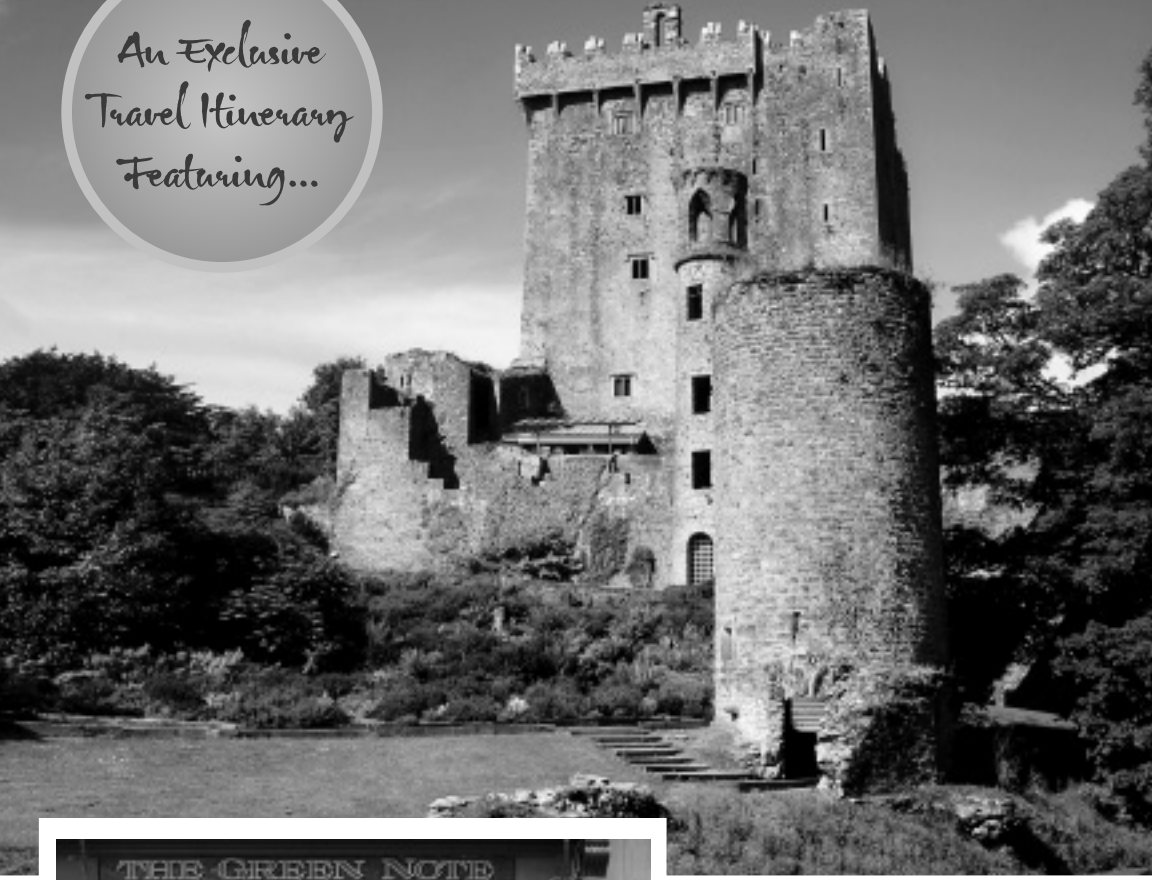


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IRELAND

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*Killarney National Park,
County Kerry*

Program Highlights

- Explore cosmopolitan **Dublin** and admire its Georgian architecture.
- See Ireland's medieval heritage at ancient **Glendalough** in beautiful County Wicklow and the town of **Kilkenny**.
- Test a time-honored legend at **Blarney Castle**.
- Experience aristocratic life by staying in an authentic **manor house**.
- Discover the majestic Irish landscape along the scenic **Ring of Kerry** and at the **Cliffs of Moher**.
- Discover the unique lunarlike terrain of the **Burren**, one of Europe's most mysterious geological regions.
- Cruise to the Aran Island of **Inishmore**, with its prehistoric monuments.

