



MEJDI TOURS

- Tour:** A Country Divided: A Dual Narrative of Ireland
- Included:**
- 9 nights' accommodation at the following hotels or similar (double occupancy): Benedicts Hotel (Belfast), Maldron Hotel (Derry), The Gresham (Dublin)
 - 1 local nationalist guide for 9 days
 - 1 local unionist guide for 9 days
 - 9 days of private bus transportation
 - Meals listed in the itinerary: 9 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 5 dinners
 - Entrances, sites, and honorariums for speakers¹
 - US-based customer service representatives
- Not included:**
- International airfare
 - Travel insurance-**HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**
 - Single Supplement-\$600
 - Meals not mentioned in the itinerary
 - Drinks at included meals
 - Airport transfers
 - Gratuities
 - Anything not explicitly mentioned in the included section
- Pricing²:** 10+ Paying Participants - \$3,995 Per Person (double occupancy)

Overview:

Immerse yourself in the land of Éire, renowned for its unquenchable spirit and incredible beauty. Join us as we journey through a nation divided on a dual narrative of Ireland. Tour the rolling emerald hills of Northern Ireland and the rocky cliffs and castles of the Republic of Ireland with two guides - one unionist and one nationalist. Dive deep into the history of the Troubles, examine conflicting national narratives, and confront contemporary issues, while celebrating the culture and fortitude of the Irish people. Explore the role of human engagement in conflict, learn how to approach uncomfortable conversations from a place of understanding rather than persuasion, and unpack lessons from the Troubles that can be applied to current events in the U.S. today. Experience Irish hospitality with visits to local parishes and pubs and explore the country's Catholic and Protestant heritages, literary legacies, and personal memoirs of political turmoil. Engage with community activists, artists, politicians, and religious leaders who continue to work toward a more peaceful Ireland.

¹ Subject to confirmation based on availability

² Subject to change based on confirmation. This quote is valid for 2 weeks.



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Itinerary:

Day 1: Belfast - Arrival

Upon arrival in Belfast, transfer to your hotel. Enjoy a welcome dinner with your group this evening. Dinner at 7.30pm

Hotel: Benedicts Hotel, Belfast (D)

Day 2: Belfast: A Dual Narrative

Travel to and learn about the innovative and engaging Titanic Belfast Museum, an exploration of emigration, and the shipyards and maritime industry that shaped this historic city. The Titanic was launched in 1911, the Home Rule crisis was about to start raging, the suffragettes movement both in the UK, the USA and globally was flourishing. It was a time of protest and uncertainty.

Lunch at Belfast Castle with the echoes of the hammers of those who built the Titanic still ringing in your ears.

Explore CS Lewis Square and sites associated with his life in Belfast.

Check into the Hotel, relax and refresh before an evening meal.

Dinner in Belfast with Sammy Douglas & Geraldine McAteer.

Hotel: Benedicts Hotel, Belfast (B, L, D)

Day 3: Today's Belfast

Tour the barriers and walls that still divide post conflict Belfast.

Enjoy a tour, a conversation and lunch at Skainos, a post conflict shared space urban village, hear the vision and the dream behind creating a shared space post conflict.

Explore the Crumlin Road Gaol a notorious prison rich in history and intrigue.

Rest or shopping in Belfast City Centre (lunch on own).

Over dinner, meet with two journalists Alex Kane & Alison Morris from different political traditions, to learn about current affairs in Northern Ireland.

Hotel: Benedicts Hotel, Belfast (B, D)



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Day 4: Belfast

Travel to and visit Queens University, Belfast and take time for a visit and reflection at the Troubles Display and the Art of the Troubles gallery in the Ulster Museum.

Conflicts cause immense pain and leave human tragedy, we listen to the story of loss, the painful rebuilding of life's of victims of the conflict from both sides, we hold this encounter in the Europa Hotel, the most bombed hotel in the world - Alan McBride & Linda Molloy.

Shopping and relaxing in Belfast City Centre (Lunch on own)

Dinner with a playwright, a poet, a singer and Irish language expert, Brian & Linda Ervine.

Hotel: Benedicts Hotel, Belfast (B, D)

Day 5: Dunluce Castle & Giant's Causeway

Breakfast in the morning and check out.

Begin the day with a trip up the Antrim Plateau, past the Glens to the northern coast of Ireland. Start with Dunluce Castle, one of the most impressive in Northern Ireland.

For lunch, stop at Bushmills distillery, the world's oldest licensed whiskey distillery in the world.

Afterwards, enjoy brisk coastal breezes at the swaying Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge and visit Giant's Causeway, whose hexagonal volcanic formations have earned its distinction as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. There, hear charming tales of the Celtic giant for whom the site was named.

Check in to the hotel and then enjoy dinner at a pub with music (on your own, recommendations provided).

Hotel: Maldron Hotel, Derry (B, L)

Day 6: Derry/Londonderry

Anne Walker and James Greer will meet the group at Bishops Gate Hotel and proceed to take everyone on a guided tour of the Derry Walls from both our perspectives.

Proceed on a guided tour of the Derry Walls from two perspectives.

The Siege Museum.



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Lunch at Bron Cafe on Bishop Street.

Walk to Museum of Free Derry for 2pm approx 1 hour tour. On the way we will stop at Free Derry Corner and Bloody Sunday Memorial and enjoy a tour of the murals.

Finally we finish the afternoon, with a discussion on conflict resolution, the role of memory, the power of language and the complexity of Brexit.

Dinner on your own.

Hotel: Maldron Hotel, Derry (B, L)

Day 7: Derry to Dublin

Breakfast at the hotel and then check-out.

This morning drive towards Dublin and check into the hotel. In the afternoon explore Trinity College and the Book of Kells.

In the evening, meet with a leading politician from the Irish Republic.

Hotel: Dublin (B)

Day 8: Dublin

This morning dive deeper into Irish history at the Kilmainham Gaol museum.

In the afternoon undertake a tour by a leading historian on the Easter rising of 1916.

Hotel: Dublin (B)

Day 9: Dublin

Depart to Glasnevin to visit Glasnevin Cemetery and Museum to hear the stories of Michael Collins, Daniel O'Connell, and other foundational figures in modern Irish history.

Enjoy some free time this afternoon to explore the city further.

This evening, meet the group for a farewell dinner.

Hotel: Dublin (B, D)

Day 10: Departure

Depart for home today.