

OCTOBER 17-26, 2025

\$3395.00 – LAND ONLY

whiskey lovers TOUR OF IRELAND

with music from hugh morrison, jonathan ramsey, and mark clavey

Join us as we explore Ireland through the lens of, and pay homage to, what was once the most popular drink in the world –

Uisce Beatha, “the water of life”. And in the meantime, take in the splendor and magnificence of some of Ireland’s most famous sites.

You know you’ve been wanting *and waiting* to do this! And you don’t have to be a whiskey-lover to love this tour! And neither do your friends!

ARR DAY	Oct 17 Friday	Arrive in Dublin. Enjoy a relaxed evening in Dublin’s City Centre. Sleep off your jet-lag. Be ready to kick off the tour the next morning after breakfast at the hotel! Overnight at the Radisson Blu Royal Hotel.
DAY 1	Oct 18 Saturday	Dublin–Belfast. We meet the group over breakfast, then board the bus and off we go. Leaving the hotel, we head north to Belfast half a day away. Reaching Newry Town, we divert eastward, coming to Downpatrick and our first stop at Down Cathedral . Dating back to 1183, and with a restoration begun in 1790 and completed in 1818, the Cathedral is the reputed burial place of St Patrick, St Brigid, and St Columba. From there, we complete our drive into Belfast where the rest of the afternoon is on your own. We kick the whiskey-loving off with a Whiskey Tasting prior to dinner. “Meet-and-Greet” Dinner and overnight at the Europa Hotel Belfast.
DAY 2	Oct 19 Sunday	Belfast. After a lazy breakfast, we’ll be turning you all loose for a day on your own to explore Belfast! The smart money is on the Hop-On Hop-Off Bus Tour , where you can take a 90-minute panoramic tour of the city before deciding what in particular to visit. Be sure to the Harland and Wolff cranes and Titanic Slipway, the Belfast Peace Wall, the Crumlin Road Gaol, Queen’s University, Belfast City Hall, or Saint George’s Market. Dinner is on your own. Overnight at the Europa Hotel Belfast.
DAY 3	Oct 20 Monday	Bushmills–Donegal. After breakfast we bid adieu to Belfast and make our way to North Antrim’s Bushmills for two outstanding visits. The first is to the Giants Causeway , the volcanic marvel with its 40,000 interlocking basalt columns that form the legendary causeway, built (according to legend) by the Irish giant <i>Fionn mac Cumhaill</i> . From there we drive to the nearby town of Bushmills for lunch, and then take a very short jog to the Old Bushmills Distillery —whose license reportedly dates back to Sir Thomas Phillips in 1608. Then we push on to Donegal Town. Dinner is on your own. Overnight at the Abbey Hotel.
DAY 4	Oct 21 Tuesday	Donegal–Ardara. After a full Irish breakfast, we take a two-minute walk to tour the stunning Donegal Castle , first mentioned in 1544 in connection with the wars between the sons of MacSweeney Doe. Wrecked sailors from the Spanish Armada were granted refuge here in 1588. By 1600, it had been captured and taken over by Eoghan Og MacSweeney, an ally of the English, who was unsuccessfully besieged there by his brother Rory. Then we pile on the bus and drive to Ardara—named, which <i>The Irish Times</i> , in 2012, named as “the best village in which to live in Ireland”. We’ll have lunch in Ardara, and then walk around the corner to visit the Triona Donegal Tweed Visitor Centre , see how Irish wool is made, and engage in some retail therapy with some of the most beautiful woolens you’ve ever seen. Then we drive back to Donegal Town. Dinner is on your own. Overnight at the Abbey Hotel.
DAY 5	Oct 22 Wednesday	Carrowmore–Athlone. After breakfast, it’s moving-day again and we make our goodbyes to Donegal Town, venturing southwest through Sligo and on to the Carrowmore Megalithic Cemetery —the largest cemetery of megalithic tombs in Ireland, and also among the country’s oldest, with tombs and monuments dating from 4300-3500 BC. Archaeologists have recorded over 60 tombs, of which 30 are visible. From there, we drive southeast across Sligo and Roscommon until we come to the geographic center of Ireland and the town of Athlone—where the remains of the day are yours. There will be a Whiskey Tasting at <i>Sean’s Bar</i> —the oldest pub in Ireland. Dinner is on your own. Overnight at the Sheraton Athlone Hotel.
DAY 6	Oct 23 Thursday	Clonmacnoise–Athlone. Today’s adventure involves a half-hour jaunt into County Offaly to the ruins of St Ciarán’s 6 th -century monastery of Clonmacnoise (from <i>Cluain Mhic Nóis</i> , “the meadow of the sons of Nóis”) on the east bank of the River Shannon where it was once crossed by <i>Slighe Mhór</i> . The ruins include a cathedral, seven churches, two round towers, three high crosses and a large collection of early-Christian grave slabs. It’s strategic location on “the Great Highway” helped it become a major center of religion, learning, craftsmanship, and trade by the 9 th -century. It was one of the most famous places in Ireland, visited by scholars from all over Europe, and many of the high kings of Tara and Connacht were buried here. After our visit, we return to Athlone and the rest of the day is yours. Dinner is on your own. Overnight at the Sheraton Athlone Hotel.
DAY 7	Oct 24 Friday	Kilbeggan–Dublin. For the final time, we make our farewells to Athlone and take to the road once more. As we make our return to Dublin, we come to Kilbeggan (from <i>Cill Bheagáin</i> , “the church of St Bécán”). Once there, we visit the Kilbeggan Distillery – the oldest licensed distillery of its kind in Ireland. Founded in 1757, our second distillery spent the next 200 years making a whiskey beloved the world over. When tough times ground its gears to a halt, the town came together to save the whiskey that built the town. Afterwards, we have lunch and make our way to Ireland’s 1,000-year-old city of Dublin. Once there we visit the Irish Whiskey Museum —where we’ll take a journey back through time to learn the origins of Irish whiskey, its rise to glory and its dramatic fall and its rebirth. Dinner is on your own. Overnight at the Radisson Blu Royal Hotel.
DAY 8	Oct 25 Saturday	Dublin. Be sure to eat a hearty breakfast before a day full of exploring Dublin on your own! <i>DoDublin’s Hop-On/Hop-Off Bus Pass</i> (the Green Bus) is the ideal way to see the whole of Dublin, get acquainted and see the sights, and enjoy live commentary from their <i>Fáilte Ireland</i> trained drivers—all native Dubliners and all of whom are great entertainers. Be sure to see the beautiful St Patrick’s Cathedral, the magnificent Dublin Castle, the history-laden G.P.O. on O’Connell Street, Kilmainham Gaol, the famous Phoenix Park, and Trinity College—home to the Book of Kells. Don’t miss St James’ Gate and the Guinness Storehouse. Be sure to visit the Brazen Head—the oldest pub in Dublin. If you haven’t had enough of whiskey by this time, check out the Jameson Bow Street Distillery, the Teeling Distillery, the Pearse Lyons Distillery, the Roe & Co Distillery, or the Dublin Liberties Distillery. Maybe enjoy a Literary Pub Crawl this evening after dinner. “Farewell Dinner” and overnight at the Radisson Blu Royal Hotel.
DEP DAY	Oct 26 Sunday	Dublin Airport to USA. After breakfast, absent any additional personal travel-plans, we transfer to Dublin Airport for your flight home. In the true Irish Tradition, we wish you a “Safe Home”.

