

Tour Code: CDDI26



*Concordia College: Culture, History and Literature of*  
***Ireland***  
*May 12 - 23, 2026*

*Hosted by:  
Dawn Duncan &  
Cindy Larson-Casselton*

*To register visit:  
[tinyurl.com/CDDI2026](https://tinyurl.com/CDDI2026)  
Or use QR code below*



*Kilkenney Castle*

*Scan to register:*



308A Elton Hills Drive NW  
Rochester MN 55901  
(507) 289-3332  
(800) 658-7128  
Fax: (507) 281-9747  
Email: [tours@ed-ventures.com](mailto:tours@ed-ventures.com)  
[www.ed-ventures.com](http://www.ed-ventures.com)





*Dublin Castle*



*Rock of Cashel*

#### **Day 1: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 • Depart USA**

Our Emerald Isle adventure begins with a trans-Atlantic flight from Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport to Dublin, Ireland. Get ready to explore history, landscapes, music, and warm Irish hospitality. **In-Flight Meals**

#### **Day 2: Wednesday, May 13, 2026 • Dublin**

Upon arrival in Dublin, we clear customs and meet our expert guide and driver before enjoying a visit at the famed Trinity College, Ireland's oldest college founded in 1592 by England's Queen Elizabeth I. While at the college, we see the Old Library and the Treasury that housed the **Book of Kells**, the ancient manuscript of the four gospels in Latin on vellum dating back to the year 800. The exhibition is now updated with an amazing 3D experience in two buildings. Updates are in the works to improve the experience even more! After lunch on our own, we meet our local guide for a fascinating **1916 Rebellion Walking Tour of Dublin**. We learn of Ireland's struggle for independence from the British Empire and the actions of those who helped awaken a generation to the cause of Irish freedom and much more! We also visit historic **Dublin Castle**, once the center of British power in Ireland. We check in and gather for a welcome dinner at our hotel. **In-Flight Meals/D**

#### **Day 3: Thursday, May 14, 2026 • Dublin**

Today we visit the **Guinness Storehouse** on a fascinating self-guided visit where we learn the history of Ireland's iconic stout and enjoy a pint with panoramic views from the Gravity Bar. We visit the **Jeanie Johnston Tall Ship**, where we learn about Irish famine-era emigration, followed by an immersive experience at the award-winning **EPIC Emigration Museum**, one of Europe's leading cultural attractions. This evening, we attend a performance at one of Dublin's iconic theatres, **The Abbey, The Gate, or The Gaiety** - depending on the schedule. **B/D**

#### **Day 4: Friday, May 15, 2026 • Dublin**

This morning, we tour **Kilmainham Gaol**, a powerful and moving visit to Ireland's former prison where leaders of the 1916 Rising were held and executed. For over 100 years thousands of men, women and even children were held for various (sometimes minor) crimes. After our visit we tour the **MoLi – the Museum of Ireland Literature** for a delightful look at local authors and rare items connected to them, immersive collections, and a view of the original copy of

James Joyce's *Ulysses*. The remainder of the afternoon is free to explore the city at your own pace. Consider a visit to one of the nearby National Museums, the National Library, St. Stephen's Green, or take a short tour at the Little Museum of Dublin, where wit and storytelling thrive. Tonight, we stroll through the cobbled streets of Temple Bar, then enjoy **dinner at a historic pub** in central Dublin, known for its atmosphere, music, and revolutionary connections. **B/D**

#### **Day 5: Saturday, May 16, 2026 • Dublin**

After a delicious Irish breakfast, we have the day free to explore more on our own. Some may consider a visit to Christ Church Cathedral, the medieval Viking Church which has stood at the heart of Dublin for 1000 years. Or consider returning to your favorite spot or just relaxing and enjoying the rhythm of Dublin life. **B**

#### **Day 6: Sunday, May 17, 2026 • Dublin**

Today we have another wonderful excursion south to Kilkenny to tour the imposing fortress, **Kilkenny Castle** and its lovely gardens. It was once the seat of the Butler family, Marquesses and Dukes of Ormonde and is now ours to explore, along with the narrow alleys and slips of the lovely town. Later, we visit the **Rock of Cashel**. Towering over the town from its perch on a 200-foot-high outcrop of limestone, the Rock was once the seat of the Kings of Munster. It was visited by St. Patrick in 450 and Brian Boru was crowned King of Ireland here in the 10th century. Today the impressive stone walls enclose a round tower, the cathedral, a 12th century Romanesque chapel, high crosses and other structures. We return to Dublin and have dinner on our own. **B**

