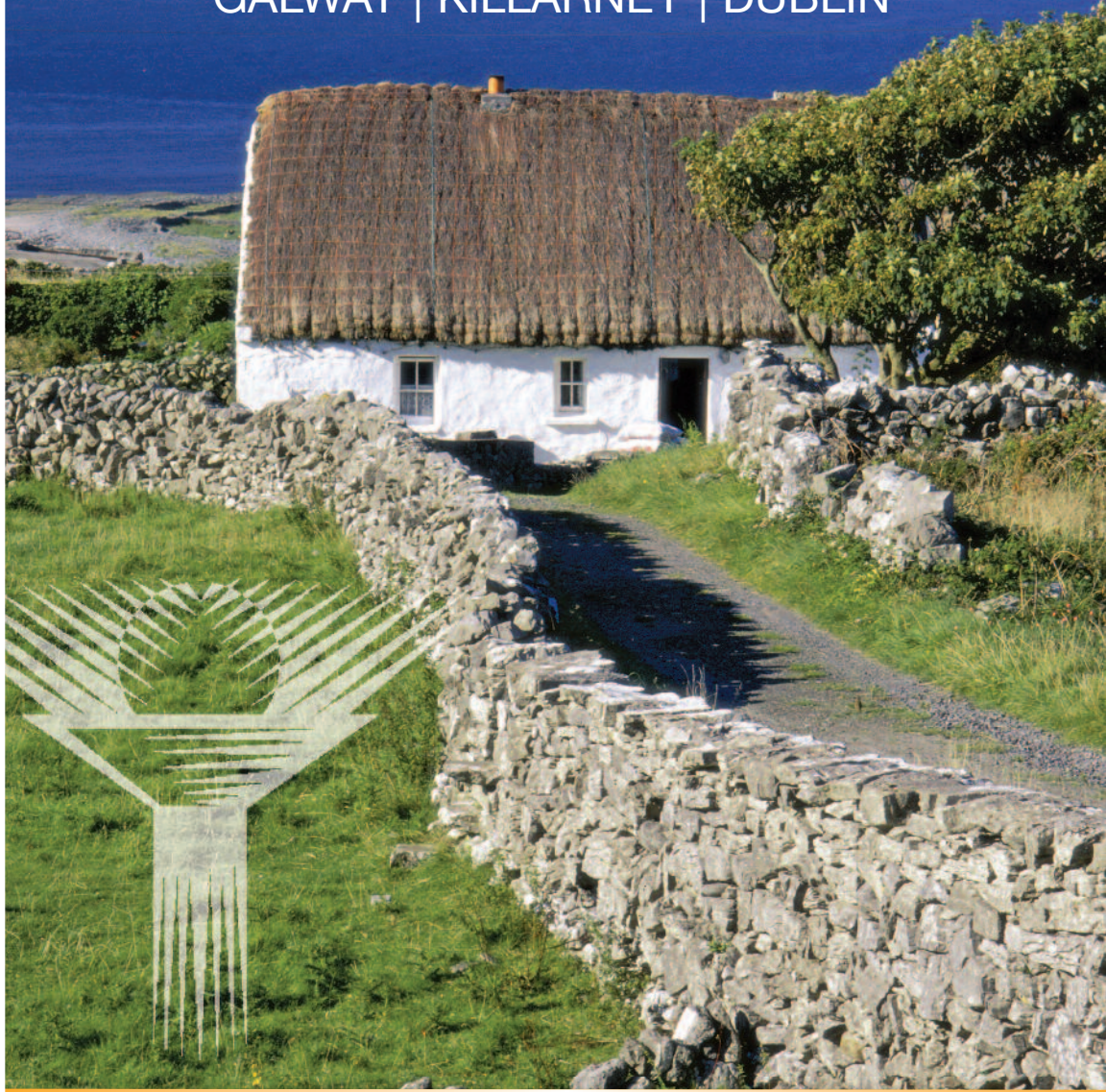


IRELAND

GALWAY | KILLARNEY | DUBLIN



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Traveling Aggies

MAY 29-JUNE 8, 2016

The Emerald Isle ...



