

## The Whiskey Stick Faction Presents

## The Irish Stick Tour of Ireland



With John Borter, Trish Chiovari, Chris Shaw OCTOBER 18-24, 2025 \$2685.00 PER PERSON SHARING A ROOM.

### **Hammond Tours Presents:**

Daily Itinerary

Day 1, October 18, Saturday: Dublin Airport. Tour begins at Dublin Airport! After clearing customs, travelers arriving from the US, along with anyone coming in early are united and met by your Hammond Tours Irish Driver Guides. You need to arrive at Dublin Airport by 10:00AM. We begin our travels touring Dublin with a stop at Guinness. Touring the Guinness Storehouse in Dublin is a truly immersive experience that brings the story of Ireland's most iconic beer to life. Located in the heart of the St. James's Gate Brewery, the tour begins with an introduction to the history of Guinness, tracing its roots back to 1759 when Arthur Guinness first brewed the famous stout. As you wander through the seven-story building, you'll explore interactive exhibits that delve into the brewing process, the ingredients, and the craftsmanship behind the drink. Along the way, you'll learn about the brand's rich heritage, its impact on Irish culture, and its global reach. The highlight of the tour is reaching the Gravity Bar at the top of the Storehouse, where you can enjoy a complimentary pint of Guinness while taking in panoramic views of Dublin's skyline. The experience is both educational and fun, blending history, innovation, and a deep sense of Irish pride, making it a must-do for beer lovers and culture enthusiasts alike. Time this afternoon to explore Dublin before we head to our hotel for check-in. Overnight at the Camden Court Hotel.

Day 2, October 19, Sunday: Dublin-Galway. After enjoying breakfast at our hotel, we'll begin our journey to Galway. This vibrant city is a hub of artistic energy, rich cultural heritage, and scenic beauty along Galway Bay. Galway is famed for its bohemian atmosphere, where traditional Irish music and contemporary art coexist in harmony. Wander the colorful streets, admire the charming cobblestone walkways, and explore the lively Latin Quarter, brimming with pubs, cafes, shops, and galleries. In the afternoon, you'll have some free time to explore this dynamic city at your own pace. In Galway City, Shop Street is one of the most popular and fun streets to explore. It's filled with lively shops, cafes, street performers, and plenty of pubs, making it the heart of Galway's vibrant atmosphere. You'll find musicians playing traditional Irish tunes, artists showcasing their work, and a bustling crowd of locals and visitors alike.Another lively spot is Quay Street, located in the Latin Quarter, which is known for its colorful buildings, quirky boutiques, great restaurants, and lively pubs. It's a great place to wander, enjoy the street art, and soak up the local culture. Dinner Overnight at The Galmont Hotel Galway.

Day 3, October 20, Monday: Galway. After breakfast today, we set off for Athlone to embark on a boat ride that offers a truly unique and breathtaking view of the Cliffs of Moher. As we sail along the River Shannon, the journey gradually unveils the beauty of the Irish countryside, with lush, green landscapes stretching as far as the eye can see. As we approach the towering cliffs, the view from the water is nothing short of spectacular. The Cliffs of Moher rise majestically from the Atlantic Ocean, their jagged edges dramatically silhouetted against the sky. From this vantage point, the vastness and raw beauty of these cliffs are even more awe-inspiring, with the ocean crashing below and seabirds soaring overhead. The experience is peaceful yet powerful, as the sea mist rolls in and the true scale of this natural wonder comes into focus. It's a moment that highlights the immense beauty of Ireland's rugged coast, a memory that will stay with you long after the journey ends. In the afternoon, we're in for another treat as we meet Bernie Leddy, a world-renowned expert on the Doyle system of Irish Stick Fighting (Shillelagh). Featured on a recent BBC special, Bernie will share the fascinating history of Bataireacht, Ireland's ancient martial art, and demonstrate the techniques himself. It's a rare opportunity to learn about and witness this age-old tradition firsthand, as Bernie brings its rich history to life before your eyes. Overnight at The Galmont Hotel Galway.

Day 4, October 21, Tuesday: Galway-Killarney. Today we leave Galway and make our way to Killarney. On our way we will make a stop in Ennis, which is a charming lively town known for its rich history, vibrant culture, and welcoming atmosphere. The town's cobblestone streets are lined with colorful buildings, bustling shops, cozy cafes, and lively pubs, giving it a friendly, small-town vibe with plenty of character. While in Ennis we will be fortunate enough to stop and have a demonstration by Declan Casey. Declan is recognized worldwide as one of, if not the best, Shillelagh maker living today! A combination of stories, demonstration, and hands on inspection will give you a connection to this age old martial art. Sure to be a very interesting history on the Shillelagh. After lunch we will continue onto Killarney which is a picturesque town located in County Kerry. It's famous for its breathtaking natural beauty, sitting at the heart of Killarney National Park, which is the oldest national park in Ireland. The town is a popular destination for visitors due to its mix of stunning landscapes, historic sites, and a friendly, welcoming atmosphere. Time to go out and explore the town this afternoon. Dinner & Overnight at The Killarney International Hotel.

