



# GREAT WALKS OF EUROPE

2009

## **IRELAND – GUIDED WALKING IN KERRY WITH SAINTS & SCHOLARS** *8-day inn-to-inn small group guided walking holiday*



Walk on routes, which have existed, from time immemorial in the footsteps of the early Irish saints. Visit landmark spiritual sites from pagan times. Relax and unwind along the wild Atlantic coastline, renewing your spirit on this cultural experience of a lifetime. A wonderful guided walking week with Seán Ó Súilleabháin, founder of the Kerry Way walking route over 30 years ago.

**The Kerry Way**, a low-level walking route, uses the old droving paths and coach roads of the Iveragh Peninsula to create a spiritual journey through history and folklore. Spectacular views, combined with rare flora and fauna, geology and bird watching will be appreciated by all, whether amateur or enthusiast. With an experienced local guide at hand and luggage transfer taken care of, all you have to do is walk tall and enjoy a unique Irish experience.

**Departs:** May 2<sup>nd</sup>, June 6<sup>th</sup>, August 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Cost:** **AU\$2025** per person sharing – Single supplement on request limited availability

**Grade:** Moderate walks 10–20km per day, gradual ascents up to 350m (except day 3).

**Includes:** 7-nights twin share ensuite accommodation - 3-star hotel for 3-nights and quality guesthouses, full Irish breakfast on 7-days, 6-packed lunches & 6-dinners, trained escort / guide throughout itinerary, luggage transfers, boat Trip to Innisfallen Island (Day 7)

**Highlights:**

- The Kerry Way Walking Route– walking through history
- Spectacular coastal walks – along Dingle Bay and Kenmare River/Bay, Derrynane Beach
- Boat trip to World Heritage site, Great Skellig Island (habited 8th century by Irish monks)
- Pass the worlds largest Gannet colony on Little Skellig Island
- Killarney National Park – Innisfallen Island & 12<sup>th</sup> century Abbey Muckross Friary  
Muckross House & Gardens with its native Irish Red Deer & Staigue Stone Fort (circa 1,000 BC)
- Irish music, song and dance

**Transfers:** These must be requested at time of booking & are available from AU\$55 one way. Clients who cannot make these transfer times should make their own way to the accommodation (we can arrange private taxi transfers from the airport (at your own expense). Please ask for a detailed costing of the transfers you require.

**Transfer Times Shannon Airport to accommodation-** Arrival Transfer departs Shannon at 12.00 on Saturdays from the information point in the arrivals hall. Return transfer arrives at Shannon airport at 11.00 on Saturdays.

**Kerry airport** to accommodation, between 08.00 and 18.00 Hrs. Return transfer to Kerry airport available between 08.00 and 18.00 Hrs on Saturdays

**Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations**

**SUGGESTED ITINERARY:** Note that, for weather or other reasons, on occasion the guide may have to change the sequence of walks or the walks themselves:

**Day 1** Arrive at accommodation in Glenbeigh. Evening dinner at 18.30 hrs followed by briefing.

**Day 2 The Kerry Way (Glenbeigh to Kells)** Distance: 17km - Ascent: 300m/

The first day's walking takes you on the early Christian route and medieval coaching road from Glenbeigh to Kells with detours to view archaeological artefacts such as the 4,000 year old Rock Art and Ogham stones of Drunghill and spectacular views across Dingle Bay and out to the Atlantic Ocean.

**Day 3 Knocknadobar** Distance: 10.5km - Ascent: 700m

Views of the Atlantic Ocean and Dingle Bay are enlarged on a mountain walk. Knocknadobar (Cnoc na dTobar, the hill of the wells) was a pagan mountain. Now you can follow the Stations of the Cross to the Canon's Cross near the summit. A spur of the Kerry Way descends to Kells Cove where a refreshing swim could be an appropriate way to end the day. Transfer along the Ring of Kerry to the village of Caherdaniel. Overnight Caherdaniel.

**Day 4 Great Skellig Island** Distance: 1.6km (steep) - Ascent: 180m

The pilgrim theme is continued as we take a boat trip to a World Heritage Site, the monastic island of Sceilig Mhichil, dedicated like so many other isolated hermitages to Saint Michael. We pass the international gannetry of the Little Skellig. Overnight Caherdaniel.

**Note:** We have not included the price of visiting the Skelligs, as this is a weather dependent trip. There will be a charge of €35 per person for the trip.

**Day 5 The Kerry Way and Caherdaniel/Derrynane** Distance and Ascent: optional

You can enjoy a choice of walks - on the Blue Flag Derrynane Beach, through Derrynane National Park or the gardens of Derrynane House. A longer walk on a Mass/Smugglers Path allows views from a higher level, as you return to Caherdaniel on the butter road leg of the Kerry Way.

**Day 6 The Kerry Way (Caherdaniel to Sneem)** Distance: 8km - Ascent: 350m

You return to walking the old coach road, continuation of the butter route, linking the picturesque villages of Caherdaniel and Sneem. There are spectacular views across the island-studded Kenmare Bay to the Beara peninsula. Pick-up at, the pre-historic stone fort of Staigue (circa 1,000 BC). Transfer along the Ring of Kerry to overnight in Killarney.

**Day 7 Killarney National Park** Distance: 6km - Ascent: reasonably level

A variety of experiences await you on your final day. A walk on Ross Island introduces you to copper mining dating from prehistory. A short boat trip to Innisfallen Island allows exploration of its monastic ruins. The boat drops us near 15th century Muckross Friary, to be explored before a short walk on the Kerry Way to the 19th century Muckross House, its Gardens and Tea Shop. Overnight in Killarney. Farewell Dinner.

**Day 8 Departure.**

Tour ends after breakfast – optional airport transfers available.

**Outdoor Travel** offer other small group guided walking or cycling holidays in Ireland – including Galway, County Mayo, Dingle and the Wicklow Way and boating holidays on the River Shannon. We also offer holidays in France, Italy, England, Scotland & most other areas of Europe – see our website or ask for details

**Contact Outdoor Travel or your travel agent for brochures and reservations**

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