

October 11-18, 2025



**\$2759.00**

**LAND ONLY  
PER PERSON  
SHARING A ROOM**  
AIR ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE  
UPON REQUEST

## JOIN LARRY KIRWAN ON A TOUR OF IRELAND!

### Hammond Tours Presents:

#### Daily Itinerary

**Day 1, October 11 – Saturday: USA – Ireland** Overnight flight from the US to Dublin Ireland. Though we strongly suggest traveling the day before, or earlier, and spending the night of October 11<sup>th</sup> in Dublin to allow for a fresh start on Day 2, October 12<sup>th</sup>, in Ireland.

**Day 2, October 12– Sunday: Dublin – Giant’s Causeway – Belfast. The Tour begins at Dublin Airport!** After clearing customs, travelers arriving from the US, along with the great majority already in Dublin, are united and met by your Hammond Tours Irish Driver Guides at **8am**. Check in with Patrick Foley and Bob Reed at Terminal 2 (Arrivals) underneath the “Golden Knot” Sculpture. **The Tour leaves Dublin Airport at 9am.** We begin our adventures by driving north past the site of the Battle of the Boyne (1690), where William of Orange defeated King James and set the tone for Irish politics for the next 300 years. After a rest stop outside Lisburn, we’ll head north along the Coast Road and through the lovely Glens of Antrim to one of the most spectacular sites in Europe, **Giant’s Causeway** and its 40,000 interlocking basalt columns that form the legendary causeway built by the Irish giant *Fionn mac Cumhail* (Finn MacCool). We’ll journey through some of the areas where **Game of Thrones** was filmed and have a photo-stop at the legendary Dunluce Castle. It’s easy to see why location scouts chose the North of Ireland, with its rugged coastlines, lush green fields, caves, mountains, forests, and cliffs, as the setting for George RR Martin’s fantasy world. Time permitting we’ll have photo stops at Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge and Rathlin Island before heading back to Belfast and the Grand Central Hotel where we’ll get to know each other over a **Welcome Dinner**. Later we’ll cross the street and visit the Victorian style **Crown Liquor Saloon**, one of the most renowned pubs in Europe. **Dinner & Overnight at Grand Central Hotel.**

**Day 3, October 13- Monday: Belfast.** 30 years after the initiation of the Peace Process, Belfast is booming, zestful, and full of new purpose. But we want to give you an idea of the past as well as the present, so we’ll take a **Coiste Tour** of the Falls Road and Shankill Road guided by former combatants - always a revelatory experience – and view the political murals and the much-decorated Peace Wall. Then we’ll be joined by our friend journalist/author Stuart Bailie who will escort us on a short tour of **Van Morrison’s East Belfast**. We’ll visit Van’s childhood home at 125 Hyndford Street and sites mentioned in his songs. But first a stop at **CS Lewis Square** to pay homage to another of East Belfast’s famous sons and admire the legendary 7 bronze sculptures from The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe. Lunch in bustling downtown Belfast and on to the **Titanic Museum**, a world leading visitor attraction that tells the story of history’s most famous ship. You’ll experience the sights, sounds, smells and stories of the Titanic, as well as the people and city that made her. This will be a first for me and I’m looking forward to it. Back to the Grand Central. You’ll have dinner wherever pleases you, and then many of us will convene at the Grand Central where we’ll have our Belfast Party. We’ll meet former Lord Mayor Máirtín Ó Muilleoir and other Belfast friends. In 2023 Terri Hooley, owner of Good Vibrations (see the movie) and Punk royalty Greg Cowan (The Outcasts), Aidan Murtagh (Protex) & Stuart Bailie joined us. **Overnight at Grand Central Hotel.**

