

IRELAND – THE HIDDEN GEMS OF KERRY

8-days / 7-nights traditional West Coast two-centre-based small group guided walking holidays



This walking holiday is based in the South West of Ireland in County Kerry, affectionately known to Kerry people as "The Kingdom" and one of the most beautiful walking areas in Europe. The popular holiday offer the convenience of only two accommodation bases (no packing and unpacking every single day) but with daily walking schedule that joins several traditional paths giving you a sense of completing a journey.

Walk the Kerry Way, on old coach and butter roads by the Atlantic Ocean overlooking Dingle Bay. Discover the wild valleys of mid-Kerry and Killarney National Park. Relax and unwind with the superb views, unique flora and fauna and a landscape imbued with folklore. Enjoy the craic (fun) and music in the local pubs.

This holiday is also ideal for singles and selected dates have been set-aside without room supplements.

Tour Highlights:

- Glenbeigh – a picturesque, vibrant village by the Atlantic ocean
- Rossbeigh Beach – an award winning blue flag beach
- The town of Killarney & Killarney National Park – lakes, oak woods, waterfalls, bogland, native Irish Red Deer
- Traditional wooden boat trip on the Lakes of Killarney
- 19th century Muckross House (optional) and Gardens
- Mid Kerry's inland valleys and the Gap of Dunloe, coastal walk overlooking Dingle Bay, 'sub-tropical' & unique flora, folklore, archaeology from over 4000 years
- Optional boat trip to the Skelligs islands (a monastic settlement from 600AD)
- Traditional Irish music and dance

Departs: Saturdays: 21 Apr, 5, 19, 26 May, 9, 23 Jun, 7, 14, 21 Jul, 11, 18 Aug, 1, 15, 22 Sep, 6 Oct 2012

Solo Travellers: There's no single supplement charge for the first two singles booked on all dates (excluding July/August). There will also be a twin share option with someone of the same sex on all dates.

Price per person sharing: April, May, June & September \$ 1410
 July or August \$ 1460

Accommodation is in twin-share rooms with a private bathroom. A single room is available - supplement \$315

Inclusions: Four nights in a Irish Tourist Board approved guesthouse, three nights in 3-star hotel with en-suite bathroom facilities, full Irish breakfast on seven days, five packed lunches, five dinners, transfers to and from walks each day, boat trip on the lakes, experienced local guide throughout itinerary, route notes and area maps.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations

Suggested itinerary:

Day 1 Arrival – Plan to arrive in the afternoon in time for a 7.00pm Welcome dinner and briefing with your tour guide at our guesthouse in Glenbeigh.

Day 2 Dooks Beach and ‘Mountain’ - Distance: 12km (Ascent: @ 50m)

A gentle walk on road, bog road and beach allows you to experience a variety of habitats (blanket bog, sand dune, freshwater lake/stream and seashore) as well as to view peat cuttings. End the walk with a visit to Ireland’s only Bog Village museum where you can see how people lived in olden days.

Day 3 The Kerry Way (Kells-Glenbeigh) - Distance: 17km (Ascent: @300m)

The first walk takes you on the early Christian route and medieval coaching road, with detours to view archaeological artefacts and 4,000-year-old rock art, views across Dingle Bay and a possible diversion to a beach for a swim in the Atlantic Ocean.

Day 4 The Kerry Way (Glenbeigh-Glencar via Windy Gap) - Distance: 13km - Ascent 350m

You walk from the seaside village of Glenbeigh, ascend gradually to circle Seefin Mountain and stroll downwards into the lush valley of the Caragh River in storied Glencar.

Day 5 Killarney National Park - Distance: 10.5km (Ascent: @ 230m & descent: @330m). Optional extra 12km

Our final leg of the Kerry Way takes you into Killarney National Park through ancient oak woods, along the Old Kenmare Road, with a descent beside the spectacular Torc Cascade into the gardens of Muckross House – a 19th Century mansion with its welcoming teasop. There is an optional to extend the walk to the ruins of Muckross Friary

Day 6 Killarney – Rest day

Relax and explore or take one of the many tours to the Ring of Kerry, Dingle Peninsula, Killarney or perhaps a short boat trip to the spectacular Skelligs Rock. For the energetic fishing, golfing, horse riding or cycling is available.

Day 7 The Kerry Way (Black Valley) and the Gap of Dunloe Distance: 11km - Ascent: 400m

Go on a wonderful open topped boat trip through the three Lakes of Killarney from Ross Castle to Lord Brandon’s Cottage. After lunch walk through the dramatic, ice-carved Gap of Dunloe. Finish a wonderful week’s walking in Kate Kearney’s Cottage. Perhaps you might like to treat yourself to an Irish Coffee!

Day 8 Departure

After breakfast, you may take a transfer to either Shannon or Kerry Airport (see below).

Getting to Killarney:

Public transport from Kerry Airport: - There is a great public bus system from Kerry airport to Killarney and Tralee with up to 10-buses a day. See www.buseireann.ie for details.

Public transport from Shannon Airport: - There is a frequent shuttle bus from Shannon airport to Limerick. You can then get a direct bus from Limerick to either Killarney or Tralee. See www.buseireann.ie for details. We recommend that you arrive in Shannon in the morning to make the connections.

Transfers: These are at extra cost, and must be arranged at the time of booking. Please ask for full details. Standard transfer costs (these are at set times) are @ AU\$45 per person one-way from Kerry Airport and AU\$85 per person one-way from Shannon Airport (7 May to 24 Sep only).

Private taxis can also be arranged and costs for a taxi (1-3 people) start from @ AU\$55 from Kerry Airport, @ AU\$295 from Shannon Airport or @ AU\$265 from Cork Airport, one-way to Glenbeigh.

Outdoor Travel offer 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 guided or self-guided walking holidays in France, Italy, England, Scotland & most other areas of Europe

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

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