

Get Active

Small Group Discoveries for Active Travelers

Thanks for your interest in the GET ACTIVE tours line by Country Travel DISCOVERIES—our selection of trips in response travelers seeking a more physically active, experiential or hands-on style of vacation... done the CTD way.

GET ACTIVE tours bring together smaller-sized groups—generally held to 28 or fewer travelers—to enjoy unique group tour experiences that are either a bit more physically active, flexible or exclusive to a point that they can't be optimally experienced by larger groups.

Perfect for Getting Out and About

We'll find truly remarkable views during our easy kayaking tour off the stunning shoreline of Vancouver, B.C., and play 18-holes on Kohler, Wisconsin's championship links courses. We'll walk through California's ancient redwood forests and join skilled chefs at Sonoma's Ramekins for a 4-course private cooking class. And, is there a better way to experience Ireland than a proper hike through its magical countryside and coastal landscapes, topped off with *Céili* dancing, traditional music and a pint at the local pub?

Short, Flexible, Fun

Generally shorter than our classic trips, GET ACTIVE tours also tend to offer a day or so of optional planning. This allows you to flexibly indulge your personal interests at your own pace—whether your “speed” is more a cycling picnic, a canoeing lunch, or hot-air balloon champagne brunch! It's also great for families with varied activity levels and time restrictions to enjoy traveling together.

Enclosed, you'll find detailed itineraries of GET ACTIVE tours of interest. We also invite you to learn more at www.CountryTravelDiscoveries.com/active or 855-744-TRIP (8747).

- **The Sonoma Experience**—Oct 10-14, 2015
- **Links & Lakes: Golf Wisconsin**—Jun 28-Jul 2, 2015
- **Vancouver & Victoria**—Jun 14-19, 2015
- **A Walk Through Ireland**—Sep 5-12, 2015



Country Travel
DISCOVERIES

The Sonoma Experience

An Active, Scenic and Sensory Discovery of California Wine Country

Get off the beaten path to discover the rich landscapes, rustic towns, agricultural settings, and diverse flavors of the Sonoma Valley AVA, birthplace of California's wine industry. Called the Valley of the Moon, Napa's less-touristy, more bucolic neighbor to the west is only 45 minutes north of San Francisco, but feels like it's a world away. Tour verdant, rolling vineyards that produce a diverse array of wines, from the smaller Jacuzzi Wines—specializing in Italian wines, from hearty reds to light and fruity Pinot Grigio—to the magnificent Chateau at the Kendall-Jackson Wine Center. More than just a tasting jaunt through wine country, however, this healthful, sensory and scenic adventure also lets us experience ancient redwood forests, rustic coastal fishing villages, historic Sonoma Plaza, the Russian River wildlife areas, and more. Scheduled stops and private educational sessions are perfectly balanced with fun optional activities and free time to explore on your own.

5 Days • 4 Nights • 7 Meals

Oct 10-14, 2015

Price Per Person: Double: \$1,727; Single: \$2,045

Pre/Post-Tour Hotel: (Please Call for Info)

Depart/Return: San Francisco, CA

CountryTravelDiscoveries.com/SON

Limited to 28 travelers

Highlights

- Learn about the cultivation and pressing process at **The Olive Press**, one of the “10 Best Places to buy EVOO” in the world
- Join skilled chefs at **Ramekins** for a private 4-course cooking class, and noted *San Francisco Chronicle* food writer and cookbook author **Janet Fletcher** for a detailed exploration of quality cheeses
- Fun, active options for experiencing the countryside from different perspectives—from a cycling picnic in **Dry Creek Valley**, to a kayaking lunch excursion along the gentle **Russian River**, to a stunning hot-air balloon ride and champagne brunch!
- Walking tour of the famed ancient California redwoods of **Armstrong Redwoods State Preserve**, seaside lunch in the quaint fishing village of **Bodega Bay**, and visit to tiny Bodega, location of Alfred Hitchcock's famous film, *The Birds*
- Discover the secrets of the farm techniques, terroir and microclimates behind world-class wines and other spirits from the region
- Take a piece of the Sonoma Coast home with you from **Petaluma Seed Bank**, with 1,200 varieties of natural, non-GMO heirloom seeds



Day 1—San Francisco Welcome to the City by the Bay! Welcome Reception. *Accommodations:* The Westin San Francisco Airport, Millbrae.

