



USC Alumni
Association
Trojan Travel

September 11 to 20, 2025

Ireland & Northern Ireland

EMERALD ISLE CRUISE



EXCLUSIVE GUEST SPEAKER
Fintan O'Toole

Green Fields & Rugged Cliffs

Circle the shores of the Emerald Isle on a captivating journey brimming with resplendent beauty, proud traditions and a warm, welcoming ambience that radiates along the lanes of small towns and buzzing cities alike. In this legendary land of poets, music makers and artists, embrace the magnificent, untamed landscapes that have fueled their creativity and feel your own spirits lifted.

Along the southern coast, delight in the maritime charms of County Cork's harbor towns and its verdant countryside. Further west, on the glorious Wild Atlantic Way, soaring cliffs, craggy headlands and sheltered beaches paint a jaw-dropping tableau at Dingle Peninsula. On the rugged Aran Island of Inishmore, gaze across a sweeping limestone terrain crisscrossed by stone walls and dotted with ancient ruins. Wonder at Skellig Michael, a brooding, austere rock of refuge, and the hexagonal stones of Giant's Causeway, both designated UNESCO World Heritage sites.

As you make your loop around the Emerald Isle on this exciting 9-day, 8-night luxury cruise, relish a thoughtfully planned itinerary packed with storied, dramatic history, tantalizingly fresh cuisine and plenty of "craic," as the Irish call a good time!

Front cover: *Cliffs of Moher*. **This page:** *Shores of the Beara Peninsula*





Bantry House and Gardens, Bantry Bay

The logo features a stylized Trojan helmet on the left, followed by the text "USC Alumni Association" in a serif font, and "Trojan Travel" in a smaller, italicized serif font below it.

USC Alumni Association
Trojan Travel

Dear USC Alumni and Friends:

Join us on a wonderfully enriching, 8-night, deluxe cruise that circumnavigates the Emerald Isle with ports of call in Ireland and Northern Ireland. Revel in a carefree voyage defined by luxurious comfort, sophisticated style and top-notch service aboard the deluxe **World Voyager**.

From windswept coastal beauty to authentic culture and irresistible cuisine, you'll be captivated by the magic of Ireland. Along the Wild Atlantic Way, gaze over the starkly splendid Aran Island of Inishmore and soak up the Dingle Peninsula's spectacular scenery. Encounter two arresting landmarks, Skellig Michael and Giant's Causeway, both UNESCO World Heritage sites, and explore Belfast's mural-lined streets in a black taxi on a compelling tour about "The Troubles."

Throughout your cruise, you'll enjoy a choice of engaging, included excursions featuring historic houses and acclaimed gardens, celebrated sites such as the Cliffs of Moher and Blarney Castle, and scrumptious food and local specialties such as whiskey and mead.

You can also bookend your cruise with optional extensions— a pre-tour extension that reveals the cosmopolitan flair of Dublin and a post-tour extension to experience the countryside charms of County Kilkenny. Interest in this remarkable Emerald Isle cruise is sure to be strong, so ensure your spot by reserving today!

We anticipate much excitement and demand for this very special cruise. More details about this voyage and our other programs can be found at TrojanTravel.usc.edu

Fight On!



Linda J. Ball '83
Associate Director, Trojan Travel
lindabal@usc.edu

**To secure your spot, call Gohagan and Company at 800-922-3088
or visit gohagantravel.com/reserve**



GUEST SPEAKER

Fintan O'Toole

Operating in the intersections between politics, history and literature, the work of Irish writer Fintan O'Toole continues to elude definition, despite his being one of Ireland's leading intellectuals. Yet, across his myriad activities and 25 books, a common theme emerges — the power of decisions, both brave and bad, to change lives. Born in Dublin in 1958, O'Toole is a member of the Royal Irish Academy and an honorary international member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. For several years he was the Leonard L. Milberg '53 Visiting Professor in Irish Letters at Princeton University. His most recent book, "We Don't Know Ourselves: A Personal History of Modern Ireland," was named 2021 Book of the Year by the Irish Book Awards and one of the 10 Best Books of 2022 by The New York Times. He has been a columnist with The Irish Times since 1988 and also contributes to The New York Review of Books, The New Yorker, Granta, The Guardian, The Observer and other international publications. He is the winner of both the Orwell Prize and the European Press Prize for his work on Brexit, and was awarded the 2024 Robert B. Silvers prize for journalism for his inclusive political commentary. O'Toole is currently working on the official biography of Irish poet and playwright Seamus Heaney.





