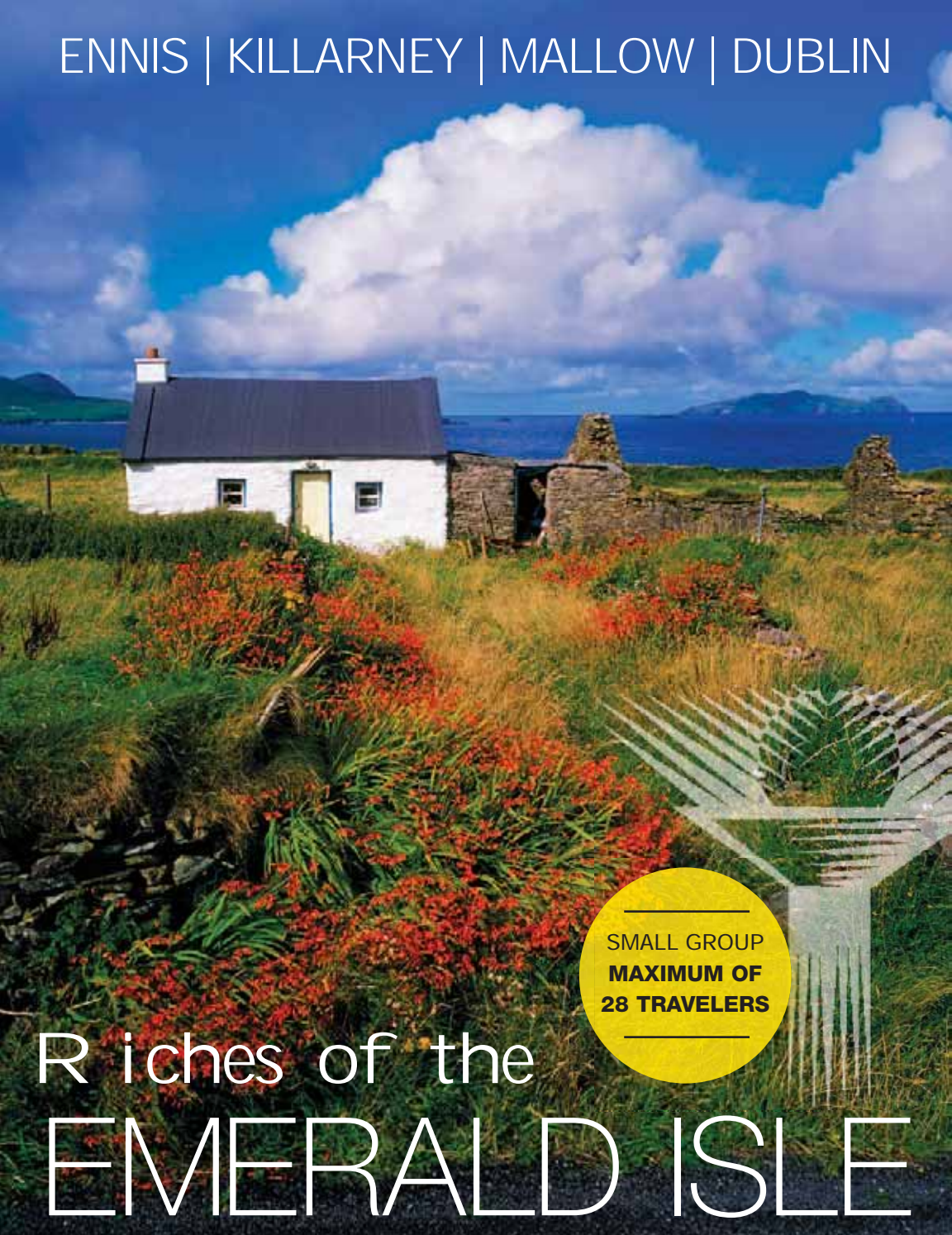


ENNIS | KILLARNEY | MALLOW | DUBLIN



SMALL GROUP  
MAXIMUM OF  
28 TRAVELERS

# Riches of the EMERALD ISLE

**SPONSORED BY**



**VirginiaTechforlife**  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

**JUNE 27-JULY 8, 2017**

**Other dates available upon request**



# A World Apart

The story of travel involves more than a ticket and a passport. It should weave together discovery, education and humanity, the best elements of any compelling tale. Your personal travel story begins with our commitment to delivering authentic experiences with local people.

