

International Dairy Tour to Ireland

August 12-22, 2017



Brought to you by Professional Dairy Producers®



International Dairy Tour to Ireland

Saturday, August 12 [Depart Chicago O'Hare Intl. Airport]

Meet up with your fellow PDPW travellers at O'Hare Airport for a non-stop overnight Aer Lingus flight to Dublin.

Sunday, August 13 [Arrive in Dublin]

We'll kick off our Irish getaway with breakfast in a local restaurant and then travel to medieval Christchurch Cathedral – the spiritual heart of Dublin. Later we'll head to Collins Barracks, part of the National Museum believed to be the longest-serving army base in the world.



Dinner and lodging at Herbert Park Hotel in Dublin.

Monday, August 14 [Dublin]

Tour of Dublin, starting with the famed General Post Office on O'Connell Street, which was occupied and demolished by the rebels on Easter morning, 1916. We'll pass the modern-day Irish Houses of Parliament, the 'Dail Eireann' and then drive through Georgian Squares of Dublin – the iconic features of Ireland's capital with the finest representation of the decorative architecture for which Dublin is famous. Take in the sites as we drive around St. Stephens Green, along the banks of the River Liffey and pass the Halfpenny Bridge, a former pedestrian toll bridge built in 1816. We'll stop at the Guinness Store House to learn the Guinness Story. Enjoy a pint of Guinness in the Gravity Bar overlooking the Dublin Skyline.

Our afternoon stop - Kilmainham Gaol – is ranked as a #1 'Ireland trip visit' in Dublin. Kilmainham opened in 1796 and closed its doors in 1924. This former jail has been converted to a museum.



Top off the day with dinner and music at The Merry Ploughboy for the best in traditional Irish food, music, dance and entertainment.

For the night, stay in Herbert Park Hotel.

Tuesday, August 15 [Dublin and Kilkenny]

After breakfast, drive to Paul and David Hyland's dairy farm in Ballacolla, County Laois. The farm comprises owned and leased land to support their 400-cow grazing herd. The largely grass-based Jersey-cross operation uses New Zealand principles and a 16-unit parlor on one block along with a 20-unit milking parlor on another land block.

Enjoy lunch at the charming Castle Arms Hotel in Durrow, and then we're off to Kilkenny for an afternoon tour of Kilkenny Castle, where there's been a castle on site since 1172 when Richard de Clare, the Norman knight known as Strongbow, built a wooden tower on this rocky height overlooking the River Nore. The first stone castle was built here twenty years later by Strongbow's son-in-law William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke. Three of this castle's original four towers survive today.

Your final stop is at Kilkenny Crystal, Ireland's oldest family-owned crystal studio workshop. The founder, Patrick Clancy was the first Irish-born crystal designer and is regarded as the most important due to the iconic original designs he created. Host Richard Clancy will demonstrate how the traditional techniques they use likens Kilkenny crystal to antique quality. Many of their pieces are valuable collectors' items.

Dinner is on your own this evening, and there are many pubs and restaurants with mouth-watering fare from which to choose. It's a good idea to make a reservation as you wander around Kilkenny during the afternoon.

Wednesday, August 16 [Kilkenny – Moorepark]

Visit Moorepark Animal and Grassland Research & Innovation Centre, a major player in the development of the Irish dairy industry. Established in 1959, Moorepark is responsible for all aspects of dairy production research. After a refreshing lunch, visit Kevin Twomey's nearby dairy farm. Milking 800 Friesian-Jersey crosses on 3 separate farms, he milks 300 cows on 240 acres.

Next is a drive to Kinsale, a historic port and fishing town in County Cork, with a significant military history. Enjoy dinner and spend the next two nights in the Trident Hotel Kinsale, located in the heart of the city.

Thursday, August 17 [Kinsale]

Our first visit will be to Charles Fort, a classic example of a late-17th-century star-shaped fort. As one of the largest military installations in the country, Charles Fort has been associated with some of the most momentous events in Irish history.

We'll follow this up with a stop at Griffin Farm. This third-generation family has been growing potatoes in Carrigaline, Co. Cork since the 1940s. Here they grow, pack and market 3,000 tons of potatoes they produce annually and are among Munster's longest-established, most-respected potato producers.

On to Blarney for lunch on your own and then to kiss the Blarney Stone at Blarney Castle. Blarney Castle was built nearly 600 years ago by one of Ireland's greatest chieftains, Cormac MacCarthy, and it's one of Ireland's most famous historical sites. The Blarney Stone attracts tourists from around the world and millions of people have climbed up the ramparts to kiss the Blarney Stone.



