

CHALLENGING CONNEMARA

Self-guided cycling tour 2010

This is the perfect tour for independent cyclists, who wish to cycle more challenging distances each day. This tour is for the more advanced and avid cyclist wanting to enjoy travelling in fantastic settings, and explore the many attractions in the area at their own pace and leisure by covering around 70km per day.

There are a range of distances you can decide upon, and shorter options should you decide on a more restful day. To cover all budgets you can choose between three levels of accommodation. Luxury option you will stay in 3 Star Hotels, with Charming Inns option you will be in local guest houses & B&B's and with the Budget option you will be staying in comfortable hostels. Your luggages will be transferred each day. A full itinerary, maps, and suggested options are also part of this attractive package, as well as bikes and any equipment that is needed.

Destinations visited include landscapes of immense beauty like Delphi Valley, Lough Corrib, the Renvyle Peninsula, but also charming towns like Westport, and Cong.

Duration: 8 days (7 nights)
Tour Dates 2009: ANY DATE (April - Oct)
Level: Challenging with some occasional hill. Average of 70km per day with longer and shorter options available on most days.

Bicycle: Touring Bike
Equipment: CANNONDALE HYBRID €100 extra
Helmets, front handlebar bag, water bottles, bicycle repair-kits, locks.

Accommodation: Approved B&B's & Guesthouse
Meals: All Irish breakfasts.

Transfers: Luggage transfers.
Miscellaneous: Detailed route notes and maps.

Meeting Point: A Killary Tours representative will meet you at your first nights accommodation in Leenane.

Departure Point: You depart from your last night's accommodation in Leenane. We can help with arranging transfers if required. There is a daily direct bus service in the summer only.



PRICE 2010:

Luxury Option: €949.00 per person sharing
B&B Option: €729.00 per person sharing
Budget Option: €599.00 per person sharing

All prices are in EURO, and based on per person sharing. Per person sharing means two people in one room. Single Room supplement is applied when people require a room for themselves as part of a booking of two or more. This is €205.00pp.

DAILY ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrive in the village of Leenane (we can help arranging transfer). Warm welcome and chance to settle in. You will be given your route pack and general information to study overnight. If there is time we will allocate bikes and equipment. Dinner is available in Leenane village.

DAY 2

The first cycle is to Westport, along one of the most stunning routes, via Aasleagh Falls, Delphi Valley and Doo Lough, onto Louisburgh and along Clew Bay (56km with longer and shorter options). Stay the next two nights in B&B in the vibrant town of Westport, and choose dinner from one of the many wonderful restaurants.



DAY 3

A day to explore Westport, with various options ranging from the climb of Croagh Patrick granting you a breathtaking vista of Clew Bay and visit of Westport House, home of the Marquess of Sligo, and a fine Georgian Mansion. For your cycling itinerary there is a loop to Newport, and to Burishoole Abbey (15th century) and Carrigahooley Castle, stronghold of Grace O'Malley, where she dismissed her husband, and as far as Achill Island (approx 90km - with shorter alternatives). Return via the road along the shores of Clew Bay to Westport. Alternatively cycle along Clew Bay to Louisburgh, visit Murrisk Abbey (14th century) along the way.

DAY 4

You leave Westport today heading for Cong. Depart after breakfast via Aghagower, Toormakeady, Lough Mask, Finny, and Clonbur to Cong (70km). A superb long cycle through a variety of scenery; hills, fine trout lakes, small country roads and you will stop at a suitable pub along the way to buy your own lunch. You stay the night in a Cong B&B. There are a number of restaurants in the village of Cong where you can get your evening meal.

DAY 5

Well rested & well fed, you continue your cycle from Cong today further south along the shores of Lough Corrib to Maam and across a small mountain pass to Maam Cross, before heading for Screeb and Kilkieran and to Carna, a small fishing village in South Connemara. Stay the night in B&B in Carna (Approx 70km).

DAY 6

Depart Carna after breakfast to cycle to Leenane. You have the option of a loop going around Roundstone, and Ballyconneely, to Ballynahinch and via the Lough Inagh Valley (80km) as you cycle back to Leenane. Alternatively a more direct route to Cashel and Ballynahinch, via the Lough Inagh Valley (60km). You stay in Leenane tonight in B&B/guesthouse in the village.

DAY 7

A lot to see on this day as you cycle pass Kylemore Abbey, Connemara National Park, Renvyle Castle and back to Leenane (50km). Longer option includes a cycle further south to Cleggan and Streamstown Bay (80km). Returning to Leenane for your final night in Connemara, perhaps visiting the local pubs to slake your thirst in.

DAY 8

Farewell breakfast and departure!

Please be aware that the programme given for this tour is strictly intended as a guide only and may not be fully adhered to. Climatic conditions, safety regulations and travel options may subject the programme to changes and/or modifications without due notice, at any time. In such case, Killary Tours reserves the right to make any necessary decisions.

Killary Tours, Leenane, Connemara, Co. Galway, Ireland

Tel. 095 42276 Int 00 353 95 42276

Fax 095 42314 Int 00 353 95 42314

E-mail tours@killary.com

Web: www.killarytours.com