

HILLWALK  
TOURS

# IRELAND

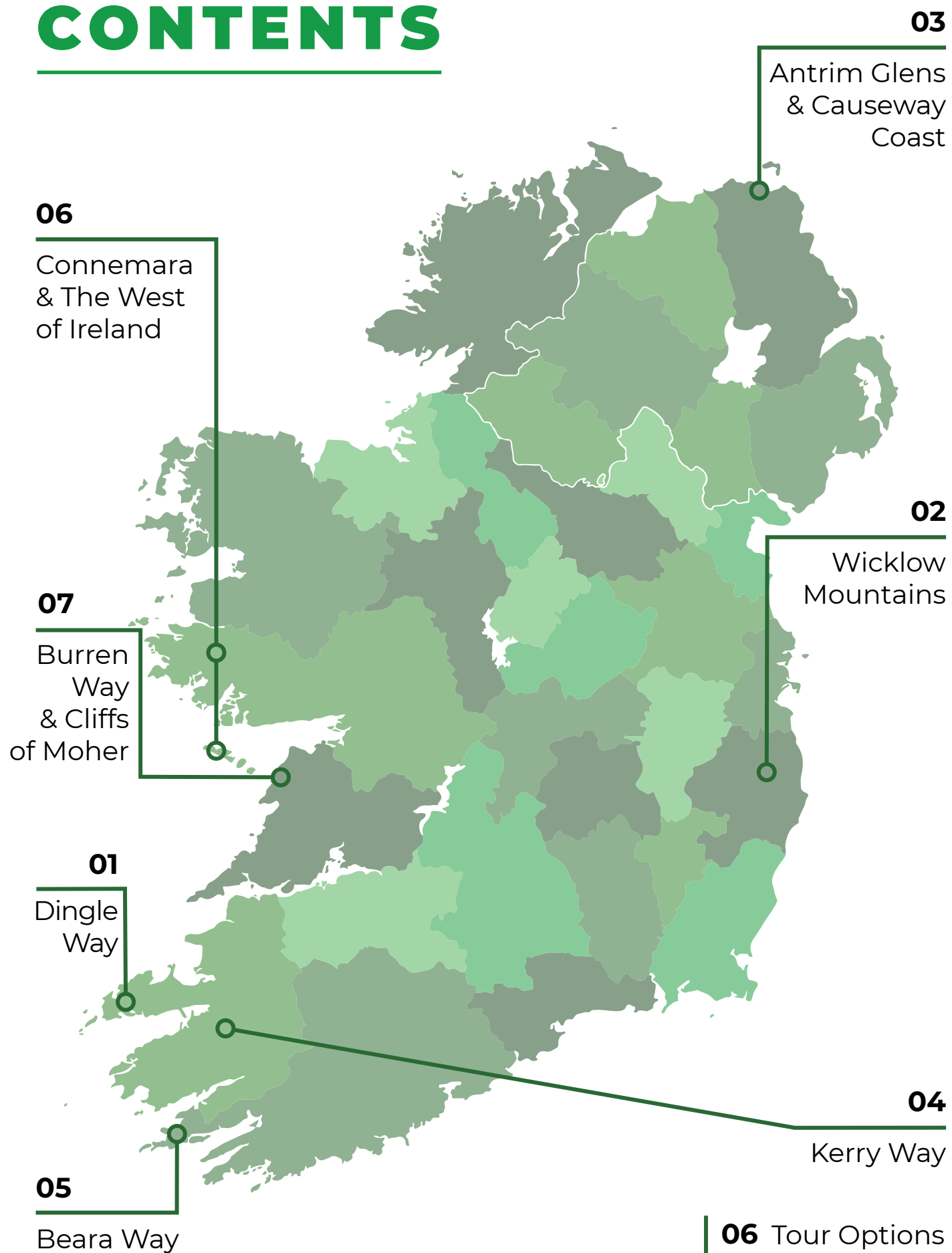
SELF-GUIDED HIKING TOURS



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**Please Note** that the prices herein are correct at time of publication. Check our website for correct and accurate prices as they may be subject to change.

## HIKING IN IRELAND

Explore the magic of Ireland on foot and experience all that the breathtaking Emerald Isle has to offer. From dramatic cliffs and rugged plains to craggy mountains and fairytale castles, nothing quite compares to its beauty. With every step behold the green fields and gorgeous seascapes of the Dingle Peninsula, the variety on the Kerry Way or the remoteness of the Beara Way.

Elsewhere, sample the sounds of the crashing waves and music in the Burren and Cliffs of Moher, discover where St Patrick rested in the raw and inspirational land of Connemara & the West of Ireland or soak up the vistas of Wicklow's majestic mountains and lakes home to the round tower of Glendalough.

