

# RÍ RÁ Craic Tour of Ireland

**Hosts:** Rí Rá Owners David Kelly and Ciaran Sheehan along with Pub Ambassador, longest serving bartender and in-house Shanakee Cyril Kenny

**Dates:** Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> to Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2017

**Price: \$874.00 per person – LAND ONLY.** Trip cost includes: luxury coach transfers and five nights accommodation, including breakfast, admission fees to included attractions. Meals and entertainment costs are the responsibility of each traveler. Golf, bike hire etc. and other activities can be arranged, but may have an associated cost.

**Contact:** Evan at 207 221 0737 or email: [evan@independentireland.com](mailto:evan@independentireland.com)

## Wednesday 20st September

Depart USA, Eastbound flights depart in the evening, arriving into Dublin early the next morning. Try and rest as day one will be a busy one!

## Thursday 21st September

Departing Dublin Airport, we head straight into the heart of the Ancient East, through Co. Meath, passing Newgrange and the Hill of Tara. Our first stop is at Loughcrew Cairns, an extraordinary location with magical megalithic monuments older than Stonehenge and the Pyramids. From there, we stop at Strokestown House and the Famine Museum, and learn about this difficult time in Irish history. Not bad for a first day! You'll learn about the early settlers, the power struggles and the roots from which the Irish Story has grown. From there travelling on to Carrick On Shannon with lots of time to enjoy a few well-earned pints.  
**Accommodations:** Landmark Hotel, Carrick On Shannon

## Friday 22nd September

What better way to start the day than to get active around Lough Key, a beautiful part of the countryside and a region well worth exploring, on foot or by bike. Shortly after, we will pay a visit to Carrig Brewing Company to learn about the craft beer revival that has taken the country by storm. From there traveling North to Sligo, we will visit Mullagmore for a quick stop to fill our lungs with Wild Atlantic air, before arriving into Donegal town to experience the vibrant pub scene come

to life.

**Accommodations:** Abbey Hotel, Donegal

## Saturday 23rd September

Today there are plenty options should you wish to break away. But the Slieve League Cliffs are something to experience, being twice the size of the Cliffs of Moher, they truly are unforgettable. We will have a little free time here to allow you to stretch your legs before we move onto Glencolmcille and the folk village, this gives a window into the world of rural Ireland. By now we're sure you've built up a thirst, so it's onto Ardara for a creamy pint in Nancy's. Words and images just don't do this region justice. It's a spectacular part of the country and you'll quickly appreciate why *National Geographic*<sup>TM</sup> voted it number one on its *Cool Places list for 2017*. We head back into Donegal for the evening to enjoy a bustling Saturday night.  
**Accommodations:** Abbey Hotel, Donegal

## Sunday 24th September

This morning we travel back down towards the West and make our way through some beautiful towns and villages, taking in the rolling hills and the stone walls that pepper the countryside, this vibrant multi-tone landscape promises to keep you wide-eyed. The area around Westport has a lot to offer and you can choose from spending time in Westport, or exploring some of the highlights of this region including; the Doolough Pass, Leenane and Killary Harbour.

I'd love to go into more detail, but some places must be kept a secret. All I know is by the end of the day, you'll be looking into your pint wondering – Is this real life?

**Accommodation:** Castlecourt Hotel

## Monday 25th September

Departing Westport, we travel East towards Dublin. Often under appreciated, this is not a part of the country to blaze by. Shortly after, we stop at one of the most fascinating sites in the country, the monastic site of Clonmacnoise. Founded in 544 this dominating landmark at the banks of the Shannon, tells a fascinating story of attack and invasion beginning in times of the Viking's. Before we arrive in the nations Capital we will stop off at Tullamore Dew and be introduced to the wonder that is Irish Whiskey. From there arriving into Dublin in the early evening with plenty time to explore the city.  
**Accommodation:** O'Callaghans, Mt Clare Hotel

## Tuesday 26th September

Departure day, two shuttles will be provided for early and afternoon departures.