Day 2—Sonoma Today, we head across the Golden Gate Bridge toward Sonoma County and our first stop, The Olive Press, among the 10 Best Places to buy EVOO in the world, according to *Olive Oil Times*. You'll learn how olives are grown, harvested and pressed into the finest olive oils around. Then, we'll tour and taste Jacuzzi Wines, a winery producing hearty Italian wines such as Barbera, Montepulciano and Nebbiolo along with light fruity whites, Pinot Grigio and Arneis. Afterward, we're off to Sonoma and the famed Ramekins culinary center for a hands-on, four-course private cooking class. You'll be instructed by experienced chef instructors, and then enjoy the fruits of your labor in a sit-down meal. We'll walk off lunch in historic Sonoma Plaza, strolling through the quaint shops, tasting rooms and galleries. *Accommodations:* Doubletree Sonoma Wine Country, Rohnert Park. *Meals:* B, L.

Day 3—Rohnert Park/Options Day Enjoy a day of leisure to choose what option you wish. Spend the day relaxing at the hotel pool, enjoy a round of golf, or take one of two optional excursions today.

Option—Sip & Cycle Bike along the quiet country lanes of the Dry Creek Valley, taking in the emerald green beauty of the grape vines, olive trees, and foliage. The area is known for its spicy red wines and crisp whites, which you will sample at some of our favorite small, boutique wineries. We will work up a hearty appetite along the way to our Wine Country picnic lunch stop at one of the area's most picturesque wineries. *Price:* \$169 per person. (Optional wine tasting fees not included) *Meals:* L.

Option—Kayaking Tour on the Russian River

Wonderful scenery changes around us as we kayak down on the lovely Russian River, lined with vineyards and places to stop for a swim or to enjoy the wildlife that calls the river home. We may see Snowy Egrets, Blue Herons, turtles and even otters. Fish including Steelhead and Salmon live in the river, and we may pass schools migrating upstream to spawn. We will stop at one of the perfect beach spots to enjoy a picnic lunch on the bank of the river. A typical menu might include yummy sandwiches, pasta salad, local organic salad greens, seasonal fruit, and dessert. *Price:* \$175 per person. *Meals:* L.

This evening, we'll join together again for a special presentation on cheeses by *San Francisco Chronicle* food writer Janet Fletcher! *Accommodations:* Doubletree Sonoma Wine Country, Rohnert Park. *Meals:* B, Cheese tasting.

Day 4—Kendall-Jackson Wine Center/Armstrong Redwoods State Park/Bodega Bay/Sebastopol

Option—Hot-Air Balloon Brunch For early risers, a balloon ride over beautiful vineyards gleaming in morning light is a perfect way to start a day! Upon your descent, a gourmet Champagne Brunch is served before you rejoin the group. *Price:* \$220 per person. *Meal:* Brunch.

This morning, we explore the magnificent gardens and viticulture exhibit of the Chateau at the Kendall-Jackson Wine Center. We've included a "Sensory Tour," familiarizing us with the aromas, flavors and textural elements one finds in a glass. Then it's just a short drive to Armstrong Redwoods State Preserve—a 805-acre park featuring a majestic grove of ancient redwood trees. In a guided walking tour, we'll learn more about these gentle giants of the California Coast. Next, it's off to the tiny town of Bodega to visit the filming location of Alfred Hitchcock's famous movie, *The Birds*. Don't miss the great photo opportunity and tour of the schoolhouse. At Bodega Bay, a quaint fishing village, our seaside lunch on the waterfront offers amazing views of the bay, fishing fleet and crab boats. We'll finish the day with a farewell dinner at Bacchus Restaurant & Wine Bar located at our hotel. *Accommodations:* Doubletree Sonoma Wine Country, Rohnert Park. *Meals:* B, L, D.

Day 5—Petaluma/San Francisco We must say farewell to Sonoma County, but not before one last stop at the Petaluma Seed Bank, housed in Petaluma's grand, 1920s Sonoma County Bank building. Choose from more than 1,200 varieties of natural, non-GMO heirloom seeds to make your garden back home pop with Sonoma County flavor. Then, it's off to San Francisco, where we can drop off those staying an extra day or two, before heading to the airport and flights home. *Meals:* B.



