

TRELAND
EQUESTRIAN TOURS



IRELAND EQUESTRIAN TOURS

DUBLIN CITY. COUNTRY ESTATES. RUGGED NORTH COAST.
- AN ICONIC 6-NIGHT RIDING HOLIDAY -

Dublin City + Castle Leslie + County Antrim

WWW.IRELANDEQUESTRIANTOURS.COM



ABOUT THIS ITINERARY

This 6-night riding holiday is made of everything that makes Dublin City, County Antrim & County Monaghan world-famous: history, white sand beaches, rugged coastlines, verdant countryside, enchanting forests, historic castles, mountainous trails, and genuine Irish hospitality!

Your riding holiday kicks off exploring Dublin City, recently named Lonely Planet's, "Top 10 Cities in the World."

From Dublin, head north to the world famous Causeway Coast, heralded for its beauty and spectacular scenery for three full days riding at some of Northern Ireland's top iconic locations: The Giants Causeway, Dunluce Castle, Carrick-A-Rede Rope Bridge, and Mussendun Temple.

Your riding adventure continues at Castle Leslie Estate, one of Europe's premier Equestrian estates. Luxurious accommodations & exquisite cuisine await you. Don't forget to pamper yourself in the Victorian Treatment Rooms, the perfect end to a day of riding!

This itinerary highlights each day, the nights are to do what you wish. There will be plenty of time in the afternoons & evening to explore the areas.

Ireland has a vibrant and progressive food scene. Irish dishes are created with locally sourced ingredients or caught directly from the cold Atlantic waters. Special dietary requestes such as gluten-free & vegetarian can be accommodated.

This itinerary can begin on any day and available year round.





County Londonderry



County Antrim

County Monaghan



Dublin City



DONEGAL

LONDONDERRY

ANTRIM

NORTHERN IRELAND

TYRONE

FERMANAGH

ARMAGH

DOWN

SLIGO

MONAGHAN

MAYO

LEITRIM

CAVAN

LOUTH

ROSCOMMON

LONGFORD

MEATH

WESTMEATH

GALWAY

OFFALY

DUBLIN

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

KILDARE

WICKLOW

CLARE

LAOIS

TIPPERARY

KILKENNY

CARLOW

WEXFORD

LIMERICK

WATERFORD

KERRY

CORK

- WHAT YOU WILL SEE -

DUBLIN CITY

MOUNT ORRA

BINEVENAGH MOUNTAIN

BENONE STRAND

MUSSENDEN TEMPLE

CASTLE LESLIE ESTATE

DOWNHILL DEMESNE

CASTLEROCK

WHITEROCKS BEACH

DUNLUCE CASTLE

PORTBALLINTRAE

GIANT'S CAUSEWAY

BALLINTOY VILLAGE

BALLINTOY HARBOUR

BALLYCASTLE

BALLYCASTLE BEACH & FOREST

PORTRUSH

RATHLIN ISLAND

MAGILLIGAN POINT

... AND MORE!



- HOW TO GET HERE -

This riding vacation takes place in: Dublin City (Ireland's Capital), midlands in County Monaghan, and County Antrim on the North Coast of Northern Ireland. Guests can fly into Dublin City or Belfast International Airport. Once in country, guests may hire a car, have private transport arranged or use public transportation.

- ACCOMMODATIONS -

Accommodations have been carefully selected to provide our guests with personal service and a good nights rest. Ideally located, they are the perfect base for this exciting riding holiday. From the hand-picked B&B accommodations in coastal villages to the exquisite accommodations at Castle Leslie Estate to the Dublin City Hotels -- a nice mix of hip and chic to traditional and classic.

- THE HORSES -

Ireland is known as the “Land of the Horse” so its no surprise that Irish horses are reputed the world over for their amazing jumping ability, gentleness, intelligence, and stamina. The equine teams consist of Irish Sport Horses, Connemara Ponies, Irish Cobs, Irish Draughts, and even a Clydesdale! Chosen for their experience and temperament, our horses are the perfect partners for your Ireland riding vacation.

