



The original concept of the **Islands to Ireland** tour was to visit some of the outstanding areas of the Celtic lands of the British Isles. In doing so it is impossible to ignore the later Viking influence in many of these places. Likewise in most of the areas visited there are amazing sites from the earlier Bronze Age and Neolithic era.

The tour is not just about archaeology and ancient history however. Far from it! By contrast there are some places visited that are very poignant reminders of major twentieth century events.



Connemara landscape, Ireland

A unique tour experience:

- * To my knowledge there is no other tour that links these diverse but culturally related areas of the British Isles.

- * The tour group is not too large, (about 14 to 20), much smaller than most other tours.

- * Travel between cities and towns where we stay, involves a variety of transport modes that adds another dimension to the tour.

- * The pace of the tour is a little easier than most tour schedules. On many days the sight seeing program does not start until 9.00 am or even later.

This allows time for relaxation or some individual exploration, depending on one's energy level.

- * The tour features several three or four night stops, thereby reducing the need to constantly repack luggage!



'Jarlshof' and Sumburgh Hotel, Shetland



Cliff top walk, St David's, Wales

As well there is a wide variety of glorious landscapes, including some truly spectacular coastlines, beautiful streams and lakes and lovely mountain scenery.

Quaint villages, lively cities, fascinating museums, traditional music in atmospheric locations are just some of the other aspects of this unique tour.

Finally getting to the various locations is done by varied and interesting transport means, including train, ferry, coach, taxi and luas.



Dingle, Ireland

Tour Itinerary:

Day 1: Melbourne to London.
Day 2: London to Edinburgh by train.
Day 3: E'burgh to Aberdeen & Shetland ferry.
Day 4: Sumburgh - Northern Shetland tour.
Day 5: Sumburgh - Jarlshof & Sth Mainland.
Day 6: Lerwick and ferry to Orkney.
Day 7: Stromness - Skara Brae trip.
Day 8: Stromness - South Orkney & Kirkwall.
Day 9: Stromness to Inverness.
Day 10: Inverness to York via Edinburgh by train
Day 11: York - Walking tour then free time.
Day 12: York to Cardiff - City tour.
Day 13: Cardiff - Walking tour then free time.
Day 14: Cardiff to St David's via Tenby.
Day 15: Pembroke trip am & St David's pm.
Day 16: Ferry to Rosslare & on to Waterford.
Day 17: Waterford - Kilkenny day trip.
Day 18: Waterford to Tralee via Cashel.
Day 19: Tralee - Ring of Kerry day trip.
Day 20: Tralee - am Kerry Kingdom, pm free.
Day 21: Tralee - Dingle Peninsula day trip.
Day 22: Tralee to Galway via Limerick.
Day 23: Galway - Connemara day trip.
Day 24: Galway - am Clonmacnoise, pm free.
Day 25: Galway to Dublin via Wicklow Mnts.
Day 26: Dublin - City tour & Book of Kells.
Day 27: Dublin - Free day.
Day 28: Dublin - am free, pm Fly to London.
Day 29: In flight to Australia.
Day 30: Arrive Melbourne.

2020 Tour dates

Departs:	Returns:
Mid June 11, 2020	Mid July 11, 2020

Inclusions in the Price:

Air Fares: Return airfare Melbourne to London with Qantas Airways and one way - Dublin to London with Aer Lingus.

Airport taxes.

Accommodation: 26 nights on twin-share basis with private facilities in hotels of distinct character, in excellent locations.

Sightseeing: Twenty-seven days as per itinerary.

Meals: Full breakfast with each night's accommodation, eighteen evening meals and two lunches.

Transport: All scheduled travel by train, ferry, coach, and other means, including sleeping berths on overnight ferry from Aberdeen to Lerwick.

Transfers: By coach or taxi [where required] to and from hotels and transport terminals.

Entrances, Fares or Tours: Jarlshof ancient village - Shetland, The Old Haa, Burravoe - Shetland, Crofters museum - Shetland, Skara Brae Neolithic village - Orkney, Maeshowe - chambered cairn - Orkney, St Magnus Cathedral - Kirkwall, Orkney, Italian Chapel - Orkney, Dornoch Historylinks Museum, Cardiff city tour, St David's Cathedral, Pembroke Castle, Kilkenny Castle, Rock of Cashel, Kerry Kingdom museum - Tralee, Siamsa Tire - Tralee, Blaskett Centre - Dingle Peninsula, Galarus Oratory - Dingle Peninsula, Bunratty Castle & Folk Park, Clonmacnoise Monastery, Dublin City Sights tour, The Book of Kells - Dublin, Dublinia - Viking museum, Three Day Dublin Travel Card, The Merry Ploughboy - Irish Cabaret, County Wicklow tour, Glendalough Visitor Centre, Powerscourt Gardens, Co. Wicklow.

Not included:

Meals and sightseeing entrances not specified above, insurance and personal items.

Tour Price: \$13,200

Single Supplement: \$1,800



Stromness, Orkney

James Court Tours is a small company that conducts specialized tours in Europe.

Trevor Wickham, host of this **Islands to Ireland** tour has past experience as a Geography and History teacher. Trevor has travelled extensively in Britain and Ireland and led the inaugural tour in 2006, after thorough research of the tour itinerary during 2005. He contributes a broad knowledge of all the areas visited on tour. If you have any queries just contact Trevor at:

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Or visit www.jamescourttours.com.au

The **Islands to Ireland** 2020 tour will be organised in association with Spirit Travel & Tours, Bundoora (Lic. No. 32037).
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