#### **Day 7: Monday, May 18, 2026 • Galway**

Today, we journey to Galway. En route we visit **Birr Demesne Castle**, a grand estate known for its beautifully landscaped gardens, historic science center, and the Great Telescope—once the largest in the world. The castle is still home to the Parsons family, who have resided there for generations. Later, we stop at **Clonmacnoise**, a serene early Christian monastic site nestled along the River Shannon. As we wander among its ancient ruins, high crosses, and round towers, we reflect on Ireland's deep spiritual roots. We continue to Galway and check into our hotel. We enjoy dinner together this evening. **B/D**



Kylemore Abbey

#### Day 8: Tuesday, May 19, 2026 • Galway

After breakfast, we enjoy a short **walking tour** that introduces us to Galway's charm—Eyre Square, Galway Cathedral built from local stone, maritime history, and medieval streets, along with its long history of Irish poetry and literature. The afternoon and evening are free to enjoy the shops, cafes or traditional music at Tig Coili, a renowned traditional music pub. **B**

#### Day 9: Wednesday, May 20, 2026 • Galway

This morning, we take a ferry to **Inishmore**, the largest of the Aran Islands, where time seems to stand still. We tour the island by minibus and hike to the dramatic cliff-top fort of **Dún Aonghasa**. After shopping for authentic Aran sweaters, and enjoying lunch on our own, we return to Galway for a festive evening with **dinner and traditional music** at a local pub. **B/D**

#### Day 10: Thursday, May 21, 2026 • Galway

We head into the dramatic landscape of **Connemara**, with its mountains, bogs, and lakes. At the heart of this Gaelic-speaking region, we explore **Kylemore Abbey**, a peaceful estate with beautiful gardens, a Gothic chapel, and a fine shop. We return to Galway for free time before our medieval **banquet at Dunguaire Castle** complete with a great dinner and lively music and storytelling. **B/D**

#### Day 11: Friday, May 22, 2026 • Dublin Area

We check out and begin our return to Dublin. We stop at Kildare for a tour at the renowned **Irish National Stud & Gardens**. Here, we gain insight into Ireland's world-famous horse-breeding tradition and enjoy a peaceful stroll through the exquisite Japanese Gardens, among Europe's finest. Tonight, we gather for a relaxed **farewell dinner** at our hotel, sharing stories from our unforgettable adventure. **B/D**

#### Day 12: Saturday, May 23, 2026 • Return to USA

We say a fond slán agat to Ireland and transfer to the Dublin Airport for our return flight to the USA—hearts full of music, laughter, and treasured stories. **B/In-Flight Meals**

#### Abbreviations for Meals

**B**=Breakfast, **D**=Dinner

**\$5,999**

*per person, double occupancy*

**Single supplement = \$900**

*with a minimum of 25 participants*

#### Your Tour Includes:

- **Roundtrip Airfare** and related taxes, fees and fuel charges (\$1,500 from MSP or FAR to Dublin)
- **Land Transportation** via private deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- **Accommodations** (double occupancy) in 3 and 4 star hotels
- **Meals** per the itinerary (10 breakfasts, 8 dinners)
- **Admission** to all activities indicated in the itinerary except those listed as optional
- Services of **professional tour manager**
- Local **step-on guides** for city tours and major attractions
- **Luggage handling** of one piece per person where available
- **All taxes and tips** for provided services on land tour, except as noted below

#### Your Tour Does Not Include:

- Meals other than indicated above
- **Beverages**, except with breakfast
- End of tour gratuity for coach driver and tour manager
- Items of a personal nature such as passport fees. *(Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond return date.)*
- **Optional insurance** for health, baggage and cancellation. *(This insurance is available and recommended.)*

#### Payment Schedule:

A deposit of \$500 per person is due with reservation. A second deposit of \$1,000 per person is due on December 12, 2025. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure date (February 11, 2026). Invoice will be sent out prior to final payment. Passengers may add after this date subject to air and land availability. Generally airlines do not increase the price of a ticket after it has been contracted. However, prior to the issuance of a ticket, airlines may (and regularly do) impose fuel, tax, or security surcharges. In the event a surcharge is imposed after Ed-Ventures has received a final payment, Ed-Ventures will send an additional invoice for the surcharge amount. Early registration is encouraged.

