

# In the Footsteps of St. Patrick

Shannon, Galway, Knock, Newcastle, Dublin



## Day 1 - USA - Shannon

Our Spiritual Journey to Ireland begins as we depart the USA on our transatlantic flight to Shannon.

## Day 2 - Shannon - Galway

Welcome to Ireland! Upon arrival at Shannon Airport, we will meet with our professional tour escort and board our motor coach. Our travels will take us to a number of ancient sites: the Dysert O'Dea Hermitage which served St. Tola in the 8th century and Kilfenora, a little village tucked in the southern margin of the Burren which was once a bishop's see with its own, now ruined, 12th-century cathedral. Enjoy the rolling hillside and beautiful vistas from the Cliffs of Moher overlooking the ocean. Dinner and overnight in Galway.

## Day 3 - Knock

After breakfast we travel to Knock set deep in the wild expanse of County Mayo. Knock, the " Lourdes " of Ireland, is Ireland's premier Shrine to Our Lady. It was here that Our Lady appeared at the little Parish Church in 1879. In September 1979, Knock received its most famous pilgrim, Pope John Paul II, bringing with him the Vatican seal of approval. Mother Teresa of Calcutta also visited in June, 1993. Dinner and overnight in Knock area.

## Day 4 - Knock

After an early breakfast, we will celebrate Mass and spend the day in prayer and reflection at the Holy Shrine. Dinner and overnight in Knock area.

## Day 5 - Knock - Sligo

After breakfast, we celebrate Mass at the Basilica before journeying to Yeats country. We stop at St. Attracta's Well, where St. Attracta received the veil from St. Patrick. We also visit the remains of the 575 AD Drumcliffe Monastery and see the ancient cross that provided Yeats with one of his most memorable images. Dinner and overnight in Sligo.

## Day 6 - Sligo - Donegal

After breakfast, we leave for Lough Derg of Pilgrims Island. St. Patrick is said to have spent 40 days in prayer and fasting here before expelling the evil spirits from Ireland. This is a pilgrimage site of solitude and thanksgiving and is one of the few penitential sites known in the modern world. The faithful perform acts of reparation and conversions which are often attributed to this holy place of prayer. This evening attend Mass at the Immaculate Conception Church in Donegal. Dinner and overnight in Donegal.

## Day 7 - Armagh - Newcastle

After breakfast, we continue our pilgrimage northward, making our way to the spiritual center of Ireland. We visit the twin Cathedrals in Armagh: the seats of the Anglican and Roman Catholic Archbishops.

## Day 8 - Newcastle - Dublin

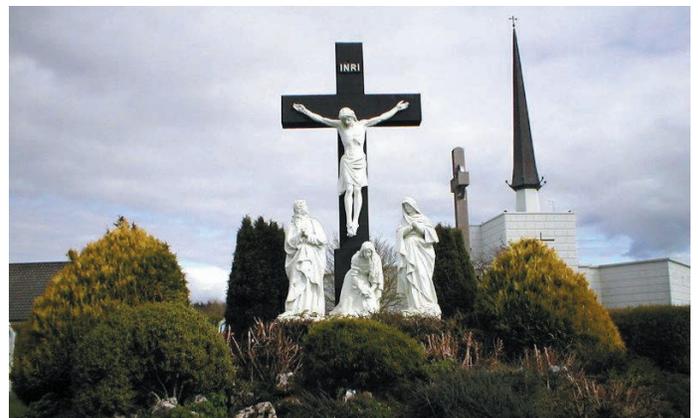
After breakfast, we visit the renowned burial site of St. Patrick and St. Patrick's Center which tells the story of St. Patrick's life in details. Leave Newcastle and travel to visit St. Brigid's Shrine at Faughart, home to the beloved St. Brigid called, 'The Mary of the Gael'. The area consists of a stone-lined prayer route beside a stream where St. Brigid is purported to have performed miracles. Our tour today will end with dinner and overnight in Dublin.

## Day 9 - Dublin

After breakfast, we will have Mass. We will then be met by our local guide for a full day tour to discover the fascinating city of Dublin. Firstly, we will visit the splendid library of Trinity College, which displays Ireland's most famous ancient manuscripts of the four gospels, the *Book of Durrow* and the *Book of Kells*. Our tour includes the National Museum to see such early Christian relics as the Chalice of Ardagh and St. Patrick's staff. Our tour ends in St. Patrick's Cathedral. Dinner and overnight in Dublin.

## Day 10 - Dublin - USA

Transfer to Dublin Airport for our return flight to the USA.



### This is a suggested itinerary:

We will be glad to customize a program that meets your specific needs, requirements and budget. You may also choose your own travel dates and city of departure.

For information on our Fund Raising Program and benefits for your group please email: [anton@travelwithus.com](mailto:anton@travelwithus.com)