James Joyce statue, Dublin





Cliffs of Moher

Howdy Ags!

Embark on a discovery of green hills, rugged cliffs, ancient ruins, enchanting stories, lively music and friendly faces on a **Grand Journey to Ireland**.

This program combines an **ideal balance of planned events and free time**, providing you with **flexibility to do what pleases you**. Along the way, **local experts** will enhance your understanding and deepen your appreciation for Ireland's enchanting sights, sounds and sensations. You'll enjoy the **value and convenience** of traveling with a **small group** of people who share your interests.

During your included sightseeing excursions, take advantage of **preferred access to key attractions** that are not available to those traveling on their own. You will have the opportunity to **immerse yourself in Irish culture** with music, dance, storytelling and interaction with the local people. Plus, you can customize your trip with add-ons or extensions with assistance of AHI's travel professionals who are ready to help you plan your journey to the *Emerald Isle*.

Don't miss this unbeatable value to experience the wonders of Ireland. **Space is limited for your ultimate comfort, so make your reservations today!**

Gig 'Em!

Jennifer Bohac

Jennifer Bohac '87 Ph.D.
Traveling Aggies
The Association of Former Students

We went, we saw, we fell in love. It was the experience of a lifetime.

Richard '62 & Marvel
Love

We've always known Ags are the best. Traveling Ags know how to travel in style. We all felt as though we were pampered the entire trip.

David '80 & Dawn
Henderson

We experienced a first class trip. The Association of Former Students and AHI did a great job.

Dan '77 & Lynda
Kaspar

After many trips, we have loved every one of them and have never been disappointed.

Robert '62 & Pat
Harris

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Land of Legends and Writers



Left: St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin

Above: Kilkenny

In oval: Pub, Dublin

Set on the outer edge of Europe, Ireland is a rare land where rugged beauty surrounds charming villages and contemporary cities. Rich in culture and folklore, Ireland abounds with Celtic myth and legend, tragic heroes, storytelling, literary genius and rebellion. Wander along winding streets where centuries-old monuments and fashionable boutiques stand side by side. Explore the Irish countryside, where stunning magnificence abounds.

Day One

Depart for **Dublin, Ireland**, aboard scheduled jet service. (Provided for Air Program participants only.)

Dublin

Day Two DUBLIN

Upon arrival in Dublin, transfer by deluxe motorcoach to the **Alexander Hotel**. (Transfer provided for Air Program participants only.)

Excursion: Dublin. Become acquainted with Dublin with a short walking tour. Gather with your fellow travelers for a *Welcome Reception* at the hotel.

Day Three DUBLIN

Excursion: Ireland's Capital City. Visit Trinity College to see the exquisite *Book of Kells*, one of the world's most famous illuminated manuscripts. Continue to explore

the city and see St. Patrick's Cathedral and fashionable Grafton Street.

Independent

Exploration: The afternoon is at leisure.

Excursion: Literary Pub Crawl. Pop into the favorite haunts of Dublin's famous writers and listen to entertaining stories.

Kilkenny

Day Four WICKLOW MOUNTAINS

Excursion: County Wicklow, the Garden of Ireland. Blessed with mountains, rivers and lakes, Wicklow County is the ideal location for a scenic country drive. Admire the historic home and gardens at Powerscourt Estate, set in the foothills of the mountains. Continue through the picturesque villages of Roundwood and Laragh to Glendalough monastery, founded in the sixth century by St. Kevin. This historic settlement, in the "Glen of the Two Lakes," was the site of a highly regarded school. The well-preserved ruins are a beautiful sight in one of Ireland's most scenic valleys.

Local Flavor: Enjoy lunch at a restaurant en route to Kilkenny.

Arrive in **Kilkenny** and check in at the **Newpark Hotel**.





