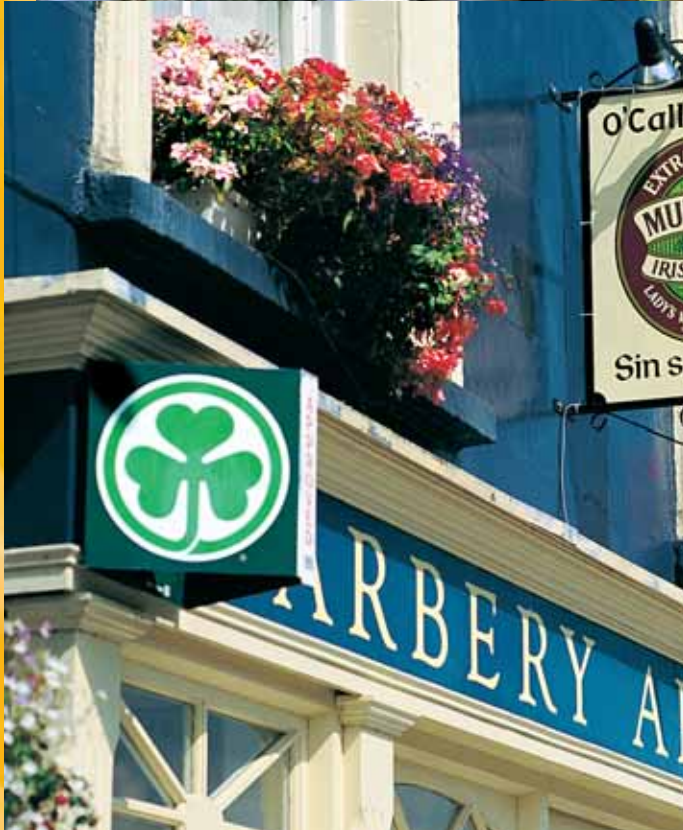




*Educational
Tours*

Britain and Ireland in Depth



Britain and Ireland in Depth

Ireland • Wales • Scotland • England

Extension to France



The historic Ha'Penny Bridge in Dublin, which leads to the lively Temple Bar area, got its name from its former toll charge: one half-penny.

Program Fee includes:

- Round-trip airfare
- 15 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms (17 with extension)
- Complete European breakfast and dinner daily
- Full-time bilingual EF Tour Director
- 4 sightseeing tours led by licensed local guides: Dublin • Edinburgh • York • London
- 4 sightseeing tours led by your tour director: Ring of Kerry • Highlands • Stratford • Bath
- 2 EF walking tours: Edinburgh • London
- 14 visits to special attractions: Bog Village • Blarney Castle • *Book of Kells* • St. Patrick's Cathedral • Welsh castle • Loch Ness • Rydal Mount • Stirling Castle • Edinburgh Castle • York Minster • Anne Hathaway's cottage • Shakespeare's birthplace • Roman baths • Stonehenge

OPTIONAL:

Scottish *Ceilidh* • Medieval Dinner in London
Hampton Court

WITH EXTENSION:

- All of the above PLUS:
- 1 sightseeing tour led by a licensed local guide: Paris
 - 1 EF walking tour: Paris
 - 1 visit to a special attraction: Notre Dame Cathedral
 - Eurostar high-speed train

Day 1 Flight

Overnight flight to Ireland • Spend the night flying across the Atlantic.

Day 2 Shannon • County Kerry Airport

Arrival at Shannon • Touch down at Shannon. After clearing customs, you are greeted by your EF Tour Director, who will remain with you throughout your stay.

Overnight in County Kerry • Transfer to County Kerry where you'll spend the night.

Day 3 Killarney Region

Ring of Kerry • Experience the mystical beauty of Ireland as you journey the 112 miles around the Iveragh Peninsula, better known as the Ring of Kerry. Encounter magnificent views of the Atlantic Ocean, the Lakes of Killarney, and Macgillycuddy's Reeks (the tallest mountains in Ireland) as you traverse one of Europe's most spectacular coastal routes.

Bog Village • In Glenbeigh, visit the Bog Village. Wander through a re-creation of an Irish village from the early 1800s as costumed guides demonstrate the way of life that prevailed in 19th-century rural Ireland.

Day 4 County Kerry • Dublin

Visit to Blarney Castle • First stop today is Blarney Castle. To reach the legendary stone and to receive the "gift of the gab," you'll have to climb the steps of the castle, lean backward under the parapet wall, and kiss the stone upside-down. On the way to Dublin, you'll also see the ancient ruins of the Rock of Cashel. Founded by a follower of St. Patrick, the Rock was once a stronghold for Brian Boru and other Irish kings.

