



Grand Tour of Britain & Ireland

Starting at **\$5,819***

Set off on the trip of a lifetime

Check every item on your wish list off on this epic British and Irish tour. See the very best of England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales on this 23-day adventure.

Trip details

Tour start
London



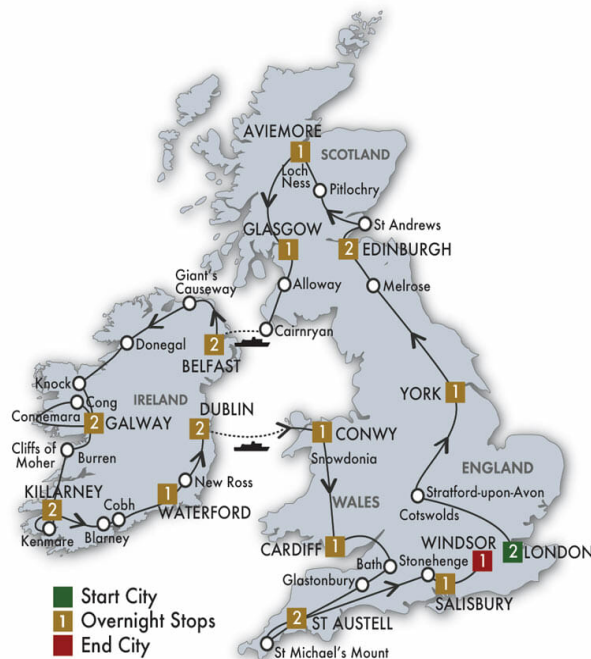
Tour end
London

23 ☀
Days

22 🌙
Nights

38 🍴
Meals

* Prices listed are per-person, double-occupancy. If you would prefer a single room, there is a single-room supplement of \$2000.



Trip Highlights:

- Cliffs of Moher
- Edinburgh Castle
- Windsor Castle
- Shakespeare's Birthplace
- Stonehenge
- The Glens of Atrim
- Trinity Library & Book of Kells

Hotels:

- Novotel London Tower Bridge
- Delta Hotels by Marriott York
- Mercure Edinburgh Haymarket
- Macdonald Highlands Hotel
- DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Strathclyde
- Europa Hotel
- Galway Bay Hotel
- Killarney Plaza Hotel
- Dooley's Hotel Waterford
- Radisson Blu St Helen's Hotel - Dublin
- The Quay Hotel
- Park Plaza Cardiff
- The Cornwall Hotel
- Mercure Salisbury White Hart Hotel
- Macdonald Windsor Hotel

2020 Grand Tour of Britain & Ireland - 23 Days/22 Nights

Trip Itinerary

Day 1 London Arrival | Kensington Palace

Tour begins at 2:00 PM at your London hotel. Take a panoramic tour of London to see key landmarks, like Big Ben, Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey and more. Take time for a visit to Kensington Palace, Queen Victoria's birthplace, the former home of Princess Diana, and now the official residence of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. You can tour exhibits within the palace, and wander through the gorgeous gardens outside. Enjoy a welcome drink with your group at your hotel before a free evening for dinner at one of London's restaurants or pubs.

Day 2 Independent London Sightseeing | St. Paul's Cathedral

Enjoy an independent day of sightseeing at your choice of things to do in London with tickets for the Original London Hop-On, Hop-Off London tour. Explore St. Paul's Cathedral, the first cathedral built after Henry VIII broke with the Catholic Church, with your included admission voucher. Enjoy another evening to explore London's restaurant scene on your own. (B)

Day 3 Cotswolds | Shakespeare's Birthplace

Travel through the charming rolling hills of the Cotswolds. You can stop for photos in the tiny villages of thatched-roof cottages that you'll find nestled along the route. Arrive in Stratford-upon-Avon to visit Shakespeare's Birthplace, where you'll learn about Shakespeare's life and works—and get to tour the home where he grew up. Enjoy free time in Stratford for lunch and some independent exploration before heading to your hotel in York. (B, D)

Day 4 York Minster | Melrose Abbey | Scottish Evening

Discover York's ancient past as a Roman stronghold, a Viking outpost—and a medieval walled city. Take a stroll along the Shambles, the best preserved medieval street in Europe. Visit York Minster, a thousand-year-old house of worship that's the largest of its kind in Northern Europe. Drive along past the lush green hills and placid lakes of northern England and its legendary Lake District and cross into Scotland. View the dramatic ruins of Melrose Abbey, dating from the 1100s. Celebrate this evening with a traditional Scottish banquet and entertainment. (B, D)

Day 5 York Minster | Melrose Abbey | Scottish Evening

Tour Edinburgh with a local guide. In Scotland's capital city you'll see its medieval Old Town and elegant Georgian New Town that dates from the 18th century. Tour the iconic Edinburgh Castle that lords over the city to view the Crown Jewels of Scotland. August 9 and August 16 departures will attend the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo on the Castle Esplanade. (B)

Day 6 St Andrews | Pitlochry

Take a tour of St Andrews, the legendary "Home of Golf." You'll enjoy some free time to explore the town before traveling on to Pitlochry for lunch. Proceed to Aviemore, a popular resort town in the Highlands, located in Cairngorms National Park. (B, D)

Day 7 Loch Ness Cruise | Glencoe | Stirling Castle

See legendary Castle Urquhart perched upon a rocky outcrop as you cruise along Loch Ness; perhaps you'll catch a glimpse of the legendary Nessie beneath the waves. Drive through the dramatic heather-covered and rocky Highlands and stop off to visit Stirling Castle to learn about the life of Scottish royals dating back to the 1500s. End the day at your hotel in Strathclyde. (B, D)