Left: Kilkenny Castle

Below: Typical Irish thatched roof cottage, Killarney

Lower: Jerpoint Abbey



Day Five

KILKENNY

Excursion: *The Marble City.* Local black marble, used to pave ancient lanes and construct buildings centuries ago, gave Kilkenny its name, The Marble City. The city has excellent examples of medieval Norman architecture. Visit Kilkenny Castle, which displays a range of architectural styles from the original 12th-century Anglo-Norman stone building to elegant 19th-century designs. Opposite the castle is the Kilkenny Design Center, home of the Crafts Council of Ireland. Here, the work of many of Ireland’s best artisans are on display. Maybe you’ll even find a memento of your Irish journey!

Independent Exploration: The remainder of your day is at leisure to shop, explore or relax in Kilkenny.

Day Six

JERPOINT ABBEY & WEXFORD

Excursion: *Ancient Ireland.* Delve into Ireland’s 9,000-year history at the Irish National Heritage Park in Wexford. The 35-acre park has a heritage trail that explores Ireland’s history from the Stone Age to the Norman-dominated Middle Ages. Enjoy lunch on your own in Wexford before continuing to Jerpoint Abbey, the well-preserved Cistercian abbey that dates to the 12th century. The pride of the abbey is the 15th-century cloister, which features a sculpture-filled arcade.

Mallow

Day Seven

BLARNEY CASTLE

Excursion: *Local Lore and Textiles.* Visit the 15th-century Blarney Castle, famous for its stone which, according to legend, bestows the gift of eloquence upon all who kiss it. Then, shop at the renowned Blarney Woollen Mills. Arrive in **Mallow** and check in at the family-owned **Longueville House Hotel**, an elegant Georgian manor house.

Local Flavor: The local food movement is afoot in Ireland, and the *Presidents’ Restaurant* in Longueville House showcases the bounty of the 500-acre estate and area farms. The menus are designed around ingredients grown, raised or hunted on the estate or nearby. The Blackwater River offers salmon and trout. Meat and game are from the property or local farms. A walled *potager* provides most of the restaurant’s vegetables, fruit and herbs. Enjoy an elegant multi-course degustation menu prepared for your pleasure by the chef-proprietor.



Left: Muckross House

Below: Ennis

Right: Ruins of Dun Aengus, ancient fortress perched on a cliff, Inishmore



Killarney

Day Eight

MUCKROSS HOUSE & KILLARNEY

Excursion: *Town & Country.* Visit the Muckross House and Gardens, a Victorian manor house, in Killarney National Park. The 26,000-acre park is an expanse of spectacular mountains and lakes. Continue to Killarney for a tour of the picturesque town.

Check in at the ***The Malton***, located in Killarney.

Independent Exploration: The afternoon and evening are at leisure in Killarney.

Day Nine

RING OF KERRY

Excursion: *Ring of Kerry.* Travel along one of the most scenic coastal routes in the world. See the charming villages of Caherdaniel and Sneem before stopping at Ladies' View to view the Killarney Valley and its lakes. You also will meet a shepherd who will demonstrate the herding skills of his loyal border collies.

Local Flavor: Stop for lunch at a restaurant in Waterville, overlooking the Atlantic Ocean.

Literature

Ireland is home to gifted storytellers, poets and novelists whose talent, wit and wordplay were as fertile as the island. Despite its size, the Emerald Isle has given the world four Nobel Prize winners for Literature: W.B. Yeats, George Bernard Shaw, Samuel Beckett and Séamus Heaney.

Ireland's Gaelic literary works are deeply rooted in the ancient oral tradition handed down by Ireland's earliest inhabitants. Gaelic literature, Western Europe's oldest vernacular literature, declined in the 17th century with the rise of English power. Anglo-Irish literature was written to promote the English way of life and by the 1700s, Ireland was producing a remarkable number of leading playwrights who had more in common with London than with Dublin. At the close of the 19th century, William Butler Yeats and Lady Augusta Gregory envisioned Dublin's Abbey Theatre, which opened in 1904, and sparked a revival of Irish literature—Ireland had once again found her voice.



Ennis

Day Ten

CLIFFS OF MOHER & THE BURREN

Excursion: *Sweeping Vistas and Mysterious Dolmen.* Travel to Tarbert, where a ferry to Killimer awaits. Continue to the monumental Cliffs of Moher for unparalleled views of the Atlantic coastline. Travel along the scenic coastal road through the Burren, an unusual region where both alpine and Mediterranean flora flourish.





