

SEPTEMBER 29 — OCTOBER 8, 2026

IRELAND

DUBLIN • DONEGAL • GALWAY

FEATURING *Professor Cecelia Tichi, Emeritus*



VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
Alumni Association

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Dear Vanderbilt Travelers & Friends,

There's a special enchantment to Ireland. It's in the rhythm of a fiddle tune drifting from a corner pub, the scent of the sea on wild coastal winds, and the easy kindness of strangers who make you feel like family.

This journey begins in Dublin, where Georgian streets hum with literary history and the pubs welcome you with a perfectly poured pint of Guinness or a glass of Irish whiskey. Then onward to Donegal, where life slows and the landscape opens to mirror still lakes, mist covered hills and dramatic sea inlets. Once the stronghold of the O'Donnell clan, Donegal still bears the proud imprint of Ireland's complex past with the castle standing guard in the heart of town. The finale unfolds along the Wild Atlantic Way to Galway where Ireland's spirit feels most intact, shaped by heritage, music, storytelling and craft. Explore rugged Connemara, Ireland's strongest Gaeltacht region, where the Irish language, traditions and music are not just preserved but lived every day. Galway's colorful shopfronts and thriving arts scene will simply charm you.

This isn't just a trip to Ireland... it's a chance to feel its soul through songs, flavors, stories and friendships. We can't wait to share it with you.

Warm wishes,



Cary DeWitt Allyn - Director, Vanderbilt Travel Program



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FEATURING *Professor Cecelia Tichi, Emeritus*



Cecelia Tichi returns to Ireland where streets and public monuments invite visitors to an ongoing "festival of books." She will freshen interest in marquee writers from past and present Dublin to the Aran Islands and County Sligo. Cecelia is the Gertrude Conaway Vanderbilt Professor of English Emerita, an award-winning author whose books span US literature and culture from colonial days to modern times. Her recent work draws upon the Gilded Age (post-1870), including *What Would Mrs. Astor Do? The Essential Guide to the Manners and Mores of the Gilded Age*, followed by *Gilded Age Cocktails and Jazz Age Cocktails*, which set the stage for her Gilded Age crime novels featuring husband-and-wife team Roddy and Val DeVere. Preparing for Ireland, Cecelia revisits the classroom where Oscar Wilde, James Joyce, and "Molly Malone" prevail to this day.

For more information call: **VANDERBILT TRAVEL OFFICE 615.322.3673**
or **DESTINATIONS & ADVENTURES INTERNATIONAL 615.292.9292 ext 104**

The Vanderbilt Travel Program strives to engage Vanderbilt alumni, parents and friends of all ages, keeping them connected with each other and the mission of Vanderbilt. Each carefully designed trip offers unparalleled educational opportunities for the exclusive "beyond the classroom" experience.

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29: ARRIVE DUBLIN

THE COLLEGE GREEN HOTEL

Arrive in Dublin and transfer to your hotel. Gather with your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner. (D)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30: DUBLIN

THE COLLEGE GREEN HOTEL

Discover Dublin on a guided walking tour showcasing the city's history, vibrant neighborhoods and Georgian architecture. Later, visit Trinity College to view the renowned Book of Kells. Enjoy lunch at Arthur's Bar in the Guinness Storehouse, followed by a chance to pour your own pint. (B,L)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1: DUBLIN

THE COLLEGE GREEN HOTEL

Visit the breathtaking Powerscourt House and Gardens, known for its sweeping landscapes and elegant estate. Enjoy some free time to explore Dublin on your own. Later, indulge in a private whiskey tasting at the Irish Whiskey Museum paired with a selection of fine cheeses. (B)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2: DUBLIN / DONEGAL

HARVEYS POINT COUNTRY HOTEL

Journey to Donegal by road, stopping en route at the Ulster American Folk Park to learn about Irish emigration. After lunch, visit Donegal Castle and witness a traditional tweed weaving demonstration. End the day with a lakeside dinner. (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3: DONEGAL

HARVEYS POINT COUNTRY HOTEL

Start today with optional activities such as golf, fishing, hiking, kayaking, shopping, horseback riding, or coastal foraging. This afternoon attend a cookery demonstration and savor an afternoon tea at the hotel. In the evening, stroll into Donegal Town for live music and a pub meal. (B)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4: DONEGAL

