



Performance Tour Group (High School/University Age)

4 Day Itinerary to Ireland's Ancient East

We're delighted you have chosen Ireland for your performance group. Here is a selection of [performance venues](#) in Ireland's Ancient East and around the country.

Arrive Dublin Airport and depart for Co Kildare.

Transfer to your [campus](#) accommodation in Maynooth or your 4 star hotel, click [here](#) for hotel options in Co Kildare.

DAY 1

Morning

Guided tour of [St Patrick's College Maynooth](#), Ireland's medieval seat of power. Hear stories of 19th century scientist Nicholas Callan's renowned experiments and discoveries. Delve into the spine tingling mysteries of the Ghost room and visit St Patrick's House, designed by Pugin and constructed during the dark years of the Great Famine. Tour concludes in the College Chapel with its recently restored 3,106 pipe Ruffatti organ.

Depart for Rathangan (40mins)

Lunch

Coffee shop at Lullymore Heritage & Discovery Park.

Afternoon

Tour of [Lullymore Heritage & Discovery Park](#). Discover the wonders of Ireland's peatland; how bodies were ritually buried and preserved for 1,000s of years in the bogs; try your hand at cutting turf and discover the secrets of bog butter (authentic bog butter on display).

Lullymore Heritage & Discovery Park. Rathangan, Co Kildare, <http://www.lullymoreheritagepark.com/>, E: info@lullymoreheritagepark.com, T: 353 (0) 45 870 238.

Allow 1hr-1hr30mins for this experience.

Continue to Tully, Co Kildare (journey time 15 mins)

Late p.m.

Visit the [Irish National Stud and Japanese Gardens](#) with its medley of stables, paddocks and gardens. Take a guided tour of the stud farm where you will meet champion race horses, spot mares and, in season, bandy legged foals! Meander through the Japanese Gardens, designed to represent the Life of Man. The gardens were created by Japanese master horticulturalist, Tassa Eida to help you adjust and adapt to a slower pace of life!

Irish National Stud and Japanese Gardens, Tully, Co Kildare,
www.irishnationalstud.ie, E: reservations@insttouristm.net

Allow 1hr-1hr30mins for this experience.

Return to Maynooth (journey time 40 mins)

Dinner Suggest [Stone Haven Restaurant](#), Mill Street, Maynooth, Co Kildare,
www.stonehavenrestaurant.com, E: stonehavenrest@eircom.net,
T: 353 (00 1 629 1229). Restaurant can cater for private groups.

Overnight on campus or 4 star hotel.

DAY 2

Morning Depart for Kilkenny city (journey time 1hr15-1hr30mins)

Enjoy a fun and easy paced Guided Cycling Tour with [Kilkenny Cycling Tours](#) visiting historical and culture sites around medieval Kilkenny including Kilkenny Castle, The [Kilkenny Design Centre](#), Shee Alms House and [St Canice's Cathedral](#), 121 steps reached by a series of 5 counties and off plumb by 0.7m. Check out how people lived at [The Tholsel](#) where people of the Middle Ages paid their taxes!

Kilkenny Cycling Tours, Old Tea House, Bateman Quay, Kilkenny,
www.kilkennycyclingtours.com, E: info@kilkennycyclingtours.com, T: 353 (0) 86 895 4961, Contact: Jason Morrissey.

Allow 2 hours for this experience.

Or,

Head for the [the Kilkenny Way Hurling Experience](#). Take a trip down the ancient Irish sporting heritage of hurling, 3,000 years old and the world's oldest field game. Watch the introductory video and experience 'hands on' the skills of the game.

Kilkenny Way Hurling Experience, 28/29 Rose Inn Street, Kilkenny
www.thekilkennyway.com, E: info@thekilkennyway.com, T: 353 (0) 56 772 1718, Contact: PJ Lanigan.

Allow 2 hours for this experience.

Lunch [Langton's House Hotel](#), 67 John St, Kilkenny, www.langtons.ie, E: reservations@langtons.ie. Renowned for authentic, traditional Irish food in relaxed, comfortable and stylish surroundings.

Afternoon Visit [Kilkenny Castle](#) which stands dramatically on the River Nore, overlooking the high city of Kilkenny. The original Anglo-Norman castle was built during the 13th century for William Marshal, 4th Earl of Pembroke and the greatest knight that every lived (c.1146-1219). It then became the home of the Butler family for almost 600 years until 1957 when Arthur, 6th Marques of Ormonde, presented it to the people of Kilkenny in return for a token payment of £50!

