



PROGRAM ITINERARY FOR San Mateo County Community College District Ireland Tour – Dublin, Cork, Killarney, Galway *September 2 - 11, 2019*

Please note, this itinerary is just a suggestion as to the inclusion and order of events and is subject to change.

Sunday, Sept 1 - Departure

Flights depart California

Monday, Sept 2 – Arrivals in Dublin

Arrive in Dublin, transferred by taxi to your hotel, the **Maldron Hotel Parnell Square**
Meet your AIFS Tour Manager, Brendan and leave luggage until check-in becomes available
Optional afternoon walking tour with Brendan to discover the local area
Balance of the day free

Tuesday, Sept 3

Breakfast in the hotel
Free day for self-exploration (sightseeing options include the Book of Kells and Old Library at Trinity College, Guinness Storehouse, General Post Office Witness History Exhibition, Dublinia, EPIC museum, National Museums and Library, Little Museum of Dublin, Kilmainham Gaol, etc.)
6:30pm Group welcome dinner at the Brazen Head, Dublin's oldest pub

Wednesday, Sept 4

Breakfast in the hotel
9:30am-4:30pm Public tour through the Bru Na Boinne valley including a guided visit to **Newgrange** and the **Hill of Tara** and a group lunch at a traditional farm

Thursday, Sept 5

Breakfast in the hotel
Check out and depart Dublin by private bus
Visit to **Blarney Castle** enroute to Kinsale
Check-in to the **Acton's Hotel, Kinsale**

Friday, Sept 6

Breakfast in the hotel
Guided tour of Kinsale and Irish Pub lunch
Optional afternoon excursion by coach to **Cork** with Brendan

AIFS CUSTOMIZED FACULTY-LED

1 High Ridge Park, Stamford, CT 06907 | Dilke House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7JN
(800) 727-2437 | +44 (0)20 7636 0761

Saturday, Sept 7

Breakfast in the hotel

Check-out and depart Kinsale by private bus

Scenic drive through the **Ring of Kerry** and visit to **Muckross House** including a group lunch

Transfer to Limerick and check-in to the **Absolute Hotel**, Limerick

Sunday, Sept 8

Breakfast in the hotel

Free morning in Limerick

Depart Limerick by private bus

Visit to the **Cliffs of Moher** including entrance to the visitors centre with free time to explore

Scenic drive through the **Burren** enroute to Galway

Check-in to the **Hotel Meyrick**, Eyre Square, Galway

Monday, Sept 9

Breakfast in the hotel

A choice of full-day excursions from Galway:

- Aran Islands daytrip by bus and ferry from Rossaveal port including a minibus tour on Inis Mor with John O'Donnell featuring a visit to **Dun Aengus**
- Connemara daytrip by guided minibus including entrance to **Kylemore Abbey**

Tuesday, Sept 10

Breakfast in the hotel

Free day in Galway

6pm Group dinner at **Monroe's Tavern**

8:30pm Evening **Trad on the Prom** Traditional Irish Music and Dance show (with shuttle bus)

Anyone who does not wish to stay for the full 2-hour show can request details to book a taxi back to Galway earlier.

Wednesday, Sept 11

Program Ends - check out and depart for the U.S. or onward or optional Belfast excursion

Early morning private bus transfer with drop-offs at Dublin airport and in Dublin city if requested

Bus will continue on to Belfast

*Check-in to the **Clayton Hotel, Belfast***

Group dinner in the hotel

Thursday, Sept 12

Breakfast in the hotel

Hop-on hop-off sightseeing tour of Belfast

Free balance of the day (sightseeing options include the Titanic Exhibition, Ulster Museum, St. George's Market, Stormont, Crumlin Road Gaol, Black Cab Tour, Ulster American Folk Park, etc.)

