

ST. PATRICK'S FESTIVAL PARADE

Dublin, Ireland

March 17th, 2011

Standard Parade Tour #1 (4 nights / 6 days)

Monday, March 14th, 2011

Depart from USA via scheduled air service, including full meal, beverage service and in-flight entertainment. The destination is Dublin, Ireland

Tuesday, March 15th, 2011 Dublin

Arrive in Dublin

Meet your MCI Tour Manager, 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

Evening Welcome Dinner and overnight

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.

Wednesday, March 16th, 2011 Dublin

Breakfast at the hotel

This morning travel north to the picturesque maritime village of Malahide for some time in the village or on the beach. Visit the Malahide Castle, one of Ireland's oldest and most historic castles. The castle contains much of its original 16th Century furnishings, a minstrel's gallery and a unique collection of Irish historical portraits. Return to Dublin via Howth (a fishing and yachting port, and popular suburban resort) and Dublin Bay

Possible performance at the Guinness Storehouse as part of the American Celebration of Music in Ireland

Afternoon at leisure in Dublin

Thursday, March 17th, 2011 Dublin

Breakfast at the hotel

March in the world-famous St. Patrick's Day 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

Afternoon at leisure to enjoy the atmosphere of St. Patrick's Day



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Friday, March 18th, 2011 Dublin

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning travel to Avoca to visit the Hand Weavers. See the three different kinds of weaving, including the traditional fly shuttle handloom, still in use today. Continue 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 visit the Round Tower, Cathedral, St. Kevin’s Cross and Kitchen, and Gatehouse

Possible performance in Bray as part of the American Celebration of Music in Ireland

Evening Farewell Dinner and overnight



Saturday, March 19th, 2011 Depart for home

Breakfast and hotel check-out

Transfer to Dublin’s International Airport for return flight to USA. Arrive home in the evening of the same day



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