Your Tour Package Includes the Following:

- Deluxe motorcoach vehicle throughout your tour, including all transfers and sightseeing
- Services of professional Irish Driver/Guide
- 9 Nights' accommodations as follows (or similar):

Location	Hotel		
Dublin	Radisson Blu Royal	****	1 Nights
Belfast	Europa Hotel Belfast	****	2 Nights
Donegal	Abbey Hotel	***	2 Nights
Athlone	Sheraton Athlone Hotel	****	2 Nights
Dublin	Radisson Blu Royal	****	2 Nights

- Full Irish Breakfast daily
- Two Dinners with the group: at the Europa Hotel Belfast and the Radisson Blu Royal Hotel
- Admission to: a Whiskey Tasting at the Europa Hotel, the Giants Causeway, the Old Bushmills Distillery, Donegal Castle, the Carrowmore Megalithic Cemetery, a Whiskey Tasting at the Sean's Bar, Clonmacnoise, the Kilbeggan Distillery, and the Irish Whiskey Museum
- Sightseeing as per itinerary
- Portage of one suitcase per person
- All hotel taxes, service charges and tips (except to Driver/Guide)

THIS IS A LAND ONLY PACKAGE. YOU MUST ARRANGE YOUR OWN AIR TRAVEL.
(Your travel-arrangements MUST have you arriving at the Radisson Blu Royal Hotel on October 17, 2025.)

Cancellation Penalties: (LAND) if written cancellation is received by Hammond Tour more than 120 days prior to departure, a processing fee of \$250.00 per person will apply. From 120 days to 60 days prior to departure, a cancellation penalty of \$600.00 per person will apply. 59 Days or less prior to departure- a 100% cancellation penalty fee applies.

*We strongly recommend Travel Cancellation & Interruption Insurance.
This insurance will cover you in the event of death to the said traveler, or 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 contact www.travelguard.com to purchase insurance.*

Please note, Hammond Tours is not responsible for any loss, damage or injuries that may happen while on the tour.

To make a reservation go to www.hammondtraveltours.com Band Tours.

A non-refundable Deposit of \$250.00 per person is due ASAP to secure your seat.

The Second Deposit of \$550.00 per person is due May 15th, 2025.

The Final Payment is due August 1st, 2025.

(Reminders will be sent.)

If you want a single room, there is an additional single-supplement charge of \$1299.00.

(Limited number available.)

**HAMMOND TOURS
34 Wedgewood Lane
Voorheesville, NY 12186**

Telephone: 518-765-2056 (local) • 1-866-486-8772 (toll-free) • Email: operations@hammondtraveltours.com