**Day 4, October 14- Tuesday: Belfast – Wexford.** Leaving Belfast, we'll head south on our longest journey that will take us to my hometown of **Wexford**. We'll skirt the city of Dublin this time and make for the Wicklow Mountains and a stop at the beautiful Avoca Mill and Visitor Center founded in 1723 for some shopping and refreshment. Then on to Wexford and the beginning of our two-day South-East Medieval Tour! Wexford was founded by the Vikings and later became a walled medieval town; the streets breathe history. Henry II did penance in Selskar Abbey in 1172 for the murder in the cathedral of St. Thomas a'Beckett. Oliver Cromwell slaughtered women and children in Wexford's Bull Ring after a traitor opened the West Gate. Much of this history will be dealt with on an evening tour of the old town led by actor/historian Paul Walsh as he winds his dramatic way through Viking lanes, medieval graveyards, Norman walls and ancient town gates. That evening you'll get your first taste of Wexford pubs, renowned for their hospitality. Some that I recommend are Mary's Bar, Macken's Bar and Undertakers, and my parents' old haunt, Simon's on the Main Street. **Overnight at the Clayton Whites Wexford Hotel.**

**Day 5, October 15-Wednesday: Wexford – Johnstown Castle – Kilmore Quay – Wexford.**

Take my advice - get up early, walk along Wexford's beautiful Quayside, and watch the sun rise over the Slaney River as it flows into the harbor. Then we're off to magical **Johnstown Castle**, only 5 miles from Wexford town but in a different reality. I spent many happy days there roaming the grounds, lakes, gardens, and flowers. Now after much work and expense, the actual castle is open to visitors, and we'll be taken on a guided tour of this repository of history. First granted to the Esmonde family in 1169 after the Norman Invasion, Cromwell captured it, the Grogan family eventually took over, one of them was hung for his part in the 1798 Rebellion, and in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century it was reimagined, and remodeled into its present neo-Gothic, romantic structure. We'll next go to nearby Kilmore Quay, a fishing port on the South Atlantic within sight of the moody Saltee Islands. This area had its own language, Yola, a mixture of Olde English, Flemish, French and Irish. On Christmas Eve Kilmore Church used to resound to hymns sung in the old tongue. Then back to Wexford for dinner, and at 8pm I'll perform a solo show at Wexford Arts Centre where I first set out down the rock & roll road to ruin. Join me and then we'll all party with my friends and family at Mary's Bar around the corner. **Overnight at Clayton Whites Wexford Hotel.**

**Day 6, October 16- Thursday: Wexford – Kilkenny – Dublin.** Leaving Wexford we'll make a long stop at the beautiful medieval city of **Kilkenny**. Among other attractions, magnificent Kilkenny Castle and its grounds, St. Canice's and St. Mary's Cathedrals, Kytler's Inn, Smithwicks Brewery, and a hive of ancient streets and alleyways full of shops, pubs & restaurants where you should lunch. But make sure you walk through some of the Castle's 50 acres of rolling parklands next to the scenic Nore River. Then we're off to *Dublin in the Green*, as the old song goes. We'll do a brief tour of the now vibrant high-tech Quays and the ancient City Center so you'll get the lay of the land before we check into our hotel. Once in Dublin you will have the option of taking a **1916 Insurrection tour**. The Easter Rising of 1916 was the most dramatic event in the history of Ireland's struggle for independence from the British Empire. The executions of the leaders after the Rising awakened a generation to the cause of Irish freedom, resulting in the War of Independence, and an eventual Irish Republic. Enjoy a night on the town! Take in a play at **The Abbey Theatre** or a rock concert at **Whelan's**. Dublin's pubs are world famous, some of my favorites are Neary's, Davy Byrne's, McDaid's, and The Palace all close by our hotel. For **Irish Traditional Music** don't miss The Cobblestone, O'Donoghue's (where The Dubliners began), The Brazen Head, or just follow your nose. It's hard to go wrong. **Overnight at Camden Court Dublin.**

**Day 7, October 17, Friday: Dublin City.**

On our last full day in Dublin, consider visiting **Kilmainham Jail Museum**. This is a moving experience that will take you through much of Ireland's complex and turbulent history. But do book online well before you leave for Ireland. Today is a free day and we'll provide you with day passes for the Hop-On Hop-Off Bus Tours of Dublin. Just go where you will but there are trips offered to **Kilmainham Jail, Guinness Storehouse, Book of Kells - Trinity College, National Museum of Ireland, National Gallery**, etc. Do spend a little time in some of Dublin's beautiful parks, **St. Stephen's Green, Merrion Square** or **Phoenix Park**, and for a big treat why not have afternoon tea in the **Lord Mayor's Room at The Shelbourne Hotel** (reservations & jackets required). Regardless, come back to the Camden Court in time for our **farewell dinner**, after which we shall all repair next door to **The Bleeding Horse** for our celebratory **American Wake. Dinner and Overnight at Camden Court Dublin.**

