

## Central Arkansas Alumni Tour

### 7 Night Package in Dublin- Nov 12<sup>th</sup>–Nov 20<sup>th</sup>

#### **Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> Heading for the Emerald Isle**

Today we start our journey by departing the United States and taking an **overnight flight** across the Atlantic Ocean to arrive in Dublin Airport, Ireland

#### **Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>: Galway**

Upon arrival you will board your bus and head west to Galway City, known as the City of Tribes. Your driver guide will give you a **panoramic tour of Galway City**. Free spirited, artistic and bohemian, Galway has an ambience of its own that you will experience over the next two nights.

**Overnight: Galway City Hotel (B)**

#### **Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, Galway : Day Trip to Connemara**



After a leisurely breakfast we set out today to visit **Connemara**, a unique and very special part of County Galway. Once home to over 2 million Irish speaking people, it still retains its regional heritage as you will discover while we ramble around its lakes, mountains and bog lands. We visit the picturesque Kylemore Abbey, the home of the Benedictine nuns which stands at the edge of a lake surrounded by woodlands. The Abbey was originally built in 1868 by Mitchell Henry, in memory of his late wife Margaret. Its architecture is best described as neo-gothic and the house still displays all the characteristics of that period. Kylemore Abbey's most famous feature is its miniature cathedral, known locally as the Gothic church. You can also visit the Victorian Walled Garden.

Free night to explore Galway at your leisure.

**Overnight: Galway City Hotel (B)**

**Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>: Free day in Galway**

After a busy day in Connemara yesterday you have today to enjoy as you wish. You may want to explore the Aran Islands where you can walk or ride bikes, shop, try some of the delicious local food. Or check out cobble-stone lined, Shop Street, filled with cool & unique bars, shops and restaurants.



Tonight we will liven things up with a fun “**Craic & Culture Tour**”, an authentic Irish walking tour through Galway to explore some genuine Irish Pubs and learn some history that formed Galway.

**Overnight: Galway City Hotel (B)**

**Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>: Welcome to Dublin**

This morning we will head to Dublin, the small capital of Ireland with a huge reputation. **We will take a panoramic sightseeing tour of Dublin** to see local landmarks and historic buildings like the GPO (General Post Office) on O’Connell Street and Trinity College, housing the Book of Kells, and much more.



We then journey deep into the heart of Ireland’s most famous brands, Guinness, which has called the legendary St. James's Gate Brewery ‘home’ since 1759. **We will visit the Guinness Storehouse** to hear the story of this iconic drink, touring the seven floors here which bring to life the heritage of Guinness from its early days to its growth into a global brand that is known and enjoyed all around the world. What better place to savor a pint of Guinness than sitting high above Dublin in the Guinness

Storehouse Gravity Bar.

After that introduction to Dublin, we will check into the hotel and to enjoy free time. Enjoy your first night in Dublin, the capital with a pub to person ratio which is the envy of many other cities!

**Overnight: Dublin City Center Hotel (B)**

**Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>: A Day Trip to Wicklow**

Enjoy a hearty breakfast this morning and prepare to swap the city lights for scenic countryside as today on tour, we're heading to Co. Wicklow, known as 'The Garden of Ireland', to visit one of Ireland's most famous attractions, Glendalough Monastic Site, a fascinating early Christian settlement positioned in a glaciated valley with two lakes that was founded by Saint Kevin in the 6th century. Despite attacks by Vikings over the years, Glendalough thrived as one of Ireland's great ecclesiastical foundations and schools of



learning until the Normans destroyed the monastery in 1214 A.D. Here, we will hear the fascinating story and tour the grounds of the 'Monastic City' which consists of a number of monastic remains dating from the 10th to 12th centuries.

With a morning well spent in Co. Wicklow, we will return to the city of Dublin by this afternoon. You will be dropped off at the hotel to enjoy the rest of your day in Dublin at your leisure. All around the area there a host of traditional, cool and trendy bars from Jackie's which is 90s themed to Drop Dead Twice Cocktail Bar and the excellent Brazen Head, Ireland's Oldest Bar.

**Overnight: Dublin City Center Hotel (B)**

**Friday Nov 18<sup>th</sup>: Inspirus 2022 Tournament Day 1**

Let the games begin! Men's and Women's tournament games will be played Friday and Saturday.

Start your leisurely day in Dublin with a hearty breakfast and enjoy exploring all this city has to offer before departing by shuttle to The National Basketball Arena for the opening of MAAC ASUN Basketball Challenge 2022 hosted by Inspirus Sports, which features 4 Men's and 4 Women's Teams battling to win this prestigious Dublin Tournament. Wear your team colors with pride as your team takes to the court today to compete for a place in tomorrow's final.

Enjoy the occasion with fellow basketball fans and once the games have wrapped up, return to the hotel by shuttle.

**Overnight: Dublin City Center Hotel (B)**

**Saturday Nov 19<sup>th</sup>: Inspirus 2022 Tournament Day 2**

Enjoy another hearty Irish breakfast before the final games held later today. You will be transferred to the National Basketball Arena for the second and final day of exciting games.

Once the champs have been crowned, return to the hotel with treasured memories whatever the outcome on the court. Enjoy your free time on your last evening in Ireland as you wish, toasting to a successful trip on the Emerald Isle to be always remembered.

**Overnight: Dublin City Center Hotel (B)**

**Sun Nov 20<sup>th</sup>: Homeward Bound**

With bags packed, fuel up on breakfast as we head for the airport to board your flight back home. Take your airport transfer (which will be advised based on your flight schedule closer to the time of travel) and carry on your photos and memories of Dublin - bringing a bit of the Emerald Isle home with you. 'The Land of One Hundred Thousand Welcomes' will be expecting you again soon.

**Please Note:**

**The itinerary schedule is subject to change based on the game times at the Inspirus Basketball Tournament 2022.**