From here, trek onward to the commercial dairy farm of Tim O'Leary and his son Colm, who operate their farm near Blarney. Tim's very active in farm politics and a past president of the Irish Farmers Association, and Colm is a recent Agricultural Science graduate who's worked on dairy farms in New Zealand. Like most Irish dairy farmers, they operate a grass-based system.

Return to Kinsale for dinner on your own this evening.

Friday, August 18 [Kinsale and Killarney]

After breakfast, drive to the seaport town of Cobh. Between 1848 and 1950, over 6 million adults and children emigrated from Ireland fleeing famine and unemployment - 2.5 million of them from this port. Cobh was also the last port of call for the Titanic, and it was here that those rescued from the liner Lusitania disembarked. The story is well-told at the Cobh Heritage Centre.



In the nearby town of Middleton is Jameson Distillery, the largest in Ireland. Here we'll learn the history of Irish whiskey, tour the distillery and see how they triple-distill barley juice to make Irish whiskey.



Stop at Michael Murphy's dairy farm in Macroom, a small market town located midway between Cork and Killarney. An entrepreneur and well-known dairyman internationally, Michael and his son milk 200 spring-calving cows on two adjacent farms; the herd is 20% Jersey cross.

We'll experience dinner on our own and stay at luxurious Randles Hotel, Killarney; it'll be an unforgettable two-night stay.

Saturday, August 19 [Killarney]

Today we'll drive along the Ring of Kerry, a 111-mile road that boasts multiple major attractions including some of the world's most stunning scenery. The Ring of Kerry gives us a glimpse into the ancient heritage of Ireland: Iron Age forts and Ogham stones, old monasteries and landscapes that were shaped by the last Ice Age. Along the way we might meet a shepherd with his sheep dog herding the flock.



Visit Kerry Woollen Mills, one of the last surviving traditional woollen mills still manufacturing in the beautiful countryside. Established over 300 years ago, the mill drew on the adjacent River Gweestin for the power to drive its machinery and for the water to wash and dye its wool.

We'll have lunch in Smugglers Restaurant, a 'must-experience' stop overlooking the wild and beautiful coastline in Waterville. We'll continue with a drive over Coomakista Pass to the colorful village of Sneem, and then over Molls Gap to the Kissane Sheep Farm, where the Kissane family has farmed mountain sheep for generations.

Following the Kissanes, we'll return to Killarney for dinner at the Lord Kenmare Restaurant for the finest in contemporary cuisine.

Sunday, August 20 [Killarney and Galway]

Travel to Andrew Gow's dairy near Murroe in County Limerick. Andrew, a Nuffield Scholar, milks this spring-calving herd of 180 cows - Friesians crossed with Jerseys - for easy calving and management in a 16-unit parlor. We'll also enjoy a barbecue lunch here.

Take a drive to Lahinch and board for a cruise under the Cliffs of Moher, Ireland's most-visited tourist attraction. Towering 702 feet at their highest and stretching for 5 miles along the Atlantic coast, the cliffs are home to one of the major colonies of cliff-nesting seabirds in Ireland. On a clear day, one can see the Aran Islands and Galway Bay. This drive will be simply breathtaking.

The boat trip is weather-dependent. If the weather is unsuitable, or if anyone doubts their sea legs, we can also see the cliffs from the coach bus.

Continue onward to the Burren - the 'rocky place.' With its moon-like landscape and vast expanse of exposed limestone, the area is sure to be one of our most memorable stops. In 1651 a Cromwellian Army Officer named Ludlow said this: "(This) is a country where there is not water enough to drown a man, wood enough to hang one, nor earth enough to bury them."

Visit Galway, the 'city of the tribes' - named after the 14 Norman merchant families (tribes) that ruled the city from the late 12th century. After dinner we can enjoy a stroll down Shop Street and meander past Lynch's castle. In 1943, the castle belonged to James Lynch, the Warden of Galway. When he couldn't find a hangman to hang his son for murder, James hanged his son himself. Today the building serves as a bank.

Monday, August 21 [Galway]

Depart to the Connemara countryside, regarded by many as the real emerald of Ireland with its lakes, mountains, and mountain sheep farms. Drive through Headford to Cong, the location of the John Wayne/Maureen O'Hara 'The Quiet Man' movie. Get a view of 365 islands as we make our way between Lough Mask Lake and Lough Corrib Lake and continue on through the Maum Valley to Maam Cross.



Then it's on to Dromoland Castle, one of the only estates left that traces its history to native Gaelic Irish families of royal heritage - the O'Briens of Dromoland, kings of Thomond whose lineage goes back 1000 years to the only High King of Ireland. Be surrounded by luxury and beauty during our stay at this five-star hotel.

