

# Best of Iceland & Ireland South

Starting at \$3,419\*

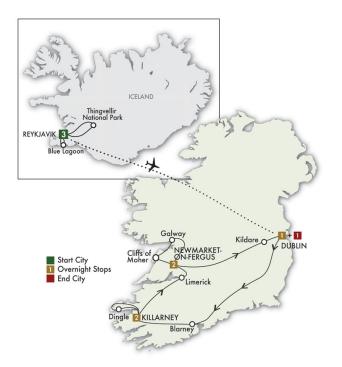
# See the amazing beauty of two wonderful islands

Discover the wealth of cultural heritage, folklore and spectacular scenery in these two magnificent destinations. ICELAND IS AN ACTIVE DESTINATION: While our tour is not an adventure tour, visiting Iceland requires the ability to walk over uneven or icy terrain, climb stairs and vehicle steps, and walk or stand for several hours at a time. Some tours include activities in the late evening.

# Trip details



\* Prices listed are per-person, double-occupancy. If you would prefer a single room, there is a single-room supplement of \$940.



### **Trip Highlights:**

- Gullfoss Waterfall
- Thingvellir National Park
- Secret Lagoon Blarney Castle
- Jaunting Car Ride
- Irish National Stud Dublin

# Hotels:

- Fosshotel Reykjavik Talbot Hotel Stillorgan
- Scotts Hotel
- The Inn at Dromoland
- Clayton Hotel Dublin Airport
- Grand Canal Hotel

# 2020 Best of Iceland & Ireland South 10 days/9 nights

# **Trip Itinerary**

#### Dav 1 **Reykjavik City Tour & Welcome Reception**

Meet your guide at 2:00 PM in the lobby of your hotel. Take an orientation tour and discover Iceland's capital city set on the southern shore of Faxa Bay. Discover Reykjavik's settlement, history, and the natural beauty that surrounds it. You'll be charmed by its architecture and the beautiful brightly-colored rooftops. Visit the Perlan Observation Deck, which offers magnificent 360° views of Reykjavik and its surroundings - mountain, glacier, and volcano vistas on the horizon will be a taste of what is to come on your journey. Return to your centrally-located hotel and enjoy a welcome drink and canapes with your group, followed by dinner on your own.

#### Reykjavik & The Blue Lagoon Day 3

Enjoy a free day independently exploring Reykjavik with an early dinner on your own. In the evening, you'll be whisked away to the Blue Lagoon, a large manmade lake surrounded by a lava field that is also a geothermal spa. Enjoy one of the 25 wonders of the world as you share in a cocktail reception and lagoon entry with your group. (B)

#### Dav 5 **Blarney Castle & Killarney**

Relax and enjoy the farmlands of the picturesque midlands. Get a taste of farm life at a nearby sheep farm. Enjoy scones with tea and watch trained dogs herd sheep. Visit Blarney Castle to kiss the famous "Stone of Eloquence" or explore the tranquil gardens. Travel through Macroom and into County Kerry where the scenery becomes more mountainous. Arrive in the charming town of Killarney. (B, D)

#### Day 2 **Golden Circle**

Head out on the famed Golden Circle, starting with the spectacular Thingyellir National Park, a meeting place of old Icelandic clans. It is also where the Eurasian and North American tectonic plates meet above ground. Journey to the Secret Lagoon: small and intimate, it's where savvy travelers go to enjoy the Icelandic spa experience. Don't forget your swimsuit! Enjoy a tasty lunch in the greenhouse of Fridheimar Tomato Farm. Then it's on to the Strokkur Geysir, which erupts every 10 minutes. Stop at Gullfoss Waterfall, one of the most popular tourist attractions in all of Iceland with two separate drops and the largest falls in all of Europe in terms of water volume. Dinner is on your own in Reykjavik. (B, L)

#### Day 4 Included Flight to Dublin & Dublin Tour

Travel to the airport with your group and say farewell to your Iceland tour director. Fly together to Dublin. You'll meet your Ireland tour director at your Dublin hotel at 2 PM. Set out on an orientation tour of Dublin city center and take a walking tour of Trinity College with a local guide. There you will go to the library to view the Book of Kells, the 9th-century illuminated manuscript that is one of Ireland's greatest cultural treasures. Next, visit the Little Museum of Dublin; located in a Georgian townhouse, it tell the fascinating story of the city. You'll enjoy a CIE Tours exclusive there: an after-hours opening and a private tour. In the evening, enjoy a welcome drink with your group before dinner. (B. D)

#### **Dingle Peninsula & Traditional Irish Dinner** Dav 6

Discover the glorious Dingle Peninsula, made famous in the movies "Ryan's Daughter" and "Far & Away," which showcased the wonderful scenery found here. Travel to Slea Head at the westernmost tip of the peninsula for awesome views of the Atlantic Ocean. Enjoy an evening of traditional Irish entertainment over dinner. (B. D)

# Day 7 Jaunting Car Ride & Limerick Panoramic Tour

Take a traditional horse-drawn jaunting car through the Killarney National Park to tour the scenic Ross Castle and Kenmare Estate. Head to the village of Adare, famous for its main street lined with thatched cottages and colorful gardens. Proceed to Limerick and take a panoramic tour. (B, D)

# Day 9 Irish National Stud & Dublin

Enjoy the scenic Irish countryside on your way to Kildare where you'll visit the home of equine royalty, The Irish National Stud. Here you'll see impeccably-bred stallions alongside protective mares, frolicking foals, and athletic yearlings. Stroll around the delightful grounds to explore St. Fiachra's Garden, including its miniature Japanese Gardens. Spend the rest of the day at your leisure and dine at your choice of one of the many restaurants or pubs scattered throughout Dublin. (B)

## Day 8 Cliffs of Moher & Galway

Travel along the coast of County Clare to view the Cliffs of Moher, which soar almost 700 feet above churning Atlantic swells. Walk along the top of the cliffs to O'Brien's Tower for great views of Galway Bay and the Aran Islands. Take a guided walking tour of the old city of Galway. In the evening, head to a castle for a medieval-style feast, where lords and ladies will serenade you with music and songs from days of yore. (B, D)

# Day 10 Tour Ends in Dublin

Your program ends after breakfast. (B) B: Breakfast; L: Lunch; D: Dinner



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