Arrive in Dublin • Arrive in literary Dublin, one-time home of James Joyce, George Bernard Shaw, Samuel Beckett, and W. B. Yeats! Dublin is also the setting for Joyce's *Ulysses*, one of the 20th century's greatest literary works.

Day 5 Dublin

Guided sightseeing of Dublin • For a city of only 1 million people, Dublin has offered the world a disproportionately large number of great literary works. See what inspired writers like Joyce, Beckett, and Yeats during your guided tour of Ireland's capital, scenically situated between Dun Laoghaire (pronounced "dun leery") and the rocky peaks of Howth Head. Pass by the residence of the president of Ireland as you journey through Phoenix Park. Then continue down O'Connell Street, a wide, tree-lined avenue named for one of Ireland's most famous nationalists. Ride past the banks of the River Liffey to the 800-year-old St. Patrick's Cathedral, built to honor the patron saint of Ireland, who brought Christianity to the country in the 5th century. Jonathan Swift once served as dean of St. Patrick's Cathedral. Then see the famous doors of Dublin as you ride through the city's elegant Georgian squares. You'll also pass an ancient Viking site (the Vikings founded Dublin in the 9th century).

Book of Kells • Your tour also includes a visit to Trinity College, established by Queen Elizabeth I in 1592. Alumni include Samuel Beckett and Jonathan Swift. In the Long Room of the Old Library, view the illuminated 8th-century *Book of Kells*, written by Irish monks and found buried in the ground in 1007. You'll also see a harp that originally belonged to the famous Irish king Brian Boru.



Number of overnight stays in parentheses.



PBS

Learn before you go
www.eftours.com/pbsuk

Day 6 Dublin • North Wales

Transfer to North Wales • Ferry across the Irish Sea to Wales. Land at Holyhead and enjoy wonderful vistas as you cross the island of Anglesey to the mainland. While on the island, visit either Beaumaris Castle, a fortification dating from the 13th century that once guarded the Menai Straits, or Conwy Castle, Edward I's medieval masterpiece. Then continue through the scenic mountains and valleys of Snowdonia National Park to the Llan-gollen region in North Wales.

Day 7 North Wales • Lake District

Transfer via Chester • Travel by way of Chester, a town that dates back to Roman times. Chester is also home to the largest Roman amphitheater in Great Britain.

Transfer via the Lake District and Rydal Mount • Drive through lands that were invaded by Vikings and marauding tribes of Scots as you head for the breathtaking Lake District, Britain's largest national park. Stop in Grasmere, famous for its connections with the Poet Laureate William Wordsworth. You'll also visit Rydal Mount, Wordsworth's home for 37 years. (If Rydal Mount is not open, you'll stop in Grasmere, famous for its connections with William Wordsworth, and visit Dove Cottage, home of the Poet Laureate from 1799 to 1808.)

Day 8 Lake District • Highlands

Transfer through Gretna Green • Travel through Gretna Green, once a popular destination for eloping couples because of the speed with which the village blacksmith performed wedding ceremonies. You'll then pass Loch Lomond as you continue into the Scottish Highlands, a region known for its remote beauty and traditional Scottish ways. Visit Glencoe, site of the notorious 1692 massacre of the MacDonald clan.

Day 9 Highlands

Excursion to Ben Nevis and Loch Ness • See Ben Nevis (Britain's highest mountain), and look for the elusive monster said to inhabit Loch Ness. You'll also pass through Culloden Moor, site of the last battle fought on British soil. Here King George II overpowered the army of "Bonnie Prince Charlie" in 1746.

Day 10 Highlands • Edinburgh Region

Transfer via the Trossachs and Stirling Castle • Recall the long-ago days of Braveheart and Rob Roy as you continue through the Scottish countryside. Pass through the scenic mountains and lochs of the Trossachs, gateway to the Scottish highlands; then drive up the Firth of Forth to Stirling's crag-top castle. Here King James VI once lived.

Arrival in the Edinburgh region • Arrive in the Edinburgh region, and admire the rolling hills and dazzling seascapes that surround the Scottish capital.

Day 11 Edinburgh Region

Guided sightseeing of Edinburgh • Today, enjoy a sightseeing tour that offers panoramic views of Edinburgh's New Town, constructed in the 18th century during a time of rapid expansion known as the "Scottish Enlightenment." See Charlotte Square, the center of New Town, then pass by the homes of Alexander Graham Bell and Robert Louis Stevenson, and view a monument to Robert Burns, Scotland's national poet. Visit Calton Hill, which offers splendid views of the Firth of Forth to the Lomond Hills of Fife. Pass the Palace of Holyroodhouse, still the Royal Family's official residence in Scotland, and the city's monument to Lord Nelson.