The incomparable value of your journey lies in the personalized care you receive from your Travel Director and the knowledge you gain from expert guides and lecturers, who call this area home.

By eliminating logistical worries, your multilingual Travel Director allows you to immerse yourself comfortably in your surroundings. This high-caliber professional makes you feel safe and important by creating a convivial, welcoming atmosphere.

The other important characters in this story are the guides and lecturers, whose regional expertise shines in their insider perspective and commentary.

With these specialists at your side, uncover the allure of Ireland and become intimately engaged in the rhythm of this enchanting country, adding another memorable chapter to the rich story of your life.

*Above: Cliffs of Moher*

## Inspiring Moments

- ▶ Discover the **Burren** on a guided walk with Tony Kirby, a local expert and personality.
- ▶ Traverse the **Dingle Peninsula**, a harshly beautiful landscape soaked with medieval history.
- ▶ Let the flavors of pure pot **malt whiskey** linger and evolve on your palate.
- ▶ Relax in the welcoming embrace of the family-run **Longueville House**.
- ▶ Tickle your senses while viewing frisky foals and new moms at the **Irish National Stud & Gardens**.
- ▶ Admire **Dublin's** vibrant environs and Georgian architecture.
- ▶ View an **exclusive live show** that weaves centuries of fascinating Irish history.





**VirginiaTechforlife**  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Dear Alumni and Friends,

Rich in culture and folklore, Ireland has stolen the heart of many a traveler. It is a romantic yet rustic country, with majestic castles, verdant valleys and a history rooted in fascinating Celtic legends. You too will be enamored during our ten-night journey through southern Ireland's most inspiring destinations.

Listen to wave music along the Cliffs of Moher, admire the Burren's stark beauty and marvel at ancient ruins. Savor rich layers of Irish whiskey, and encounter Dublin's medley of centuries-old monuments and fashionable boutiques. From bucolic villages to spirited cities, we invite you to discover the magic of this legendary Emerald Isle.

Our itinerary has been expertly planned so that you still have plenty of time to explore independently, allowing you to pursue your individual interests. Space is limited on this memorable journey, so we encourage you to make your reservation today!

Sincerely,

Gwen Harrington  
Director of Travel Programs  
Virginia Tech Alumni Association

**800-323-7373**

**vatech.ahitravel.com**



Cliffs of Moher



A country with a rich tradition of storytelling, Ireland has its own stories to share. Energetic music and dance serve as a constant reminder of Ireland's beloved culture. Lush, green gardens and sprawling farmland speak to the country's strong agricultural roots. Stark, stony landscapes highlight the role of limestone in Ireland's history and architecture. Discover these stories and many more as you explore this captivating region. View the legendary Blarney Stone, meet engaging residents, relax in a cozy pub and see many celebrated locales. All the while, you will experience *Sámas*, a Gaelic word meaning "indulgence of the senses."

#### DAY ONE

#### IN TRANSIT

Depart gateway city for Shannon, Ireland. †

#### DAY TWO

D

#### SHANNON, IRELAND | ENNIS

Upon arrival, transfer † to Ennis and check in to the Old Ground Hotel.

#### Educational Focus and Excursion: *Ennis*

**Tour.** Learn about the unique history of this area, and enjoy a walking tour through antiquated and cosmopolitan Ennis. Step back in time while wandering through medieval lanes, and cross over the River Fergus that flows through town.

