

**Lifestyle Travel Ballarat**  
11 Armstrong Street North  
Ballarat, Victoria 3350

Telephone 03 5331 8277  
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## **2024 DOBCEL Ireland Spiritual Heritage Pilgrimage**

15 Day

Pilgrimage celebrating 150 Years of the Diocese of Ballarat

Personally Escorted by Fr Justin Driscoll



**15 – 29 September 2024**



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### Sun 15 Sep

Depart Melbourne on Emirates at 9.15pm

### Mon 16 Sep

Arrive Dubai at 5.15am

Depart Dubai at 7.20am

Arrive Dublin at 12.15pm

You will be met on arrival and transferred to your hotel.

Stay 2 nights: **Premier Inn Dublin City Centre, Dublin**

This afternoon you will first enjoy an orientation tour of Dublin, followed by a visit to the Guinness Storehouse before arriving at your hotel.

Early dinner & bed (D)



### Tue 17 Sep

This morning, visit Catherine's House, the first house of Mercy built by Catherine McAuley in response to the needs of the poor of Dublin. It is home to the Mercy family from all over the world. Catherine's House is a Centre of Hospitality, Heritage, Pilgrimage and Renewal. It is a Wellspring of inspiration for those who come to continue Catherine's mission with new life.

This afternoon, you will visit Loreto House, Beaufort Rathfarnham Dublin - Teresa Ball (1794-1861) brought Mary Ward's Institute to Ireland. In 1822 she opened the first house in Rathfarnham and called it "Loreto House". The "Loreto" name was used for all foundations that came from Ireland and the sisters were known as "Loreto Sisters". Under Mother Teresa Ball's leadership, the Loreto Order expanded throughout Ireland and eventually overseas. She founded numerous convents and schools in Ireland, England, India, Canada, Australia, and other countries.

You will then visit Trinity College for the Book of Kells Experience.

Tonight enjoy dinner & a Traditional live Irish Music & Dance show (BD)



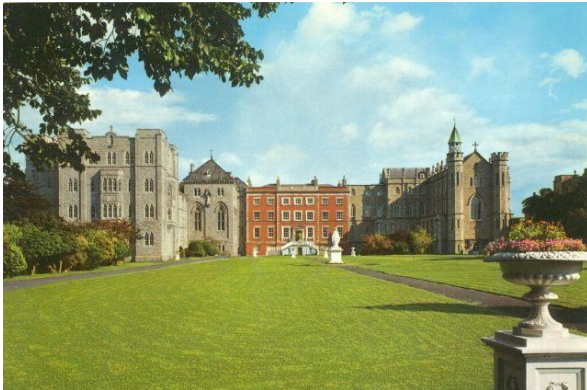
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### Wed 18 Sep

Today you leave Dublin & make your way out of Dublin to Country Kildare and to St Brigid's, Solas Bhride Centre built in the shape of St Brigid's Cross. Here you will have the chance to follow the mediative walk & pause for reflection at significant points.



Continue to Glendalough and take a guided pilgrimage walk to the Monastic site of St Kevin.

Stay 1 night in this area. (BD) **Glendalough Hotel, Glendalough**



### Thu 19 Sep

This morning make your way through the Wicklow countryside to Callan, the birthplace of Blessed Edmund Rice. Travel on to Wexford & visit the Sisters of St John of God, Ballyvaloo Centre, before continuing to Waterford.

Visit the Edmund Rice international Heritage centre and the final resting place of Blessed Edmund, founder of the Christian & Presentation Brothers. Next up is a visit to the Waterford Crystal Showroom where you can purchase your very own piece of this famous crystal before heading to Cork.

Stay 1 night in Cork (BD) – **Leonardo Hotel, Cork**





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#### Fri 20 Sep

This morning you will visit the Cobh Heritage Centre for the 'Queenstown Story' of Irish Emigration. The scattering of the Irish is one of the great migration stories, in Cobh.

You will then visit the Nano Nagle Place, an unexpected oasis in the centre of bustling Cork City, a place that celebrates Nano Nagle's vision of empowerment through education, community inclusion and spiritual engagement for a contemporary world.

This afternoon you will travel through the countryside of County Tipperary.