Visit to Edinburgh Castle • Your guided tour of Edinburgh includes a visit to Edinburgh Castle. Situated atop an extinct volcano, the castle is the enduring symbol of Scotland's capital and home to many of the nation's storied events. Ownership of the fortress changed hands on numerous occasions over the centuries, from Scottish to English and back again. Mary, Queen of Scots, gave birth in the castle to James VI of Scotland, who would later rule England as James I. Enter the castle through the Esplanade and see the Stone of Scone, the coronation stone that was returned to Scotland in 1997 after 700 years of English possession. You'll also see tiny St. Margaret's Chapel, the oldest part of the castle, dating back to the 11th century.

EF walking tour of Edinburgh • On your EF walking tour, stroll down the Royal Mile and through the Old Town, a historic and romantic jumble of medieval buildings. As you make your way along the Royal Mile, the narrow alleyways—known as *clooses*—will give you a real sense of what it was like to be a resident of Edinburgh in centuries past. Edinburgh provided the setting for *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*; a local resident inspired the plot! Stroll down Princes Street, see the city's monuments to Sir Walter Scott (one of Edinburgh's most illustrious sons), pass by the National Gallery of Scotland and

the High Kirk of St. Giles, a historic cathedral built in the 12th century.

Optional Ceilidh • Partake in a traditional Scottish *Ceilidh* featuring haggis, neeps, and tatties, as well as authentic Scottish sword dancing!

Day 12 Edinburgh Region • Yorkshire

Transfer to Yorkshire • Continue through "James Herriot country," the pastoral landscapes of Yorkshire. Arrive in York, an ancient town that once served as a Viking stronghold.

Guided sightseeing of York • Stroll along 14th-century medieval defense walls that encircle the city of York on your guided sightseeing tour. If it's springtime, look for clusters of daffodils that grow along the embankments of the city walls. Pass by Clifford's Tower, an imposing stone fortification and one of the last remaining structures from York Castle. Continue on through the narrow, cobblestone streets of the Old Town and venture down the Shambles, a street that was a meat market in 14th-century York.

Visit to the York Minster • Great Britain's largest Gothic cathedral is also York's treasured trademark. Constructed between 1220 and 1470, the Minster stands as a testament to medieval faith. Gaze up at the vaulted ceilings and stone pillars as you tour the cavernous interior of the cathedral. The Minster's east window, which depicts the beginning and end of the world in 100 individual scenes, is the largest piece of medieval glass in the world.

Day 13 Yorkshire • Bath Region

Tour director-led sightseeing of Stratford • "It is something, I thought, to have seen the dust of Shakespeare." Discover what inspired Washington Irving's famous words as you tour Stratford-upon-Avon, where Shakespeare was born, raised and buried. Step back into the Elizabethan age as you visit the half-timbered home in which the Bard was born, as well as see the old-fashioned English gar-

St. James's Park, London's oldest royal park, provides some of the best views of Buckingham Palace from the bridge that crosses its lake.



dens and orchard of Anne Hathaway's Cottage, a picturesque thatched farmhouse where Shakespeare's wife spent her childhood.

Transfer to the Bath region • Continue through English landscapes to the Bath region, where you'll spend the night.

Day 14 Bath Region • London

Tour director-led sightseeing of Bath • See the town of Bath's elegant Georgian squares and terraces—vacation spot for Queen Victoria, Lord Nelson, and Jane Austen, who set some of her novels here. Visit the town's famous Roman baths, where vacationing Romans once enjoyed the hot springs.

Transfer via Stonehenge • Journey through rural English landscapes to Stonehenge. This 4,000-year-old ring of stones is believed to have been an ancient worship and burial site; legend holds it was built by Merlin.

Arrival in London • Arrive in London, Europe's largest city.

Day 15 London

Guided sightseeing of London • A local guide leads you on a panoramic tour of London. Begin in Grosvenor Square, which is sometimes called "Little America" because it's the site of the U.S. embassy and the house where Eisenhower once lived. Continue to Hyde Park Corner, located at the southeast corner of Hyde Park, one of London's largest parks. At bustling Piccadilly Circus, the intersection of five busy streets, check out the bright lights and big-city displays, before heading to Trafalgar Square. Pass Speaker's Corner, where anyone with something to say is invited to speak his mind. Snap a photo of the Houses of Parliament and continue along London's South Bank for views of the famous Tower of London and London Bridge. Stroll across the Millennium Bridge for an orientation of St. Paul's Cathedral, the magnificent 17th-century Baroque church designed by Sir Christopher Wren. Finally, witness a London tradition—the Changing of the Guard (subject to scheduling).