Friday, Sept 13

Breakfast in the hotel

Early departure for a full-day excursion by public tour to the Giant's Causeway and Carrick-a-rede

Rope Bridge with scenic photo stops along the Antrim Coast

Final group dinner at McHugh's Restaurant

Saturday, Sept 14

Optional program in Belfast ends

Early morning private bus transfer to Dublin Airport

The AIFS program fee of \$3,495.00 includes the following (based on an enrollment of 10-12 participants):

- ⇒ individual inbound transfers by taxi or minibus between the airport in Dublin and the group accommodation on the specified arrival date, and a one-time outbound transfer by private bus between the group accommodation in Galway and the airport in Dublin on departure day;
- ⇒ accommodation in twin-bedded rooms in centrally-located hotels on a bed and breakfast basis with free Wi-Fi;
- ⇒ a three-course welcome dinner in Dublin;
- ⇒ three group lunches while on daytrips;
- ⇒ Leap Card travel pass for use on public transportation in Dublin, preloaded with €10;
- ⇒ transfers by private bus between each of the program cities per the program itinerary;
- ⇒ full-day excursion to Brú Na Bóinne, including tours of Newgrange and the Hill of Tara;
- ⇒ guided walking tours of Kinsale and Cork with the services of a professional guide;
- ⇒ a visit to Blarney Castle including entrance and guided tour;
- ⇒ a ticket to Trad on the Prom Irish dance and music show;
- ⇒ a scenic drive through the Ring of Kerry and entrance to Muckross House;
- ⇒ a visit to the Cliffs of Moher and a scenic drive through the Burren enroute to Galway;
- ⇒ a full-day excursion by bus and ferry to the Aran Islands including a minibus tour of Inis Mor with a visit to Dun Aengus or a ticket for a public guided tour to Connemara including Kylemore Abbey;
- ⇒ farewell dinner;
- ⇒ the services of an AIFS Program Coordinator and dedicated on-site Tour Manager to provide information, personal advising/counseling and 24-hour emergency contact service;
- ⇒ medical and program fee refund insurance policy;
- ⇒ a \$150 San Mateo County Community College District administration fee;
- ⇒ a \$500 tax-deductible contribution to the San Mateo County Community Colleges Foundation Study Abroad Scholarship

Fund.

If any of the above visits are unavailable, a suitable alternative will be arranged in consultation with the SMCCCD faculty.

Program fee does not include the following:

- ⇒ roundtrip airfare;
- ⇒ optional single room supplement of \$850 (September 2nd – 10th, and subject to availability);
- ⇒ optional four-day/three-night post-tour excursion to Belfast includes a private transfer from Galway to Belfast, hotel accommodation with daily breakfast, linen and free Wi-Fi, a 24-hour hop-on/hop-off bus tour of Belfast, a group dinner at the hotel, and a farewell group dinner, full-day excursion to the Antrim Coast with stops at the Giant's Causeway, Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge, Carrickfergus and Dunluce Castles, a group lunch, a private group transfer between the hotel in Belfast and the airport in Dublin on departure day, and a Tour Manager throughout for an additional \$875 (based on a twin-bedded room) or \$1,095 (single room);
- ⇒ meals not listed above;
- ⇒ passport and visa fees if applicable;
- ⇒ personal expenses;
- ⇒ optional personal effects coverage and medical insurance upgrade.

2019 PROGRAM DATES

Sunday, September 1	Depart the U.S. for Dublin.
Monday, September 2	Arrive in Dublin. Transfer to your accommodation.
Thursday, September 5	Transfer to Kinsale.
Saturday, September 7	Transfer to Limerick.
Sunday, September 8	Transfer to Galway.
Wednesday, September 11	End of program. AIFS flight departs Dublin for the U.S.
September 11 – 14	Optional Belfast post-tour.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR AIFS FEES

<u>Summer Program</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Optional</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Enrollment deposit	\$450.00	May 24, 2019	Single Room Supplement (Sept 2-10)	\$850.00	July 5, 2019
Balance of fees	<u>\$3,045.00</u>	July 5, 2019	Belfast Post-Tour Deposit	\$50.00	May 24, 2019
Total	\$3,495.00	July 5, 2019	Balance of Belfast Post-Tour (Twin)	\$825.00	July 5, 2019
			Balance of Belfast Post-Tour (Single)	\$1,045.00	July 5, 2019
			Medical Insurance Upgrade	\$65.00	July 5, 2019
			Personal Effects Coverage	\$90.00	July 5, 2019

All participants must submit the \$450 deposit when completing the online enrollment form. Subsequent payments may be made by check or credit card. Checks should be made payable to "AIFS." American Express, MasterCard and Visa are accepted.

Please note: AIFS will charge a \$35 returned check fee on all checks returned by the bank for insufficient funds.