Tonight, gather with your fellow travelers at a Welcome Reception and Dinner at the hotel.

#### Educational Focus: *Irish Music and Dance.*

Following dinner, join your new friends to enjoy an exclusive Irish music and dance show.



#### DAY THREE

B

#### GALWAY

**Excursion: *Galway.*** Take a walking tour through the pretty harbor city of Galway. Meander past sprightly street performers; duck into warmly lit pubs; and let Galway's cobbled streets lead you past medieval churches and ageless architecture.

#### DAY FOUR

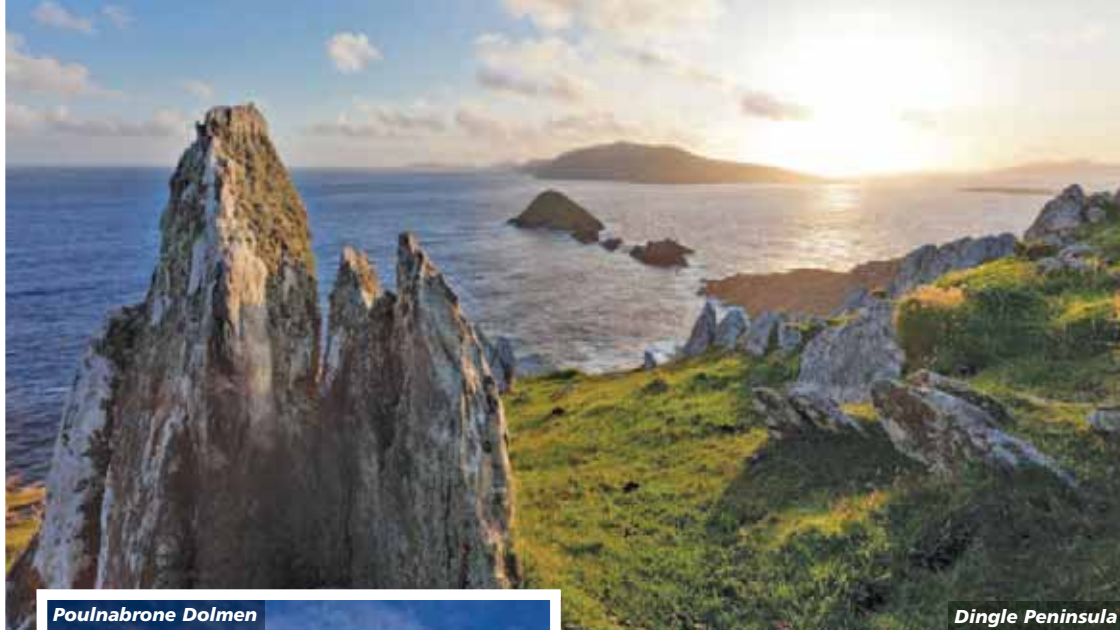
B | L

#### BURREN | CLIFFS OF MOHER

**Excursion: *Discover the Burren.*** Spend the day immersed in one of the world's most unusual landscapes. The rocky plateau features diverse flora, karstic formations and man-made wonders. Enjoy an audio/visual presentation at the Burren Centre in Kilfenora. Take a guided walk through the Burren with local expert Tony Kirby, and marvel at the area's rich history and breathtaking archaeology.

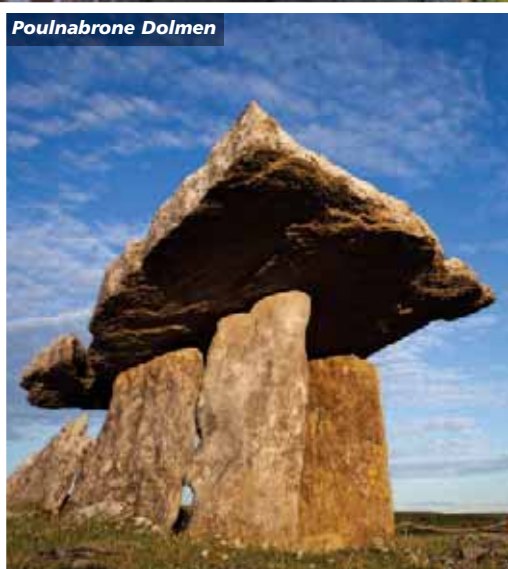
**Local Flavor:** Enjoy lunch at Cassidy's pub.