ACTIVE TRAVELERS

Links & Lakes: Golf Wisconsin 2015

Visit Wisconsin's Best Courses and Settings with Ann and Louie Kaiser

Join CTD Discoveries Director and *Country Woman* editor Ann Kaiser and husband Louie for an incredible golf getaway this summer! Bring your own foursome—men, women or mixed—or be matched with other golf lovers and discover the stunning courses that have made Wisconsin one of the nation's most popular golf destinations.

At the world-renowned American Club in Kohler, you can play the five-star courses of Black Wolf Run, which hosted the U.S. Women's Open in 2012 and consistently ranks among the country's top 100. Or, try the championship links course, Whistling Straits, and have a heads up on the pros who will be here for the 2015 PGA Championship and the 2020 Ryder Cup. Along the way, you'll befriend amiable fellow travelers, cruise beautiful inland lakes, enjoy delightful dining and excellent accommodations, and discover the scenic Lake Michigan countryside!

5 Days • 4 Nights • 9 Meals

Jun 28-Jul 2, 2015

Price Per Person: Double: \$1,877; Single: \$2,195

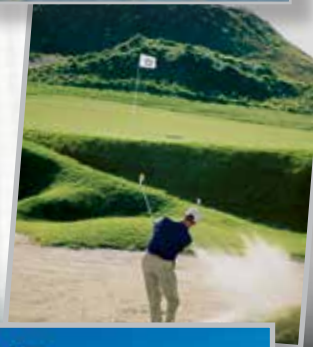
Pre/Post Tour Hotel: \$178/night

CountryTravelDiscoveries.com/LNL

Limited to 28 travelers

Highlights

- Play premiere courses, including the world-famous **Black Wolf Run** or **Whistling Straits** at Kohler
- Optional 18 holes at **The Bull at Pinehurst Farms** (*Golf Digest* U.S. Top 100), an outstanding **Jack Nicklaus**-designed course on 418 acres of oaks, maples, meadows, winding streams and pretty ponds.
- 9 holes at **The Bog** in Saukville, an **Arnold Palmer** design that is always in Wisconsin's Top 10
- Sunset cruise in beautiful **Lake Country**, and lunch and 18-holes at the Kaisers' home course, **Chenequa Country Club**
- Overnight in the charming fishing village of Port Washington overlooking Lake Michigan
- Opt for a day at the 5-star **Kohler Waters Spa**, the **Kohler Design Center** or the **John Michael Kohler Arts Center**
- Travel comfortably, with tee times reserved, clubs and baggage handled



Day 1—Welcome to Milwaukee! Join the group in the beautiful Lake Country west of Milwaukee. We'll get acquainted over a delightful dinner at The Golden Mast along with a sunset lake cruise on Okauchee Lake. *Accommodations:* Marriott Milwaukee West. *Meal:* D.

Day 2—Hartland/Pt. Washington After a delicious breakfast, you'll tee off at Ann and Louie Kaiser's home course, Chenequa Country Club. It's a beautiful layout in the rolling countryside overlooking Beaver Lake near Hartland. Your 18-hole round will include hole events with prizes and a casual lunch. Afterward, we'll drive through the Dairy State's picturesque countryside towards Pt. Washington, your home for the next three nights. *Accommodations:* Holiday Inn Harborview, Pt. Washington. *Meals:* B, L, D.

Day 3—Kohler Today, golf 18 holes at Black Wolf Run in Kohler. Named the #1 new public course in the country when it opened, Black Wolf Run has hosted the U.S. Women's Open and is consistently ranked among the country's top 100. After a day on the course, take a stroll along the promenade, grab a bite to eat or watch the fishing boats come into harbor after a day on Lake Michigan.

Option: Or, if you'd like to upgrade your experience in Kohler, you may choose to golf at Whistling Straits. Ranked among the best in the U.S., this stunning championship links course runs along 2 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline. You'll have a heads up on the pros, who will be here for the 2015 PGA Championship in August and the 2020 Ryder Cup. Walking is required, along with a caddy. *Upgrade to Whistling Straits for \$220 plus Caddie gratuity.*

Accommodations: Holiday Inn Harborview, Pt. Washington. *Meal:* B.

