

PRIDE OF BIXBY MARCHING BAND DUBLIN ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

March 14 – 21, 2023 (6 nights/8 days)

Day 1 Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Depart via scheduled air service. The destination is Dublin, Ireland

Day 2 Wednesday, March 15 Dublin (D)

Arrive in Dublin. Meet your coach driver, who will assist the group to awaiting chartered motorcoach for a panoramic tour of Dublin's highlights including General Post Office, O'Connell Street, Phoenix Park (the largest public park in Europe), Merrion Square where you can see Oscar Wilde's house, Grafton St., etc.

Enjoy a tour of Trinity College, which is Ireland's oldest university (founded by Queen Elizabeth I in 1592). The highlight of the tour will be a view of the Book of Kells, written around the year 800 AD and one of the oldest and most beautifully illuminated manuscripts in the world

Also visit the National Museum of Ireland. The National Museum houses artefacts which date from 7,000 BC to the 20th century. The Kildare Street site is home to artefacts from Viking times displayed alongside Celtic masterpieces and it houses one of the largest collections of Bronze Age gold in the world
Evening dinner and overnight at the hotel

Dublin is Ireland's capital and its largest, most cosmopolitan city. It wasn't before the Viking raids of the 9th century that Dublin was fully established. The 'boom years' came in the 18th century and the city expanded across the river forming a new Dublin of stately squares, streets and Georgian mansions. Today, with its elegant Georgian streets, gregarious inhabitants and over one thousand years of history, it's little wonder Dublin is a city of writers

Day 3 Thursday, March 16 Dublin/ Glendalough (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Excursion to Glendalough and the Wicklow Mountains. The steep wooded slopes of Glendalough the "valley of the two lakes" harbor one of Ireland's most atmospheric monastic sites — established in the 6th century. Here we see the Round Tower, Cathedral, St. Kevin's Cross and Kitchen, and Gatehouse

Lunch, on own

Return to Dublin for time at leisure

Evening dinner and overnight at the hotel

Day 4 Friday, March 17 Dublin (B,L,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Pride of Bixby Marching Band Performance in the World-Famous Dublin St. Patrick's Festival Parade

For two hours you will participate in an awesome display of creative talent as the national St. Patrick's Festival Parade snakes its way through the city center. International and Irish marching bands join performers, dancers and street theatre companies to present a wonderfully entertaining parade. The parade is a piece of moving theatre, complete with its own Creative Director. Colorful costumes, flamboyant performances and outstanding musical talent



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Boxed Lunch, included
Afternoon at leisure to enjoy the atmosphere of St. Patrick's Day
Evening dinner and overnight at the hotel

Day 5 Saturday, March 18 Cliffs of Moher / Limerick (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel and check out
Transfer to Limerick via excursion to the Cliffs of Moher, one of Ireland's most spectacular sights. On a clear day, the views are tremendous
Lunch, on own
Continue to Limerick for introductory tour of the town
Afternoon visit to Bunratty Castle, the most complete and authentic medieval fortress in Ireland. Built in 1425 it was restored in 1954 to its former medieval splendor. Also visit the Folk Park, a living reconstruction of the homes and environment of Ireland of over a century ago. Stroll from house to house or around the charming village street to experience village life in 19th century Ireland
Dinner included at the hotel (or Bunratty castle at additional cost)
Overnight in Limerick

Day 6 Sunday, March 19 Limerick/Killarney (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel
Pride of Bixby Marching Band participation in the International Band Parade & Competition. Limerick City on Ireland's west Coast has for over 40 years organized the internationally acclaimed Limerick International Band Parade and Competition, which is part of Limericks St. Patrick's Festival (Ireland's largest St. Patrick's Festival outside of Dublin)
Lunch on own
Afternoon excursion to Killarney one of Ireland's most charming towns and a popular stop on the Ring of Kerry scenic drive. The town's 19th-century buildings include St. Mary's Cathedral. Across the bridge from the cathedral is Killarney National Park. Victorian mansion Muckross House, Gardens & Traditional Farms sits in the park
Evening dinner and overnight at the hotel

Day 7 Monday, March 20 Limerick/Jerpoint/Kilkenny/Dublin (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel and check out
Enjoy a morning heritage tour, sheepdog demonstration at Jerpoint Park including a visit to St. Nicholas Tomb & the footprints of a deserted 12th Century Medieval town called Newtown Jerpoint
Lunch, on own
Continue to Kilkenny for time at leisure. Kilkenny is home to one of the most recognizable landmarks in Ireland, the 12th century Kilkenny Castle. Explore Ireland's Medieval Mile, a discovery trail running through Kilkenny city linking the 13th century St. Canice's Cathedral to the Anglo-Norman Castle and everything in between.
Farewell dinner included
Overnight in Dublin

Day 8 Tuesday, March 21 Depart for home (B)

Breakfast and hotel check-out
Transfer to Dublin's airport for return flight

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