

# LUXURY CONNEMARA

## Self-guided cycling 2009



For discerning travellers, we offer a very enjoyable cycling tour in fantastic settings, and allowing exploration of the many attractions in the area at their own pace and leisure.

The magic of Ireland is found not only in the breathtaking natural scenery, but also in the warmth of the Irish people, and on this tour you will have the chance to experience both.

Places visited in this heart of Celtic Ireland include such gems as the mountains of Connemara, the rolling lush green hills around Lough Corrib, the island of Inchagoill rich in early Christian history, charming villages and towns such as Clifden, Roundstone and Cong.

At the end of each day, you will stay in wonderful manor house hotels, and even Ashford Castle, one of the finest hotels in Ireland.

**Duration:**

7 days (6 nights)

**Tour Dates 2009:**

ANY DATE (April - Oct)

**Level:**

Gentle, some occasional hill, average of 45km daily with shorter and longer options available on most days.

**Bicycle:**

CANNONDALE Hybrid

**Equipment:**

Helmets, front handlebar bag, water bottles, Bicycle repair-kit, lock.

**Accommodation:**

Manor house hotels & castles

**Meals:**

6 dinners, all Irish breakfasts

**Transfers:**

Taxi from Shannon or Galway to your hotel on day of arrival. Luggage transfers.

**Miscellaneous:**

Detailed route notes and maps

**Meeting Point:**

We organise a taxi to pick you up at Shannon or Galway, to bring you to your hotel, and you will be met at the hotel by a Killary Tours representative.

**Departure Point:**

You depart from your last hotel. If you need us to organise a taxi to your onward destination we will be happy to assist you.



### PRICE '09:

Price for 6 nights € 1,995 per person sharing

Price for 5 nights € 1,649 per person sharing

Single room supplement (please ask)

5-night programme finishes on day 6, and you will **not stay** at Ashford Castle.

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.



# DAILY ITINERARY

## Day 1

You will be collected from Shannon or Galway and will be brought to your hotel in at Lough Inagh, a wonderful secluded valley in the Connemara Mountains. Stay the night in Lough Inagh Lodge, a rebuilt fishing lodge. We meet you on the day of arrival at your accommodation and allocate your bicycle and equipment. We will go through the route notes and maps and give you advice and adjust everything for you.



## Day 2

There is a moderate cycle around the coast and by Renvyle Peninsula, passing Kylemore Abbey, one of Ireland's top visitor attractions where you can visit the Benedictian Abbey with its restored Victorian Walled Gardens and the visitor centre. You also pass by Connemara National Park, which has lots of information on the Flora and Fauna of Connemara with exhibitions, audiovisual show and tearooms. You stop at Rosleague Manor for your second night (37km)

## Day 3

Today you cycle to Clifden (often labelled the capital of Connemara). There are various options available, the shortest being 25km, with the longest (passing Cleggan and Aughrisbeg) over 50km. Don't miss the cycle around the Sky Road, offering you wonderful views over the Atlantic and the islands lying in it. Stay the night in manor house hotel overlooking the Atlantic Ocean in Clifden.

## Day 4

From Clifden you cycle via Ballyconneely and Roundstone. Roundstone is a scenic fishing village, famous through the work of many well known painters attracted by its picturesque harbour and wonderful outlook across a deep inlet of the Atlantic to the ever changing peaks of the Twelve Bens. You make your way to Ballynahinch where you stay the next two nights in Ballynahinch Castle (or alternatively if Ballynahinch is not available in Cashel).

## Day 5

Chance to relax and enjoy your surroundings, perhaps take a game of Golf on the famed Connemara Golf Course, try your hand at fly fishing, or alternatively cycle to Cashel and back to Ballynahinch Castle. For the more avid cyclist there is a beautiful cycling loop around Kilkerin Peninsula and back over a bog road (60km).

## Day 6

Today's target is Cong, cycle over the Maam Valley pass and along the shores of Lough Corrib, where the ruins of a castle are still visible on an island in the lake, famed for its fishing. Cycle through the villages of Cornamona and Clonbur before arriving in Cong, where the film "The Quiet Man" was shot years ago. Cong is a historical place and an inscribed stone cross (14th century) and the ruins of Ashford Abbey, founded in 1128 show for it. Stay the night in Ashford Castle, one of Ireland's finest hotels, and former residence of the Guinness family. (Total cycling distance: 60km).

## Day 7

Breakfast and departure. We are very happy to organise taxi transfers for you back to the airport or to your next point of destination if required.

*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](mailto:tours@killary.com)  
[www.killarytours.com](http://www.killarytours.com)