

# Walking Ireland

## Adventure Memo

### Greetings from the WAI Travel Team,

As travelers, we're always looking for pots of gold at the end of the rainbow, that postcard-perfect image, that interaction with a local, or that memorable musical experience that delights us anew with the wonders of our blessed planet!

We've found many such opportunities in Ireland— it's a country rich in travel experiences and cultural pots of gold. Some of the many magic moments waiting for us on the Emerald Isle include:

...Contemplating the diminutive state of man as we walk along the windswept sandstone Cliffs of Moher, 600 feet above the crashing waves of the Atlantic;

...Rambling among an ancient seaside patchwork of stone walls at prehistoric Dun Aengus fortress, on the rugged Aran Island of Inishmore;

...Trekking atop the majestic sea cliffs of Northern Ireland for unforgettable coastal vistas and an opportunity to explore the geological phenomenon of Giant's Causeway;

...Imbibing the spirit of Dublin, Ireland's capital and a quintessential walking city, on an all-day walk that captures points of historical import and cultural connections;

...Gazing down from our walking trail in the enchanting Wicklow Mountains onto the centuries-old Round Tower in the monastery at Glendalough, the verdant "valley between the lakes";

...Following the winding gorge path through the Gap of Dunloe as it courses along quiet mountain lakes and crosses babbling brooks on ageless, arched stone bridges;

...Wondering at the simple architectural genius of the 8th century Gallarus Oratory at the end of our walk through the emerald green landscapes of Dingle Peninsula, western-most point of Europe!

### How do I lock in my place on this Adventure?

To save yourself a spot on this Adventure, contact us to register with a \$500 payment as soon as possible! Registrations will be accepted on a first-come-first-serve basis.

### How should I arrange transportation for this Adventure?

The official starting point for this Adventure is Shannon International Airport, where a representative of WAI will meet you to arrange for a transfer to our hotel in nearby Limerick. Airfare to and from the start point is not included in the package price. Once you receive the Adventure Advice flyer, we recommend that you contact the travel agent we work with to help book your flight arrangements. In this age of airfare complications and airport uncertainty, using a travel agent is a good investment! More details about flight arrangements and travel agent contact information will be provided in the *Adventure Advice* flyer which will be mailed to you after you register for the Adventure. **Please do not book your airfare prior to receiving the Adventure Advice!**

### Group Travel Credit

If you are part of a Group, remember that your full deposit of \$500 is still required to hold your spot on this Adventure. Your group leader is responsible to submit your name in writing to us before you register, qualifying you for the Group Travel Credit, but a full deposit is needed to officially reserve your place.

### Travel Insurance

Walking Adventures has negotiated with an insurance carrier to provide travel insurance in the form of a Preferred Benefits™ policy. We are pleased to make this package available and believe that it will provide travelers with an important element of security at a reasonable price. (See the back of the General Tour Conditions sheet for more detailed information.)

**IMPORTANT:** The insurance policy includes time-sensitive coverage provisions for some benefits, including pre-existing conditions and trip cancellation coverage for any reason (with additional fee), **provided you purchase the insurance within 14 days of your registration.** Should you choose to add the cost of your airline tickets to your insurance policy, contact our office within 14 days after you purchase your airfare. Airfare is NOT automatically covered by the insurance you purchase for the tour!!

### What Happens Next?

Upon registering for this Adventure, you will receive a welcome letter, initial invoice, and Adventure Advice flyer with important information about steps to take in the months before your trip. **Please do not buy your airline tickets until you receive the Adventure Advice flyer.** The final payment for the program is due 90 days before departure, and you will receive a final billing about 2 weeks prior to that point, along with a factsheet of additional information about the Adventure to help you get prepared! Then, about 3 weeks before departure, you will receive a final packet with all the details of the program, including hotel names and contact information, a list of fellow travelers, and a more detailed daily schedule.

Ireland is an enchanting island offering a delightfully pastoral countryside, charming Celtic culture, and a timeless story of mankind. Join us next summer to walk Ireland - the Emerald Isle!

### Insurance – What if I need to place a claim?

Jumping through hoops to get results from large, bureaucratic organizations can be enough to try the patience of Job! Travel insurance companies, unfortunately, are not immune to bureaucracy. Ambiguity and forms-overload often seems to outweigh reason and simplicity. Ultimately, however, travelers are paid and the *Preferred Benefits* policy we recommend works! Though it is easy to view insurance as a necessary evil, we have seen the benefits of travel insurance time and again. We believe it is worth the cost...and hoop-jumping required!