DISCOVER DINGLE
Sacred Heart University Alumni Educational Program

DINGLE, IRELAND CAMPUS / JUNE 29 - JULY 6, 2019

Discover the Dingle Peninsula! One of Ireland's Gaeltacht regions, Dingle is home to more than 1,000 archeological sites that have supported various tribes and populations for more than 6,000 years. Enjoy expert guided tours of the peninsula's most scenic and iconic areas from Conor’s Pass and the Maharees to Slea Head and the Blasket Islands. See Beehive huts, the Gallarus Oratory, Brandon's Creek, ogham stones and more. Learn about the culture of the Dingle Peninsula from farming to fishing; enjoy sheepherding demonstrations; visit movie sets for *Ryan's Daughter*, *Star Wars* and *Far and Away*. Spend a day learning about the ecology of coastal communities, visiting the sandy beaches and rocky shores where the power of the Atlantic meets the coast of Ireland and shapes the lives of its inhabitants. Enjoy four group dinners as part of the trip with music and dancing. Stay in either the Skellig Hotel or share a cottage with a group of friends.

Per Person Sharing (Hotel) $1,500
Per Person Sharing (Marina Cottages) $1,000
Single (Hotel) $1,700

Airfare not included

SHU IN DINGLE
Sacred Heart University
DAY 1: SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 2019

• Transport to Dingle from Shannon Airport – A coach bus will meet you at Shannon and drive to Dingle. The drive is 2.5 hours long. Please note that the bus will be departing Shannon at approximately 8:00am. If your flight arrives after this time, while we can help you arrange the transport to Dingle, you will be responsible for the cost to Dingle. A taxi to Dingle costs approx. $230. (Suggested reservation information will follow so don’t book your flight yet!)

• Since check-in at the accommodation is not until after 3:00pm; after arriving in Dingle, you will drop your bags into the Skellig Hotel and then go for a guided walk/lunch around Dingle town. If staying at the Marina Cottages, we will assist you in getting your bags to the cottages from the hotel for check-in at the cottages.

• Those staying at the Marina Cottages, don’t forget to purchase your food supplies.

• We will have dinner (included) this evening at Grey’s Lane Restaurant at 7:00pm. This is a ten minute walk from the Skellig’s and five minutes from the Marina Cottages.

• After dinner, you are free to visit the many pubs in Dingle where you can hear traditional Irish music being played and not forgetting the perfect pint of Guinness that you enjoy.
DAY 2: SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 2019

Dingle Tour

- Those staying in the Skellig Hotel will enjoy breakfast at the hotel; those staying at the Marina Cottages, this will be your first morning cooking an Irish breakfast, or you could always visit Deirdre’s Café on Orchard Lane where you can have your Irish breakfast served to you.

- At 12:30pm, you will be collected from your accommodation and we will begin our guided tour of Conor Pass and Brandon Bay. This tour starts with the ascent of Conor Pass, stopping off at Peddler’s Lake, a beautiful corrie lake (glacial) with an amazing view of the valley below. Lunch (included) at 1:30pm Location TBD. The tour will continue visiting Brandon Bay, stopping off at Murphy’s Pub, at the edge of the sea, where you can enjoy the perfect pint of Guinness. We will also stop off at Glanteenassig Forest Park, where a 1000 acres of woodland, lakes and peatlands awaits. If conditions allow, we will do a short 30 minute walk around the lake giving you a beautiful view of the lake, surrounding hills and flowers. We should be back in Dingle at 6:00pm.

- Dinner on your own with suggestions for places to hear traditional music – You will be provided a list of restaurants in Dingle.

