

IRELAND – THE RING OF KERRY & WILD ATLANTIC COAST

8-day / 7-night or 11-day / 10-night **SELF-GUIDED** inn-to-inn walking from Killarney



This walk along the Kerry Way is the ideal way to explore the Ring of Kerry on the spectacular and scenic wild West Coast of Ireland. Warmed by the Gulf Stream sea current it is one of Ireland's premier and most popular walking routes and offers mild – if sometimes inclement – weather all year round. Starting in the bustling market town of Killarney, our walking routes offer an interesting and varied selection of vistas including national parks, lichen-clad woodland and waterfalls, valleys, rural farmland and the dramatic, rugged Atlantic coast.

Discover too Ireland's long and storied history. Explore the ruins of the 15th century Muckross Abbey and visit the traditional farms at Muckross House where Irish farm life in the 1930s and 1940s is recreated. Spend time at the remnants of a mysterious Iron Age stone ring settlement, Staigue Fort. Walk along ancient coach roads in the footsteps of medieval drovers, and pass by ancient churches, old graveyards and abandoned cottages.

Choose a seven or ten night inn-to-inn itinerary where accommodation and luggage transfers are taken care of – you carry just a small pack with the day's essentials. Self-guided holidays are perfect for exploring the iconic landscapes of Europe. Travelling on foot gives the freedom to see more of the countryside and offers an unforgettable active holiday experience. There is the flexibility to travel at your own pace, to stop and relax or explore, secure in the knowledge that your room awaits, your bags have gone ahead, and the day is your own.

The walking is moderate, with an average walking time of five to seven hours per day, at a leisurely pace with time to stop in villages and places of interest. The terrain is undulating with lots of up and downhill walking (average elevation gain 630m) on varied surfaces including rocky and grassy mountain paths, some boggy stretches, gravel roads, walking on quiet country roads. Both the shorter and longer walks are designed for regular walkers, with several days of 20-25km. Good, well worn-in walking boots are essential.

Duration:	8-day / 7-night	11-day / 10-night
Cost from:	\$1635 per person twin share	\$2295 per person twin share
Single supplement from:	\$680 per person	\$760 per person
Solo Traveller supplement from:	\$1045 per person	\$1460 per person

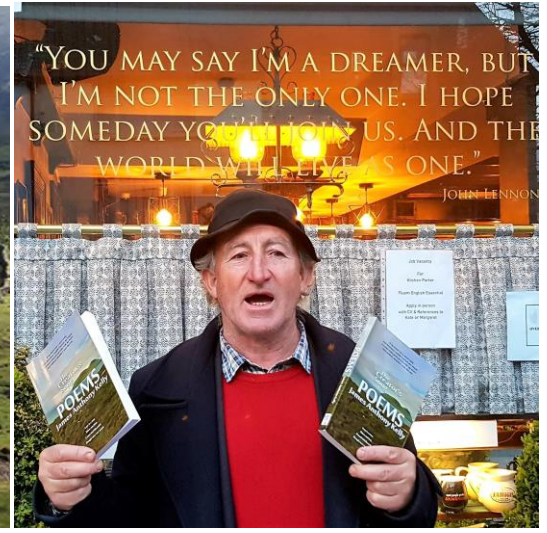
Departs: Daily on demand 1 March to 31 October – starts & ends in Killarney

Includes: Twin-share accommodation in carefully selected accommodation with ensuite bathrooms or private facilities; Irish breakfasts each day; luggage transfers; telephone welcome briefing; route notes and map; GPS navigation app; 24-hour emergency telephone assistance.

Not included: Other meals, drinks, personal expenses, travel to/from the start/end of the tour.

Extra nights can be added at extra cost – ask when making your booking.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations



Suggested itinerary:

Day 1 Arrival in Killarney

Plan to arrive at your first hotel by mid-afternoon. Killarney is a major tourism centre for County Kerry and has a number of excellent restaurants and traditional pubs, many featuring live music. There are regular rail services to Killarney from Cork and Dublin, or buses from many places in Ireland, including Cork, Galway or Dublin.

Day 2 Glenbeigh to Cahersiveen

walking @ 24km

After being transferred to the outskirts of Glenbeigh, walk along an old 19th century 'Stage Coach' route along the northern shores of the Iveragh peninsula. You pass through deserted villages which were once busy centres of activity, trading with passengers on the old stagecoaches, and along grassy mountain tracks with some rocky sections.

Day 3 Cahersiveen to Waterville

walking @ 18km

Your walk starts at Coars Cross, a short transfer from Cahersiveen. Take in views north across the Dingle peninsula and west across the Atlantic Ocean as you make your way across the tip of the Iveragh peninsula to Waterville for the night.