Stay overnight in Aherlow (BD) **Aherlow House Hotel, Aherlow**

#### Sat 21 Sep

This morning, you will travel to Glenstal Abbey, where a community of Benedictine monks who run a boarding school for boys, pray, work & farm amidst 500 acres of farmland, forest, lakes & streams. Spend some time learning about this community dedicated to St Joseph & St Columba.

Make your way via St Brigids well, to the beautiful Cliffs of Moher for a late lunch, before continuing to Galway.

Stay 2 nights in Galway (BD) **Leonardo Hotel, Galway**



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### Sun 22 Sep

Free Day in the beautiful city of Galway



### Mon 23 Sep

Get started very early today to travel to Croagh Patrick, one of Europe's best-known places of Pilgrimage, that has provided a tough ascent for many pilgrims each year, climbing barefoot in the memory of St. Patrick, who spent forty days and forty nights fasting on the summit more than 1,500 years ago. A small church at the summit of the mountain welcomes penitents, while magnificent views of Clew Bay, with an island for every day of the year, provides inspiration for many walkers and visitors throughout the year.

The climb is 7km and take 3 to 4 hours return and is a moderate to strenuous hike, for those that would like to do it. You would need to be on the hike as early as possible before 9am to avoid the heat and crowds.

This afternoon, stop at Ireland's other famous pilgrimage site, Knock where Our Lady, St Joseph & St John the Evangelist, an altar, cross and a lamb appeared to 15 people, in this small village in 1875.

Stay overnight in Donegal Town – (BD) **The Central Hotel, Donegal**



### Tue 24 Sep

This morning, you will be crossing into Northern Ireland and on to a new currency, the UK Pound.





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Enjoy a private walking tour of the 400-year-old Derry Walls and learn about the 6<sup>th</sup> century history up to the modern-day Troubles, the Apprentice Boys, the Famous Bogside Murals and the 1972 Bloody Sunday massacre.

1 night in Derry (BD) **The Ebrington Hotel, Derry**



[Wed 25 Sep](#)

This morning travel to Giants Causeway, a UNESCO World Heritage site consisting of over 40,000 hexagonal-honeycomb shaped stepping stones. Continue to Belfast and take a late afternoon unique & riveting journey into the Shankill Road Murals area and learn the stories behind each mural, the People, the neighbourhood and history of this key place. during the great conflict of The Troubles.

Stay 2 nights in Belfast. (B) **Maldron Hotel, Belfast**



[Thu 26 Sep](#)

Today you will visit the famous Titanic Belfast experience and have time to explore this amazing historic city.  
Farewell Dinner (BD)



