



Ireland Hidden Heartlands

6 Days
£775

Departs: Sunday
15th June 2025

Inclusions:

- Visit Kilkenny • Visit Athlone
- River Shannon Boat Cruise
- Visit Cliffs of Moher Visitor Centre
 - Visit Doolin
- Visit Black Head & Ballyvaughan Bay
 - Visit Galway • Visit Waterford

This tour is ideally placed at the lovely 4-star Lough Rea Hotel to visit all the wonders this area has to offer. With an impressive location this hotel offers superb state-of-the-art facilities and stylish accommodation.

Day 1: Take the afternoon ferry from Fishguard to Rosslare, and continue onto our overnight stay at **The Maldron Hotel Wexford**.

Day 2: After a hearty breakfast at the Maldron Hotel Wexford, we set off towards **Kilkenny**, a city renowned for its rich medieval heritage and vibrant arts scene. Here, you'll have ample free time to explore. We continue our journey to the luxurious **Lough Rea Hotel** in Loughrea. Settle into your stylish room and enjoy the superb facilities the hotel has to offer.

Day 3: After breakfast make your way east with a short visit to **Athlone** strategically sited on the crossing point of the Shannon - Ireland's largest river. Spend free time exploring Athlone, known as the "Gateway to the West". Its prominent

Norman Castle has been renovated and the visitor centre is a great place to learn more about this historic town. After lunch, we head to Athlone Castle to board our river cruise, this cruise travels on the **River Shannon to Lough Ree**. During the sailing there is live commentary on local history, the religious settlements on the islands and tales of Viking treasure.

Day 4: From the sheer drop of the Cliffs of Moher into the Atlantic to the stark moonscapes of the Burren, northern Co. Clare is a must for all visitors to this region.

Call at the **Cliffs of Moher Visitor Centre** for an introduction to the Burren, a large limestone cap stretching for miles. From here, head to Doolin for lunch, known as the music capital of

Your Hotel

Maldron Hotel, Wexford (Overnight stay)

Lough Rea Hotel and Spa, Loughrea (Main hotel)

Basis:

Dinner, Bed & Breakfast
Single room supp: **£137**



Ireland. This afternoon, travel via Lisdoonvarna, where the famous match making festival takes place in September. Follow the dramatic coastal route where on a clear day you can spot the Aran Islands, make your way around **Black Head and Ballyvaughan Bay** before returning to Lough Rea and your hotel.

Day 5: Depart the hotel after breakfast and make your way to **Galway** for free time to explore this cosmopolitan city famous for its Oyster Festival. Perhaps take a walk along the Old Quays to visit the Spanish Arch and the Claddagh, which pay testament to Galway's maritime history, or visit the Cathedral of St. Nicholas with its ornate marble floor. Spend time in Eyre Square, a relaxing spot, amongst the maze of streets offering a variety of stores, pubs, and restaurants.

Day 6: After breakfast we depart the hotel and make our way to the city of **Waterford** which was established by the Vikings in the 9th Century and has become the capital of Ireland's sunny South East. Free time to have lunch and explore this lovely city before we continue to Rosslare port for our return ferry in the early evening to Fishguard and home.