Day 4—Pt. Washington/Kohler Take a day off from golf to browse the shops and lakeshore in Kohler and the surrounding area...visit the Kohler Design Center's amazing array of bath and kitchen fixtures models...or if you can't get enough golf, we suggest 9 or 18 at The Bull at Pinehurst Farms, near Sheboygan Falls. Jack Nicklaus designed this outstanding course on 418 acres with oaks, maples, meadows, winding streams and pretty ponds. Every hole is named after one of the Champion Holstein bulls that were raised on the property until 1993. This evening, join the group for a farewell dinner—with plenty of lively conversation about our experiences this week! *Accommodations:* Holiday Inn Harborview, Pt. Washington. *Meals:* B, D.

Day 5—Saukville/Milwaukee We conclude our time on the links this morning, stopping for a final 9 holes at The Bog in Saukville. An Arnold Palmer design, the Bog is always in Wisconsin's Top 10. After your round of golf, we'll return to Milwaukee for those who have flights out later in the afternoon. *Meals:* B, L.



"My nickname for this new tour is 'Links & Lakes'. We'll golf at fabulous courses, and see beautiful inland lakes and impressive Lake Michigan along the way!"

—Ann Kaiser,
Discoveries
Director



Vancouver & Victoria

Experience British Columbia's Garden Cities and Great Outdoors

Discover the natural and cultural riches of British Columbia's Pacific Coast! An excitingly lively global city, Vancouver is famed for its excellent climate, natural surroundings, ethnic and linguistic diversity, sustainability and quality of life. This clean, forward-looking city was ranked 4th Greenest City in 2014 and 4th most liveable city in global rankings, even though it's also North America's 4th most densely populated city!

Across the Strait of Georgia lies the provincial capital of Victoria, known as "the garden city" for its beauty, good weather, and recreational activities. One of the oldest cities in the Pacific NW, it retains impressive classic architecture, Canada's oldest Chinatown, a strong presence of Indigenous Canadians, and lively maritime activities, from whale-watching and ship-building to sailing and kayaking.

By foot, bike, ferry, kayak and tram, we'll seize the opportunity to really get out and explore the bountiful gardens, parks, beaches and coastal areas of these twin jewels of western Canada.

6 Days • 5 Nights • 10 Meals

Jun 14-19, 2015

Price Per Person: Double: \$1,877; Single: \$2,135

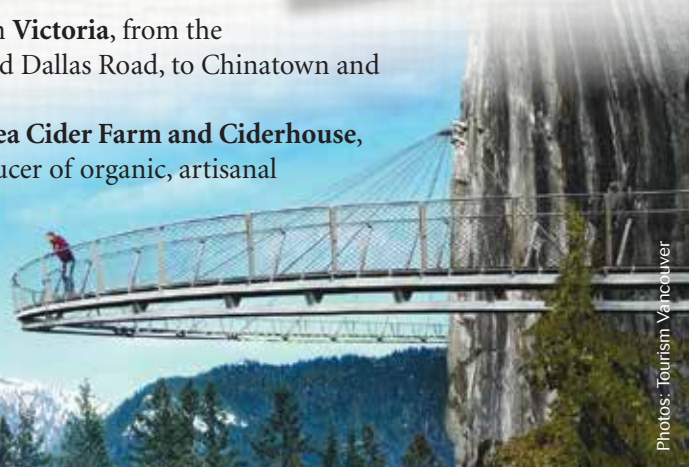
Depart/Return: Vancouver, BC

CountryTravelDiscoveries.com/VVI

Limited to 28 travelers

Highlights

- Tour the many stunning environments at world-famous **Butchart Gardens National Historic Site**, including the Sunken Garden, Concert Lawn Walk, Rose Garden, and the Japanese, Italian and Mediterranean Gardens
- Take a biking excursion through Vancouver's scenic **Stanley Park**, and catch amazing views of the cityscape on a guided kayak tour
- Board North America's largest aerial tram for breathtaking views from atop **Grouse Mountain**. Visit its scenic wildlife refuge, try an optional Zipline, or experienced hikers may want to tackle **Grouse Grind**—nicknamed "Mother Nature's Stairmaster"
- Walking tour and progressive dinner through historic downtown **Gastown**, Vancouver's original city centre
- Explore the classic British atmosphere of downtown **Victoria**, from the Parliament Buildings and Dallas Road, to Chinatown and Beacon Hill Park
 - Sample the fare at **Sea Cider Farm and Ciderhouse**, family-owned producer of organic, artisanal fermented ciders



