next town by public transport.

How fit do I need to be?

The fitter the better, so you will be able to enjoy this active holiday. There are some hills and some level terrain, rolling hills rather than any steep pitches.

What is the food like?

We have included a full Irish breakfast each day. For lunch, you can stop in a pub and local restaurant for a full meal or mid-day snack. For dinner, our notes will suggest a location,

What are the hotels like?

They are chosen for their charm and location. Properties are charming B&B's, well- located in the towns. All the rooms have private facilities.



Extra Services

We have a selection of hotels available for you, both before and after the tour.

Hotels in Dublin and Shannon can be arranged for you, ranging from B&B's to deluxe accommodation.

Contact us for details.

Getting There

- Fly to Dublin or Shannon
- From there, transfer by bus or train to get to Glenbeigh. Transfer on your own to the first accommodation.
- Return by bus or train from Killarney.



How to book your holiday

- Contact our office to make sure there is space available. One of our travel planners will walk you through the entire process.
- Download the reservation form from our site and send in the completed form by fax or email. Once this is done, your space is confirmed and pre-departure packet will be sent.
- A deposit is required immediately, and final payment is required 60 days prior to the trip departure. Terms & conditions are outlined in our Reservation Form.
- Plan your air travel as soon as possible.
- We encourage you to purchase travel insurance, either through us or a travel insurance provider directly.
- Ensure you are in proper health for the trip chosen. Contact us for more information on vaccinations, inoculations, and fitness requirements.