Enjoy 'Hawk Walk' on the castle grounds for a unique experience - we'll have an opportunity to fly a falcon, hawk, or owl - trained at Dromoland's School of Falconry.

Farewell dinner in the award-winning and world-renowned Earl of Thomond Restaurant. *Dress attire required. Gentlemen: coats and ties at dinner.*

Tuesday, August 22 [Galway and Dublin]

Say 'farewell' to Ireland and board our Aer Lingus non-stop flight to Chicago O'Hare Intl. Airport.

Life is short!

TAKE A BREAK

CELEBRATE THIS ONCE IN A LIFETIME VENTURE WITH PDPW

LET US PAMPER YOU

EXPERIENCE IRELAND

LEAVE YOUR WORRIES BEHIND

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Professional Dairy Producers™

820 N. Main St., Suite D
Juneau, WI 53039

Discover Ireland

The country, the cows, the culture!

**PDPW INTRODUCES A
ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME TOUR OF**

Ireland

August 12-22, 2017

*Discover the breathtaking countryside
and extraordinary dairy sector.
Along the way, Ireland's stunning landscape
forms an impressive backdrop –
an experience for the heart and mind.*

Package Price Per Person

Based on a minimum of 50 adults and includes round-trip airfare on Aer Lingus from Chicago O'Hare Airport. Upgrades to Business Class and special requests are available upon request and must be received by April 1, 2017. **Final payment is due by May 1, 2017.**

Early Bird Registration (By December 31, 2016)

	PDPW MEMBERS	NON-PDPW MEMBERS
DOUBLE OCCUPANCY	\$4,600	\$5,100
SINGLE OCCUPANCY	\$5,439	\$5,939

Regular Registration (After December 31, 2016)

	PDPW MEMBERS	NON-PDPW MEMBERS
DOUBLE OCCUPANCY	\$4,800	\$5,300
SINGLE OCCUPANCY	\$5,639	\$6,139

Package Price Includes:

- Accommodations for 8 nights in 3-1/2 star – 5 star hotels
- Transportation by private motor coach
- Professional field trips and sightseeing, including all necessary entrance fees as in the itinerary
- 21 meals, consisting of 10 breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 5 dinners. In addition, any in-flight meals served by the airlines
- International flights via Aer Lingus Group Economy class between Chicago O'Hare and Dublin. Deviations may be permitted.
- All current taxes
- Discover Ireland Tour Manager
- Miscellaneous materials such as a tour booklet, maps and notes
- End of tour gratuity for bus driver and tour manager

Harvest Travel International reserves the right to modify or amend the suggested itinerary until the necessary reservations are secured.

Tour Price Does Not Include:

- Personal expenses (laundry, telephone, room service, etc.)
- Expenses due to flight delays, strikes, bad weather, or other irregularities
- Optional travel and baggage insurance

- Excess baggage charges
- Individual services apart from the group
- Expenses for a la carte meal items not included in pre-planned menus or for cocktails, bottled water, soft drinks, wine or hard liquor
- Increase in tariffs or dollar exchange rate after publication date
- Refunds for hotel accommodations or tour services not utilized
- Increase in airfares including fuel surcharges, additional airport or security fees, air taxes, passenger facility charges, or any increases pertinent to the air segment of the trip

General Information & Conditions

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENTS

To register, go to www.pdpw.org and submit your deposit of \$500 per person or call the PDPW headquarters at **800.947.7379**.

- Space is limited to 50 participants.
- Producer Members of PDPW will have first-choice followed by associate members. If space remains, registrations will be taken from non-members.
- Final payment is due no later than May 1, 2017.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: All cancellations received by PDPW by April 1, 2017 will incur a fee of \$500 per person. Cancelled registrations after April 1, 2017 are non-refundable.

DOCUMENTATION: Each traveler MUST carry a valid US passport, with at least 6 months' validity remaining after your return to the United States. If you are not a US citizen, be sure to notify us on the reservation form so you may be properly advised regarding Ireland's entry documentation.

LUGGAGE: Participants are limited to one suitcase per person, which will be handled by the airlines. Information regarding the TSA and Aer Lingus carry-on policies will be advised closer to departure.

CANCELLATION/TRAVEL INSURANCE: It is highly recommended that each person purchase cancellation/travel insurance, especially if Medicare is your primary health insurance, which does not cover you outside of the 50 United States. The travel insurance is administered by Travel Guard. Information on coverage and premiums will be sent to you upon enrollment.

OTHER INFORMATION: Further information on weather, clothing and packing, cameras, money exchange, shopping, etc., will be sent to participants after enrollment.