Photos: Tourism Vancouver

Day 1—Vancouver Welcome to Vancouver! This afternoon after check-in, meet your Discovery Director and fellow travelers for a leisurely bicycle ride through beautiful Stanley Park, uniquely situated for incredibly scenic views of downtown Vancouver, the North Shore, The Lion's Gate Bridge, as well as English Bay and the Westside. We'll take an easy 5-6 miles ride on dedicated bike trails at a relaxed pace to take in the sights, so anyone with moderate fitness can easily do this ride! After a short rest and freshening up, meet for introductions and a Welcome Reception. *Accommodations:* Century Plaza Hotel & Spa, Vancouver.

Day 2—Vancouver After a delicious breakfast, see the sights on an exciting city tour, including historic Gastown...where the city of Vancouver actually began back in 1867. Gastown was originally named after the first settler...a colorful saloon owner named, 'Gassy' Jack Deighton. Today, the area is a charming mix of old and new with cobbled streets, antique gaslights, Victorian architecture and a unique mosaic of courtyards, boutiques and restaurants. Also located in downtown Vancouver is gorgeous Granville Island, a thriving cultural oasis surrounded by upscale marinas. Stroll through its quaint and thriving collection of interesting shops, artists' studios, theaters and galleries. Enjoy lunch on your own at one of the delightful restaurants or the Farmer's Market on the island. Then follow in the footsteps of the millions of visitors who have crossed Capilano Suspension Bridge since 1889. Next you're off to Grouse Mountain. The wilderness paradise is located 15-minutes from downtown Vancouver, and the famous Grouse Mountain Skyride (North America's largest aerial tram system) will take you on a one-mile aerial journey to the Alpine Station, 3,700 feet above sea level. Breathtaking panoramic views of the city, sea and surrounding mountains unfold, culminating in the Peak of Vancouver at 4,100 feet. Enjoy the walking trails of this beautiful nature preserve or take in the Mountain Zipline if you wish. Later, return to our downtown hotel for an evening on your own. *Accommodations:* Century Plaza Hotel & Spa, Vancouver. *Meal:* B.

Day 3—Victoria After breakfast, you will depart for the Tsawwassen Ferry Terminal and catch the BC Ferries for Victoria. Our first stop upon arrival will be Butchart Gardens, one of the world's premier floral show gardens, built over a century ago by Jennie Butchart. You can stroll through the gardens and see why people return season after season, and year after year. Explore the Sunken Garden, Concert Lawn Walk, Rose Garden, Japanese Garden, Italian Garden and Mediterranean Garden and much more. Enjoy Afternoon Tea in the former residence of the Butcharts, overlooking the beautiful gardens... Traditional delicacies, savory tea sandwiches and house-made sweets are simply marvelous! A walking tour around downtown Victoria, including the Parliament Buildings, Dallas Road, Chinatown and Beacon Hill Park, caps off the day. Check in at the hotel with time for further exploration of this charming city on your own. *Accommodations:* Inn at Laurel Point, Victoria. *Meals:* B, Afternoon Tea.

Day 4—Victoria/Vancouver This morning get up close and personal with whales! Experience a three-hour whale

watching tour, which includes various stops at different points of interest within the protected waters of Haro Strait and the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Your ship will be positioned parallel to the animals to allow for excellent photo opportunities and highly trained marine naturalists will educate you on marine wildlife! Then, at the family-owned Sea Cider Farm and Ciderhouse in Oak Bay, you will learn about the history of cider in North America and experience the artisanal cider-making process. In a beautiful setting with gorgeous views of Cordova Channel, James Island and Mount Baker, sample a variety of ciders that can be easily mistaken for wine! Return to Vancouver for your last two nights. *Accommodations:* Century Plaza Hotel & Spa, Vancouver. *Meals:* B, L.

Day 5—Vancouver Explore Vancouver's beautiful shorelines! We will head to Jericho Beach and after you are outfitted and ready, depart the Jericho Sailing Center for a three-hour guided Kayak Tour (one guide per six people), which takes you past stunning views of snow-dusted mountains, beaches and the Vancouver skyline. Tonight, embark on a guided three hour walking Gastown Tasting Tour! Enjoy hand-selected food and drink pairings at multiple venues; think of it as a progressive dinner where you eat your way through the streets of historic Gastown, Vancouver's most vibrant restaurant scene and Canada's cocktail capital. Enjoy award-winning restaurants, inventive dishes, eccentric personalities, and inspiring décor. *Accommodations:* Century Plaza Hotel & Spa, Vancouver. *Meals:* B, D.

