



Blue-Roads | Europe (BRT)

Captivating nature, centuries of enthralling history and an abundance of rural charm – the island of Ireland has so much to offer those lucky enough to visit. Join us on this immersive tour and experience local hospitality, intriguing legends, grand castles and long-standing traditions – from County Dublin to the coast and back again.



Thank you for choosing **Blue-Roads**

Your extraordinary adventure awaits!

About your tour notes

These tour notes contain everything you need to know before your tour departs – from where to meet your fellow guests and local guide to what essentials to pack for your journey.

We recommend you print this document out and bring it with you on your tour. Give a copy to loved ones at home so they can follow your adventure, too.

IMPORTANT: please refresh this document as close to your departure as possible to ensure you're equipped with the latest information available.

THE BLUE-ROADS DIFFERENCE

- ✔ Set foot on the basalt columns of the legendary Giant's Causeway
- ✔ Uncover the stories behind the infamous journey of the Titanic in Belfast
- ✔ Receive a fascinating insight into the Irish Emigration to the New World at Ulster American Folk Park

TOUR CURRENCIES

- Republic of Ireland - EUR
- Northern Ireland - GBP

Your itinerary

DAY 1 | COUNTY DUBLIN

The County of Dublin is where we'll begin our journey around the captivating Emerald Isle. Meet us at the hotel and get to know your like-minded travel companions over a delicious welcome meal. Here's to the grand adventure ahead! Accommodation: Grand Hotel Malahide (or similar)

MEALS:

✓ Dinner

DAY 2 | COUNTY DUBLIN – BELFAST

After breakfast, we'll board the mini-coach and set a course for Belfast – stopping along the way to admire one of Ireland's grand castles. Upon arrival in Northern Ireland's capital, we'll pay a visit to the Titanic Museum and discover the personal stories surrounding the infamous ship's fateful journey. After a history-filled day, just a taste of what's to come, the evening will be yours to explore Belfast at your leisure. Accommodation: Titanic Hotel Belfast (or similar)

MEALS:

✓ Breakfast

DAY 3 | BELFAST

You don't have to delve deep into Northern Ireland's past to see its influences on contemporary culture – and this morning's Black Cab tour of Belfast's street art and political murals will serve as proof. After enjoying some free time for lunch, it's time to explore 150 years of history held within the walls of Crumlin Road Gaol. We'll finish our day back at the hotel in Belfast, where we'll have some free time to spend at our leisure. Accommodation: Titanic Hotel Belfast (or similar)

MEALS:

✓ Breakfast

DAY 4 | BELFAST – GIANT'S CAUSEWAY – DERRY/LONDONDERRY

Today it's out of the city and onwards to the spectacular North Irish Coast. Our first captivating stop will be the otherworldly Giant's Causeway, with its intriguing interlocking basalt columns. We'll enjoy some free time to marvel at the impressive structures – before continuing on to Derry/Londonderry. Tonight, we'll reconvene for a hearty included dinner.

MEALS:

✓ Breakfast

✓ Dinner

DAY 5 | DERRY/LONDONDERRY

Today we've a whole day to spend getting to know Derry/Londonderry a little bit better – starting with a morning walking tour of the 17th-century Derry Walls and their murals. Did you know that Derry is the only remaining completely walled city in Ireland? After visiting the Museum of Free Derry, the city will be yours to explore as you please. From a variety of fascinating museums to the Dickensian-style Craft Village, you won't be short of things to do!

MEALS:

☑ Breakfast

DAY 6 | DERRY/LONDONDERRY – COUNTY CAVAN

First stop today: Ulster American Folk Park. Here, we'll follow the lives of those who bravely left the thatched cottages of Ulster behind to journey across the Atlantic and start a life in the New World. This afternoon it's back on the road, as we set our sights on charming County Cavan – where a delicious farewell meal with the group awaits. Accommodation: Cabra Castle (or similar)

MEALS:

☑ Breakfast

☑ Dinner

DAY 7 | COUNTY CAVAN – COUNTY DUBLIN

Today, we'll enjoy the journey back to Dublin – taking in sweeping views of the surrounding countryside along the way. There's a visit to a local whiskey distillery on the cards, before we say our goodbyes upon arriving back in County Dublin.

MEALS:

☑ Breakfast



Tour information

Meals

INCLUDED MEALS

Breakfast (B) is included daily.

Some of your lunches and dinners are also included, either in hotels or local restaurants. These are indicated by (L) and (D) in the itinerary.

Please note that drinks will not always be included.

We will do our best to accommodate any specific dietary requirements you may have. Please ensure to make these clear to us before your tour begins so we can communicate them to our hotels, restaurants and suppliers.