You could also venture north and observe the magical land of the Game of Thrones along the dramatic Antrim Glens & Coastline which also boasts the world's oldest distillery and puffin filled Rathlin Island. Whatever you are searching for, Ireland has it to offer in spades so prepare to fall in love as old Irish folklore whispers through those south-westerly winds.





# DINGLE WAY

## THE KINGDOM CALLS

The Dingle Way is in county Kerry (known in Ireland as “The Kingdom”) in the southwest of Ireland. Starting and finishing in the town of Tralee, the capital of Kerry, it takes you along the breathtaking coastline of the Dingle Peninsula.

The trail offers a diverse range of experiences from the serene beauty of the Slieve Mish foothills to the dramatic cliffs of Sleah Head. You'll traverse the imposing shoulder of Mount Brandon and witness the raw power of the Atlantic Ocean. Hike through the tranquil farmland and golden beaches of Maharees creating unforgettable holiday memories.

A route that truly has it all, Dingle is a feast for the senses—but don't just take our word for it; The National Geographic Traveller Magazine named the Dingle Peninsula ‘one of the most beautiful places on Earth’, so it's sure to invigorate the senses.

Dunquin Pier with the Blasket Islands in the distance

FROM  
**€489**  
PER PERSON

Choose From  
4-12 Day Tours



## THE ROUTE

Leaving Tralee, the route climbs onto the flanks of Slieve Mish and contours westwards to Camp before crossing the peninsula to the scenic Inch beach on Dingle Bay. The trail then heads westwards by the villages of Annascaul and Lispolie to the famed town of Dingle where walkers often stay a while and great local food, the obligatory pint of Guinness and above all the ‘craic’ (fun).

West of Dingle is perhaps the most dramatic part of the Way as the route leads you on an exciting coastal trek around the westernmost point of Ireland at Sleah Head and Dunquin. Here the trail turns east via Ballyferriter and over the saddle of Kerry's holy mountain, Mount Brandon, before arriving at the village of Cloghane.



A beach trek along the shore to Castlegregory followed by the familiar sight of the village of Camp, as the trail turns back to Tralee where the Dingle Way comes to an end. Most of the hike crosses low-lying land with staggering mountains as a backdrop.



*We had a great trip, all went to plan. Route was amazing and we were*

*blessed with good weather*

Margaret B.  
– Netherlands







A thirsty stop at Cuas



Walking near the Irish Famine Cottages



Lunch with Sleat Head as a backdrop



Coumeenoole Beach



The view from Mount Brandon



Minard Castle



Sli Chorca Dhuibhne DINGLE WAY





# WICKLOW MOUNTAINS

JUST 30 MINS  
FROM DUBLIN

A Mountain range older than the Himalayas and the Alps undoubtedly puts the Wicklow Mountains on the map. One of Ireland's most beloved havens of the east, you are sure to fall in love with the trail's distinct stillness and beauty.

Immerse yourself in the surroundings of Glendalough, complete with its postcard-perfect views. Explore the valley, the lakes, and the romantic remains of one of Ireland's most important monastic sites with it's famed round tower, established in the 6th Century AD.

Continue the loop and experience the natural wonders of the tranquil "Guinness Lake" of Lough Tay and the Powerscourt Waterfall to truly create a lasting memory.



## THE ROUTE

The Wicklow Way was Ireland's first waymarked trail, and due to its proximity to Dublin, it has remained one of the most popular walking routes in Ireland. The 131km (81 miles) trail runs from Clonegal in County Carlow in the South to Marlay Park in Dublin in the North. This South to North direction also ensures that walkers finish the trail just 30 minutes away from Dublin City centre.

The trail is a pleasure to walk and is well-signposted, allowing it to maintain its status as one of the best-managed routes in the country. It mostly follows upland paths, forest tracks, and quiet country roads. While the trail is never really far from a public road, there is a strong sense of remoteness. It is a richly varied route with dramatic mountain scenery and lakes at the northern end of the trail with evergreen farming countryside on

the southern part. Some of the highlights along the trail include Glenmalur, Glendalough, Lough Tay (the former Guinness family estate) and the Powerscourt waterfall.

If you prefer to spend more time surrounded by the beauty of the Wicklow Mountains, then our 'Heart of Wicklow' tours may be your preferred option. These itineraries focus around the stunning Glendalough region and take in beautiful trails such as the Glenealo Valley and Spinc walk and the Avonmore Way.

The terrain on the Wicklow Way and Heart of Wicklow tours consists of forestry tracks, quiet country roads and boreens (very narrow little used roads) and mountain paths through open moorland.

Steven M.  
- USA



The walk was magnificent.

Each segment held  
its own beauty.

Everything went smoothly.