The Black Taxis of Belfast

The Emerald Isle is a land of two very separate nations, similar in landscape and culture but famously divided by politics and religion. The conflict between opposing groups known as “The Troubles” ignited around 1968 and continued to 1998 — three violent decades that gave rise to paramilitary forces fighting not only for control but also for a national identity. “The Troubles” saw bombings by the IRA and Ulster loyalists alike throughout Northern Ireland, Ireland and England, with Belfast at the center of the war zone. Today, Belfast is filled with symbols of solidarity and remembrance of those who lost their lives in the struggle for peace. One enduring symbol is the black taxicab, which became essential for safe passage in a warring city. Segregated Catholic and Protestant neighborhoods had their own fleets, navigating strategically to avoid crossing boundaries in the most dangerous areas, including volatile Shankill Road and Falls Road. Belfast’s black taxis are now used in a uniquely profound way, driven by individuals who lived through or were impacted by “The Troubles,” sharing their firsthand perspectives for a historical tour of the city like no other.



INCLUDED FEATURES

- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if you purchased air through Gohagan & Company and your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- ◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
- ◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- ◆ Complimentary water in your suite or stateroom and on excursions.
- ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
- ◆ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
- ◆ Hospitality desk aboard the ship.
- ◆ Meals included as noted in the itinerary (B,L,R,D).



GOHAGAN & COMPANY



2025 | 10-DAY/9-NIGHT ITINERARY

Departure

Day 1 | September 11

Depart your home city.

Dublin, Ireland

Day 2 | September 12

Arrive in Dublin, Ireland's lively capital. Enjoy lunch on your own, then embark the deluxe **World Voyager** this afternoon and savor dinner on board. (D)

Cobh

Day 3 | September 13

Begin in picturesque Cobh, which was the main Irish port for ships to America in the late 19th and early 20th century. The Titanic made its last port of call here before sailing across the Atlantic Ocean. Choose from three included activities. The first features a walking tour of Cobh, lunch and a visit to Blarney Castle and Gardens.

The second option takes you to colorful Kinsale, Ireland's "gourmet capital," where you'll visit a modern meadery that produces this ancient, honey-based drink, and relish a delicious lunch. Your final option includes a tour of the herb garden at the Ballymaloe Cookery School, lunch at charming Ballymaloe House and a whiskey tasting at a distillery. Tonight, gather for the Captain's Welcome Reception and Dinner. (B,L,D,R)

Bantry Bay

Day 4 | September 14

Arrive in Bantry, gateway to the stunning scenery of southwest Ireland. This morning, tour the delightful gardens on Garinish Island and experience Beara Peninsula's wild grandeur during a panoramic tour.

Stop at the elegant, bayside Bantry House and Gardens and savor lunch in the private dining room. (B,L,D)

Skellig Michael/ Dingle Peninsula

Day 5 | September 15

Cruise by the Skellig Islands off the coast of Kerry to behold the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Skellig Michael, an ancient Celtic site and the setting of many modern films. Atop this awe-inspiring rock lies St. Fionan's Monastery, where monks lived, prayed and slept in clocháin, beehive-shaped, medieval stone huts. Cruise later to Dingle Peninsula, and take in dazzling coastal vistas and more clocháin on a ride along Sleah Head Drive. (B,L,D)

