



Ireland West Coast Islands Hiking

7 Days



The Adventure Company | EST. 1969

MT+SOBEKTM
MOUNTAIN TRAVEL SOBEK

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL

➤ Ireland West Coast Islands Hiking

Failte go Eireann! (Welcome to Ireland!) Hike little-used trails through some of the most secluded reaches of western Ireland weaving across rugged bogs, island cliffs, and immaculate beaches. Explore cultural heritage sites from prehistoric times through to the recent past. Discover the natural history and expansive views of this wild and remote region. Celebrate your successful hikes by knocking back a pint of world-famous Guinness. Slainte!

Details

Arrive: Shannon, Ireland

Depart: Shannon, Ireland

Duration: 7 Days

Group Size: 4-8 Guests

Minimum Age: 16 Years Old

Activity Level:



Testimonials

"MT Sobek took care of everything for our extended family vacation. Not a hiccup in the planning, the itinerary, the lodging or the guide. Everything in life should be so easy."

Kathy J.

"Exceptional trips! Go with MT Sobek!"

Mitch S.

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.

☎ 1-800-974-0300

✉ info@mtsobek.com

Why Take This Trip With Us?

REASON #01

Our resident guides provide local knowledge and experience to personalize your adventure, much like visiting a friend abroad.

REASON #02

MT Sobek has been operating trips in Ireland for decades, so you can rest assured our Ireland trips are expertly designed.

REASON #03

Our deep roots in Ireland provide us with access to authentic, local experiences not commonly accessible to tourists.

What to Expect



ACTIVITIES

Moderate hikes and scenic drives through Ireland's iconic landscapes, taking in geological sites and islands, paired with heartwarming Irish hospitality.



LODGING

Charming and boutique hotels featuring warm local hospitality



CLIMATE

The climate is actually rather mild, with an average yearly temperature around 50°F. Expect a bit of rain during your trip.

Meet Our Guides

Our expert guides and trip leaders are truly the key to our trips' success. Many are locals who live in-country year-round; others have made it their second home—all are passionate, enthusiastic and endlessly knowledgeable. Meet two of the guides that might be on your trip.


As an outdoor enthusiast, Brendan had a spoilt upbringing growing up in Killarney where the 22,000-hectare Killarney National Park was literally his very own backyard. He spent his youth out hiking, cycling, and boating in the park. Some years later, he went into 'exile' to Cork city for work. He was happy enough in Cork but something was always missing and it was photography that re-awakened Brendan's love of the great outdoors. It was only then that it dawned on him – "what all these poets were on about."

Brendan O'Connor

Ruth is from the Irish Midlands and loves hiking, surfing and cycling along the Irish coast. After years of living abroad and travelling around the world in international sales and teaching roles, she moved to Achill Island to pursue her passions and obtain outdoor education leadership qualifications. Since then, she has been lucky enough to guide visitors along the Irish hills and discover hidden gems along with them. She loves sharing her joy of the outdoors with others.

Ruth O'Meara

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Itinerary

DAY 1

EXPLORE BURREN NATIONAL PARK

Begin this exciting west coast adventure in the rugged region of the Burren National Park - an exposed limestone landscape that is one of Ireland's most fascinating geological sites. Hike the sweeping, rock-strewn Mullaghmore Hill, the inspiration for J.R.R. Tolkien's world-building while writing his epic saga, The Lord of the Rings.

Accommodation: Doolin Inn, Doolin

Activity: 2 hours/3.5 miles hiking

Meals: L, D

DAY 2

HIKE INIS MEAIN

Kick off the day venturing to the least-visited of the Aran Islands, Inis Meain, which remains a true ambassador of Irish language and traditions. Find yourself captivated not only by the raw landscape of the island and its ancient architecture, but also by its close-knit Gaeltacht or Irish-speaking communities. Hike along silent, winding roads and narrow trails weaving across the remote island, then enjoy a sunset hike of one of Ireland's most iconic sites, the stunning Cliffs of Moher.

Accommodation: Doolin Inn, Doolin

Activity: 4-5 hours/8 miles hiking

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 3

EXPLORE THE WILDS OF CONNEMARA

From the far-flung village of Roundstone, head for the hills to the wild and forgotten peak of Errisbeg. Squelching into the boggy terrain, meet the friendly locals - herds of hearty sheep and their lambs - who dot these hills. Climb this often-overlooked hill for its stunning views over the white sands of Dog's Bay to one side, and the layers of Connemara mountains stretching into the distance on the other.