Local Flavor: Enjoy lunch at a restaurant at the Cliffs of Moher.

Afterwards, continue to **Ennis** and check in at the **Old Ground Hotel**.

Excursion: Ennis. Become acquainted with Ennis during a short walking tour.

Day Eleven

ARAN ISLANDS

Excursion: Aran Islands. Board a ferry to Inishmore, the largest of the Aran Islands. Encounter the postcard imagery of ancient Irish structures as you pass by prehistoric forts, megalithic tombs and the remains of stone churches. Walk up to the ruined cliff-side fortress of Dún Aengus for breathtaking ocean vistas, and visit the interpretive center.

Local Flavor: Enjoy lunch at *Mainistir House*, where locally grown foods star on the menu.

Day Twelve

Ennis

Independent Exploration: Your final day in Ireland is at leisure to pursue what interests you. Finish up any last minute shopping, relax or spend the day exploring.

Cultural Connection: Storytelling, Music and Dance. Listen as Eddie Lehinen regales you with traditional Irish storytelling. Eddie has been preserving and documenting this ancient art for years. Following your *Farewell Dinner* at the hotel, enjoy an exclusive performance of Irish music and dance.

Day Thirteen

Transfer to the airport for the return flight to your gateway city. (*Provided for Air Program participants only.*)

NOTE: *Itinerary sequence and/or scheduled events may change due to local conditions. Many excursions in this program involve an element of walking as some of the finest attractions are located in areas not closely accessible by motorcoach.*



ALEXANDER HOTEL DUBLIN

The Alexander Hotel is a short walk from Dublin's major attractions, Trinity College and the shops of Grafton Street. Dine at the restaurant or bar or relax in your well-appointed guestroom, which offers a wide selection of amenities.



LONGUEVILLE HOUSE HOTEL MALLOW

Longueville House Hotel, a beautiful Georgian country house, was built in 1720 and sits on a 500-acre estate and working farm. This family estate is owned by a direct descendent of the original proprietor, who built the manor with special details, including ornate Italian ceilings, mahogany doors and a grand staircase.

Sample cuisine from the manor's restaurant, which feature produce from the two-acre

Accommodations



NEWPARK HOTEL KILKENNY

The recently refurbished Newport Hotel offers modern conveniences and amenities to ensure an enjoyable and relaxing stay. Unwind in your deluxe guestroom and admire the wooded view from the window. Take advantage of the hotel's health club, indulge at the spa or stop by the restaurant and lounge to sample delicious cuisine.

Longueville House Hotel is a beautiful Georgian country house offering a very warm welcome, with open log fires, comfortable bedrooms with modern bathrooms.



walled garden, meat and game from the farm, and fish from the Blackwater River, which flows through the estate. Each guestroom is decorated with family art and features pampering amenities and modern bathrooms.

THE MALTON KILLARNEY

The Malton is a historic Victorian landmark located in Killarney's city center and situated on six acres of beautiful gardens. The hotel has several dining venues, a full-service spa, tennis courts, swimming pool, jacuzzi and library. Each tastefully decorated guestroom is equipped with a plethora of amenities.



OLD GROUND HOTEL ENNIS

This ivy-clad hotel, an 18th-century manor house, combines old-world charm with warm Irish hospitality. Relax in the calm and cozy atmosphere of the hotel lounge or you may want to pass some time in the Residents Library. Its First-Class guest rooms and many other amenities will ensure your complete enjoyment of the Irish experience. Set in the center of Ennis, it is close to restaurants and shopping.

Reserve your Grand Journey to Ireland today!

For Office Use Only: B #: _____ Date: _____
 Trip #: 10-19147 PSR: _____

Send to: Grand Journey Ireland
 The Association of Former Students
 Attn: Traveling Aggies, 505 George Bush Drive
 College Station, TX 77840-2918
 Phone: 979-845-7514 Fax: 979-845-9263 Toll Free: 800-633-7514

Legal Name (as it appears on passport)

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State _____ ZIP _____

Home: (_____) _____

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Yes, please e-mail me information about special travel opportunities.