Kilkenny Castle, The Parade, Kilkenny City, www.kilkennycastle.ie, E: bookingskilkennycastle@opw.ie, T: 353 (0) 56 770 4106

Allow 1hr-1hr30mins for this experience

Check into your hotel in Kilkenny City – click [here](#) for 3 & 4 star hotel options.

Dinner Suggest Zuni Restaurant & Boutique Hotel, 26 Patrick St, Kilkenny, www.zuni.ie, E: info@zuni.ie, T: 353 (0) 56 772 3999.

Overnight Kilkenny city.

DAY 3

Morning Depart for New Ross, Co Waterford (journey time 45 mins).

Discover the [Dunbrody Famine Ship Experience](#), centred on an authentic reproduction of an 1840s emigrant vessel. It provides a world-class interpretation of the famine emigrant experience. Includes guided tour, costumed performers, themed exhibitions and the Irish America Hall of Fame.

Dunbrody Famine Ship, South Quay, New Ross, Co Wexford, www.dunbrody.com, E: bookings@dunbrody.com, T: 353 (0) 51 425 239, Contact: Sean Connick.

Allow 1hr-1hr15mins for this experience.

Depart for Waterford city (30mins journey time)

Lunch [The Granary Café](#), Hanover St, Waterford City, http://www.granarycafe.ie/The_Granary_Cafe/Home.html, T: 353 (0) 51 854428

Afternoon Take the [Epic Tour of the Viking Triangle](#) – a theatrical comedy whirlwind with props, costumes, singing, dancing and plenty of craic! The larger than life guide speeds through the streets and buildings through 1100 years of Waterford's history from the Vikings to the Victorians – a thousand years of history in a thousand paces!

Epic Tour of the Viking Triangle, Waterford City, E: bookings@waterfordcouncil.ie, T: 353 (0) 761 102501.

Choose your [4 star hotel](#) in Waterford city.

Dinner Suggest [The Reg](#) in Waterford city. All food is freshly prepared by their Head Chef and team under the promise of 'Local, Low Miles, Fresh and Wild'. Nightly entertainment (trad Irish and folk/ballads) with [Sláinte the Show](#) on Wed. evenings at 8pm.

Reg Bar, 2 The Mall, Waterford, www.thereg.ie, E: info@thereg.ie, T: 353 (0) 51 583 000

Overnight Waterford City.

DAY 4 Depart for Cobh (journey time 1hr15mins).

Morning Visit the [Titanic Experience Cobh](#), located in the original White Star Line ticket office, the departure point for many thousands of White Star Line passengers.

Check in on arrival and receive your boarding card for one of the 123 passengers who purchased tickets on 11th April 1912. Experience life on board the Titanic for 3rd class and 1st class passengers. Learn about the role of the Carpathia in the rescue operation and finally the fate of you and the other passengers!

Titanic Experience Cobh, White Star Line Building, 20 Casement Square, Cobh, www.titanicexperiencecobh.ie, E: info@titanicexperiencecobh.ie, T: 353 (0) 21 481 4412

Depart for Cork city (journey time 35mins)

Lunch [Farmgate Restaurant, Country Store & Bakery](http://www.farmgate.ie/middleton), Broderick St, Coolbawn, Midleton, Co Cork, www.farmgate.ie/middleton, E: restaurant@farmgate.ie, T: 353 (0) 21 463 2771.

Afternoon Walking tour of Cork city. First stop, University College Cork – check out the award winning art and architecture at the [Lewis Glucksmann Gallery](#) and the [Crawford Observatory](#), the only astronomical observatory in a university in Ireland. Visit the [English Market](#), so called when the market was created in 1788 by the Protestant or 'English' corporation that controlled the city until 1841. Continue to [St Ann's Church](#) and find out why its clock is known locally as the Four Faced Liar. Try your hand at ringing the Shandon Bells.

Click [campus](#) or [4 star hotel](#) for accommodation options in Cork city.

Dinner [Market Lane Restaurant & Bar](http://www.marketlane.ie), 5-6 Oliver Plunkett St, Cork city, www.marketlane.ie. Restaurant and bar over two floors that offers award winning food at great value. Ingredients are sourced from the English Market and local artisan producers. Upstairs section can accommodate up to 65 people.

Overnight campus or 4 star hotel in Cork City.

DAY 5

Depart for Dublin for return flight home (journey time 2hrs 45mins).