- THE RIDING GUIDES & HOSTS -

Our friendly hosts & guides are wonderful conversationalists and excellent equestrians. You'll be entertained with the fascinating stories of the famous Causeway Coast and history of Castle Leslie Estate. Prepare for lots of laughs and leave feeling like you have family in Ireland!



- DAY ONE - DUBLIN CITY

Welcome to Ireland!

Hailed the friendliest city in Europe, Dublin is described by Lonely Planet as "having all the baubles of a major international metropolis" while keeping the feel of a small city.

Famous for its literary tradition, Dublin claims such icons as Nobel laureates William Butler Yeats, George Bernard Shaw, Samuel Beckett, Oscar Wilde and Jonathan Swift. In modern times, the city is known for its ubiquitous pubs, vibrant nightlife, and culinary scene.

The Hop On/Hop Off bus is a great way to familiarize yourself with this great city.

Visit the 'Book of Kells', ancient manuscripts at Trinity College, the mighty halls of St. Patrick's Cathedral, or take a tour of the St. James Brewery & Guinness Storehouse--birthplace of the famous "black stuff", Ireland's national drink. Did you know that all National Museums in Dublin offer free admission?

Head out this evening and explore Dublin's cultural quarter, Temple Bar, known for live music & entertainment. Food lovers will have plenty of dining choices: from the Michelin Starred players to Award-Winning pub grub!

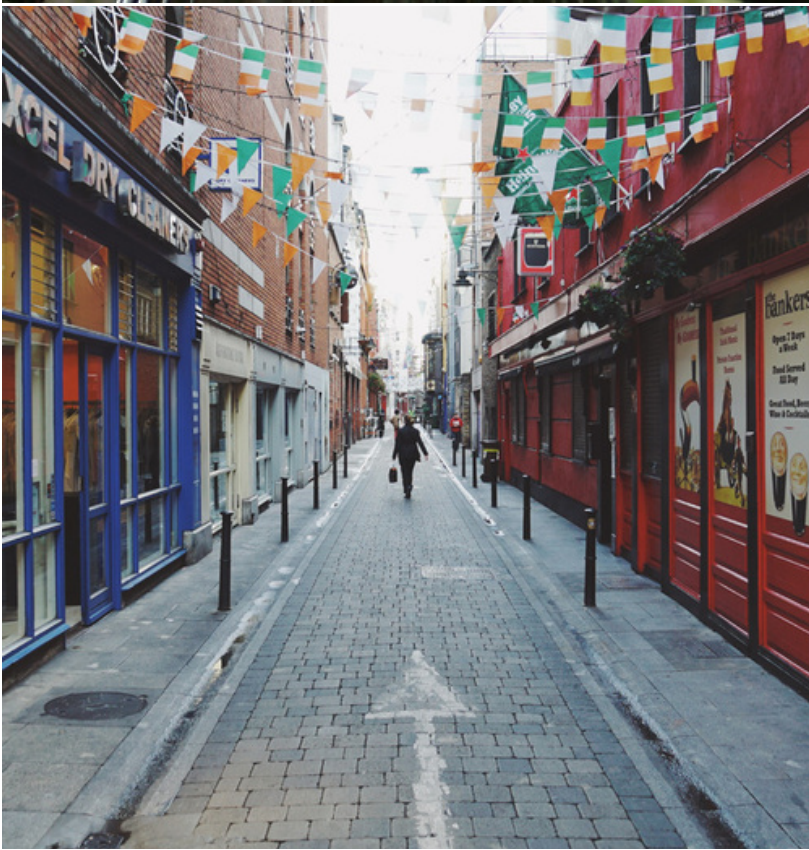
Overnight: Dublin City Hotel

- DAY TWO - COUNTY ANTRIM - THE CAUSEWAY COAST

Arrive at the private farm of your North coast hosts where you'll meet the horses & guides and enjoy afternoon tea with freshly baked scones! After a stable tour, head outdoors for a brief riding assessment and consider your options for the afternoons trek!