Day 5, October 22, Monday: Killarney. Today, we embark on a captivating journey to the Dingle Peninsula, a place where Ireland's most spectacular scenery unfolds before your eyes. The enchanting town of Dingle, with its colorful fishing boats bobbing in the harbor and lively, historic pubs, feels as if it's been lifted straight from the pages of a fairytale. With just 1,500 residents and 52 welcoming pubs, Dingle invites you to embrace its charm, character, and timeless beauty. Don't miss the chance to savor a bowl of the town's famous seafood chowder, served with freshly baked brown bread—a true culinary treasure that's well worth the wait. Our adventure continues to the awe-inspiring Slea Head, where the landscape takes on an even more dramatic allure. As we journey through this stunning terrain, you'll encounter ancient beehive-shaped huts—once home to 12th-century monks—perched high above the rugged Blasket Islands. The raw, untamed beauty of this area is unparalleled, offering a landscape unlike any other in Europe. We end the day with a relaxing return to Killarney, where you'll have the opportunity to experience the traditional jaunting carts. These charming, horse-drawn carts offer a leisurely way to explore the breathtaking Killarney National Park, allowing you to fully immerse yourself in the natural wonders of the landscape at a serene pace.

Overnight at The Killarney International Hotel.

Day 6, October 23, Tuesday: Killarney-Dublin. Today we leave Killarney and make our way to Dublin. Driving from Killarney to Dublin is a scenic journey that takes you through some of Ireland's most beautiful landscapes. Starting in Killarney, you'll head north through the picturesque countryside of County Kerry and County Limerick, gradually transitioning into the peaceful rolling hills of County Wicklow. As you approach Glendalough, the landscape becomes more dramatic, with the towering Wicklow Mountains surrounding the serene, glacial valley that is home to the famous monastic site. Glendalough itself is a tranquil and historic spot, known for its well-preserved medieval ruins, including the iconic round tower, ancient churches, and Celtic crosses. The peaceful lakes and wooded surroundings make it a perfect place for a leisurely stroll, and there are plenty of walking trails if you want to take in the breathtaking scenery. After exploring the history and natural beauty of Glendalough, you continue your drive towards Dublin, enjoying the scenic views as you make your way into the vibrant city. Overnight at The Camden Court Hotel.

**Day 7, October 24, Wednesday: Dublin Airport.** Today you will be transported to Dublin Airport for your flight home. Still time for duty free shopping.

#### YOUR HOLIDAY INCLUDES:

- Deluxe motorcoach vehicle throughout your tour, including all transfers (1 group transfer on arrival & departure) and sightseeing
- Services of professional Irish Driver and Guide.
- Six (6 Nights) First Class Accommodations as follows or similar:
- Location Hotel

Dublin- Camden Court Hotel-1 Nights \*\*\*\* www.camdencourthotel.com (October 18)
Galway- The Galmont Hotel- 2 Nights \*\*\*\* www.thegalmonthotel.com (October 19 & 20)
Killarney- Killarney International Hotel- 2 Nights \*\*\*\* www.killarneyinternational.com (October 21 & 22)
Dublin- Camden Court Hotel-1 Nights \*\*\*\* www.camdencourthotel.com (October 23)

- Full Irish breakfast daily, except the day of arrival, Two Dinners: 1 Galway, 1 Killarney
- Admissions to Guinness Storehouse, Athlone Castle Cliffs of Moher Cruise, Killarney Jaunting Cart ride, Glendalough, Two (2) Stick Fighting lectures
- Fully escorted sightseeing as per itinerary
- Porterage of one suitcase per person, Hotel taxes throughout (Except tips to your personal Driver/Guide)

# **Reservation Application**

Irish Stick Tour of Ireland (IS2025) October 18-24, 2025

Go to www.hammondtours.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 \$999.00. Your second payment of \$350.00 per person is due 5/18/2025 and your final payment is due 7/18/2025. 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@hammondtours.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 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 Chris Shaw & Stick Faction are not responsible for any loss, damages or injuries that may happen while on the tour.