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#### Fri 27 Sep

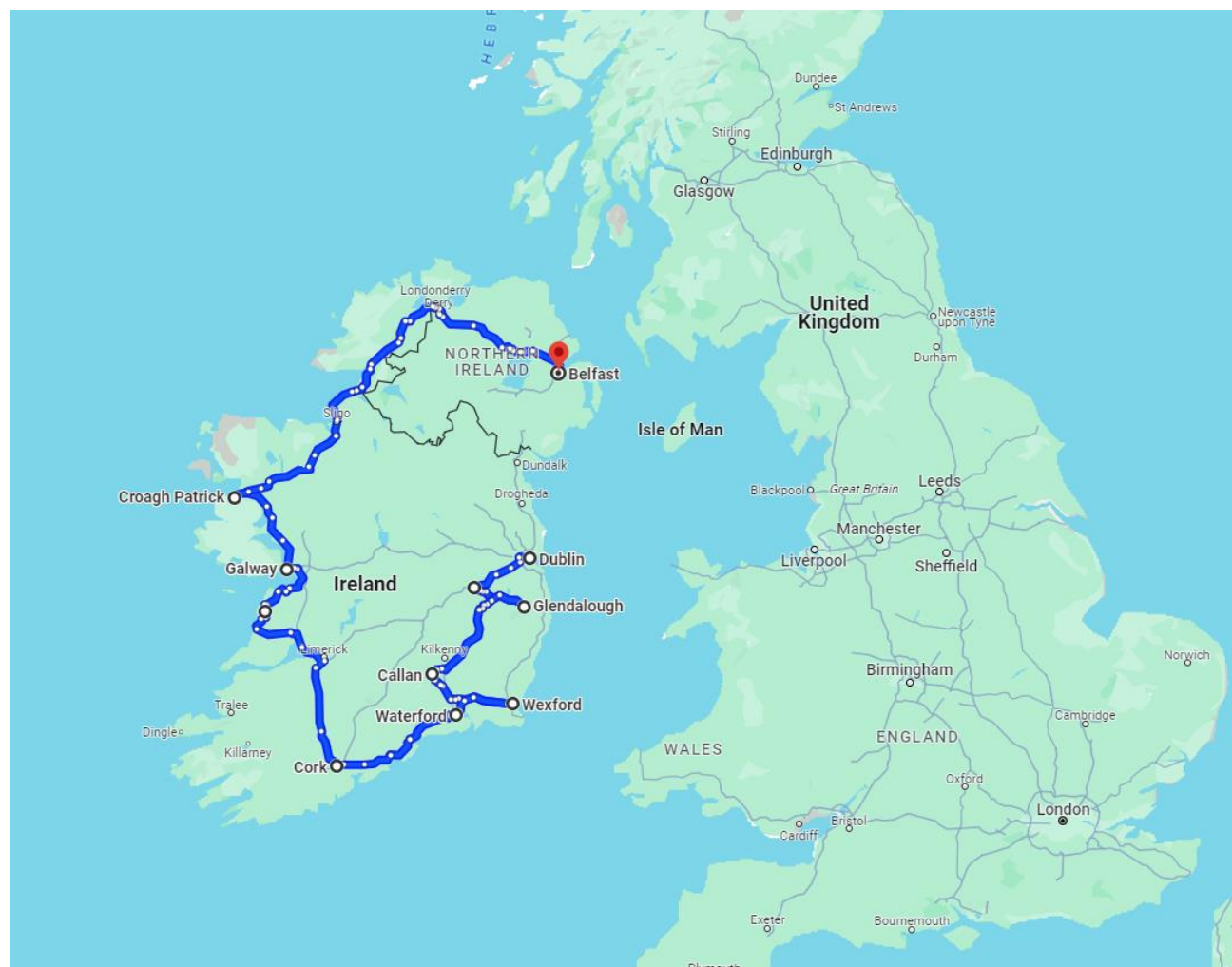
Travel by Coach back from Belfast to Dublin for your flight home.  
Depart Dublin on Emirates at 10.05pm

#### Sat 28 Sep

Arrive Dubai at 8.30am  
Depart Dubai at 10.05am

#### Sun 29 Sep

Arrive Melbourne at 5.30am



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Package Includes:

- Return Economy Class Airfares with Emirates or similar including all taxes.
- Meet & Assistance on arrival & departure, all transfers & exclusive touring in Air-Conditioned coach.
- 3 to 4 Star Accommodation
- Meals as specified.
- Entrance Fees to included sights.
- English speaking driver & guide throughout
- Private Pilgrimage assistance/service at various sites

Included Sights:

- Panoramic Dublin Tour
- Guinness Storehouse
- Traditional Irish Music & Dance Show in Dublin
- Visits to all Pilgrimage sights throughout Ireland, UK & Scotland
- Waterford Crystal Showroom
- Entry to Cliffs of Moher
- Derry Walls Private tour
- Entry to Giants Causeway
- Belfast Murals Tour
- Titanic Belfast
- Tips to Driver/Guide

Not Included:

- Extra Meals other than those mentioned.
- Travel Insurance
- Personal Expenses

Documentation Required:

- Current Passport with at least 6 months validity from your date of return to Australia. A copy will be needed one month prior to departure for visa issuance.
- Travel Insurance is essential.

Health Requirements:

There is little risk of major disease travelling to this region however it is best to check with your doctor for individual recommended health requirements. It is also important that your tetanus vaccination is up to date.

Booking Information:

If you would like to extend and travel to other parts of Europe, we can easily arrange this for you.

Tipping:

Tipping is expected for all services including drivers, tour guides and hotels services. Recommended tips start from Eur2 for porters, Eur 5 for local guides, Eur 10 for drivers and average Eur 15 per person per day for guide.