Day 4 Waterville to Caherdaniel

walking @ 15km

From Waterville, the walk takes you around and above the coast, enjoying the scenic coastal views out towards the Skellig Islands and Ballinskelligs Bay on the way to your overnight stay in Caherdaniel, which was once home of the famous "Liberator", Daniel O'Connell.

Day 5 Caherdaniel to Sneem

walking @ 18km

From Caherdaniel you follow an old 'butter road', once used to send Kerry's high-quality butter to the Cork Butter Exchange at the Cork port. Pass by an old church and graveyard as well as the detour (3km return) to the Iron Age Staigue stone fort. Enjoy fantastic views across the Beara peninsula and out to the Atlantic Ocean as you walk to the village of Sneem.

Day 6 Sneem to Kenmare

walking @ 28km

A short transfer after breakfast to Tahilla Church, just outside of Sneem for the start of your walk. Follow the shores of Kenmare Bay with views of the Caha Mountains and Beara Peninsula. Overnight in Kenmare.

Day 7 Kenmare to Killarney

walking @ 25km

From Kenmare walk through Esknamucky Glen and Killarney National Park, where you might be lucky enough to see Ireland's native red deer. Continue to the magnificent Muckross House in the heart of Killarney National Park, a Victorian mansion with expansive grounds, the ruined 15th century Muckross Abbey and traditional farms recreating Irish farm life in the 1930s and 1940s. From Muckross House it's a further 5km to Killarney town.

Day 8 Depart Killarney (on the 7-night tour)

Tour ends after breakfast in Killarney.

From Killarney, there are frequent train & bus services to Cork, Limerick, Shannon or Dublin.

If required, we can arrange a private transfer for you at additional cost.

Extra nights of accommodation are also available on request.

Ask for more details when making your walk booking.

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The 11-day / 10-night tour begins as shown below then joins the 8 day / 7 night route from Glenbeigh:

Day 1 Arrive in Killarney

Day 2 Killarney to Black Valley

walking @ 22km

Walk five kilometres to Muckross House and gardens, then continue through Killarney National Park and Esnamucky Glen, passing Torc Waterfall to reach what used to be a 'Mass Path' to Derrycunihy Church next to Galway's Bridge. Descend via Lord Brandon's cottage into the heart of An Com Dubh (the Black Valley).

Day 3 Black Valley to Glencar

walking @ 18km

From the Black Valley, ascend and cross a mountain saddle into the Bridia Valley then take an old droving road over a second saddle before walking through foothills of the MacGillicuddy Reeks, Ireland's highest mountain range. The route then follows the shores of Lough Acosse to the hamlet of Glencar.

Day 4 Glencar to Glenbeigh

walking @ 22km

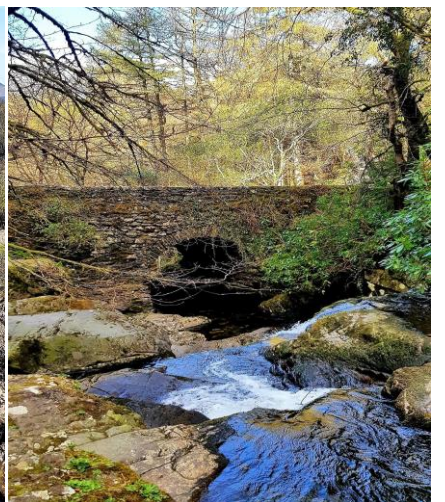
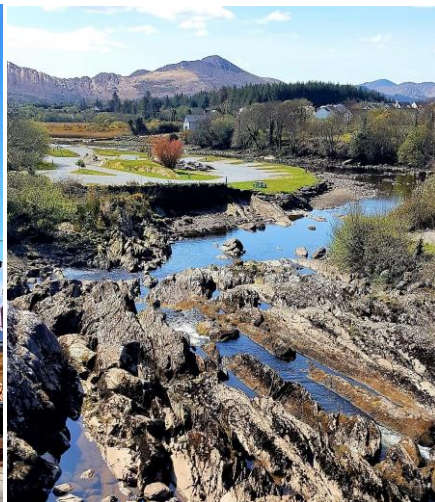
Leave Glencar walking alongside the Caragh River then skirt the base of Seefin Mountain, taking in Blackstone's Bridge. Fabulous views across Castlemaine Harbour and out west to Dingle Bay before arriving at Glenbeigh. Rossbeigh Beach two kilometres west is worth a visit.

Outdoor Travel offer other small group guided walking or cycling holidays in Ireland, including the **Dingle Way** and the **Wicklow Way**, and self-skipped or hotel barge boating holidays on the **River Shannon**. Other guided or self-guided walking holidays include the **Camino de Santiago** and **Wainwright's Coast to Coast** walk.



Contact **Outdoor Travel** for more details and reservations:

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