



\$1999.00 Per Person Sharing

\$270.00 additional from LAX
(plus \$329.00 US departure tax*)



NOVEMBER 9-18, 2012

“The Young Dubliners with The John Byrne Band”

Tour To **IRELAND**

SPACE IS LIMITED SIGN UP EARLY TO BE IN BAND HOTELS!!!!

Includes Night at Five Star *** Deluxe ASHFORD CASTLE!!!!**

4-5 live shows at venues throughout the country and music sessions with the band and special guests.

Day 1 November 9 Friday	USA-Ireland. Depart USA for overnight flight to Ireland. Dinner and in-flight entertainment is served shortly after take-off.
Day 2 November 10 Saturday	Dublin-Belfast. Morning arrival at Dublin Airport where after clearing customs you are met by your professional Irish Driver Guide and Hammond Tours Greet Staff. We travel out of Dublin heading north through Drogheda & Newcastle into Belfast. Known as the "Gateway to the Boyne Valley" Drogheda is associated with an extraordinary number of significant events in the history of Ireland - The Battle of the Boyne, St Oliver Plunkett, Poynings Law, Cromwell's Siege and the surrender of the Irish Chieftains to the English King. We continue into Belfast where we check into our hotel for some time to rest. This evening we enjoy dinner at our hotel. Dinner and overnight Europa Hotel Belfast
Day 3 November 11 Sunday	Belfast. After a full hearty Irish breakfast we enjoy a tour of Belfast. Our panoramic tour passes by the Edwardian-style City Hall and adjacent Linen Hall Library as well as Queen's University, the alma mater of a glittering list of luminaries including Ireland's prize-winning poet, Seamus Heaney. We then visit the Belfast Wall Murals . They are largely concentrated in the west of the city, and tell the story in picture form of Irish/British feudal history, going back over 800 years. Touch the peace wall or write your name on it, like millions of others, famous and otherwise; after all it is longer than the Berlin wall! This afternoon we have free time to browse this Northern Capital. Dinner is on your own Overnight Europa Hotel .
Day 4 November 12 Monday	Belfast-Sligo. After breakfast we depart Belfast stopping at The Ulster American Folk Park in Omagh. The Folk Park depicts emigration from Ireland to the United States during the Great Famine in the mid 1800's. We continue via Enniskillen to Sligo where famous author William Butler Yeats is buried at Drumcliff Cemetery... Our next stop is Sligo Abbey . A massive stone complex that is still redolent of "auld grandeur" and famed for its medieval tomb sculptures, Sligo Abbey is the town's only existing relic of the Middle Ages. Maurice FitzGerald erected the structure for the Dominicans in 1253. Dinner and overnight Clarion Sligo Hotel.
Day 5 November 13 Tuesday	Sligo-Westport-Ashford Castle. After breakfast morning departure for Cong via Westport which is designated as one of Ireland's Heritage Towns overlooking Clew Bay. One of the few planned towns in the Country, Westport was designed in the 18th Century by James Wyatt. It has become one of Ireland's established tourism centers, with many outstanding features, most notably the beautiful tree-lined boulevard known as The Mall, running parallel to the Carrowbeg River. We continue to the Five Star Deluxe 13 th century estate, Ashford Castle . Plenty of time this afternoon to enjoy the many amenities this property has to offer. Among the activities found are golf, horseback riding, skeet shooting, tennis or fishing. Perhaps you want to rejuvenate yourself in the state of the art health center. You might decide to walk among the three million species of shrubs, trees and flowers that the spectacular gardens have to offer. Tonight we enjoy dinner in the Castle. Sleep like a king or queen tonight in your luxurious bedroom. Overnight Ashford Castle
Day 6 November 14 Wednesday	Connemara Tour. After enjoying a gourmet breakfast, we depart from Ashford Castle and begin our journey on the northern edge of Lough Corrib and on to the Connemara region, one of the most scenic and unspoiled areas in the country. Today we take in the magnificent views of the Connemara region, Ireland's treasure of wild, natural beauty where, in some places, Gaelic remains the only spoken language. We travel first to Clifden. Situated on the west coast of Ireland against the backdrop of the 12 Ben Mountains and beautiful rugged coastline, the town is known locally as the Capital of Connemara. Clifden is a lively location full of shops, pubs, restaurants and cafés. The Sky Road in Clifden is one of the best tourist attractions in the entire Connemara region. The circular route is 11km long and takes you out west from Clifden. Simply put, the scenery along the Sky Road is stunning. Very few places in Ireland can