**Excursion: *The Enthralling Cliffs of Moher.*** Following lunch, visit Poul nabrone Dolmen, a portal tomb dating from 2500-2000 B.C. Then, drive along the scenic Burren coast to the



Poulnabrone Dolmen

Dingle Peninsula



majestic Cliffs of Moher, which rise 700 feet above the Atlantic Ocean. Let your jaw drop as you gaze at this mesmerizing natural wonder, and listen for the crashing of uncoiling waves below.

**Educational Focus:** *Irish Seanchaí*. Enjoy riveting tales during a session of Ireland's most famous pastime.

DAY FIVE

B | L | D

### ARAN ISLANDS

**Excursion:** *Aran Islands of Inishmore*.

Take a ferry across Galway Bay to Inishmore, the largest of the Aran Islands. The Burren of County Clare continues on the Aran Islands and provides a stark beauty amid the ethereal landscape.

People have lived here since approximately 3000 B.C., and Stone Age monuments can still be seen. The area is also famous for stone forts, which date from the Bronze Age. Visit the ruins of Dún Aengus, and admire the spectacular view.

**Local Flavor:** Enjoy lunch at Mainistir House.

DAY SIX

B | L

### KILLARNEY

**Excursion:** *Dingle Peninsula*. Following breakfast, depart for Killarney via the scenic Dingle Peninsula. Take a ferry from Killimer to Tarbert, and savor coastline views from the water.

**Local Flavor:** Dine on local cuisine for lunch.

Visit the Blasket Island Heritage Center, which honors the people who lived on the remote Blasket Islands until the mid-1900s. Spend free time exploring Dingle. Perhaps enjoy a treat at the legendary Murphy's Ice Cream, visit a Dingle crystal workshop or admire beautiful stained glass windows – all by artist Harry Clarke – at St. Mary's Church.

In Killarney, check in to the Malton Hotel.

DAY SEVEN

B | L

### RING OF KERRY

**Excursion:** *Ring of Kerry*. Located on the Iveragh Peninsula, the circular drive of the Ring of Kerry is declared as one of the world's most beautiful coastal drives. View a region that seems almost untouched by human hands, where emerald knolls effortlessly melt into cerulean skies and lakes shimmer with a rare brilliance.

**Meet the People:** Meet a local shepherd, who will demonstrate, with the help of loyal border collies, how to move sheep around a pasture.

**Local Flavor:** Gather for a lunch of local fare.

**Excursion:** *Muckross House*. Continue to drive through the villages of Caherdaniel and Sneem to Windy Gap and Ladies View, a great place to take in the vistas of the pristine Killarney Lakes. Tour Muckross House, a 19th-century Victorian mansion that boasts extensive gardens.



Below: View of Blarney Castle



Trinity College



Irish National Stud & Gardens



Powerscourt, Wicklow

**Local Flavor:** Delight in a whiskey tasting. Watch a demonstration, and tempt your taste buds with the unique flavors of Irish Whiskey.

DAY EIGHT

B | D

MALLOW

**Excursion: *The Gift of Gab.*** After breakfast, depart for Mallow. Visit Blarney Castle, and see the Blarney Stone. Tradition holds that those who kiss the Blarney Stone will be endowed with eloquence, or “the gift of gab.”

Check in to the Longueville House, a family-owned Georgian country house that sits on a beautiful 500-acre estate.