Sharing with _____. (Form sent separately)

Name(s) you would like on your name badge(s):

(1) _____

(2) _____

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:

Land Program

- I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.
- Please call me/us to discuss my/our air options.
- I prefer single accommodations at an additional \$780 (limited availability).
- I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Land and Air Program

I/we reserve the Land Program and request the Air Program round-trip to Dublin, Ireland, with a return from Shannon, Ireland, to depart from:

Departure City _____

Please send me information on upgrading my flights.

Please note: Air prices will be sent to you with your Reservation Confirmation and air schedule sent at 90 days before departure. International flight arrangements can be canceled with no obligation up to 75 days before departure.

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first come, first served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by April 25, 2010 (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard or Visa. Make checks payable to AHI International.

AHI Travel has assumed all costs for the printing and distribution of this promotion. This program is exclusively arranged by AHI Travel, 6400 Shafer Court, Rosemont, IL 60018. No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by our tour supplier.

Enclosed is a deposit of _____ (\$600 per person required) to reserve _____ place(s).

Accept my check made payable to **AHI International**.

Charge my deposit to: MasterCard Visa Expires _____/_____

Card # _____

(Signature as it appears on credit card)

Please note: Any payment to AHI International constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the Cancellation terms.

NOT INCLUDED-Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; all items of a strictly personal nature.

MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL-The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

AIR TRANSPORTATION-The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare. **VARIATIONS TO THE GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.** Passengers who choose to make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s).

CANCELLATION-In addition to airline cancellation penalties, all cancellations for any reason whatsoever will be subject to a \$250 per person cancellation fee.

Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 10% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75 days to 30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; Cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE. AN APPLICATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU RESERVE. All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI International Corporation.

BAGGAGE-Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program.

RESPONSIBILITY-AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association act only as agents for the suppliers of travel conveyance, transport, accommodations or other service and have no responsibility for any delays, delayed departure or arrival, missed carrier connections, loss, death, damage or injury to person or property or accident, mechanical defect, failure or negligence of any nature howsoever caused in connection with any accommodations, transportation or other services or for any substitution of hotels or of common carrier equipment, with or without notice, or for any additional expenses occasioned thereby. Dates, Program Details and Tour costs, although given in good faith and based on tariffs, exchange rates and other information current at the time of printing, are subject to change at or before the time of departure. No revisions of the printed itinerary or its included features are anticipated; however, the right is reserved to make any changes, with or without notice, that might become necessary, with the mutual understanding that any additional expenses will be paid by the individual passenger.

Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. If the entire program is cancelled for any reason, participants shall have no claim other than for a full refund. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for himself/herself or other passengers and accepts the terms of this contract. The airlines and other transportation companies concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event, during the time passengers are not on board their conveyances. The passage contract in use, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the company(ies) and the passenger and/or purchaser of this trip.

Need pre- or post-trip assistance? *

If you are interested in making independent travel arrangements before and/or after this program, please contact **AHI Travel** at 800-323-7373 no later than **60 days prior to departure** and they will be happy to assist you with your reservations.

* A nonrefundable service fee and additional air/land charges based on reservations apply.

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Left: Inishmore, Aran Islands

Below: O'Brien's Tower, Cliffs of Moher



LAND PROGRAM

July 10-21, 2010

Full Price

\$3,645

Alumni Savings

\$250

Special Price

\$3,395*

***Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.**

VAT is an additional \$145 per person.

All prices quoted are per person, based on double occupancy (unless otherwise stated). Single accommodations are an additional \$780 (limited availability).

AIR PROGRAM

July 9-21, 2010

For your convenience, AHI offers a flexible Air Program featuring special air fares available at an additional cost in conjunction with the Land Program.