This trek crosses verdant pasturelands and a stream or two before climbing up onto the moorland high above the farm for a magnificent five county view of Northern Ireland! Afterwards, ride towards a quiet off-road trail to climb higher and further out into the Antrim Hills. You'll get a chance to stretch your legs as you lead the horses across heather-blanked fields before remounting and connecting to a riding trail that leads to a summit called "The Croaghan." With a 360-degree panorama, the view from the summit is widely regard as one of the best views in Northern Ireland -- if not the whole of Ireland!





From 'The Croaghan', views includes Glens of Antrim and looking north to Scotland and Scotland's Ayrshire Coast, Mull of Kintyre, Scottish Highlands, and the Western Isles. You'll also see Rathlin Island, an island of the coast of County Antrim and the northernmost point in Northern Ireland. Additionally, you'll take in the County Donegal's Inishowen & Malin Head - the northernmost point in Ireland. Western views have you looking out over the River Bann to the Sperrin Mountains and south to County Down's Mourne Mountains and to Slieve Beagh in County Monaghan in the Republic of Ireland. From this viewpoint, relish the views of three different countries!

At the end of the day, you will be transported to your accommodations in County Londonderry.

Overnight: B&B, County Derry

- DAY THREE -

BENONE BEACH, MUSSENDEN TEMPLE, BINEVENAGH MOUNTAIN

Today's ride begins in the seaside village of Castlerock. Depending on tidal conditions, the ride will start at Castlerock beach, to adjoining Benone Strand where you'll ride on the white sand beach below the towering basalt cliffs and towards Mussenden Temple!

Inspired by the Roman Temple of Vesta in Rome, Mussenden Temple is regally perched some 120-feet above the Atlantic Ocean. Once the summer library for Frederick Augustus Hervey, Bishop of Derry and Earl of Bristol, Mussenden Temple sits behind the ruins of the Earl's 18th-century home, Downhill House.

Round the cliffs & headland towards Downhill beach for a swift canter (or trot!) across miles of flat open beach crossing the river onto Benone strand, riding on white sands before arriving at Magilligan Point. Magilligan Point is the departure point for the ferry taking vehicles & passengers across Lough Foyle to County Donegal. It's the perfect place to rest and enjoy refreshments. Afterwards, backtrack down the beach, over sand dunes, stopping to view the waterfalls cascading off the majestic cliffs of Binevenagh mountain!

Leaving the beach, sneak through the Bishops Gate, once the main entrance to Downhill House towards the seaside town of Castlerock for lunch and to recharge.

Meet up with the horses at Binevenagh Mountain for a leisurely ride through the forest to Binevenagh Lake. This secluded lake rests on a picturesque plateau with panoramic views over the North coast to Lough Foyle, Donegal to Derry city and the Antrim Hills and beyond.





At the end of the day, you'll be transported to the coastal town of Ballycastle. Full of quaint pubs and restaurants, Ballycastle is the perfect base for your next two nights. Tonight, explore the town on your own, get a good night's rest, and get ready for another exciting day of riding!

Overnight: Coastal B&B, County Antrim

- DAY FOUR - DUNLUCE CASTLE, WHITEROCKS BEACH, GIANTS CAUSEWAY

Today's ride begins at Whiterocks beach, named after the white chalk cliffs and caverns that flank this picturesque beach. The west end of the beach is adjacent to the seaside town of Portrush and backs up to the grassy links of the world-famous Royal Portrush Golf Course. Whiterocks beach looks out over the Skerries (a small group of islands off the coast of Portrush) and iconic Dunluce Castle, Donegal and the Western Isles of Scotland.

From here, ride towards the mighty Dunluce Castle, regally perched on the edge of the Atlantic! Take a tour of the ruins while learning a bit of the castle's history (especially the part about the kitchen & staff plunging into the sea during a storm in 1639!) While the horses graze, enjoy refreshments before heading towards the tiny harbor town of Portballintrae and onwards to the UNESCO World Heritage site: The Giants Causeway!

Crossing the River Bush and following an old train track across sand dunes past the stately Runkerry House, arrive at the Giant's Causeway in grand fashion!