FROM  
€519  
PER PERSON

Choose  
From  
4-10  
Day  
Tours





Hikers on the path near the Miner's Village, at the west end of the Upper Lake

It's a great way to see the country and get to know the people of Ireland.

Leslie P.  
- USA



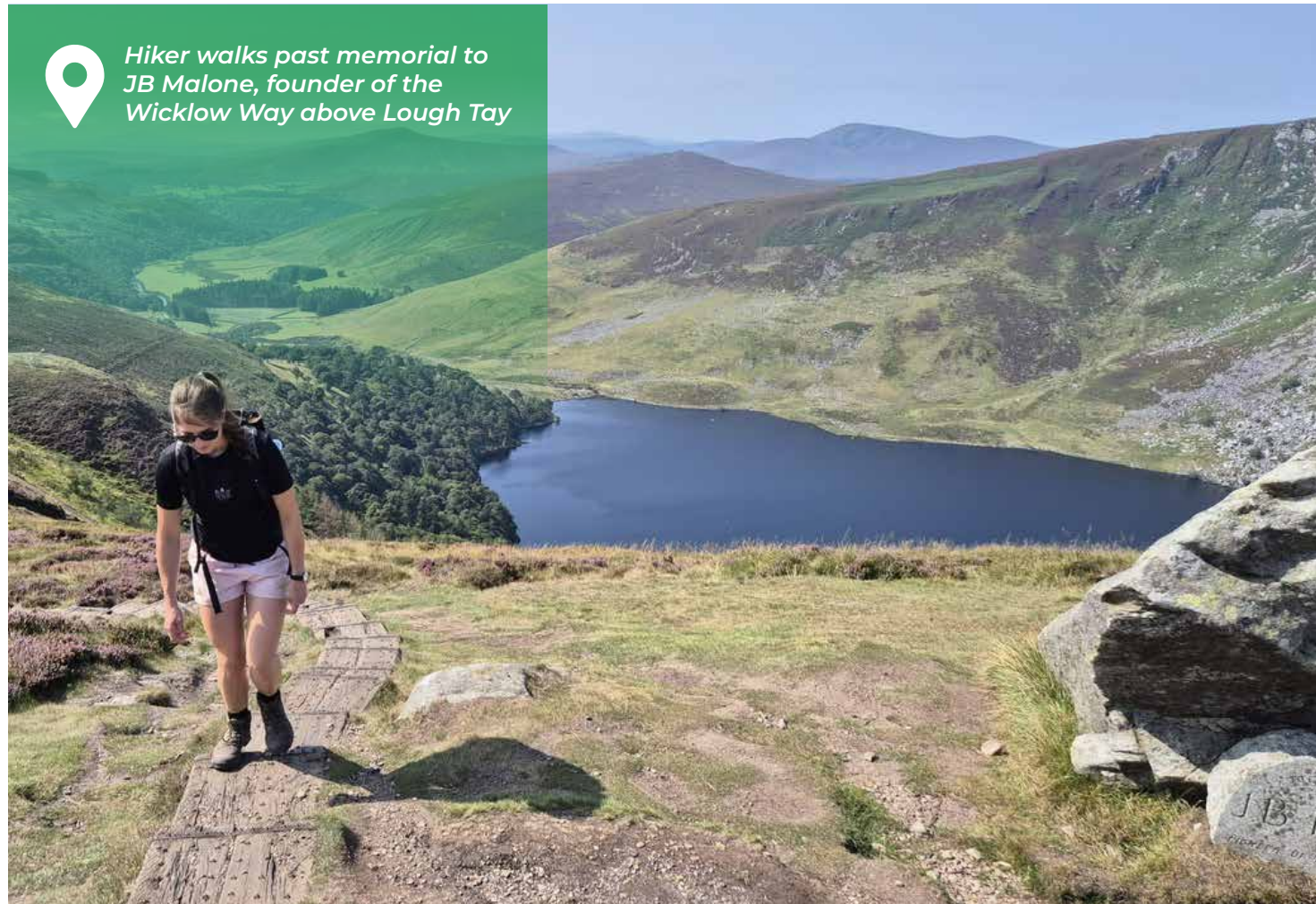
Big smiles at Glendalough Viewpoint



A stag resting in the shade



Hiker walks past memorial to JB Malone, founder of the Wicklow Way above Lough Tay



Glendalough Upper Lake





# ANTRIM GLENS & CAUSEWAY COAST

FROM  
**€499**  
PER PERSON

Choose  
From  
5-10  
Day  
Tours

## THE LAND OF PUFFINS, GIANTS & DRAGONS

Enjoy a truly otherworldly tour through the Antrim Glens & Coastline. With its unique variety of forest trails, upland moorland paths, cliff sections, beach walks, and promenade strolls, this trail is sure to put a pep in your step. With the renowned Giant's Causeway, stunning landscapes, and friendly people, there is so much beauty to behold in Northern Ireland.