AHI has designated specific Group Air Schedules for this departure utilizing scheduled jet service from North America to Dublin, Ireland, with a return from Shannon, Ireland. Those participating on these flights will enjoy motorcoach transfers between the arrival/departure airport abroad and the hotels, including baggage handling. Prices are dependent upon dates, air routes and class of service chosen and will be reflected on your *Reservation Confirmation*, which will be sent to you upon receipt of your reservation. Air schedules will be sent with your *Final Invoice* approximately 90 days before departure. Prices quoted to you will include all domestic and foreign governmental airport departure taxes and fees and any applicable fuel surcharges. AHI ticketed passengers will also receive Automatic \$250,000 Flight Insurance, subject to policy terms.

Itinerary

Day 1	Depart Gateway City
Day 2	Arrive Dublin, Ireland
Day 3	Dublin
Day 4	Wicklow Mountains Kilkenny
Day 5	Kilkenny
Day 6	Jerpoint Abbey Wexford Kilkenny
Day 7	Blarney Longueville House
Day 8	Muckross House Killarney
Day 9	Ring of Kerry Killarney
Day 10	Cliffs of Moher The Burren Ennis
Day 11	Aran Island Ennis
Day 12	Ennis
Day 13	Depart for Gateway City

Note: Itinerary is subject to change.

Included Features

Accommodations

- **Two nights** in **Dublin** at the **Alexander Hotel**.
- **Three nights** in **Kilkenny** at the **Newpark Hotel**.
- **One night** in **Mallow** at **Longueville House Hotel**.
- **Two nights** in **Killarney** at **The Malton**.
- **Three nights** in **Ennis** at the **Old Ground Hotel**.

Transfers and Porterage

- Deluxe motorcoach transfers to Kilkenny, Mallow, Killarney and Ennis, including baggage handling at the hotels.

Meals

- **Enjoy an extensive meal program**, including 11 breakfasts, four lunches and three dinners, in addition to in-flight dining service. Tea or coffee is included with all meals. Take advantage of leisure time to try the local cuisine independently.
- Sample **authentic regional specialties** at featured **local restaurants**.
- Attend a special **Welcome Reception**.
- Gather for a **Farewell Dinner**.

Your Exciting Travel Program

(For full details please refer to the Day-by-Day Itinerary.)

- **All excursions:**
 - Tour **Dublin** and see its highlights.
 - Visit the pubs frequented by Dublin's famous writers during a **literary pub crawl**.
 - Discover the beauty of the **Wicklow Mountains**.
 - Explore medieval and charming **Kilkenny**.
 - Visit the **Irish National Heritage Park** and **Jerpoint Abbey**.
 - Tour **Blarney Castle** and see the famous Blarney Stone.
 - Visit **Killarney** and **Muckross House**.
 - Admire the natural beauty of the **Ring of Kerry**.
 - Marvel at the scenic wonder of the **Cliffs of Moher** and the **Burren**.
 - Enjoy lively **Ennis**.
 - Cruise to **Inishmore**, the largest Aran Island.
 - Listen to **Irish storytelling** and see a performance of traditional **Irish music and dance**.

Many Included Extras

- Consultation services of a dedicated **Passenger Service Representative** prior to departure.
- Services of a professional **Travel Director** and **expert English-speaking local guides** throughout your stay.
- **Tipping** of all excursion guides and drivers.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist you in your planning.
- Complimentary travel wallet.



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Top to bottom:
 Christchurch, Dublin
 Georgian architecture, Dublin
 Artist capturing the beauty of the Ring of Kerry
Cover photos (clockwise):
 Blarney Castle
 Jaunting car, Killarney
 Music shop, County Kerry



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A word about your Tour Operator

AHI Travel is the premier operator of deluxe travel programs sponsored by alumni associations. Their experienced, professional staff has offered the highest level of service in **innovative travel programs since 1962.**

In AHI Travel's care, you can rely on:

- **An exceptional travel value.** It would be impossible for an independent traveler to arrange all these unique experiences, inclusions and services at a comparable price.
- **Unique access to local sites.** Take advantage of their 47 years of travel experience to gain preferred entrance to popular sites and to uncover the region's hidden treasures.
- **Flexibility and customization.** They will help you tailor your dream trip with add-ons and extensions, while free time during the trip allows you to pursue your own interests.
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