HARVEYS POINT COUNTRY HOTEL

Visit the dramatic Slieve League Cliffs, followed by a scenic drive through the Rosses Gaeltacht — learn a cúpla focal (a few words) along the way. Enjoy a light lunch before a private tour and tasting at Crolla Distillery. The evening includes dinner and live music at Leo's Tavern. (B,L,D)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5: DONEGAL / GALWAY

GLENLO ABBEY

Travel to Galway stopping to visit W.B. Yeats' Grave, the Carrowmore Megalithic Tombs, and Knock Shrine. Enjoy a simple yet hearty lunch of soup and sandwiches en route. Upon arrival, take in Galway's medieval charm and scenic waterfront during a panoramic tour. (B,L)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6: GALWAY / CONNEMARA

GLENLO ABBEY

Venture into the Connemara Archipelago, the strongest Gaeltacht region in Ireland, where Gaelic traditions thrive. Enjoy a coastal walk or a seaweed bath, followed by an afternoon sailing on a Galway Hooker boat. A family hosted lunch features specialties such as Connemara lamb and fresh seafood, followed by an afternoon of traditional music and dancing in a lively pub. (B,L)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7: GALWAY / CLIFFS OF MOHER

GLENLO ABBEY

Take a ferry to Inis Mór to visit the ancient Dún Aengus Fort, perched on a cliffside. Cruise past the Cliffs of Moher, the towering cliffs of County Clare. This evening is your farewell to Ireland dinner. (B,D)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8: DEPART GALWAY

EN ROUTE

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight bringing home unforgettable memories of your Irish adventure. (B)



COST OF ADVENTURE:

IRELAND LAND PROGRAM: \$11,995 PP DOUBLE OCCUPANCY **SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$2,995**

SUPPLEMENTS: UPGRADE TO DELUXE LAKE VIEW ROOM AT GLENLO ABBEY IN GALWAY: \$295 PP DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

AIRFARE NOT INCLUDED

EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT:

Save \$400 PER PERSON **BY APRIL 1, 2026: \$11,595** PER PERSON



FEATURED HOTELS:

DUBLIN / THE COLLEGE GREEN: 3 NIGHTS (DELUXE ROOMS)

DONEGAL / HARVEYS POINT: 3 NIGHTS (DELUXE SUITES) • **GALWAY / GLENLO ABBEY: 3 NIGHTS** (GARDEN VIEW ROOMS)

INCLUDED IN YOUR PROGRAM:

- All accommodations as detailed in the itinerary including full Irish breakfast daily
- All transfers and touring by private air-conditioned motor coach
- Meet & Greet services at all airports for arrivals and departures
- Services of a private DAI-select professional guide throughout the program
- All touring on a private basis including all entrance fees
- Meals as indicated by (B), (B,L), (B,L,D) B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner
- 9 Breakfasts, 5 lunches, 4 Dinners
- Luggage handling throughout the program
- Gratuities for guides, drivers, and all restaurant staff for included meals per the itinerary

NOT INCLUDED IN YOUR PROGRAM:

- International airfare from the USA and return (we are pleased to assist with your flights)
- Passport and visa fees
- Items of a personal nature such as laundry, telephone calls, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, incidental expenses at hotels, Wi-Fi/internet, etc.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

- A deposit of \$1,500 per person is required at the time of booking. Deposits are payable by personal check or credit card
- Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure

RATES & FARES:

- All rates shown are accurate at the time of publication and are subject to change
- All prices are based upon foreign exchange rates the company feels will be in effect at the time of departure
- These prices are subject to change resulting from fluctuations in exchange rates

REFUNDS & CANCELLATIONS:

The per person forfeiture charges are:

- More than 90 days prior to departure: 50% of deposit
- 89-60 days prior to departure: 50% of tour price
- 59-30 days prior to departure: 75% of tour price
- Less than 30 days prior to departure: 100% of tour price

All cancellations must be in writing. There is no refund for a partially completed tour or for unused services of any kind.

TRAVEL INSURANCE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

For more information call: **VANDERBILT TRAVEL OFFICE 615.322.3673** or **DESTINATIONS & ADVENTURES 615.292.9292 ext 104**

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VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION IRELAND PROGRAM • SEPTEMBER 29 – OCTOBER 8, 2026

☐ \$1,500 per person deposit is required to confirm your reservation



Secure your reservation with a deposit of \$ _____ charged to the credit card below,
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