



TEKTON MINISTRIES
Encounter Christ on a Catholic Pilgrimage

WALK THE PILGRIM'S PATH: *CASTLES, CATHEDRALS, & CELTIC CROSSES*



YOU'RE INVITED YOU ON A PILGRIMAGE TO

IRELAND

September 9-19, 2024



A TRULY CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE

Tekton Ministries has been leading Catholic pilgrimages all over the world for more than 20 years. Working closely with your priest to create thoughtfully planned itineraries, we help make the Catholic faith more tangible to your daily life. By visiting holy sites throughout Ireland, and walking in the footsteps of numerous saints, we hope your faith will be reinvigorated and renewed by this pilgrimage. Although we visit numerous sites and shrines, daily Mass and time for prayerful reflection are important parts of each day's experience.

We use only experienced Christian or Catholic guides, so you receive truthful explanations of scripture and the places we encounter. When the disciple Philip asked the Eunuch (who was reading Isaiah) if he understood what he was reading, the man responded, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" (Acts 8:35) Just as Philip guided the Eunuch with "the good news of Jesus," your Tekton pilgrimage will guide you into a deeper understanding of the Scriptures. Our prayers, service, and love of our Lord go with you.

● Day 1 - Monday, September 9

Depart USA

Our pilgrimage begins as we depart on our overnight flight to Dublin. Meals and refreshments will be served aloft.

● Day 2 - Tuesday, September 10

Arrive Dublin

Upon arrival in Dublin, we will be met by our local Irish tour manager, who will remain with us for the duration of our pilgrimage. We proceed into Dublin proper, the vibrant capital of Ireland, with a romantic aura of Old-World Europe, for a city tour. Beginning at the church of Our Lady of Lourdes, we venerate the tomb of Venerable Matt Talbot, 20th century commoner known for overcoming his alcoholism through the power of faith. We continue to St. Mary's Pro Cathedral – the Catholic Cathedral of Dublin. Our final stop before checking into our hotel will be at Trinity College to see the famous Book of Kells, the 9th century illuminated manuscript of the four Gospels. (D) Overnight Dublin



● Day 3 - Wednesday, September 11

Dublin / Knock

After breakfast depart Dublin and drive west to Clonmacnoise for a visit to this holy site in a beautiful setting in a bend in the river Shannon. Then continue to Knock and celebrate Mass in the magnificent Basilica next to the original church where our Blessed Mother appeared alongside St. Joseph and St. John the Evangelist to 14 people in 1879. In 1979, on the 100th anniversary of the apparition, Pope John Paul II visited Knock and declared that the Church would be known as the Basilica of Our Lady, Queen of Ireland. (B/D) Overnight Knock

● Day 4 - Thursday, September 12

Knock / Galway / Knock

Following breakfast, drive to Galway and visit the Galway Cathedral dedicated to Our Lady and St. Nicholas, and the Collegiate Church of St. Nicholas with its famous Spanish Arch from where Columbus prayed before sailing for America. We will then depart Galway and travel through Connemara, an area of outstanding scenic grandeur. There is a brooding sense of Ireland's ancient culture and traditions in this haunted and mystical area where Gaelic is still the everyday language. Visit Kylemore Abbey, the only remaining home of the Benedictine nuns in Ireland, before returning to Knock for overnight. (B, D) Overnight Knock



● Day 5 - Friday, September 13

Knock / Killarney

Depart Knock traveling south via the lunar landscape of the Burren to the magnificent Cliffs of Moher, a dramatic great sheer rock face rising 700 feet from the Atlantic Ocean. Continue to Killarney, situated in a spectacular location amidst mountains, glens and lakes. Sometimes known as the "Best Kept Town" in all of Ireland, Killarney teems with history, Irish heritage, and hospitality. The remainder of this afternoon is free to enable us to explore the interesting craft shops, quaint historic buildings and churches, or perhaps sample the traditional form of local transport, the jaunting car (a horse drawn wagon). (B/D) Overnight Killarney

● **Day 6 - Saturday, September 14**

Killarney

Today we travel the road that winds around the beautiful Iveragh Peninsula, better known as "The Ring of Kerry." It is undoubtedly one of the most magical places in all Ireland. Here bogs, mountains, valleys, lakes and sea blend into a landscape that is often breathtaking beyond words. Even the names of the towns seem to whisper their beauty: Cahirciveen, Glenbeigh, Killorglin and Sneem. Visit Muckross House and Abbey before returning to the hotel for an early dinner. Afterwards, enjoy a traditional Irish music, song, and dance show presented by the Celtic Steps. (B, D) *Overnight Killarney*