Galway

Day 6 | September 16

In Galway, select from two included excursions. On the first choice, admire the Wild Atlantic Way's dramatic splendor at the Cliffs of Moher and The Burren. Enjoy a guided walk across The Burren's karstic landscape and watch waves crash below you from breathtaking cliffs 700 feet above the ocean. Your other option takes you through brooding scenery of rugged mountains and windswept bogs as you explore some of

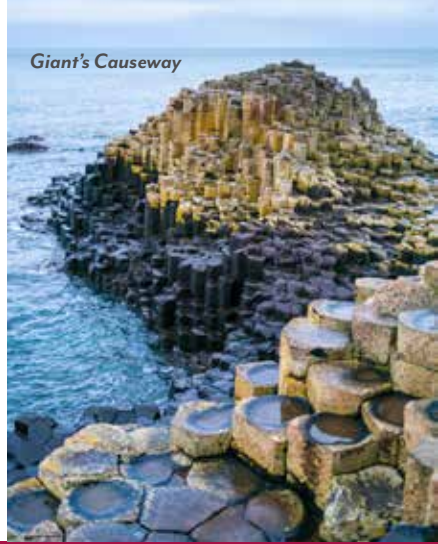


Cobh, County Cork

Inishmore



Giant's Causeway



Connemara's remarkable castles. Tonight, enjoy the lively music of a local traditional Irish band performing on board. (B,L,D)

Kilronan, Inishmore

Day 7 | September 17

Ruggedly beautiful Inishmore, the largest of the Aran Islands, has been inhabited since the Stone Age. On a guided tour, learn about everyday life on this striking island, where Gaelic is the first language. Head next to see Dún Aonghasa, the largest of the islands' prehistoric stone forts, perched on a cliff over the Atlantic Ocean. (B,L,D)

Portrush, Northern Ireland/Giant's Causeway

Day 8 | September 18

Dock in Portrush and visit the haunting ruins of Dunluce Castle. Then tour intriguing Giant's Causeway, a geological wonder and UNESCO World

Heritage site, where more than 40,000 interlocking, basalt columns jut up along the shoreline like a miniature city of skyscrapers. While science tells us that these otherworldly stones were formed by ancient volcanic activity, legend has it that the giant Finn McCool placed them there so he could cross the water to fight a Scottish giant. Learn about their origin, see unique formations such as Giant's Boot and the Wishing Chair, and delight in native seabirds and plants. (B,L,D)

Belfast

Day 9 | September 19

Begin your exploration of Northern Ireland's vibrant capital with a tour of the Shankill and Falls Roads area, the site of brutal sectarian violence during "The Troubles," from the late 1960s to 1998.

View bold, vivid murals commemorating individuals and events on both sides of the conflict, and get in-depth and personal insights about this turbulent period from your driver on a compelling Belfast Black Taxi tour. Belfast is also renowned for its impressive Titanic Belfast Museum on the site where the famous vessel was designed, constructed and launched. At the engrossing "Titanic Experience," delve into the full story of the Titanic and Belfast's shipbuilding heritage. Join the Captain's Farewell Reception and Dinner tonight. (B,L,D,R)

Dublin, Ireland/ Return to Home City

Day 10 | September 20

After breakfast, disembark and transfer to the airport for your return flight home. (B)

Kylemore Abbey, Galway





World Voyager

Designed with a 1940s aesthetic inspired by the new millennium, **World Voyager** is a modern classic. Complete with sumptuous decor, attentive service, globally inspired gourmet cuisine and included beverages, this small ship is designed for you to explore the world in relaxed, unhurried luxury. Your suite or stateroom offers the perfect place to unwind and relax. All accommodations include a marble spa bathroom and a spacious living room or sitting area. Enjoy seascape views from the comfort of your balcony or from your panoramic window.