#### Currency:

Currency exchange rates fluctuate constantly. In the event of a significant drop in the value of the dollar, we reserve the right to add a currency surcharge to the price of the tour.

#### Refund/Cancellation Policy:

All cancellations must be in writing. The date of postmark will determine the amount of refund due. Refunds are based on the number of days prior to departure date. From the time of deposit to 150 days before departure a \$100 administrative fee plus any airfare penalties will be assessed. From 149-41 days, a \$300 per person cancellation penalty plus lost airfare deposits and any unrecoverable deposits to ground suppliers will be assessed. Airline tickets once purchased are nonrefundable. Anyone canceling less than 40 days prior to departure will receive **no refund**.

*Purchase of health, baggage, and trip cancellation/interruption insurance is strongly recommended.*



## Terms and Conditions

We reserve the right to cancel this trip due to lack of subscription. In the event of cancellation of the trip in its entirety, a full refund of all deposits will be made to passengers enrolled at the time of cancellation. Tour price is based on the value of the dollar and the cost of airfare and is subject to change without notice. Extensions are usually available, but must be requested when booking the tour. Any changes in airfare booking may result in a processing fee. It may be possible, that due to unforeseen events, conditions, or changes in airline schedules, the land portion of the trip may be extended or shortened. Any savings realized by such occurrences will be refunded, however any extra expenses incurred must be borne by the client. Trip cancellation insurance is available. This low-cost protection can save you money if you are forced to cancel or alter your trip for a medical reason only. You will be mailed trip cancellation insurance information with the brochure or upon receipt of your deposit.

**Responsibility:** Ed-Ventures, Inc., their officers and employees, tour hosts, or any other persons or vendors connected with the tour shall not under any circumstances accept liability, provide refunds or pay compensation where the performance of our contractual obligations is prevented or affected, or you otherwise suffer any loss, injury, death, inconvenience or damage as a result of circumstances amounting to "force majeure". This means any event or circumstances which we or our suppliers of the services in question could not foresee or avoid. Such events and circumstances may include, acts of God, actual or threatened, war, insurrection, riots, strikes, civil action, decisions by governments or governing authority, technical or maintenance problems with transport, changes of schedules or operational decisions of air/transport carriers, terrorist activity or the threat thereof, industrial action, natural or nuclear activity, epidemic, pandemic, illness, physical injury, quarantine, medical or customs or immigration regulation, delay, or cancellation, adverse weather conditions, fire and all similar events outside our control.

Due to COVID-19, we reserve the right to adjust the tour in order to follow the guidelines and policies set by the CDC and the local governments.

The airline(s) concerned are not held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on their planes or conveyances. The passenger's contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of this tour and/or passenger. Any and/or all transportation companies herein mentioned shall not have nor incur any responsibility to any traveler aside from their liability as common carriers. Air and land costs are subject to change without notice. **Air transportation is via special, non refundable airfare. Any additional airfare assessments made by the airlines for any changes whatsoever shall be the responsibility of the client.** Other rules may also apply. Services of any A.R.C. or I.A.T.A. carrier may be used in conjunction with this tour. If there is a change in air prices and/or currency exchange rates, we reserve the right to adjust prices.

I grant Ed-Ventures, Inc and its agents the right to take photographs and videos of me during the tour and any meetings related to the tour before or after the tour. I authorize Ed-Ventures Inc, its assigns and transferees to copyright, use, and publish in print and/or electronically.

I agree that Ed-Ventures may use such photographs or videos of me with or without my name for any lawful purpose, including publicity, illustration, advertising, and Web content.



**308A Elton Hills Dr NW**  
**Rochester, MN 55901**  
(507) 289-3332 • (800) 658-7128  
FAX: (507) 281-9747  
[www.ed-ventures.com](http://www.ed-ventures.com)