● **Day 7 - Sunday, September 15**

Killarney / Cork

After Mass we will depart Killarney and drive to Blarney Castle, which dates to 1446 and is the third castle built on this site. We will climb the battlements to reach the Blarney Stone, said to impart the gift of eloquence to all who kiss it. Continue on to Cork for overnight. (B, D) *Overnight Cork*

● **Day 8 - Monday, September 16**

Cork / Wexford

This morning we begin at the Cathedral of Saint Mary and Saint Anne in Cork. Then depart Cork and drive northeast to the Rock of Cashel, a monumental 12th century complex dominating the surrounding landscape. Tradition holds it was here Patrick first used the shamrock as an image of the Trinity and converted the pagan King of Munster. It hosts one of the most remarkable collections of Celtic art and medieval architecture in the region. After exploring this unique and historic location. Then visit the Irish National Heritage Park, an open-air museum bringing to life over 9000 years of Irish history, before proceeding to Wexford for overnight. (B, D) *Overnight Wexford*

Cliffs of Moher



Ring of Kerry



● **Day 9 - Tuesday, September 17**

Wexford / Dublin

We depart this morning for Glendalough. Tucked away in the Wicklow Mountains, Glendalough was established by St. Kevin in the 6th century. Seeking a place where he could commune with God without the distractions of worldly life, the young Kevin lived first in a tree, then in a cave, eventually attracting a following of those who wanted to pursue a similar monastic vocation. Explore the ruins of this ancient monastery and marvel at the faithful asceticism of the medieval monks. Continue on to Dublin for overnight. (B/D) *Overnight Dublin*

● **Day 10 - Wednesday, September 18**

Dublin

Following breakfast, we will head north to see the Celtic crosses in the historic ruins of Monasterboice, the remains of an early Christian monastic settlement. The three high crosses were constructed as early as the 10th century, and other remaining ruins are from the 13th and 14th centuries. Continue to the Hill of Slane where St. Patrick is said to have lit an Easter fire as a challenge to the pagan High King of Tara. In the afternoon visit St Peter's Church in Drogheda, famous for its tall west gable, rose window, and for containing the national shrine of St. Oliver Plunkett, the last Roman Catholic to be martyred in England, before returning to Dublin. This evening we will celebrate our farewell dinner at a local pub featuring traditional Irish music. (B, D) *Overnight Dublin*



● **Day 11 - Thursday, September 19**

Dublin / USA

Following breakfast, transfer to Dublin Airport for our return flight to the United States, bringing with us all the blessings and graces of this pilgrimage. (B)

B=Breakfast D=Dinner



IRELAND PILGRIMAGE DETAILS

REGISTER ONLINE AT
TektonMinistries.org

BASE PRICE PER PERSON

Double occupancy w/base airfare **\$4,730.00**

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL EXPENSES (applied to final invoice)

• **Current airline taxes/fuel surcharges** **\$518.20**
(subject to change until final ticketing)

• **Gratuities to guide, driver, hotel/restaurant staff** **\$150.00**
(estimated)

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST **\$5,398.20**

OPTIONS:

- For a single room: add \$1,294
- Land-only option: \$4,267 (no flights or gratuities included)

Final Payment Due

June 2024

BASE RATE INCLUDES:

- Daily Mass at holy sites
- Roundtrip economy class airfare from Louisville to Dublin on Delta Airlines
- 9 nights' accommodations, including taxes and service charges
- Portage of one piece of luggage at airports and hotels
- Knowledgeable, friendly, Catholic/Christian guides; whisper headsets; deluxe motor coach transportation to holy sites; all entrance fees listed on itinerary
- Breakfast and dinner per itinerary (excluding drinks)
- Farewell dinner at a local pub with music on day 10

Rates do not include: *lunches, drinks with meals, gratuities*

Reservations and Payment: Tekton Ministries requires a deposit of \$300.00 per person at the time of booking. This deposit forms a part of your final payment which is due 75 days prior to departure. Reservations made within 74 days of departure must be accompanied by payment in full. Payments made by credit card will incur a convenience fee. Any reservations received within 45 days of departure will incur a late booking fee of \$100.00 per person. Late payments may be subject to a late fee and/or possible removal from the pilgrimage. This pilgrimage is based upon a minimum of 21 total pilgrims. Surcharges may be assessed for a smaller group size.