	match the rugged beauty and range of scenery that can be seen from the Sky Road. The route is well signposted from Clifden and easy to find. We then continue to Galway. In the 1400's, there began in Galway the rule of the 'Tribes', as the leading fourteen families were called. Their names were <i>Athy, Blake, Bodkin, Browne, Darcy, Deane, Font, French, Joyce, Kirwan, Lynch, Martin, Morris, and Skerritt</i> . Time today to browse "Shop Street" as well as the lively pubs that dot the city. Dinner and overnight Imperial Hotel Galway.
Day 7 November 15 Thursday	Aran Island. Optional trip to the Aran Islands. This day-trip takes the whole day, so do not go for it unless you are up to it. The way of life on the island is as it would have been in days gone by, except for the mini-vans that take tourists on sightseeing trip, it has remained as it was in the 19 th century. The most impressive of all the ancient fortresses in Ireland is located here, Dun Aengus Fortress. Built to maximize defense, it is surrounded by high walls on three sides and the other is a sheer drop of 500 feet to the ocean. (Please note that the Aran Island Tour is a full day). If not taking the optional tour you may enjoy Galway on your own. Overnight Imperial Hotel.
Day 8 November 16 Friday	Galway-Dublin. Morning departure has us traveling through the Irish Midlands and Athlone to Dublin City. Upon arrival in Dublin we have a full panoramic tour of this fascinating port city. We see where writer Jonathan Swift (Gulliver's Travels) gave his famous sermons at St. Patrick's Cathedral. After the tour the rest of the day is yours, to explore this infinitely varied thousand-year old city as you will; possibilities range from St. Michan's church to the Brazen Head, from St. Stephen's Green to Guinness Brewery and Jameson Whiskey Factory. Overnight Camden Court Hotel.
Day 9 November 17 Saturday	Dublin. Our last day in Ireland presents itself with a plethora of activities. Enjoy strolling along pedestrian Grafton Street with its many shops and pubs or perhaps visit Guinness Brew House or Jamison Whiskey Factory. Free Day today. Overnight Camden Court Hotel.
Day 10 November 18 Sunday	Dublin-USA. After breakfast we are transferred to nearby Dublin Airport. In the off chance that you missed shopping opportunities, Dublin has a large Duty-Free Shop that you can visit once you are checked in for your flight. In the traditional Irish way we wish you "Safe Home".

Your Tour Includes:

- * **Round Trip Airfare from JFK or LAX as selected to Ireland(air schedule announced 90 days prior to departure)**
- * **Deluxe Motorcoach vehicle throughout your tour, including all transfers and sightseeing**
- * **Services of professional Irish Driver and Guide.**
- * **Eight (8 Nights) First Class Accommodations as follows or similar:**

Location	Hotel
Belfast	Europa Hotel-2 Nights **** www.hastingshotels.com
Sligo	Clarion Sligo Hotel-1 Night **** www.clarionhotelsligo.com
Cong	Ashford Castle-1 Night ***** www.ashford.ie
Galway	Imperial Hotel-2 Nights *** www.imperialhotelgalway.ie
Dublin	Camden Court Hotel-2 Nights *** www.camdencourthotel.com
- * **Full Irish breakfast daily**
- * **Four Dinners: 1 Belfast, 1 Sligo, 1 Ashford,1 Galway**
- * **Admissions to: Ulster American Folk Park, Sligo Abbey**
- * **Fully escorted sightseeing as per itinerary**
- * **Porterage of one suitcases per person**
- * **Hotel tips and taxes throughout (Except tips to your personal Driver/Guide)**
- * **Deluxe portfolio of travel documents professionally executed**

Your Tour Includes:

Cancellation Penalties: If written cancellation is received by Hammond Tour more than 120 days prior to departure, a processing fee of \$250.00 per person will apply. From 119 days to 60 days prior to departure, a cancellation penalty of \$750.00 per person will apply. 60 Days or less prior to departure- a 100% cancellation penalty fee applies. **We strongly recommend Travel Cancellation & Interruption Insurance.**

***Government Departure Tax is Always Subject to Change**



ASHFORD CASTLE