Killarney Lake, Ring of Kerry

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Groups are **limited to 28 travelers** to maximize your travel experience.
- ▶ Explore three of Ireland's most beautiful and historic cities: **Galway, Killarney** and **Dublin**.
- ▶ Explore the region of Ireland called the **Gaeltacht**, where Irish is the predominant language of daily life.
- ▶ Visit the **Cliffs of Moher**, which tower high over the Atlantic Ocean.
- ▶ Discover the **Aran Island of Inishmore**, famous for its stone fort and stark landscapes.
- ▶ Travel along the **scenic Ring of Kerry**.

A country with a rich tradition of storytelling, Ireland has its own stories to share. Energetic music and dance serve as a constant reminder of Ireland's beloved culture. The counties of Galway and Kerry are part of the Gaeltacht, the country's Irish-speaking areas, where the locals resolutely preserve their traditions. Lush, green gardens and farmland speak to the country's strong agricultural roots. Stark, stony landscapes highlight the role of limestone in Ireland's history and architecture. Ireland's history dates from 6,000 B.C., and the country has preserved treasured sites and traditions throughout the years. Drive along the Ring of Kerry, one of the most scenic routes in the country. Explore the Burren, Cliffs of Moher and other storied sights. Come, discover the allure of this enchanting country!



Dun Aengus

Howdy, Ags!

As the Irish say, “Céad míle fáilte,” 100,000 welcomes to Ireland! Here, history lingers among stone castles, storybook towns and ancient ruins — all awaiting your discovery. Explore Ireland’s west coast before concluding your journey in Dublin.

You will enjoy behind-the-scenes experiences not available to larger groups. An experienced travel director takes care of every detail during your journey. Expert guides lead you on excursions to give you an in-depth look at Ireland’s culture and history.

Enjoy the special experience of traveling with one of our small groups, limited to 28 travelers. We have seen friendships blossom and a camaraderie form among our passengers in this intimate setting. In addition, you will appreciate the ease with which a small group travels. We also make sure you have ample free time for independent exploration.

This is sure to be a popular program, so we encourage you to make your reservation today.

Gig 'em!

Jennifer Bohac

Jennifer Bohac '87, Ph.D.
Director, Travel Programs
The Association of Former Students

“Thank you for providing an excellent experience with wonderful new friends. We learned, laughed, and enjoyed as we were in awe of our surroundings!”

**-Chris '73 and
Karen Claunch**

“The more trips we take with the Traveling Aggies, the more we want to take! We have NEVER been disappointed. We always love having people we trust along with us when we venture into unknown countries and settings. We always come home counting our new ‘best friends!’”

**-Tim '74 and
Judy '78 Turner**

“We will tour again and again with the Aggies!”

**-Martha Bellens
Martin '85**

800-633-7514

AggieNetwork.com/Travel

Connemara



Land of Legends and Writers



From Galway to Dublin, discover the best of Ireland through music and literature. Take a peek into the history and culture through neolithic monuments, storied castles and much more. Stroll through Irish-speaking areas, and listen to the yarns of a traditional storyteller. Enjoy this spectacular journey and let Ireland cast its spell on you!

DAY ONE

IN TRANSIT

Depart your gateway city for Shannon, Ireland.†

†Provided for *AHI FlexAir* participants.

GALWAY

DAY TWO

D

SHANNON, IRELAND | GALWAY

Upon arrival in Shannon, transfer† to Galway and check in to The Ardilaun Hotel Galway.

Tonight, gather for a Welcome Reception with live Irish harp music and a Welcome Dinner.

After dinner, enjoy an Irish music and dance performance.

DAY THREE

B I L

GALWAY | CONNEMARA

Educational Focus: *The History of Ireland and County Galway.* The Celts, Romans, Vikings and Anglo-Normans are among those who have left their mark on Ireland and County Galway. Examine their influence on the Emerald Isle.