Accommodation: Clifden Coach House, Galway Foyles Hotel, Galway The Quay House, Galway

Activity: 2-3 hours/4 miles hiking

Meals: B, L

DAY 4

BE CHARMED BY INISBOFIN ISLAND

Discover small and quaint Inisbofin Island and enjoy some of Connemara's most pristine scenery. Follow a winding coastal path to enjoy jaw-dropping Atlantic views past blow-holes and sea arches and enjoy glimpses of

playful seals, sea birds and even occasional puffins. View the island's Dun More cliffs, iron age promontory fort ruins, and postcard-perfect beaches; then relax with a pint of Guinness, Ireland's favorite beer, before heading back to the mainland.

Accommodation: Clifden Coach House, Galway Foyles Hotel, Galway The Quay House, Galway

Activity: 5 hours/10 miles hiking

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 5

DISCOVER KILLARY FJORD

Take in the gentle shores of Killary Fjord, one of just three fjords in Ireland. Enjoy a hike through this secluded landscape, drinking in views of white sand beaches and remote islands buzzing with swooping sea birds. Learn about The Famine - a dark part of Ireland's past - at a famine-era abandoned village where stories of people who lived here are brought to life by your guide. Afterward, meet with a local oyster farmer to learn about a livelihood deeply connected with the local ecology and taste his delicious produce.

Accommodation: Westport Plaza Hotel, Westport

Activity: 3-4 hours/8 miles hiking

Meals: B, L

DAY 6

TAKE IN THE VIEW FROM CLARE ISLAND

Follow in the footsteps of a 16th Century Gaelic Pirate Queen as you visit Clare Island, guardian of Clew Bay, the former stronghold of Granuaile (Grace O' Malley). Surrounded by the pristine waters of the North Atlantic, this mountainous island enthralls with its dramatic sea cliffs, home to a great array of birds and wildlife. Take in the island lighthouse, set against a breathtaking background, hike along the slopes of Knockmore, and glimpse the clear unconstrained view back to the mainland.

Accommodation: Westport Plaza Hotel, Westport

Activity: 4 hours/7 miles hiking

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 7

DEPART SHANNON

After breakfast, transfer back to the airport for homeward bound flights.

Meals: B

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Dates

Jun 10 - 16, 2023

Sep 2 - 8, 2023

For full terms and conditions please visit www.mtsobek.com/terms. Please note that our itineraries may be subject to change.

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Inclusions & Exclusions

PRICE INCLUDES

- Expertise and services of our experienced adventure guides
- All accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- All breakfasts, almost all lunches and dinners as noted in the itinerary
- Snacks and water between meals
- Additional regional guides and experts on many trips
- Comprehensive Trip Planner with detailed pre-trip information
- Private guided tours at historic sites, museums, wineries and other select attractions as noted in the itinerary
- Special events and other select attractions as mentioned in the itinerary
- All gratuities at hotels and restaurants
- Equipment and experienced guides for activities as described in the itinerary
- Park and other entry fees (unless otherwise noted)
- Fares for trains, ferries and other modes of travel as listed in the itinerary
- Select transfers as mentioned in the itinerary
- Baggage transfers and portorage

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International airfare, airport taxes, and excess baggage fees
- Alcoholic beverages, except MT Sobek selected beverages at welcome and farewell dinners
- Gratuities for MT Sobek guides and guide-drivers
- Travel Protection Program
- Personal expenses

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► The World of MT Sobek

At Mountain Travel Sobek, we believe life is an adventure and adventure is life.

As the originators, innovators and leaders in adventure travel for more than five decades, we passionately create, craft and share indelible, transformative journeys to the world's most memorable places. Our more than 200 unique and once-in-a-lifetime trips are designed to inspire and exhilarate, enliven and excite--opening eyes and minds through profoundly personal connections with nature and culture.

Our small group and custom adventures span the globe, and the spectrum—of interests, environments and activities—every one expertly planned and knowledgeably and passionately guided. And our commitment to making every experience a remarkable one has earned us preferred travel outfitter status for National Geographic Active Expeditions, Active New York Times Journeys, and Smithsonian Active Journeys.

We are *the* adventure company.

Awards



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