Immerse yourself in fantasy by discovering the gorgeous ancient landscapes and secluded bays

where the TV series "Game of Thrones" was filmed and regarded as the "Seven Kingdoms." Bear witness to many areas of outstanding natural beauty and world-renowned sights such as the Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge, Dunseverick and Dunluce Castles and much more.

Known for its surprisingly easy, low-lying walk and as an area of truly outstanding beauty, this tour is a sure winner for hikers of all abilities and fitness levels.

*The Waterfall trail  
in the Glenariff  
Forest Park*

## THE ROUTE

From Cushendall to Ballycastle, the trail follows the 'Moyle Way' section of the Ulster Way. Wander through the scenic woodlands and rivers of the Glenariff Forest Park before heading north through the Glens of Antrim over remote upland and through forestry towards Ballycastle.

Walkers can opt for the stunning cliff walk from Torr Head or Murlough Bay near Fair Head with views spanning for miles. Also, on select itineraries, a short boat journey from Ballycastle to Rathlin Island means that walkers can explore this beautiful island filled with history and amazing wildlife like it's famous puffin colony. Going west from Ballycastle the trail follows the 'Causeway Coast Way' section of the Ulster Way, the most celebrated stretch of coastline in Northern Ireland.

Time for a detour? Bushmills, the oldest Whisky distillery in the world is just a stone's throw off the trail which could make for the perfect stopover for any whiskey connoisseurs. From the Giant's Causeway, the trail follows along the coast through the coastal villages of Portballintrae and Portrush to the Victorian seaside town of Portstewart.

There is a wide range of terrain on this trail such as forest trails, upland moorland paths, cliff sections, beach walks and on some days sections of regular asphalt hiking.

There is no doubt this area contains some of the most beautiful and varied scenery in Northern Ireland.