Day 9 Glens of Antrim | Giant's Causeway | Belfast Tour

Drive through the scenic Nine Glens of Antrim, dramatic forests that served as a backdrop for the show Game of Thrones. Visit the Giant's Causeway, hexagonal columns of basalt formed by volcanoes over 60 million years ago. Return to Belfast for a panoramic tour of the city, a bustling port in Northern Ireland. Enjoy free time for dining independently. (B)

Day 11 Wild Atlantic Way Drive | Quiet Man Walking Tour

Drive through the stunning mountains and shores of Connemara. In the village of Cong, take a short walking tour to see locations from the Quiet Man. Have lunch at Eddies of Clonbur, a charming and traditional Irish pub, then travel to Galway via Maam Cross. The afternoon is free to enjoy the coastal city of Galway on your own. (B, L)

Day 13 Muckross House | Ring of Kerry | Sheep Farm

Step back in time at the 19th-century Muckross House and Gardens, where you can tour the manor and small farms that still look just as they did hundreds of years ago. Take a scenic drive along highlights of the Ring of Kerry, Ireland's most famous road, before stopping in Kenmare for lunch. You'll get free time to explore before you travel to a traditional farm to see highly skilled sheepdogs herd sheep. (B, L)

Day 15 Waterford Crystal | Dunbrody Famine Ship | Taylors Three Rock

Tour the famous House of Waterford Crystal to see how its famous glassware is made. Discover the past when you visit the Dunbrody Famine Ship, a replica of a 19th-century vessel used to transport Irish emigrants. Enjoy a night of traditional Irish entertainment and cuisine at Taylors Three Rock Pub. (B, D)

Day 17 Ferry to Wales | Conwy

Set sail for Holyhead in Wales. Discover the town of Conwy, noted for its imposing 13th century castle and stone walls, and take a guided walking tour of its famous sights. Tour Conwy Castle with free time to explore on your own. (B, D)

Day 19 Bath | Glastonbury Tor & Abbey | Bodmin Moor

In Bath, visit the hot springs and the ancient Roman Baths, which have attracted visitors for more than 2,000 years. Stop in Glastonbury with its early Christian Abbey and Glastonbury Tor, a hill that's been important for both pagan and Christian faiths. Enjoy free time to explore and have lunch. Take a scenic drive through Devon and across the stony, windswept Bodmin Moor into Cornwall to your hotel in St Austell. (B, D)

Day 21 Stonehenge | Salisbury

Discover the Neolithic stone monoliths at Stonehenge, and learn some clues to how prehistoric tribes built the monument. Take a tour of Salisbury, a medieval city famous for its cathedral, which houses one of the original copies of the Magna Carta. (B, D)

Day 8 Rabbie Burns Birthplace Museum | Belfast

Stop at the Robert Burns' Birthplace Museum to learn about Scotland's legendary poet. Drive to the Cairnryan port to travel by ferry to Belfast, where you will dine in your hotel. (B, D)

Day 10 Donegal | Knock Shrine | Galway

Depart for Donegal, where you will enjoy some free time to explore this scenic port city and lunch independently. Visit Knock Shrine, a pilgrimage site where an apparition of the Virgin Mary is said to have appeared a century ago. Depart for Galway and take a walking tour of the city with a local guide. Return to your hotel for dinner there. (B, D)

Day 12 The Burren | Cliffs of Moher

Drive through the stark limestone landscape of the Burren to view the legendary Cliffs of Moher, dramatic sandstone and shale cliffs that rise 700 feet above the ocean beneath. Then take a ferry across the River Shannon for a stop at John B. Keane's Pub, where the famed playwright wrote his famous works. (B, D)

Day 14 Blarney Castle | Cobh | Waterford Walking Tour

Visit Blarney Castle and kiss the "Stone of Eloquence" and take time for a stroll through the gardens. Visit Cobh and learn of this colorful town's connection to the Titanic, as its final port of call. Enjoy a guided walking tour of Waterford, the oldest city in Ireland. (B, D)

Day 16 Dublin Tour | Book of Kells

Tour central Dublin with a local guide, then take a walking tour of Trinity College, where you will visit the Old Library, housing thousands of rare volumes. See the 9th-century Book of Kells, a beautifully illuminated book of the Gospels and one of Ireland's finest cultural treasures. Explore some of the other intriguing things to do in Dublin on your own this evening. (B)

Day 18 Snowdonia | Brecon Beacons | Cardiff

Head south through the mountainous Snowdonia National Park, stopping in a traditional Welsh market town, where you'll have some free time for lunch. View the stunning scenery of the Brecon Beacons National Park. Enjoy a panoramic tour of the capital city of Cardiff before heading to Cardiff Castle, where you'll enjoy a tour followed by an elegant banquet. (B, D)

Day 20 St Michael's Mount | St. Ives | Mevagissey

Travel to Marazion and see St Michael's Mount, a remarkable tidal island. If the tide allows, you can walk out across the causeway to visit. Travel to the artistic community of St. Ives for a walking tour. Browse around the picturesque fishing village of Mevagissey. (B, D)

Day 22 Windsor Walking Tour | Windsor Castle

Head to Windsor and enjoy a guided walking tour of the picturesque historic town, then visit Windsor Castle, the Queen's Residence. The rest of your day is free to explore as you wish. (B)

Day 23 Tour Ends in London

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