Dismount and head to the Visitor Centre to discover a story that's close to the heart of this world famous site. The star of the show is Finn McCool- an Irish giant who picked a fight with Scottish big man Benandonner. Legend has it that the giants loathed each other. And so one day after enduring insults from Benandonner, Finn built a path to use as stepping-stones to reach Scotland, which was then ripped up by Benandonner. The result was the Giant's Causeway.

Outside, stand on the hills that gently arc this precious place and look down on thousands of basalt columns tumbling down into the Atlantic Ocean. It's an epic sight, with a whopping 40,000 or so of these hexagonal-shaped pillars, which dates back to a volcanic age almost 60 million years ago.

You will be transported back to your B&B for your last night on the North coast.

Overnight: Coastal B&B, County Antrim





- DAY FIVE -
CASTLE LESLIE ESTATE

Nestled on acres of the undulating Irish countryside, dotted with ancient woodlands and glittering lakes, Castle Leslie Estate is one of the last great Irish estates still in the hands of its founding family. Considered to be one of the finest castles Ireland has to offer, Castle Leslie is the epitome of Irish aristocracy.

The Leslie family motto "grip fast" originates from a famous horse journey by Bartholomew Leslie in the 11th century. His passion for horses was passed down through the ages.

Today enjoy a picturesque (and exhilarating) afternoon ride on some of the 21 miles of
bridleways on the estate.

The evening is open to do as you wish -- enjoy a pint in Lodge bar or explore the grounds on foot! Be sure to pay a visit St. Salvator's Church, you'll be surprised which famous couple exchanged vows at St. Salvators!

Overnight: Castle Leslie Estate

- DAY SIX -
CASTLE LESLIE ESTATE

Breakfast at Castle Leslie plays a big part of the dining experience! Choose from an array of delectable breakfast dishes created from locally sourced ingredients - from the traditional Full Irish Breakfast to Eggs Benedict.

Today you'll have the option of exploring another part of the estate on horseback or head out to the XCountry course for a morning of cross country jumping! The estate offers 300 cross-country jumps including natural obstacles such as rivers, ditches, fallen tree trunks, hedges, stone walls, drops and banks in many shapes and sizes.

The afternoon is on your own -- relax with a spa service in the Victorian Treatment rooms or indulge in Afternoon Tea in the Castle's Blue Room. Tonight enjoy Irish country cooking in Conor's Bar or gourmet dining in the 2AA Rosette award-winning Snaffles Restaurant.

Overnight: Castle Leslie

- DAY SEVEN -

Return to Dublin Airport in preparation for your return flight home or next journey.







PRICE PER PERSON

\$2,420 (4+ RIDERS)

\$2,490 (2-3 RIDERS)

\$3,175 (1 RIDER*)

The above rate includes:

6 Nights Accommodation (sharing**): 1 Night Dublin City/Dublin Airport Hotel, 3 Nights North Coast B&B, 2 Nights Lodge Castle Leslie + 3 Full Days Guided Riding Treks North Coast + 2 Days Riding Castle Leslie (Estate Trek and/or Cross Country Jumping) + Train Station Pickup on North Coast (optional) + Daily Pickup/Drop off to Ride Locations on North Coast + Horse Hire + Tack & Equipment + Admission to Giants Causeway/Dunluce Castle + Daily Full Irish Breakfast x 6 + Lunch at Local Eateries on the North Coast x 2 + Picnic on the Antrim Hills + Refreshments

DEPOSIT: \$900 PER PERSON

(**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$580)

(*Single rider rate includes private en suite accommodations on North Coast, Castle Leslie + Dublin City)

RATES DO NOT INCLUDE:

Ground Transportation* (Airport Transfers, Transport to Castle Leslie, etc.),
Evening Meals, Lunches Not Indicated on Itinerary, Travel Insurance, Activities Not
Listed on Itinerary, Airfare, Discretionary Tips

*We do not include ground transportation on our itineraries, as some of our guests prefer to rent a car, use public transportation, or hire private transport. We can provide private transportation and/or car rental quotes from Dublin or Belfast.

Whatever the preferred mode of transportation, we can arrange and manage all the logistics so your riding vacation is completely seamless!

- FINAL PAYMENT DUE 45 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE -
PLEASE SEE COMPLETE TERMS & CONDITIONS