Day 6—Vancouver Let your heart and mind relax and renew your energy as you step into Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden, a World Top City Garden according to *National Geographic*. Travel back in time to 15th century China and enjoy this "window to another world." Learn the art of preparing, serving and drinking tea together—the pleasure of drinking tea has been practiced to promote good health for centuries! Finally, say goodbye to your new friends and head home invigorated and full of west coast memories. *Meal:* B.



A Walk Through Ireland

Experience the Beauty, History and Culture...at the Perfect Pace!

So long, coach-potatoes! As anyone who's lived in Ireland knows, the Irish country life has a beauty and pace all its own. To truly appreciate its rolling green hills and ancient caves, ocean cliffs and medieval towns—why, you can't do it staying on your duff, and you can't do it *fast*! Even traditional dances (everyone jigs with everyone!) and fine whiskeys (triple distilled in an 180 year old pot still) take time. Get on your feet and off the bus to experience the Atlantic Coast, the Burren Region, Dublin and more, up close and personal. Take long strolls on legendary greenways, slow cruises on sparkling bays, and “be Irish for a day,” helping out and playing hard at Causey Farms.

Highlights

- Walk part of the **Great Western Greenway**, Ireland's longest traffic-free trail; the **Dingle Peninsula**, with exceptional water views; and the Ice Age-wracked **Burren** region, with its unique limestone formations, cave networks, ancient ruins and rare flora
- Visit the towering **Cliffs of Moher**, Europe's westernmost point
- Catch skilled falconers at **Crag Caves**, and seals and “Fungie the dolphin” cruising **Dingle Bay**
- Explore Gaelic-speaking **Achill Island**, a haven for outdoor sports
- Walking tours of **Dublin**, **Trinity College**, **Kilbeggan Distillery** and **Guinness Storehouse**
- Participate in life on an Irish farm through work, food, sports, music and dance—play hurling, dance Céilí, join us for tea and scones or out on farm rounds!
- Dinner and dancing at the converted **Church Restaurant**

8 Days • 7 Nights • 14 Meals

Sep 5-12, 2015

Price Per Person: Double: \$1,877; Single: \$2,135

Depart/Return: Dublin, Ireland

CountryTravelDiscoveries.com/IRE

Limited to 28 travelers



Faith Ireland



Norbert Eiseler-Hen



D. Haas



Chris Hill



Faith Ireland

Day 1—Welcome to Ireland Your exciting visit to the Emerald Isle begins with a trip to County Mayo. En route to our Westport hotel, we'll stop at the Kilbeggan Distillery, established in 1757 and thought the oldest licensed pot-still whiskey distillery in the world. Learn about the crafting of a traditional, triple-distilled Irish whiskey in a guided tour that follows the process, from grinding the grain to casking the final product, and taste a complimentary sample. *Accommodations:* BW Plus Westport Woods Hotel, Westport. *Meals:* B, D.

Day 2—Achill Island/Great Western Greenway One of the few Gaelic-speaking areas left in Ireland, beautiful Achill Island is a haven for those who like the outdoor life. After breakfast, you're free to explore your way. Opt to hike through heather bogland and take in magnificent mountain and ocean scenery, enjoy the sandy beaches, canoe or fish. Or, you can visit Kildownet Castle, the Deserted Village, the Megalithic Tombs, the Seal Caves, and more. An included lunch on the island tops off your time here. This afternoon, walk part of the Great Western Greenway—the longest traffic-free, off-road walking and cycling trail in Ireland. Our leisurely walk of approximately 13 km (8 miles) from Achill to Mulranny should take approximately 2-2.5 hours to complete, or you may rent a bicycle to travel along the Greenway. *Accommodations:* BW Plus Westport Woods Hotel, Westport. *Meals:* B, L.