EF walking tour of London • Stroll through the heart of London on our EF walking tour, which begins along the banks of the River Thames. These shadowy waters gave the city its name, which derives from Llyn-Dyn, Celtic for "city of the lake." Walk along the Strand and see the spot considered to be London's geographic center; all measurements of distances to London end here. Enter Trafalgar Square and pause at Nelson's Column, built to commemorate his 1805 victory in the Battle of Trafalgar. Continue on to Leicester Square, where duelists once fought to the death. Then saunter through London's

tiny Chinatown. Your walk ends at chic Covent Garden, where you'll enjoy watching street performers (or "buskers") amuse the lively crowds. (The exact walking route may vary, depending on your hotel location and the day's other activities.)

Optional Medieval Dinner • Tonight, King Henry VIII welcomes you to our optional five-course Medieval Dinner, held along the Thames in one of the most picturesque areas of London. A choir of minstrels will herald your arrival inside the banquet hall's historic vaults, located near the medieval Tower of London. Experience British pageantry and Olde English fare as sword-fighting knights, magicians, jesters and balladeers perform throughout this five-course feast. The medieval festivities commence with the presentation of the traditional boar's head! (Please note that this optional dinner is subject to availability, and is not offered on Mondays.)

Day 16 London

Optional Excursion to Hampton Court • In 1514 Cardinal Wolsey built Hampton Court, a splendid Renaissance palace of grandeur unprecedented in England. In fact, it was so grand that King Henry VIII deemed it too opulent for a cardinal and appropriated the estate for himself. On this optional half-day excursion, walk amid the booming echoes of the medieval Great Hall and listen for the voices of former residents—many people consider this to be Britain's most haunted house. The palace's renowned Astronomical Clock shows the hour, day, month, phase of the moon, and time of high tide at London Bridge. On the grounds of Hampton Court is one of the best outdoor mazes ever designed. Try to find your way to the middle of the hedgerow labyrinth—and out again.

Free time in London • Alternatively, enjoy free time in London. You might wish to visit the original Hard Rock Café or Madame Tussauds wax museum, take a cruise down the Thames, or browse through the countless stores along Oxford Street.

Day 17 Home

Return home • Your tour director assists with the transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

EXTENSION

Day 17 London • Paris

Transfer via the Eurostar from London to Paris • In London, board the high-speed Eurostar, an 18-car train that runs through the tunnel connecting Britain with continental Europe. Completed in May 1994, the Channel Tunnel provides travelers with easy access to and from the con-

tinents. Enjoy state-of-the-art technology as you glide under the English Channel to France.

Day 18 Paris

Guided sightseeing of Paris • Discover the city on the Seine: from the imposing Arc de Triomphe, commemorating Napoleon's Grande Armée, to the Île de la Cité, birthplace of Paris. Take a drive down the elegant Champs-Élysées to the Place de la Concorde. Pass the Conciergerie, where prisoners of the Revolution spent their final days, and see Les Invalides, Louis XIV's grand retirement home for wounded soldiers. You'll also see the École Militaire, where Napoleon graduated to Lieutenant and was told he'd go far if circumstances allowed. Next, make a photo stop at the Eiffel Tower to marvel at the 6,000-ton centerpiece for the 1889 World's Fair. You'll hear the story of how this impressive—but once highly controversial—symbol of Paris was spared the wrecking ball in 1909.

Visit to Notre Dame Cathedral • Built between 1163 and 1361 over the remains of an ancient Roman temple, it was here that Napoleon crowned himself emperor in 1804. Victor Hugo once described the sculptured façade of Notre Dame as "a vast symphony in stone." However, had it not been for the creation of his famous hunchback, Quasimodo, the cathedral might never have returned to its former glory. Hugo's novel *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* helped inspire a 23-year restoration of the cathedral that began in 1841. Step inside to admire the stained-glass rose windows and seemingly weightless vaulted ceilings.

EF walking tour of Paris • Our walking tour takes in the chic Opéra district and the Rue du Faubourg St. Honoré, famous for its haute couture boutiques. Stroll through the Place de la Concorde, the city's largest public square, built to honor Louis XV. During the Revolution, this was the location of Joseph Guillotin's famous machine; the next Louis, Marie Antoinette and many others were beheaded here. Continue through the geometric gardens of the Tuileries as you make your way to the Place Vendôme, a vast square surrounded by elegant 17th-century façades. Pass the Ritz hotel at no. 15, a favorite haunt of Ernest Hemingway. (The exact walking route may vary depending on your hotel location and other activities.)

Day 19 Home

Return home • Your tour director assists with the transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions.

Discover the Global Classroom