Excursion: *Galway, Connemara and Kylemore Abbey.* Explore Galway before journeying through one of Ireland's most scenic regions. Oscar Wilde once described Connemara's beauty as "savage." See for yourself this starkly beautiful landscape created by ancient glaciers. Continue to Kylemore Abbey, a Benedictine convent. The convent originally was a castle built by an English businessman in the late 19th-century. Benedictine nuns purchased the castle in 1920 and established a school, which educated both girls from the local community and around the world.

Local Flavor: Enjoy lunch at a restaurant in Connemara.

DAY FOUR

B I L

THE BURREN | CLIFFS OF MOHER

Excursion: *The Burren and the Cliffs of Moher.* The Burren has one of the world's most unusual landscapes. The rocky plateau features diverse flora, karstic formations and man-made wonders. Visit the Poulnabrone



Connemara



Kylemore Abbey



Galway

Dolmen, a portal tomb dating from 2500-2000 B.C., and journey through Burren National Park. Then drive along the scenic Burren coast to the majestic Cliffs of Moher, rising 700 feet above the Atlantic Ocean.

Local Flavor: Stop at a local pub for lunch.

Educational Focus: *An Evening with a Seanchai.* Seanchai, Ireland's venerable storytellers, are the caretakers of one of Ireland's oldest and beloved traditions. This evening, enjoy riveting tales during a session of Ireland's most famous pastime.

DAY FIVE

B I L I D

INISHMORE

Excursion: *Aran Islands.* Take the ferry across Galway Bay to Inishmore, the largest of the Aran Islands. The burren of County Clare continues on the Aran Islands, providing a stark beauty to the landscape. People have lived here since approximately 3000 B.C., and Stone Age monuments still can be seen. Visit

the ruins of Dun Aengus, one of the most well known forts, which also boasts a picturesque view. Look for traditional Curach boats, which some anglers still use.

Local Flavor: Enjoy lunch on Inishmore.

KILLARNEY

DAY SIX

B I L

DINGLE PENINSULA | KILLARNEY

Excursion: *Dingle Peninsula.* Take in the sights of the Dingle Peninsula before stopping for lunch in Ballyferriter, a Gaelic-speaking area. After lunch, visit the Blasket Heritage Center. The center honors the people who lived on the remote Blasket Islands until the mid-1900s. Afterward, spend some time exploring Dingle, home to sweeping mountain and coastal scenery that has been recognized as one of the most beautiful places on Earth. Continue to Killarney and check in to The Malton.

DAY SEVEN

B I L I D

RING OF KERRY | KILLARNEY

Excursion: *Ring of Kerry.* The Ring of Kerry is considered to be one of the most scenic coastal drives in the world. View a region of Ireland that seems almost



Scenic drive, Dingle



Muckross House

untouched by human hands. Meet a local shepherd, who will demonstrate, with the help of loyal border collies, how to move sheep around a pasture. Drive through the villages of Caherdaniel and Sneem to Windy Gap and Ladies View, a great place to take in the vistas of the pristine Killarney Lakes. Tour Muckross House, a 19th-century Victorian mansion with sweeping gardens near the shores of Muckross Lake.

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

Local Flavor: Tonight, enjoy dinner with live Irish music.

Irish Literature

Ireland is home to gifted storytellers and writers whose talent, wit and wordplay are as fertile as the island. Despite its size, the Emerald Isle has given the world four Nobel Prize laureates in 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 established Dublin's Abbey Theatre, which opened in 1904, and sparked a revival of Irish literature. Ireland had once again found her voice.

DUBLIN

DAY EIGHT

B I L

BLARNEY CASTLE | MALLOW | DUBLIN

Excursion: Blarney Castle. Visit Blarney Castle and see the Blarney Stone. Tradition holds that those who kiss the Blarney Stone will be endowed with eloquence, or the gift of gab.

