

Beara Peninsula Self-Guiding Holiday 2-Stay Programme



The first 4 nights are spent in Castletownbere from where you will enjoy walks around Adrigole, Knockgour, Allihies, Bere Island and either Maulin Hill or Hungry Hill. You will spend the next 3 nights in Kenmare from where you will enjoy walks around the Caha Mountains, Lough Inchiquin Nature Reserve, Peakeen Mountain and the famous Lakes of Killarney.

Trip Outline

Day 1: Arrive in the fishing port of Castletownbere where your host will give you your full detailed information pack. He will also be able to recommend some of the excellent local restaurants. Access for this holiday is by bus connection from Cork to Castletownbere which runs all year round.

Day 2: You will be driven to Adrigole to start your walk, continuing under the dominating mass of Hungry Hill and Maulin Mountain, before reaching Castletownbere. This is a long and very varied walk giving beautiful views over to Bear Island. Overnight in Castletownbere.
Walk Details: Distance: 25kms. Duration: 6 hours. Max. Height: 400m. Rocky walking with no clear path a lot of the way. Can be very wet underfoot. Some road walking. Boots essential.

Day 3: Walk from Castletownbere in a westerly direction towards the tip of the peninsula, passing under Knockgour Mountain to finish in the beautiful little village of Allihies. You will encounter a wealth of archaeological sites along the way. Transfer back to Castletownbere for you overnight.
Walk Details: Distance: 15kms. Duration: 4 hours. Max. Height: 260m. Muddy and grassy tracks, some road walking, can be wet underfoot - boots essential.

Day 4: Take the ferry from Castletownbere over to Bear Island - this fascinating place, steeped in history. Loop around the west end of the island, and on to the little village of Rerrin. From here you can continue to the eastern tip of the island, exploring the old army fortifications, before returning by road to the harbour for the return ferry. (As this piece of water is naturally sheltered by the island - the ferry service runs every day). Overnight in Castletownbere.
Walk Details: Distance: 23kms. Duration: 6 hours. Max. Height: 300m. Grass and muddy tracks, rocky in places. Some road walking - boots essential.

Day 5: You will be dropped at Drombohilly, near Lauragh to start today's walking. From Drombohilly you start walking over the first of two mountain saddles you will be crossing today, with views behind to the Caha Mountains and north towards the Ring of Kerry. Descending to the Cloonee Lakes, you continue along the shores of Lough Inchiquin before ascending again over the second saddle. Descending into the lovely Dromoghty valley, you walk along narrow little back roads, finally joining the main road for the last about 2kms to walk into the heritage town of Kenmare. Overnight in Kenmare.

Walk Details: Distance: 26kms. Duration: 6 hours. Max. Height: 400m. Open mountain and moorland, grass and mud tracks - boots essential. Some road walking at end of day - please take care.

Day 6: Transfer to Lough Inchiquin Nature Reserve. Overnight in Kenmare.

Walk Details: Distance: 15kms. Duration: 4 hours. Max. Height: 260m. Muddy and grassy tracks, some road walking, can be wet underfoot - boots essential.

Day 7: You will be transferred/driven to the start of your walk at Galways Bridge - outside Killarney. From here you walk across Killarney National Park passing Peakeen Mountain to the heritage town of Kenmare. This is a glorious walk, giving you an opportunity to see some of Ireland's native red deer as you walk through the National Park. Overnight in Kenmare.

Walk Details: Distance: 22kms. Duration: 6 hours. Max. Height: 400m. Mountain tracks and green roads. Can be wet underfoot - boots essential.

Day 8: Departure from Kenmare to Killarney by bus, and from Killarney a bus or train to Cork, Limerick, Shannon or Dublin.

On our Self-guided programme we offer...

- 7 night's Bed and Breakfast. Full Irish Breakfast. Private bathrooms
- 6 days walking. Varied and interesting each day.
- Move your luggage from Castletownbere to Kenmare.
- Give you full walking details and maps of the area.
- Full walking descriptions of each walking day.
- 24 hrs Emergency/Information contact number.
- Airport transfers arranged/booked if required.
- Public transport details, www.buseireann.ie and www.irishrail.ie.
- Weather Details, www.met.ie
- Full pre-departure information pack to allow you to fully plan for your holiday and so get the most from this Irish walking experience.
- Extra days/nights booking with Travel/Tourism advice service.
- A "mighty" holiday guaranteed