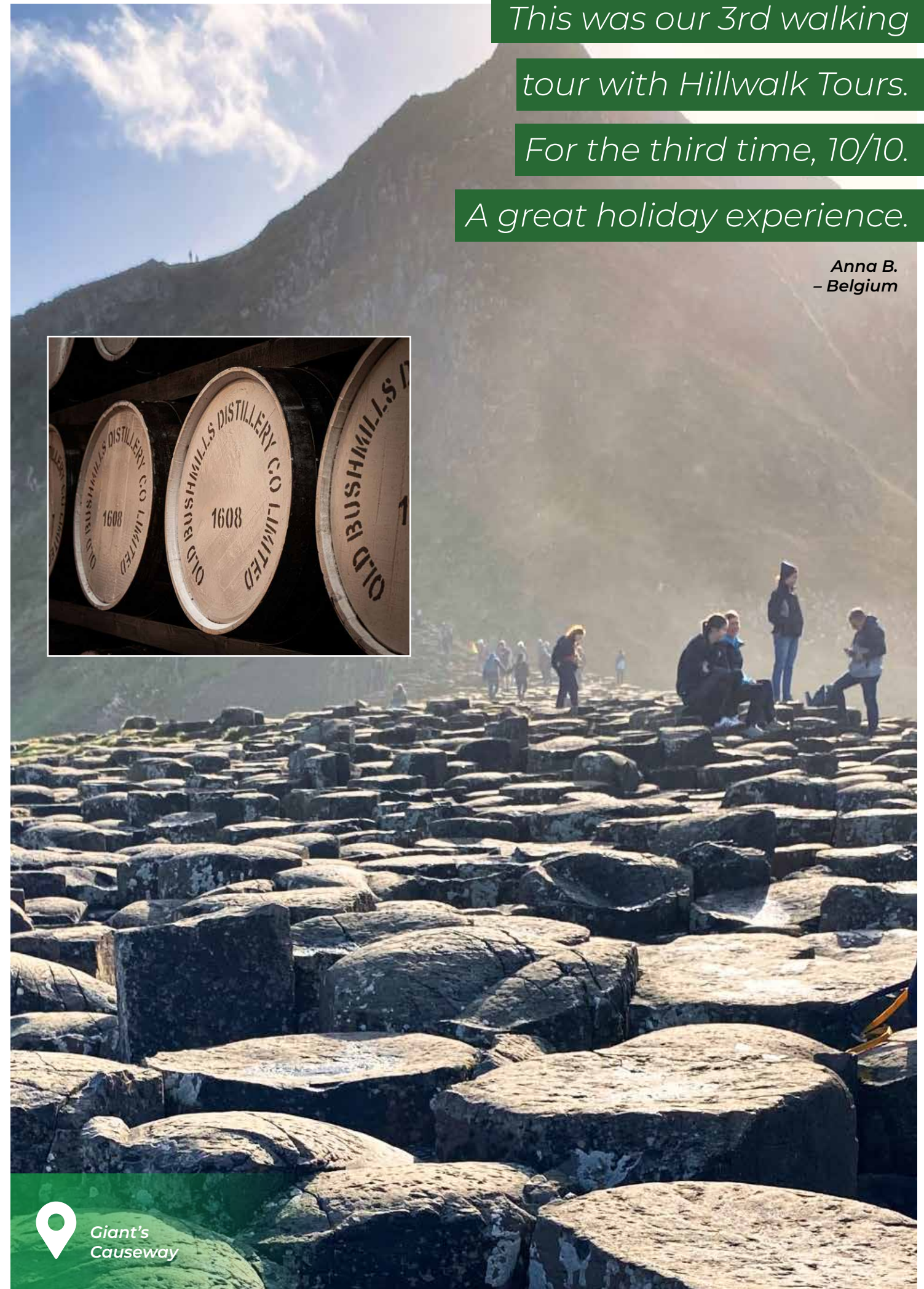




Dunluce  
Castle



Rathlin  
Island



Giant's  
Causeway

*This was our 3rd walking  
tour with Hillwalk Tours.*

*For the third time, 10/10.*

*A great holiday experience.*

*Anna B.  
- Belgium*



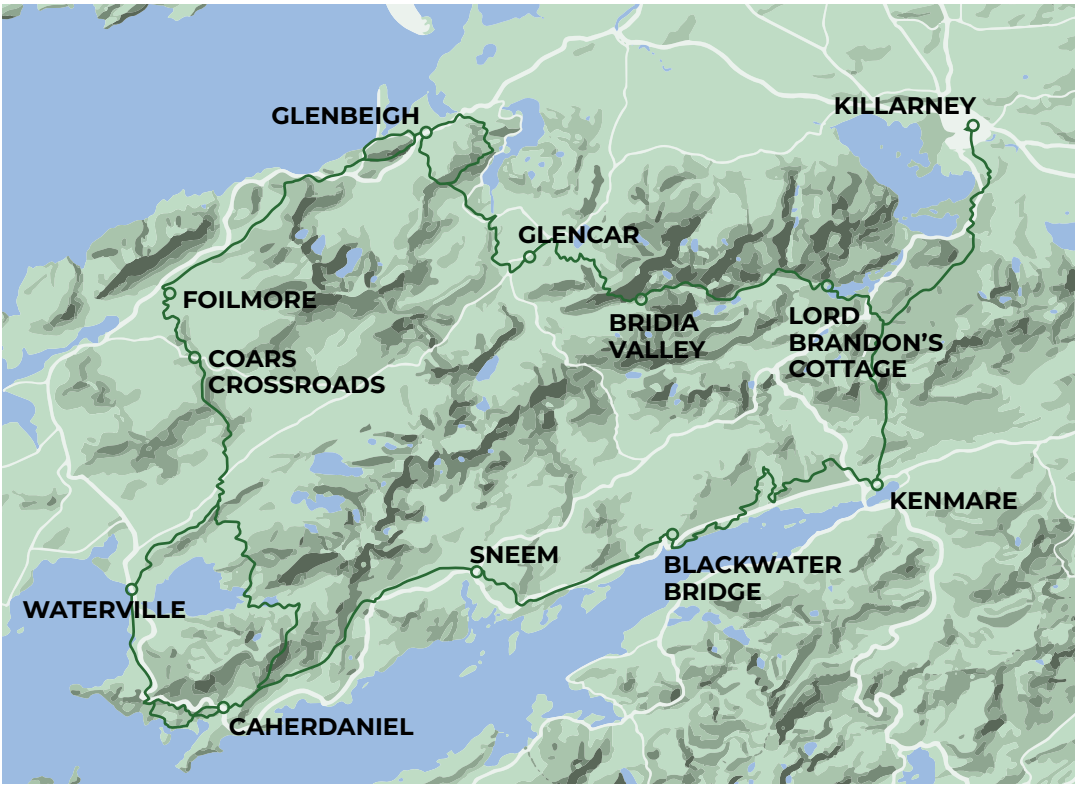


# KERRY WAY

## THE LAKES, THE MOUNTAINS & THE COAST

The Kerry Way boasts some of Ireland's finest scenery with views of Ireland's tallest mountain peaks, the legendary Lakes of Killarney and the dramatic Atlantic coastline. All this variety awaits walkers on the trail. Pass through picturesque countryside and remote valleys that are nestled far from the busy roads while still maintaining a similar route to the famous 'Ring of Kerry' drive.