**Local Flavor:** Enjoy dinner prepared by the chef-owner of Longueville House.

DAY NINE

B | L

MALLOW

**Independent Exploration:** The morning is at leisure to appreciate the grounds of Longueville House.

**Excursion: *Ireland’s Racehorses and Gardens.*** En route to Dublin, visit the Irish National Stud & Gardens, home to a noted racehorse breeding program and pretty

Japanese Gardens. Pause to enjoy the beauty and grace of these beloved equines before savoring the property’s bountiful gardens.

**Local Flavor:** Enjoy lunch amid the farm’s rolling landscape.

Check in to the Westbury Hotel in Dublin.

DAY TEN

B

DUBLIN

**Educational Focus: *The Story of the Irish.*** This exclusive live show will simply enthrall you! Sit back and relax as charismatic storytellers guide you through more than 10,000 years of intriguing Irish history.

**Excursion: *Discover Dublin.*** Dublin is a vibrant city with historical and cultural charm. Amid this bustling metropolis, sandy beaches, rocky coastlines, lush gardens and timeless



St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin



Grafton Street, Dublin



architecture blend to create a captivating atmosphere. Visit historic Trinity College and see the famous hand-illuminated Book of Kells, which dates from the eighth century. Explore St. Patrick's Cathedral, and discover the shops along Grafton Street.

DAY ELEVEN

B | D

**DUBLIN**

**Independent Exploration:** Spend the day at leisure exploring Dublin.

**ELECTIVE | Wicklow~The Garden of Ireland.** Immerse yourself in the lush beauty of Ireland's County Wicklow. Travel through a landscape nicknamed, "The Garden of Ireland." See emerald landscapes, explore the monastic settlement of Glendalough, roam the stately Russborough House and stroll 47 acres of beauty at Powerscourt Gardens. Enjoy lunch at a local establishment.

Tonight, attend a Farewell Reception and Dinner at a local restaurant.

DAY TWELVE

B

Following breakfast, transfer to the airport for the return flight to your gateway city.

**Note:** *Itinerary may change due to local conditions. Walking is required on many excursions, and surfaces may be uneven or unpaved.*

✦ *Provided for AHI FlexAir participants*

*BLAD denotes included breakfasts, lunches and dinners.*

**ELECTIVE** *Experiences available at an additional cost*





**THE OLD GROUND HOTEL**  
ENNIS

**THE MALTON**  
KILLARNEY

Our travel experts have selected these luxurious properties, each in a prime location, for your comfort. Details in the design and décor celebrate the local culture and enhance the ambience of each hotel. Their restaurants feature menus of elegantly prepared local and international cuisine. Of utmost importance is the superior quality of the services, amenities and accommodations, allowing you to maximize the enjoyment of your stay.



**LONGUEVILLE HOUSE**  
MALLOW

**THE WESTBURY HOTEL**  
DUBLIN



# Reserve your trip to Ireland today!

**Trip #:4-23369W**

Send to: Virginia Tech Alumni Association  
c/o AHI Travel  
International Tower-Suite 600  
8550 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60631



Please contact AHI Travel at **800-323-7373** with questions regarding this trip or to make a reservation.

Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on passport)

(1) \_\_\_\_\_  
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_  
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home: (\_\_\_\_\_) Cell: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Sharing with \_\_\_\_\_ (Form sent separately.)

**I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:**

**Land Program and AHI FlexAir**

I/we reserve the Land Program and request the AHI FlexAir to Shannon, Ireland, with a return from Dublin, to depart from:

Departure City

- Please contact me regarding air options.
- Please send me information on upgrading my flights.

**Land Program**

I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.

**Single Accommodations**

- I prefer single accommodations at an additional \$1,345 (limited availability).
- I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by **April 13, 2017** (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa, Discover or Amex. Make checks payable to AHI Travel.

Enclosed is a deposit of \_\_\_\_\_ (\$600 pp required) to reserve \_\_\_\_\_ place(s).