Local Flavor: Third-generation owners William O'Callaghan and his wife, Aisling, host a tour of the extensive grounds of Longueville



St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin



Longueville House

House, a country house with a walled garden, working farm and orchard. The house, built in 1720, boasts a stunning view of Blackwater Valley. Enjoy lunch, prepared by William, an accomplished professional chef, using ingredients grown on site.

In Dublin, check in to The Westbury Hotel.

DAY NINE

B

DUBLIN

Educational Focus: *Finding Your Irish Roots.* If you're all Irish or only a fraction, you'll enjoy this informative lecture on discovering your Irish heritage.

Excursion: *Dublin.* Dublin is a vibrant city where sandy beaches, rocky coastlines, lush gardens and timeless architecture meet. Visit historic Trinity College and see the famous hand-illuminated Book of Kells, which dates from the eighth century. Explore St. Patrick's Cathedral, named for Ireland's patron saint,



Grafton Street, Dublin

and discover the shops of Grafton Street. Spend the afternoon at leisure.

DAY TEN

B | D

DUBLIN

Spend the day at leisure before gathering with your fellow travelers for a Farewell Reception and Dinner.

DAY ELEVEN

B

IN TRANSIT

Transfer to Dublin airport for the return flight to your gateway city.[†]

NOTE: Itinerary sequence and/or scheduled events may change. Some events on this program involve an element of walking.

Included meals indicated each day as B | L | D = Breakfast/lunch/dinner.

| ACCOMMODATIONS |



THE ARDILAUN HOTEL GALWAY GALWAY

The Ardilaun Hotel Galway is close to Galway's city center and Galway Bay. Nestled in a tranquil wooded setting, this first-class hotel is surrounded by lush lawns, gardens and patios. The Ardilaun has an award-winning restaurant and a bistro and bar. Enjoy the fitness center, swimming pool and salon. Wi-Fi is complimentary.



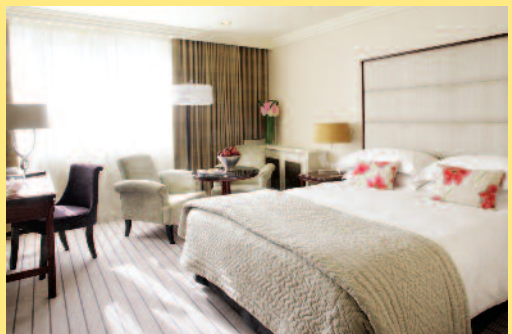
THE MALTON KILLARNEY

The Malton has been a retreat for guests for more than 150 years. Formerly known as the Great Southern Hotel, The Malton features a restaurant, a bar and many amenities, including a swimming pool, spa treatments, a gymnasium and tennis courts. The hotel, located in the town center, boasts six acres of lush gardens. Wi-Fi is complimentary.



THE WESTBURY HOTEL DUBLIN

In the past several years, the hotel has been completely remodeled to increase luxury and style. Just off of Dublin's Grafton Street, the hotel offers a central location close to retail and cultural centers as well as many popular tourist attractions, including Trinity College and Dublin Castle. The hotel offers three dining areas and a bar and boasts a collection of Irish art. Wi-Fi is complimentary.



Reserve your trip to Ireland, today!

Trip #:4-22381W

Send to: 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



**The Association
 OF FORMER STUDENTS**
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Traveling Aggies

Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on your passport)

Guest 1: _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

Guest 2: _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home: (_____) Cell: (_____) _____

Sharing room with _____ (Form sent separately.)

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

(1) _____ (2) _____
Class Year Class Year

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

Land Program and AHI FlexAir

I/we reserve the Land Program and request the AHI FlexAir to Shannon, Ireland, with a return from Dublin, to depart from:

Departure City

- Please contact me regarding air options.
- Please send me information on upgrading my flights.

Land Only Program

I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.

Single Accommodations

- I prefer single accommodations at an additional \$795 (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.