2025 DEPARTURE DATES

September 11 to 20

(Embarkation: September 12)

Category-Description	Standard Rate	Early Booking \$1,000 Savings*
8 Stateroom with panoramic ocean view picture window. Deck 3	\$8,190	\$7,190
7 Stateroom with private balcony and sitting area with sofa. Deck 5, forward.	\$9,190	\$8,190
6 Stateroom with private balcony and sitting area with sofa. Deck 5, midship.	\$9,890	\$8,890
5 Stateroom with private balcony and sitting area with sofa. Deck 6, midship.	\$10,390	\$9,390
4 Stateroom with floor-to-ceiling Juliet-style balcony and sitting area with sofa. Deck 5, aft.	\$10,990	\$9,990
3 Stateroom with floor-to-ceiling Juliet-style balcony and sitting area with sofa. Deck 6, aft.	\$11,390	\$10,390
2 Stateroom with balcony. Deck 6.	\$12,190	\$11,190
1 Stateroom with floor-to-ceiling Juliet-style balcony and interior sitting area. Deck 6.	\$13,090	\$12,090
Journey Suite 2 Suite with large private balcony and sitting area with sofa. Deck 5.	\$14,790	\$13,790
Journey Suite 1 Suite with large private balcony and sitting area with sofa. Deck 6.	\$16,290	\$15,290
Discovery Suite Suite with larger private balcony and separate living room with sofa. Deck 5.	\$16,690	\$15,690
Navigator 2 Suite Extra-large, one-bedroom Suite and separate living room with sofa and floor-to-ceiling ocean view, large private balcony , bathroom has a tub and two sinks. Deck 5.	\$18,190	\$17,190
Navigator 1 Suite Extra-large, one-bedroom Suite and separate living room with sofa and floor-to-ceiling ocean view, large private balcony , bathroom has a tub and two sinks. Deck 6.	\$18,890	\$17,890

***Early Booking Savings of \$1,000 are available when you book by 03/26/25 and pay in full at time of booking. If you pay only your deposit by early booking date, you still save \$500 per person.**

All rates are in U.S. dollars, per person, based on double occupancy, including taxes. Single accommodations are available in categories 6, 7 & 8 at 160% of the cabin fare, plus taxes, with limited availability. Single rates for all other categories are at 200%. Early Booking Savings still apply. (Cabin fare is the standard rate less taxes.)

Port taxes in the amount of \$195 per person are included in the above prices. Deck plans available upon request.

Gohagan & Company reserves the right to correct errors or omissions and to change any and all fares, fees, promotions and surcharges at any time. Terms & Conditions are available at gohagantravel.com/terms/

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PRE-TOUR EXTENSION

Dublin

September 8 to 12, 2025 (Program Begins: September 9)

Kick off your adventure with a 4-night, pre-cruise extension in dynamic Dublin at a deluxe, ideally located hotel. Revel in the city's bustling streets and leafy parks on a walking tour. Stroll through Trinity College and view the exquisite, hand-illuminated, ninth-century Book of Kells. Admire Dublin Castle's 18th-century State Apartments, used for ceremonial events and sip smooth whiskey at a distillery. You'll also head farther afield to marvel at the superbly landscaped gardens of Powerscourt Estate in Wicklow and tour Russborough, a stately Georgian gem regarded as one of Ireland's most beautiful houses.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$1,795

Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$2,295



POST-TOUR EXTENSION

County Kilkenny

September 20 to 23, 2025 (Program Ends: September 23)

Fall in love with tranquil countryside scenery, historic architecture and picturesque towns on this 3-night, post-cruise extension in County Kilkenny. Visit a local dairy farm where Baileys Irish Cream is produced. Take in the atmospheric Rock of Cashel and its medieval church ruins majestically set on a limestone outcrop. Tour grand Kilkenny Castle, filled with handsome period rooms, and enjoy free time in the scenic town of Kilkenny. You'll also delight in a private, guided visit to pastoral Jerpoint Park, home to the ruins of a medieval town. Three-night stay at a deluxe country estate hotel.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$1,695

Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$2,195

Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

Early Booking Savings* available | Save \$2,000 per couple!

Market Lane, Kinsale, Ireland



USC Alumni Association
3607 Trousdale Parkway, TCC 305
Los Angeles, CA, 90089-3106

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