

Celtic CASTLES



Highlights

- Adare Village
- Bunratty Castle
- Kilkenny Castle
- Kildare Tour
- St. Brigid's Shrine
- Rock of Cashel
- Dublin City Tour
- Dublin Castle
- Edinburgh City Tour
- Edinburgh Castle
- Stirling Castle
- Braveheart Monument
- St. Andrews Tour

Itinerary

Limerick (1), Kilkenny (1), Dublin (2), Edinburgh (3)

DAY 1 Fly through the night to Ireland.

DAY 2 LIMERICK Arrive at Shannon airport. Welcome to the Emerald Isle! Your TSA Tours guide will meet you and escort you on a tour of Adare, a pretty village on the banks of the river Maigue, with black and white timbered houses and an ancient church. Also visit Bunratty Castle, the most complete and authentic medieval castle in Ireland. Continue to picturesque Limerick, located on the banks of the River Shannon.

DAY 3 KILKENNY Journey through spectacular scenery to the medieval capital of Ireland. With its narrow, winding streets and perfectly preserved old buildings, Kilkenny is a designated heritage town. Visit the 13th century Kilkenny Castle situated on the banks of the River Nore, and see St Canice's Cathedral, built in 1285. The afternoon is free, perhaps for some shopping at the Kilkenny Design Center, which showcases the best in Irish designer goods, from jewelry and clothing to pottery and paintings.

DAY 4 DUBLIN Travel through the green grasslands of Kildare, famous for horse breeding and racing. Stop for a visit to the majestic 13th century cathedral flanked by an ancient round tower, built on the original site of a nunnery established by Saint Brigid in the 5th century. Also visit the famous Rock of Cashel, home of the original cross of St. Patrick. Arrive in Dublin, a capital city that still retains its unique village atmosphere.

DAY 5 DUBLIN On your guided Dublin City Tour see Merrion Square, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Trinity

College, historic Phoenix Park, and visit Dublin Castle to see the magnificent state apartments. Option: Attend a performance at the Abbey, the Gate, or another of Dublin's fine theatres.

DAY 6 EDINBURGH Transfer to Scotland by ferry. Edinburgh is one of Europe's great and beautiful cities, the jewel in Scotland's crown. Discover the capital on an Edinburgh City Tour. See St. Giles Cathedral, bustling Princes Street, and visit Edinburgh Castle, then stroll along the Royal Mile to Holyrood House, where Mary Queen of Scots lived before losing her head! Option: Enjoy more time in Edinburgh with a flight from Dublin.

DAY 7 EDINBURGH Travel through Trossachs, a region of lovely lochs and glens, made popular by Sir Walter Scott in Lady of the Lake. Visit Stirling Castle, scene of much of Scotland's worst warfare. Visible to the south of the castle is the battlefield of Bannockburn, site of Robert the Bruce's epic victory over the English in 1314. Visit the William Wallace ("Braveheart") Monument with various items on show including Wallace's sword.

DAY 8 EDINBURGH Tour St. Andrews, recognized the world over as the "Home of Golf" since the game has been played here for 500 years. This seaside town is also home to Scotland's oldest university, founded in 411, where young Prince William is currently studying western art and its history. The rest of the day is free for discovery. Option: Spend one or more nights in an authentic Irish or Scottish castle during your travels!

DAY 9 DEPART Leave Britain behind and return home with visions of Celtic Castles.



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