- Accept my check made payable to **AHI Travel**.
- Charge my:  MasterCard  Visa  Discover  Amex

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expires \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature as it appears on credit card)

**Please note:** Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

**NOT INCLUDED:**Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas, entry/departure fees; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; all items of a strictly personal nature.

**MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL:** The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

**AIR TRANSPORTATION:** The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare. **VARIATIONS TO THE GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.** Passengers who choose to make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for arrival and departure transfers, and any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s).

**BAGGAGE:** Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program. **AUTHORITY TO USE IMAGES AND AUDIO RECORDINGS:** On occasion, AHI Travel obtains, from its staff, or from trip participants, photographic or video images of passengers and trip activities. By participating in this travel program, you authorize AHI Travel, without providing compensation to you, or obtaining additional approvals from you, to include photographic and video recordings of you, as well as voice recordings included with any videos, in AHI Travel's sales, marketing, advertising, publicity and/or training activities.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association do not own or operate any entity which provides goods or services for this program, and act only as agents for the independent suppliers of travel conveyance, transport, accommodations or other services. All such persons or entities are independent contractors. As a result, AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association are not liable for any negligence or willful act of any such person or entity or any third person. In addition and without limitation, AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association are not responsible for any delays, delayed departure or arrival, missed carrier connections, loss, death, damage or injury to person or property or accident, mechanical defect, failure or negligence of any nature howsoever caused in connection with any accommodations, transportation or other services or for any substitution of hotels or of common carrier equipment, with or without notice, or for any additional expenses occasioned thereby. Dates, Program Details and Tour costs, although given in good faith and based on tariffs, exchange rates and other information current at the time of printing, are subject to change at or before the time of departure. No revisions of the printed itinerary or its included features are anticipated; however, the right is reserved to make any changes, with or without notice, that might become necessary, with the mutual understanding that any additional expenses will be paid by the individual passenger. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. If the entire program is canceled for any reason, participants shall have no claim other than for a full refund. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for himself/herself or other passengers and accepts the terms of this contract set out herein and in more specific pre-departure passenger information. The airlines and other transportation companies concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event, during the time passengers are not on board their conveyances. The passage contract in use, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the company(ies) and the passenger and/or purchaser of this trip.

**CANCELLATION:** All cancellations for any reason will be subject to a \$250 per person administrative fee. You may choose, at the time of cancellation, to apply the withheld administrative fee to a future AHI Travel program that will operate in the current calendar year or year following. Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 10% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75-30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. Trip Cancellation insurance is available, go to [www.alumni.edu/travel](http://www.alumni.edu/travel) to find out more. All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI Travel.

**CANCELLATION OF TRIP OPTIONS:** Purchases of optional excursions, trip extensions and additional hotel nights become fully non-refundable 45 days prior to departure. Air transportation and private transfer purchases are subject only to penalties assessed by the airlines and transfer suppliers.

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If you are interested in making independent travel arrangements before and/or after this program, please contact **AHI Travel** at **800-323-7373** no later than **60 days prior to departure** and they will be happy to assist you with your reservations. *A nonrefundable service fee and additional air/land charges based on reservations apply.*

# LAND PROGRAM

**June 28-July 8, 2017**

**Full Price**

**\$4,245**

**Special Savings**

**\$250**

**Special Price\***

**\$3,995\***

\*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.  
Value Added Tax (VAT) is an additional \$395 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated). Single accommodations are an additional \$1,345 (limited availability).

*Let us arrange your flights!*

**June 27-July 8, 2017**

✈ **AHI FlexAir** | Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- ▶ a **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase
- ▶ arrival and departure **transfers** on most flights
- ▶ **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservations without penalty up to 60 days before departure on most flights
- ▶ discounted prices for business-class upgrades
- ▶ **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays
- ▶ flight insurance worth up to \$250,000, subject to policy terms

**Travel stress free with AHI FlexAir.**



*Irish dancers*



*Aerial view of the ruins of Dún Aengus*

**800-323-7373**

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# | INCLUDED FEATURES |

## ACCOMMODATIONS

(With baggage handling.)