Cancellations: All cancellations must be in writing. The following per person cancellation charges will apply in addition to any airline penalties and charges incurred by our suppliers: If canceled 91 days or more prior to departure, a \$150.00 administrative fee will be charged. If canceled 90 - 31 days prior to departure, \$300.00 will be charged. If canceled 30 - 15 days prior to departure, \$1000.00 will be charged. No refunds will be made within 14 days of departure. In addition, once the airline tickets have been issued, 100% of the airfare is non-refundable unless you have been advised otherwise at the time of your booking.

Travel Documents: A passport which is valid for 6 months past the date of your return flight home is required of all U. S. citizens. However, U.S. citizens do not require visas for Ireland. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please call to find out if you need a visa. Tekton Ministries is not responsible for individual visas or passports.

Hotels: Accommodations are based on double occupancy rooms with private facilities. A limited number of single rooms are available at the supplement quoted and should be requested at the time of booking.

Air Transportation: Air travel is in economy class on Delta Airlines. Fares are based upon levels in effect at the time of printing and fares and flight schedules are subject to change without notice. Note that any ticketing changes or cancellations made within 120 days of your departure date will incur airline penalties.

Baggage: Each passenger is allowed one checked bag and one carry-on. Tekton Ministries is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen baggage.

Travel Insurance: We strongly recommend that you purchase comprehensive travel insurance for your trip. Registration information will be provided upon receipt of your deposit.

Not Included in base price: Airline taxes/fuel surcharges (currently \$518.20 per person, but subject to change until the time of ticketing), gratuities to guide, driver, and hotel staff, passport/visa fees, personal travel insurance, laundry, beverages and items not on the regular menu of included meals, excess baggage charges, optional sightseeing and expenses of a personal nature.

Refunds: Subject to the foregoing Cancellation Terms, upon cancellation of travel related services, all sums paid to Tekton Ministries/George's International Tours for such services will be promptly returned to the passenger, provided the passenger has not caused such cancellation and is not in violation of any of the terms and conditions previously, clearly and conspicuously disclosed and agreed to by the passenger. This refund provision does not apply where Tekton Ministries/George's International Tours has remitted the payment to another registered seller of travel or a carrier and they default in providing

the agreed-upon transportation or service without providing a refund. In such a situation, Tekton Ministries/George's International Tours agrees to provide passenger with a written statement accompanied by a copy of the bank records establishing the disbursement of the payment, and if disbursed to a seller of travel, proof of their current registration.

Trust Account Disclosure: California law requires certain sellers of travel to have a trust account or bond. George's International Tours has such a trust account.

Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation ("TCRC"): George's International Tours is a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation ("TCRC"). You, the passenger, may request reimbursement from TCRC if George's International Tours was registered and participating in the TCRC at the time of sale and the passenger is located in California at the time of payment. Please be advised that passengers purchasing from outside of California are not covered by the TCRC. Eligible passengers may file a claim with TCRC if the passenger is owed a refund of more than \$50 for transportation or travel services which George's International Tours failed to forward to a proper provider or if such money was not refunded to you when required. The maximum amount, which may be paid by the TCRC to any one passenger is the total amount paid on behalf of the passenger to George's International Tours, not to exceed \$15,000. A claim must be submitted to the TCRC within six months after the scheduled completion date of the travel. A claim must include sufficient information and documentation to prove your claim and a \$35 processing fee. You must agree to waive your right to other civil remedies against a registered participating Seller of Travel for matters arising out of a sale for which you file a claim with the TCRC, if you were located in California at the time of the sale. You may request a claim form by writing to: Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation, P.O. Box 6001, Larkspur, CA 94977-6001; or by faxing a request to 415-927-7698.

Responsibility Clause: Tekton Ministries, George's International Tours and/or their cooperating selling agents and/or their suppliers of services offer these tours for sale only on the express understanding that they themselves do not perform or in any way assume liability for the performance of the individual components, transfers, hotels, flights, car, motorcoaches, etc. of these tours and act only to combine these components into a single unit of sale for the convenience of the general public, and are not responsible therefore, either directly or indirectly, for any loss, accident, or injury which may result from any act, omission, negligence in or responsible for performing or providing these component services. The transportation companies concerned take no responsibility for any act, omission, or event during the time the passengers are not aboard their conveyances. The passenger contract issued by the transportation company shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation company and the passenger. Additional expenses incurred as a result of delay, change of schedules, illness, weather, strikes, hostilities, quarantine, government requisition of hotel space or any other reasons beyond the control of the tour operator or travel agent shall be borne by the passenger. Tour operator reserves the right to substitute hotels of similar category if necessary and to alter itineraries. Your deposit certifies that you agree with the above terms and conditions.



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