

DUBLIN AND GALWAY, IRELAND SOCCER TOUR



Day One

- Depart on an overnight flight to Dublin International Airport.

Day Two

- Arrive at Dublin International Airport where you are met by your Excel Sports Representative.
- Transfer by deluxe coach to your 3* hotel in the Dublin area, where you will be staying for the following four nights.
- Check-in and unpack.
- Welcome meeting and orientation.
- Afternoon free to explore the area.
- Dinner at hotel.
- Evening practice session.

Day Three

- Breakfast at hotel.
- This morning enjoy a two hour walking guided tour of Dublin. This pleasant walk brings participants along highways and byways to celebrated Dublin icons such as the Molly Malone statue, Bewley's Café, Trinity College, Temple Bar, the River Liffey, the Ha'penny Bridge, the General Post Office, and the Spire and into the famous shopping areas around Grafton and Henry Streets.
- Rest of the afternoon free for lunch and to explore Dublin on own.
- Dinner at hotel.
- This evening, participate in your first friendly game against an Irish side.

Day Four

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Morning practice session.
- Free day of sightseeing in Dublin. There is much more to see in Dublin, including St. Patrick's Cathedral, Trinity College and the Book of Kells, the Guinness Factory, Christ Church Cathedral and the Dublin Writer's Museum.
- Dinner at hotel.
- Evening free for social activities.

Day Five

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Free day for sightseeing on own. Optional visits to The National Stud Farm and Japanese Gardens, Newgrange, Wicklow Mountains or perhaps a team building experience at Xtreme.ie (beautiful views of the countryside from the zipline!).
- Dinner at hotel.
- This evening play your second international friendly game vs. an Irish side.

Day Six

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Transfer by deluxe coach to Galway (approx. a 3 hour journey).
- Check-in to your 3* hotel in the Galway area, where you will be staying for the following four nights.
- Afternoon free to explore the area.
- Dinner at hotel.
- Possible visit to a professional game this evening.

Day Seven

- Breakfast at hotel.
- This morning, enjoy a walking guided tour of Galway. See Eyre Square, The Town Walls, Lynch's Castle, the Collegiate Church of St. Nicholas, The Spanish Arch, and much more!
- Afternoon free for additional sightseeing in Galway on own.
- Dinner at hotel.
- This evening play your third international friendly game vs. an Irish side.

Day Eight

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Morning practice session.
- Afternoon free for additional sightseeing and shopping on own in Galway.
- Dinner at hotel.
- This evening play your fourth international friendly game vs. an Irish side.

Day Nine

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Possible day trip to the Cliffs of Moher. From the Cliffs one can see the Aran Islands, Galway Bay, as well as The Twelve Pins, the Maum Turk Mountains in Connemara and Loop Head to the South. The Cliffs of Moher take their name from a ruined promontory fort "Mohtar" which was demolished during the Napoleonic wars.
- Dinner at hotel.
- Evening free to enjoy your last evening in Ireland!



Day Ten

- Breakfast at hotel.
- Depart Shannon Airport on your return flight.

ABOUT IRELAND

Dublin - Dublin, Ireland's capital, has fast become one of Europe's most vibrant and cosmopolitan cities. The city has always had a reputation as a great historical city, and its strong links with world literature and the arts are readily apparent. It certainly has a lot to offer visitors - not least it's diverse attractions. There is a wealth of architectural detail with the medieval core of the city surrounded by elegant Georgian squares. Sights to see in Dublin: Trinity College and the Book of Kells, the Guinness Storehouse, Dublin Writers Museum, St. Patrick's Cathedral, the Custom House, Dublin Castle, Ha'penny Bridge, Malahide Castle, Kilmainham Gaol, and much more!

Galway - Lined by stone shopfronts, Galway's (Gaillimh) narrow cobblestone streets fill with a frenzy of street performers who enchant passers-by. The administrative capital of County Galway, the city is also a departure point for the wild, windswept Aran Islands. With more restaurants per capita than any other Irish city and a smorgasbord of festivals including the October Jazz Festival, the Easter Festival of Literature and the Galway Arts Festival in July, even the near-constant rain fails to dampen the city's spirits. Sights to see in Galway: Eyre Square, Spanish Arch, The Promenade, Aillwee Cave, Cliffs of Moher, Galway City Museum, Galway Cathedral, Kylemore Abbey, and much more!

TESTIMONIALS

"Our Irish tour was fantastic. It was quite a different experience than traveling to the UK. The people of Ireland are tremendously friendly. It was amazing to have posters up all over town advertising for our match against the locals and have people on the street come up and talk to you about the match. In addition to some great match play and training, the sights of Ireland were spectacular. We had the opportunity to experience the small towns and countryside, visiting places like Cliffs of Moher and Wicklow Mountains. We also enjoyed our time in Dublin and experienced all that Ireland's biggest city had to offer. Overall, our Ireland trip was a terrific experience. Being our 4th trip internationally, Ireland stacks right up there with the rest."

Lee Schopp, Hope College Men's Soccer, Ireland, Assistant Coach