Perfect for history lovers, you can discover the splendor of the stunning southwest through gorgeous victorian houses, medieval castles and early Christian monasteries. Find out more about ancient Celtic history as you come across 2,000-year-old Iron Age ringforts. Enjoy views of the McGillycuddy's Reeks where Ireland's highest mountains, Carrauntoohil and Caher, tower over the route west of Black Valley. Find yourself in a world of your own as you explore Ireland's oldest protected wilderness, the Killarney National Park before experiencing the beautiful coastline at Derrynane Bay.



## THE ROUTE

The Kerry Way has long been one of Ireland's most popular walking trails. The trail starts and finishes in the bustling tourist town of Killarney. Looping around the Iveragh Peninsula, the Kerry Way moves anti-clockwise and passes through some of the most isolated and dramatic countryside in Ireland. Spanning a total of 214km / 133 miles in length, the route passes a varied landscape, ranging from the Lakes of Killarney to the high and remote mountain moorland.

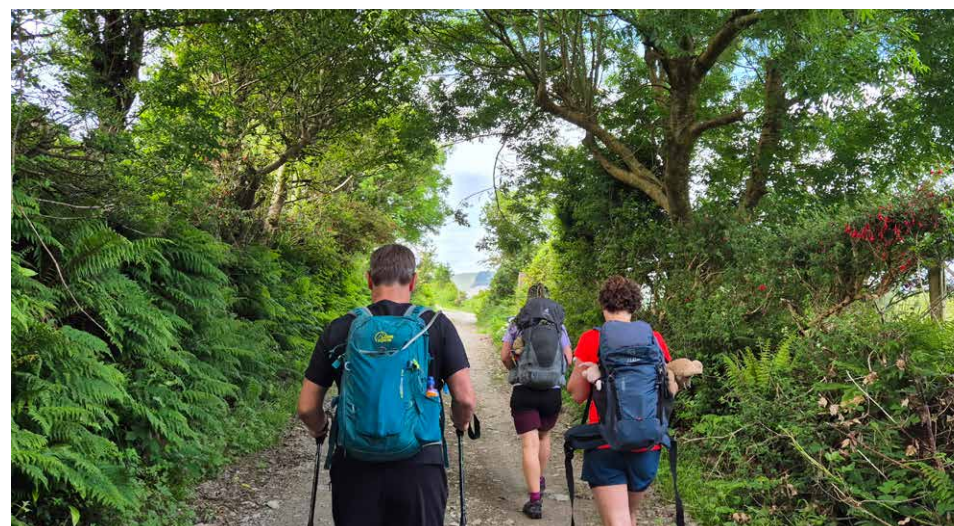
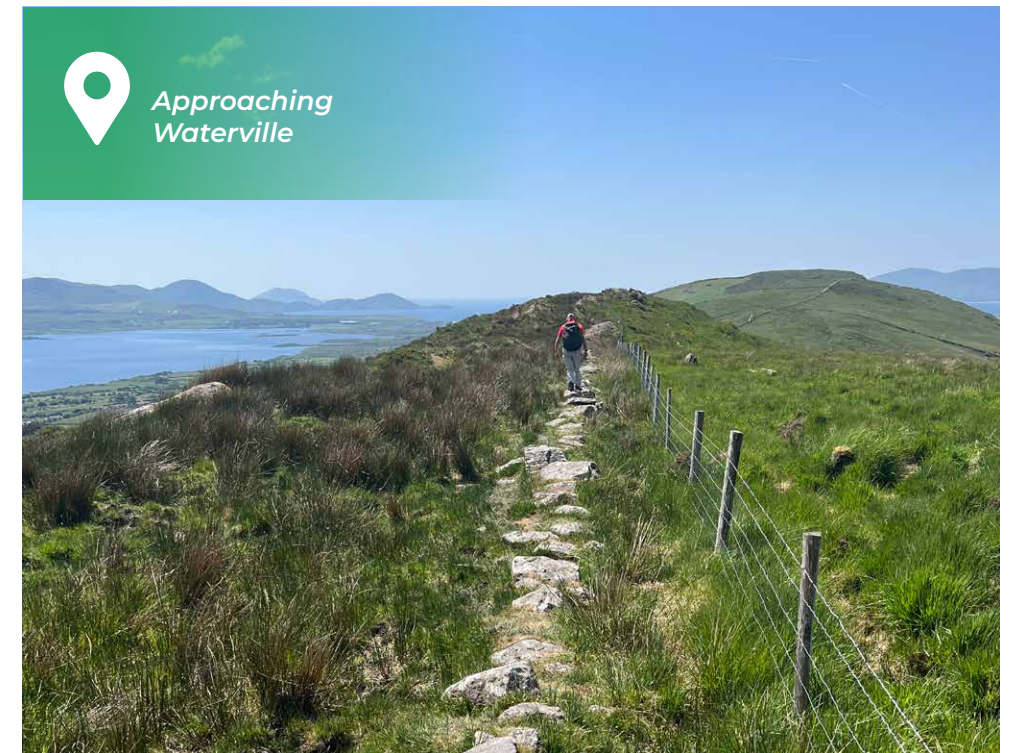
Ireland's highest mountains, Carrauntoohil and Caher, tower over the route west of Black Valley. Onwards to Glencar, you are presented with more breath-taking scenery of imposing mountains and mysterious lakes. Your hike will also include visiting Killarney National Park, the

