



# Discover Dublin and the World Meeting of Families 2018

## Day 1

Arrival at Dublin Airport. Meet with your driver and guide. This morning enjoy a panoramic city tour of Dublin. The north side of the city offers great striking monuments such as the GPO (General Post Office) on the main thoroughfare O'Connell Street, or the Custom House along the quays, as well as the Phoenix Park, the largest public park in Europe. The south side appears more sophisticated with its vast Georgian squares, such as Merrion Square, where Oscar Wilde's House can still be found, its colourful doors, along with Grafton Street and its quality shops. Not so far from



St. Stephen's Green, in Kildare St., you will see the house of Bram Stoker, the author of Dracula. This part of the city is also dominated by Trinity College, where the famous book of Kells is permanently exhibited in its library. The university is facing the medieval district where Dublin Castle and the two Anglican Cathedrals can be found. Continue to your hotel and check in. This evening, take part in the Opening Ceremony of the World Meeting of Families 2018. **Dinner and overnight: Dublin area**

## Day 2

Enjoy the day at the World Meeting of Families Congress. **Dinner and overnight: Dublin area**

## Day 3

Take in the day at the World Meeting of Families Congress. **Dinner and overnight: Dublin area**

## Day 4

Spend the day taking part in the World Meeting of Families Congress. This evening enjoy dinner and entertainment at the Abbey Tavern, which hosts the original "Traditional Irish Night" featuring traditional Irish music from world famous Abbey



Tavern singers and musicians with a lively performance of music, song and the very best of Irish dancing. Sample an authentic Irish dinner and night of entertainment. **Dinner and overnight: Dublin area**

## Day 5

Today visit some of Dublin's most fascinating sights. Visit White Friar Street Church, a landmark found right in the heart of Dublin. Established by the Carmelite Order, this church dates back to the early 1800's and boasts many interesting features, such as a life-size depiction of Calvary where visitors can pray, and a chapel based on the Shrine of Saint Thérèse in Lisieux. However, Whitefriar Street Church is most famous for the different shrines found within its walls, the most well-known being the shrine to Saint Valentine. This shrine is particularly venerated as it holds the remains of Saint Valentine, gifted to a

Dublin priest by Pope Gregory XVI in 1836 and housed under a statue of the saint in the red vestments of a martyr. On his feast day on February 14<sup>th</sup> the reliquary is placed before the high altar and a special Blessing of the Rings ceremony is held for those due to be married. Continue onto Trinity College to see the 9<sup>th</sup> century "Book of Kells" and its accompanying exhibition. After viewing the Book of Kells visitors are invited to visit the Long Room built in 1745. It contains over two hundred thousand books and manuscripts of the Trinity's oldest volumes. Brian Boru's harp said to be the "oldest harp in Ireland" and a copy of the 1916 proclamation, one of the most important documents relating to Irish history are also on display in the Long Room. In 2015, Conde Nast Traveler magazine included visiting the Book of Kells as one of the '50 things to do in Europe before you die'. This evening, attend the Festival of Families, an event which will include international family stories, musicians, singers, groups and cultural acts performing in a large stadium venue. **Dinner and overnight: Dublin area**



## Day 6

Enjoy the morning at leisure in Dublin. Then, take part in the closing Mass of World Meeting of Families 2018. **Dinner and overnight: Dublin area**

## Day 7

Transfer to Dublin Airport.

### Itinerary:

- Dublin area x 6 nights

### Highlights:

- Full participation in the World Meeting of Families
- Panoramic tour of Dublin including Trinity College and Christchurch Cathedral
- Traditional Irish evening at the Abbey Tavern

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