Reservations are subject to availability and are processed on a first come, first served basis. Reservations are to be paid in full by March 15, 2016 (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, Visa, Discover or Amex. Make checks payable to AHI Travel.

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

- Accept my check made payable to **AHI Travel**.
- Charge my: MasterCard Visa Discover Amex

Card # _____

Expires _____ / _____

(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, entry/departure fees; 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.

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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.

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LAND PROGRAM

May 30-June 8, 2016

Full Price

\$3,945

Special Savings

\$250

Special Price*

\$3,695*

*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.
VAT is an additional \$395 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated). Single accommodations are an additional \$795 (limited availability).

AHI FLEXAIR

May 29-June 8, 2016

Our personalized air program allows you to select your flights, routing, class of service and dates of travel in consultation with one of our experienced Passenger Service Representatives. Airfares will vary, depending on airline, routing and class of service. In most cases, transfers between the airport and hotel/cruise ship will be included on arrival and departure days. Your Passenger Service Representative will provide you with all of the details you need to guarantee your transfer. Book your air with us to ensure assistance in the case of schedule changes or delays that may impact your air travel plans. AHI FlexAir participants automatically receive flight insurance worth up to \$250,000, subject to policy terms.

ITINERARY

- Day 1 Depart Gateway City[†]
- Day 2 Shannon, Ireland | Galway
- Day 3 Connemara | Galway
- Day 4 Connemara | Galway
- Day 5 Inishmore | Galway
- Day 6 Dingle | Killarney
- Day 7 Ring of Kerry | Killarney
- Day 8 Mallow | Dublin
- Day 9 Dublin
- Day 10 Dublin
- Day 11 Return to Gateway City[†]

Note: Itinerary subject to change.

[†]Provided for AHI FlexAir participants.



ACCOMMODATIONS

- **Four nights** in Galway, Ireland, at **The Ardilaun Hotel Galway**, a first-class hotel.
- **Two nights** in Killarney at **The Malton**, a first-class hotel.
- **Three nights** in Dublin at **The Westbury Hotel**, a deluxe hotel.

MEALS

- Enjoy an **extensive meal program**, featuring nine breakfasts, six lunches and four dinners. Tea or coffee is included with all meals.
- Take advantage of leisure time to try local cuisine independently.
- Sample **authentic regional specialties** at local restaurants.
- Attend festive **Welcome** and **Farewell Receptions** and **Dinners**.

TRANSPORTATION

- All deluxe motor coach and ferry transfers in the Land Program itinerary and baggage handling on these transfers are included.

YOUR EXCITING TRAVEL PROGRAM

(For details, see the day-by-day itinerary.)

- **Informative educational programs**, presented by local experts, will enhance your insight into the region.
- **All excursions:**
 - Discover culture-filled Galway, rugged Connemara and beautiful Kylemore Abbey.
 - Revel in the landscapes of the Burren and the Cliffs of Moher.
 - Marvel at the beautiful geology of the Aran Islands, where Irish Gaelic still is spoken.
 - Visit the Blasket Heritage Center, which honors the island community.
 - Enjoy an afternoon in Dingle, which has been called the most beautiful place on Earth.
 - Take a scenic drive along the Ring of Kerry and stop at Muckross House.
 - Tour the grounds of Longueville House, which dates from 1720.
 - Explore Dublin, the bustling capital, and see the highlights, including Trinity College and St. Patrick's Cathedral.

MANY INCLUDED EXTRAS

- Consultation services of a dedicated **Passenger Service Representative** prior to departure.
- Services of an experienced **Travel Director** throughout your stay.
- **Tipping** of excursion guides and drivers.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist in your planning.
- Complimentary travel wallet.

Ancient church, Dingle



Galway



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Irish dancers



Cliffs of Moher

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With AHI you can rely on:

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- An exceptional travel value.
- Unique access to local sites.
- Flexibility and customization.
- Safety and security.



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