first national park in Ireland. Most of our Kerry Way tours also include a unique boat trip on the famous Lakes of Killarney which allows for a different perspective of the spectacular scenery on show.

Once you pass through the Windy Gap you'll explore the Atlantic Coastline of the Iveragh Peninsula. Make the most of the lively towns and their fun nightlife as the trail passes through the likes of Killarney, Glenbeigh, Caherciveen, Waterville, Sneem and Kenmare.

The trail takes you through a variety of different landscapes and experiences, while walking along quiet roads, open moorland, woodlands, field paths and boreens, giving the walker a wider appreciation for the countryside.





*The Kerry Way is absolutely  
spectacular and each day  
brought new vistas of the  
countryside and coastline.  
We are very grateful for the  
planning of our tour.*



# BEARA WAY



FROM  
**€499**  
PER PERSON

Choose  
From  
5-11  
Day  
Tours

Cathy S.  
- USA

*The tour provided a view of Ireland that isn't available with canned tours. Wonderful, peaceful countryside with spectacular views.*



## AN UNSPOILT GEM

Wilder than Dingle and more remote than Kerry, the Beara Way is perhaps the best-kept hiking secret of the southwest. Its unspoiled countryside is a walker's dream allowing you to explore the sweeping mountains and hidden lakes, surrounded by the rugged coastline.

The little villages of Eyeries and Allihies are sure to add a splash of colour to your visit while a cable-car trip to the remote Dursey Island will make you feel like the only person in the world. Take a ferry to Bere Island and discover its fascinating heritage while the breathtaking scenery attempts to distract you at every step.

The Beara Peninsula itself is a long mountainous stretch of land which reaches into the Atlantic Ocean. It has remained perhaps the most unspoilt part of the southwest region of Ireland as it has much lower tourist traffic compared to the Dingle and Iveragh peninsulas.



## THE ROUTE

Starting at Glengarriff, you make your way southwest towards Adrigole and Castletownbere on forest trails and mountain paths. From Castletownbere, grab a ferry to Bere Island with its fascinating military emplacements. Continue to Castletownbere and Allihies where the trail splits. Here you can either take a cable car to Dursey Island or you may opt for the northeast trail to take you to Eyeries and Ardroom.

Continue the adventure through Lauragh and on then to the popular town of Kenmare. Here, the trail turns south on two route options to loop back to Glengarriff via Bunane.

The terrain along the walking trail consists of mainly quiet country roads, bog roads, cliff and woodland paths as well as open moorland. The Beara Way is rarely as busy as its better known cousins to the north and so you'll feel quite privileged in this magical world of mountains and lakes surrounded by a picturesque seacoast as you hike on untroubled by anyone along the route.









# CONNEMARA & THE WEST OF IRELAND

## IRELAND'S SAVAGE BEAUTY

Relive the essential Ireland by hiking through a dramatic landscape that has changed little over the past centuries. The west is an authentic reflection of Ireland which has inspired literary greats such as Oscar Wilde and W.B Yeats as well as painters like Paul Henry. Its epic landscape and restless Atlantic coast all await.

Explore Inis Mór, an island on the very edge of Europe with deep living connections to the Irish language, culture and heritage. Immerse yourself in history and behold Dún Aonghasa - a massive bronze age stone fortification that has been called "the most magnificent barbaric monument in Europe". Discover its mountains, lakes and salmon rivers, picturesque thatched cottages, Ireland's only fjord and turf-cutting in Connemara. Try succulent local cuisine and cozy pubs with traditional Irish music along the trail.



