

Irish Legends Self-Drive

Starting at **C$2,945***

A mythic journey through the Emerald Isle

Explore hidden gems along with tried-and-true favorites on this self-drive adventure. Visit medieval Kilkenny, friendly Killarney, and buzzing Galway. All of our self-drive Classic Itinerary tours include your hotel stays, a hop-on, hop-off bus ticket and a voucher for a Dublin attraction, and an entertainment experience; other attractions mentioned are suggestions.

Trip details

Tour start
Dublin

Tour end
Dublin

10	9	15
Days	Nights	Meals

* Prices listed are in Canadian dollars, and are per-person, double-occupancy. If you would prefer a single room, there is a single-room supplement of C$1,545

Trip Highlights:
- Irish Night at the Abbey Tavern
- Dublin Bus Tour
- Dublin Sightseeing
- Irish National Stud & Gardens
- Cliffs of Moher
- Aran Islands
- Cobh Heritage Centre
- Sean's Bar in Athlone
- Dunbrody Famine Ship

Hotels:
- Clayton Hotel Cardiff Lane
- Newpark Hotel
- Killarney Towers Hotel
- Manor West Hotel
- Salthill Hotel
- Radisson Blu Royal Hotel - Dublin

2027 Irish Legends Self-Drive - 10 Days/9 Nights

Trip Itinerary

Day 1 Dublin

Welcome to Dublin. Today see all the sights of this vibrant city, including its Georgian squares, Trinity College, Christchurch Cathedral, Grafton Street shops, the River Liffey, stopping off when and as often as you wish. Dine independently.

Day 2 Kilkenny

You will have a voucher to take a taxi from hotel to Hertz Office to pick up your Hertz rental car. You might choose to visit the Irish National Stud in Kildare, the heart of Irish horse racing. Travel to the small city of Kilkenny. Discover its fascinating architectural heritage by taking a walk down the Medieval Mile along the city's main street; see its 13th-century cathedral and its grand castle, built by the Anglo-Normans in 1195. (B)

Day 3 Kilkenny

You might choose to visit Waterford, or you might like to visit New Ross in County Wexford to explore the Dunbrody Famine Ship, a replica of the vessel used during the 1840s famine to transport emigrants to North America. One notable fact about the port of New Ross is that it's the port from which Patrick Kennedy, the great-grandfather of President John F. Kennedy, departed for America; JFK returned to New Ross and gave a memorable address from the quay in 1963. Return to Kilkenny to dine in your hotel this evening. (B, D)

Day 4 Killarney

Set out for Killarney. Along the way you might stop in Midleton and choose to visit the renowned Midleton Distillery and immerse yourself in the rich history, craftsmanship, and taste of Irish whiskey. You might then choose to proceed on to visit Blarney Castle, climb the winding staircase to kiss the famous stone and earn the legendary gift of the gab, or simply stroll through the gardens. Head on to the town of Killarney or Tralee, where you will dine in your hotel. (B, D)

Day 5 Killarney

You might choose to visit Moriarty's, a CIE Tours preferred shopping partner, in the beautiful Gap of Dunloe. Then go to discover the glorious Dingle Peninsula as you drive along the south shore to admire views of heathery mountains, sandy stretches of beach, and rocky headlands. Browse around the town of Dingle. Or you may choose to explore the Ring of Kerry, Ireland's best-known scenic drive. Dine independently this evening and return to your hotel in Killarney or Tralee. (B)

Day 6 Salthill | Galway

Begin driving north; you might choose to stop at the Cliffs of Moher, soaring 700 feet above churning Atlantic swells. On a clear day you can see great views of Galway Bay and the Aran Islands. Continue on to Galway, where your hotel is on the promenade in the seaside suburb of Salthill; there are many lively pubs nearby or you may choose to explore the buzzing city of Galway, with its street performers, medieval buildings, and charming shops. Dine in your hotel this evening. (B, D)

Day 7 Salthill | Galway

Today is a good day to visit the Aran Islands, should you choose. You can book online with Aran Island Ferries and get the ferry from Galway City to get to Inishmore, the largest of the three Aran Islands. These austere, rocky islands are renowned for the hardy islanders who maintain traditional fishing and farming methods, and who still speak the Irish language. You might choose to hike or hire a bike at the pier to cycle to Dun Aengus, a huge Iron Age fortress perched on sheer cliffs above the Atlantic; it was described by a 19th-century archaeologist as "the most magnificent barbaric monument extant in Europe". There are a variety of tours available if you'd prefer to be driven around the island. Explore Kilronan, the island's small main village – it's a good spot to enjoy a casual lunch before returning by ferry, and then on back to Salthill for the evening. (B)

Day 8 Dublin | Abbey Tavern

Drive to Dublin today. Along the way, you might stop in Athlone, where you might choose to have lunch in one of the many restaurants and cafes in the center of town and perhaps visit Sean's Bar for a drink, as thirsty patrons have for centuries. This pub has a documented history going back to 900 AD – and is featured in the Guinness Book of Records as the oldest pub in Europe. During renovations in 1970, ancient walls and old coins dating back centuries were discovered. Head on to Dublin for the evening, where you will enjoy dinner and a lively show of traditional entertainment at the Abbey Tavern in the seaside suburb of Howth. (B, D)

Day 9 Dublin Sightseeing

Explore Dublin on a Hop-On, Hop-Off bus tour, seeing all the city's highlights with the freedom to stop off to explore further as you please. Your Hop-On, Hop-Off bus ticket also gives you admission to the Little Museum of Dublin, an old Georgian townhouse with a fantastic collection of 5,000 objects telling the story of the city. Plus, you will have a voucher to admit you to one of Dublin's top attractions: the Guinness Storehouse, a seven-story attraction telling the story of Dublin's iconic beverage, complete with a pint at the Gravity Bar on the top floor; Teeling Distillery, the first new whiskey distillery to open in Dublin in 125 years; EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum, telling the story of the people who left Ireland and how they shaped the world; the GPO Museum, innovatively detailing the fascinating story of the 1916 Rising, the pivotal event that led to Ireland's independence; or Jameson Distillery Bow St., the original home of Jameson Irish Whiskey since 1780. Your evening is free to explore Dublin's many bustling pubs and restaurants as you wish. (B)

Day 10 Tour Ends in Dublin

Your tour ends after breakfast. Return your rental car at Dublin Airport. (B) B: Breakfast; L: Lunch; D: Dinner>

Please see www.cietours.com for the most up-to-date itinerary and pricing