- Four nights in Ennis, Ireland, at The Old Ground Hotel, a first-class hotel.
- Two nights in Killarney at The Malton, a first-class hotel.
- One night in Mallow at Longueville House, a deluxe hotel.
- Three nights in Dublin at The Westbury Hotel, a deluxe hotel.

## TRANSFERS

- All deluxe motor coach transfers in the Land Program and baggage handling.

## MEALS

- Enjoy an **extensive meal program**, including 10 breakfasts, five lunches and four dinners. Tea or coffee is included with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Sample authentic regional specialties at local restaurants, and take advantage of leisure time to try local cuisine independently.
- Attend a special Welcome Reception and Dinner and gather for a Farewell Reception and Dinner.

## AHI TRAVEL EXPERTISE

From your reservation to your return home, we are here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

*Before you go:*

- ▶ **TRAVEL CONSULTANTS** | These experts stand ready to answer your questions about activities, meals, accommodations and more as they guide you through the reservation process.
- ▶ **PASSENGER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE** | Once you have reserved your spot, enjoy personalized assistance from this specialist, your one point of contact who will help you with everything from arranging flights to booking elective activities to fulfilling special requests.
- ▶ **TRAVEL INFORMATION** | Receive extensive destination information and travel tips compiled by our travel-savvy team to prepare you fully for your journey.

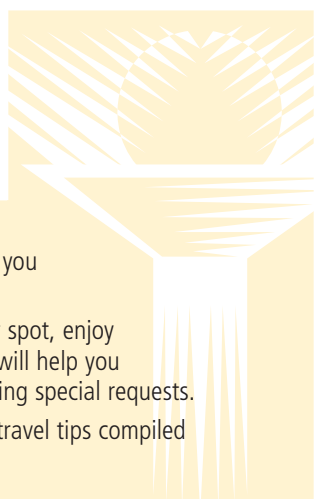
*Once you arrive:*

On the ground, three layers of top-quality professionals offer their insiders' perspective. From suggesting the best café or pub to sharing a laugh over the stories of the day, our dedicated team takes your adventure to the next level.

- ▶ **TRAVEL DIRECTOR** | Throughout your journey, you will be in the care of a seasoned AHI travel professional who will manage all the logistics, allowing you to relax and simply soak up the ambience. Resourceful, knowledgeable and attentive, your Travel Director helps to ensure you enjoy an unforgettable travel experience.
- ▶ **EXPERT GUIDES** | Who better to show you around than the people who live there? We've specially selected informed and enthusiastic local professional guides who understand the needs of our educated and curious travelers. Warm and genuine, they're ready to share their passion for their country with you.
- ▶ **LECTURERS** | Coming from all walks of life, our entertaining local lecturers open your eyes to history and current events. The breadth of their knowledge deepens your appreciation for the region and its heritage.

## YOUR EXCITING TRAVEL PROGRAM

- **Informative educational programs**, presented by local experts, will enhance your insight into the region.
- Tipping of excursion guides and drivers.
- **The following excursions:**
  - Enjoy a tour of lively Ennis.
  - Experience Irish storytelling, traditional music and an exclusive show about Irish history.
  - Walk through the harbor town of Galway.
  - Marvel at the scenic wonders of the Cliffs of Moher and the Burren.
  - Cruise to Inishmore, the largest Aran Island.
  - Explore the picturesque bounty of the Dingle Peninsula.
  - Admire the beauty of the Ring of Kerry, and tour Muckross House.
  - Tour Blarney Castle, and see the famous Blarney Stone.
  - Visit the Irish National Stud & Gardens.
  - See the highlights of bustling Dublin.





## VirginiaTechforlife ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Ennis



Muckross House

# The Wild Atlantic Way, Killarney, an Elegant Georgian Heritage stay and Dublin!

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