*It's the best way to really*

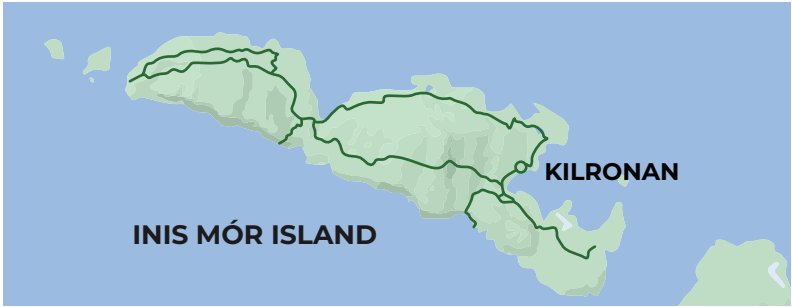
*see the country. I've driven*

*in Ireland and it just doesn't*

*compare. I would definitely*

**Katherine O.**  
- USA

*recommend.*



## THE ROUTE

The West of Ireland is often described as a playground for the senses. This route allows you to reconnect with Mother Earth, lose yourself amongst colourful villages and towns while following the rugged edge of her Atlantic coastline. Our longer tours begin on the Irish-speaking island of Inis

Mór with its weather beaten coast, blow holes, cliffs and storied past. The mainland section follows the Western Way trail, starting in the famous angler's town of Oughterard. From there, you head north along the shores of Lough Corrib towards a magnificent mountain wilderness before reaching civilization again in the village of Maam. Past Maam, the route crosses the rugged Maumturk Mountains where you will find the religious site of Mámeán, St Patrick's shrine that has attracted pilgrims since the early Christian period.

Descending again into the beautiful Inagh Valley, the route passes between the Twelve Bens and Maumturks mountain ranges, before passing through a poignant landscape that was once well-populated before the advent of the Great Famine. Afterward, you reach the shores of Killary Harbour and the picturesque village of Leenane, renowned as one of the locations for the iconic movie 'The Field.'

Continuing north you will pass the famous pilgrim mountain of Croagh Patrick before finishing in the charming town of Westport. According to a number of surveys Westport is one of the best places to live in Ireland. This western town boasts great restaurants and famous pubs full of music and the 'craic'. The terrain along the Western Way consists of quiet roads, bog roads, open moorland, forestry tracks and mountain paths.







# BURREN WAY & CLIFFS OF MOHER

## AN OTHER- WORLDLY LANDSCAPE

The Burren Way encompasses all of the best qualities of this unique karst limestone region, from its dramatic cliffs to its majestic wild flower decorated stony terraces. Admire the unique area's flora and fauna while watching the Atlantic waves crash against the iconic Cliffs of Moher, rising more than 200 metres vertically out of the sea.

Enhancing the already majestic surroundings are hundreds of miles of ancient rambling stone walls and a unique concentration of well-preserved monuments. Buildings ranging from the Neolithic era to the early Christian period remain a rich treasure trove for history buffs while the protected rare wildflowers add to the Burren's singular charm.

Chrissy C.  
- USA

*Extraordinarily well planned.*

*You enabled us to relax and engage with the  
landscape and people in an authentic way.*

*Best trip ever.*



## THE ROUTE

Starting in the seaside town of Lahinch, the Burren Way moves north through Liscannor before meandering along the breathtaking Cliffs of Moher to the village of Doolin, famous for its pubs filled with traditional Irish music. The route continues along the hills north to Fanore, where the route moves around Black Head or across the hills to Ballyvaughan. Continue your trail through the heartland of the Burren to Carran before finishing in Corofin on the south-eastern side of the Burren. The trail follows a mix of mainly green paths, trails, old cattle droving roads, forestry tracks, and country roads.



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4-7  
Day  
Tours









**Hikes suitable for all.**

Our **CHALLENGING** Hiking Tours are designed for the experienced hiker or those walkers who love a good challenge.





# WHAT'S INCLUDED

Robyn C.  
- USA

*It was so well planned.*

*The attention to detail and  
the responsiveness was very  
reassuring. Everything we  
needed for this trip to be a  
success, was provided.*

Petra G.  
- Austria

*It was the second tour we booked with you  
and again everything was very professionally  
organised. We enjoyed our vacation very much.  
Ireland is a beautiful country.*

## YOUR STAY

Stay in warm, friendly and welcoming guesthouses and hotels offering up a comfortable bed each night and a big breakfast to keep you going each day.

## LUGGAGE?

Don't worry, we'll organise your luggage to be transferred to your next accommodation while you're out enjoying the trail!

## NAVIGATION

Detailed maps, route note directions written and updated by Hillwalk Tours mean that you never get lost. You also get access to a smartphone GPS app.

## ALTERNATIVES

Discover alternative route options devised from the local knowledge of Hillwalk Tours - routes which you may not find in guidebooks.

## ESSENTIALS

A waterproof document-case to keep your maps and documents dry, along with useful public transport information to help plan your travel.

## CONTACT

If you need to contact us, we're here 24/7.

## ENJOYMENT

Explore local history and culture in our fascinating guides while discovering the most interesting attractions on the trail along with tips on the best places to eat and drink.



# HILLWALK TOURS

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## EXPLORE IRELAND WITH US

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