Other information

Finances

CHANGING MONEY

CASH: Foreign money can be changed at banks, airports, some railway and tube stations, and at major hotels (though at a less favourable rate).

CREDIT CARDS: Visa and MasterCard are widely accepted. American Express is only accepted in some larger establishments.

CASH MACHINES: ATMS are widely available.

TIPPING

Tipping is entirely at your discretion. If you feel you have received exceptional service, it is recommended that you tip £1-2/€ per day for Drivers and £4- 5/€ per day for Tour Leaders.

Insurance

Before travelling with Blue-Roads Touring, it is compulsory for all guests to take out comprehensive travel insurance. Please ensure your insurance covers medical expenses (including repatriation), cancellation cover, loss or damage to baggage and personal effects, money and personal liability.

We recommend you carry your insurance details with you at all times. You may be asked to provide details of your medical insurance or a payment guarantee in some countries before medical assistance can be provided.

For more information, please see our FAQ page:
www.blueroadstouring.com/faqs

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact our friendly Customer Service team: www.blueroadstouring.com/contact-us

Passports and visas

Please ensure your passport is valid for at least six months after the last day of your tour. Some countries will refuse entry if you do not have at least six months validity remaining on your passport after your departure date. Depending on your nationality, you may require a visa to enter certain countries.

It is your responsibility to obtain visas prior to your tour's departure. To determine which visas you'll need, you can consult either your own government's website or the government websites of the countries in which you will be travelling.

PLEASE NOTE: Some visas can take up to six weeks to acquire, so don't leave it until the last minute. Also, bear in mind that the validity of a visa often runs from its date of issue rather than the date of entry into the country. Please check with the appropriate embassy/embassies prior to departure as requirements do change periodically.

We advise you to either carry a photocopy of your passport (and visa, if applicable) with you while abroad, or to ensure that you leave a copy with relatives back at home. This will enable the local embassy or high commission to arrange a replacement if the original should be lost or stolen. If you do take copies with you on your tour, please ensure that you keep these separate from your

Medication and mobility

Whilst on your tour, we want you to have the smoothest journey possible which requires some mobility conditions:

- You must be fit enough to get on and off the vehicle on a regular basis, and to walk around towns and villages or to attractions.
- You must be able to walk up and down stairs and use a shower over the bath.

Please note that, unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate mobility scooter or wheelchair users as we frequently stay in traditional-style hotels and the majority do not have lifts or ground-floor rooms.

If you take medicine for certain conditions, such as diabetes or heart problems, please carry it with you at all times.

Please declare any medical conditions you may have in advance of your tour. If you are in any doubt as to whether our tours are suitable for you, please contact our friendly Customer Service team:

www.blueroadstouring.com/contact-us

Mental health and wellbeing

Culture shock, homesickness and periods of feeling down happen regardless of age. Be rest assured that if you're feeling low, your Tour Leader and Driver will do their utmost to make you smile.

Measures you can take to look after your mental health and wellbeing while on the road with us are:

- Call loved ones. Hearing a familiar voice whilst in an unfamiliar destination can help ground you and remind you you're not alone.
- Eat well. Nobody feels their best when they're hungry. There are plenty of nutritious culinary delights to be savoured along the road!
- Integrate with your fellow guests. The more you socialise with the group, the less likely you'll feel homesick.

Transport

We travel in premium mini-coaches equipped with comfortable seats, air conditioning and large windows for enjoying the view.

With far more flexibility than a standard-size coach, we're able to take the scenic route – winding through beautiful countryside to the heart of tiny villages and coastal towns.

What to bring

Based on our experience, the following items are essential.

Please note, this is a general packing list for Blue-Roads tours. What you pack will depend on the countries you're visiting as well as the time of year you plan to travel.

CLOTHING:

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|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ☑ Sun hat | ☑ Long-sleeved tops | ☑ Light jacket |
| ☑ Sunglasses | ☑ Short-sleeved tops | ☑ Waterproof jacket |
| ☑ Sleepwear | ☑ Shorts/skirts | ☑ Trousers |
| ☑ Warm jacket | ☑ Socks | ☑ Swimwear |
| ☑ Underwear | ☑ Smart casual evening wear | ☑ Walking shoes/comfortable shoes |

OTHER THINGS TO PACK:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--------------------|
| ☑ Multi-use adapter plug | ☑ Toiletries | ☑ Camera |
| ☑ Batteries | ☑ Sunscreen | ☑ Towel |
| ☑ Umbrella | ☑ Reusable water bottle | ☑ Insect repellent |
| ☑ Any personal medication | ☑ Basic medical kit (including paracetamol, aspirin, plasters etc) | |

That's it!

We look forward to seeing you on tour.