**Day 8, October 18, Saturday: Dublin – USA**

Those of us traveling back to the USA will be transported by bus to **Dublin Airport** where we'll say goodbye to Patrick and Bob, our Driver Guides. There will be time for some last-minute duty-free shopping and, perhaps, a last pint of Guinness. This is a sketch of what you'll see and do on our long days and nights of fun and laughter that will leave you with warm memories and **friends for life**. But I do promise that this trip to Ireland will nourish your soul and quite possibly change your life!

#### **YOUR HOLIDAY INCLUDES:**

- **Professional Irish Driver Guide(s) from October 12 at 8AM until departure October 18, 2023.**
- **Six (6) Nights' Accommodations as follows or similar:**

Location	Property
Belfast-	Grand Central Hotel - 2 Nights **** <a href="http://www.grandcentralhotelbelfast.com">www.grandcentralhotelbelfast.com</a> (Oct 12 & 13)
Wexford-	Clayton Hotel Wexford -2 Nights **** <a href="http://www.claytonwhiteshotel.com">www.claytonwhiteshotel.com</a> (October 14 & 15)
Dublin-	Camden Court Hotel-2 Nights **** <a href="http://www.camdencourthotel.com">www.camdencourthotel.com</a> (October 16 & 17)
- **Full Irish Breakfast Daily (except day of arrival)**
- **Two Hotel Dinners: Belfast & Dublin**
- **Admissions as follows: Belfast Political Tour, Giants Causeway, Titanic Museum, Van Morrison Tour, Paul Walsh Walking Tour of Wexford, Johnstown Castle, 24 hour Hop On Hop Off Dublin Bus Pass.**
- **Touring By Deluxe Touring Motorcoach**
- **Services of Professional Irish Driver and Guide**
- **Taxes and Service Charges expect gratuity to driver/guide**
- **Professional Portfolio of Travel EDocuments**
- **An essay by Larry Kirwan on the history of the various areas we will travel to.**
- **Kirwan will also suggest a reading list that will include history, fiction, and poetry to heighten the travel experience**

# Reservation Application

Larry Kirwan Tour of Ireland

(LK2025)

October 11-18, 2025

**Go to [www.hammondtraveltours.com](http://www.hammondtraveltours.com) to complete your reservation application.**

**The non-refundable deposit is \$250.00 per person is required to place a deposit. If you want a single room, there is an additional single supplement charge of \$799.00. Your second payment of \$350.00 per person is due 4/11/2025 and your final payment is due 7/11/2025. Reminders will be sent.**

**Questions? Contact HAMMOND TOURS**  
**34 Wedgewood Lane, Voorheesville, NY 12186**  
TEL: 518-765-2056 or 1-866-486-8772  
[Email: operations@hammondtraveltours.com](mailto:operations@hammondtraveltours.com)

## **Cancellation Penalties:**

(LAND) if written cancellation is received by Hammond Tour more than 95 days prior to departure: a processing fee of \$250 per person will apply. From 95 days or less prior to departure: 100% cancellation penalty fee applies. We strongly recommend Travel Cancellation and Interruption Insurance. Please contact [www.travelguard.com](http://www.travelguard.com) to purchase insurance. This insurance will cover you in the event of death to the said traveler, someone in their immediate family, (mother, father, sister, brother, children etc.) Additionally, any serious illness or other ailments (with a doctor's note) saying that traveler cannot attend trip, would also be covered. Any circumstances of a personal nature other than the aforementioned are not covered. **Please note, Hammond Tours and Black Forty-Seven, Inc./ Larry Kirwan are not responsible for any loss, damages or injuries that may happen while on the tour.**