Day 3—Burren Region/Cliffs of Moher This morning, travel south to discover the unique geography and historic landscapes of the Burren National Park area. This Karst limestone region in County Clare is noted for its eroded stone pavements, cracked into distinctive patterns, huge underground caves and rivers. Its wild flora is a rare mixture of Arctic and Mediterranean flowers such as gentian, orchids and bloody cranesbill. The Burren also contains dozens of megalithic tombs and Celtic crosses, a ruined Cistercian Abbey dating back to the 12th century, small villages abandoned during the famine period, and rolling green roads. It's a truly exceptional part of Ireland. Later, visit the spectacular Cliffs of Moher, boasting one of Ireland's most amazing views. Standing 230 meters tall over the Atlantic Ocean coastline, the green-swathed Cliffs reach their highest point at O'Brien's Tower, an observation spot created in 1835 by Sir Cornelius O'Brien. *Accommodations:* Dingle Skellig Hotel, Dingle. *Meals:* B, D.

Day 4—Dingle Peninsula For our morning's cruise on Dingle Bay, we'll learn about—and encounter, we hope—this fisherman's bay's most famous resident, Fungi the Dolphin. First spotted by the Harbour lighthouse keeper in 1984, the lone dolphin began by "escorting" the town's fishing fleet to and from port, but since then has developed into a playful, though mischievous, self-appointed "greeter" at the Bay—welcoming all humans, be they swimmers, divers, canoeists, windsurfers, or children paddling from the small adjacent beach. After an included lunch, enjoy one of the many walking routes on the Dingle Peninsula. A short (two

miles or less) cliff-top walk (*Siúlóid Chuas na nEighe*) gives superb sea vistas, and views of the surrounding mountains and headlands like the Three Sisters. *Accommodations:* Dingle Skellig Hotel, Dingle. *Meals:* B, L.

Day 5—Dingle/Crag Cave/Dublin En route from Dingle to Dublin, we'll step into 1 million years of history and wonder at Crag Cave—one of the finest examples of limestone cave formation in Ireland. This natural wonder provides an incredible view of pillars, stalactites, stalagmites, flowstones, curtains and straws that have been meticulously forming over several millennia. Next, have an up-close visit with majestic and awe-inspiring birds of prey—hawks, falcons and owls—at Kingdom Falconry. Skilled falconers both educate and entertain as you watch these graceful creatures take flight, swoop and stoop to the lure. *Accommodations:* Jurys Inn Christchurch, Dublin. *Meals:* B, D.

Day 6—Dublin's Fair City Meet with a local guide for a walking tour of Dublin City, discovering areas that coaches cannot access. First, explore the elegant squares and buildings of Georgian Dublin, and stroll through Temple Bar, the artistic quarter. Then walk to Wood Quay, cradle of Mediaeval Dublin, and visit the pedestrian Grafton Street and St. Stephen's Green. An impressive key stop is Trinity College. Ireland's oldest University, it was founded in 1592 by Queen Elizabeth I on grounds confiscated from an Augustinian priory. Built to educate the ruling Anglo-Irish families, its restrictions on Catholics were not fully lifted until the 1970s. Within its walls, you will be able to admire Parliament Square, stately Georgian edifices and interdenominational church. No visit to Ireland would be complete without touring the Guinness Brewery in Dublin, where you'll discover the Guinness story and what goes into the making and marketing of this iconic stout—the ingredients, brewing and fermenting process, time, craft and passion. Afterward, you are invited to enjoy a pint at Gravity Bar. *Accommodations:* Jurys Inn Christchurch, Dublin. *Meals:* B.

Day 7—Causey Farm/Dublin Today, travel to County Meath and feel "Irish for a Day" when the friendly folks at Causey Farm delight you with delicious regional foods, traditional music and favorite outdoor activities. You'll experience hurling, cutting turf and jig dancing! Afterwards, enjoy tea and scones before returning to Dublin for an afternoon at leisure. Tonight, we go out on the town for a *Ceili* and farewell dinner at The Church Restaurant & Bar. The former St. Mary's Church of Ireland, the restaurant boasts such outstanding features as a Rénatus Harris-built organ and spectacular stained glass window. You will learn the core steps involved in Irish *Ceili* dancing; everyone dances with everyone in this fast, fun and incredibly social form of dancing—laughter and good cheer are guaranteed. *Accommodations:* Jurys Inn Christchurch, Dublin. *Meals:* B, D.

Day 8—Dublin After a final breakfast, board your flight home with delightful memories of the Emerald Isle. *Meals:* B.