DAY 3: MONDAY, JULY 1, 2019

Slea Head

- Breakfast on your own (Hotel/Cottages or local restaurants)

- This morning is the guided tour of Slea Head. You will be picked up at the hotel/cottages at 9:30am. A local guide will bring you to some of the most important and beautiful archaeological sites on the Dingle Peninsula, such as Gallarus Oratory, Reask Monastic Site, Kilmalkeader Church. Other stops include Coumeenoole Beach, which overlooks the Blasket Islands. We will also stop off at the Blasket Centre to learn about life on the Blasket Islands which you will be visiting later in the week. Lunch (included) at Mulcahy’s Pottery Shop/Café OR Murphy’s Pub, Ballyferriter.

- Dinner on your own with suggestions for places to hear traditional music
DAY 4: TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2019

Coastal Ecology

- Breakfast on your own (Hotel/Cottages or local restaurants)
- You will be picked up from your accommodations at 9:30am. Guided ecological tour of the Dingle Peninsula Coast with visits to rocky intertidal zone, sandy beaches, coastal cliffs, coastal streams, and upland valleys with lunch stop in Ballyferriter. You should arrive back in Dingle at 4:30pm.
- We will have dinner (included) this evening in Ballintaggart House. This is beautiful country house, just three minutes’ drive from Dingle town. A bus will collect you from your accommodation at 6:30pm.
- Set Dancing Workshop following the dinner. This is a fun, informal introduction to Irish dancing; you will learn how to dance the West Kerry set, even if you have never danced before or in a long time, this will be great fun…and educational. The workshop lasts approximately one hour.
- After the dance lesson, you will be transported back to Dingle town/accommodation, where you can practice your new found dancing skills in one of the local pubs.
DAY 5: WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 2019

Blasket Islands

- Breakfast on your own (Hotel/Cottages or local restaurants)

- Today, we are going to the Blasket Islands, a day you will not forget for all your life. We will meet at Dingle Marina at 9:45am (10 minute walk from the Skellig Hotel, 2 minutes from the Cottages). The boat ride to the Blasket Islands will take 40 minutes. During this trip you will get to see Fungi, the famous Dingle Dolphin. There are no facilities on the island, so please bring a packed lunch/water, etc. with you. You will have learned that The Blasket Islands were inhabited until 1953, so this day will be like going back in time, a magical place. You will have approximately 3 hours on the island. The boat trip to the island will bring you along the Slea Head route, so you will get another view of this amazing scenery. You will be back in Dingle at approximately 4:00pm.

- Dinner on your own with suggestions for places to hear traditional Irish music.
DAY 6: THURSDAY, JULY 4, 2019

Killarney

• Breakfast on your own (Hotel/Cottages or local restaurants)

• Today, we are going to Killarney town. You will be picked up at 8:30am. Killarney is a beautiful town, one hour bus ride from Dingle. We will stop off at Inch Beach along the way. Inch Beach is a beautiful beach which was used in the filming of Ryan’s Daughter. Apart from having some free time in Killarney town to do some shopping, the trip will include a visit to:

  – Muckross House & Gardens: This nineteenth century Victorian mansion is set against the stunning beauty of Killarney National Park. Queen Victoria stayed here in 1861.

  – Muckross Abbey: The Franciscan friary of Irrelagh, now known as Muckross Abbey was founded for the Observatine Franciscans about 1448 by Daniel McCarthy Mor.

  – Torc Waterfall: The waterfall is some 70 to 80 feet high and the Owengarriff River which feeds the Torc, originates in the “The Devil's Punchbowl” on nearby Mangerton mountain.

• Killarney National Park contains many features of national and international importance such as the native oakwoods and yew woods together with an abundance of evergreen trees and shrubs and a profusion of bryophytes and lichens which thrive in the mild Killarney climate. The native red deer are unique in Ireland with a presence in the country since the last Ice Age.

• We will be leaving Killarney at 4:30pm and back in Dingle at 5:30pm.

• Group Dinner or BBQ (included) to celebrate the 4th July.
DAY 7: FRIDAY, JULY 5, 2019

Free day with optional activity in the morning

- Breakfast on your own (Hotel/Cottages or local restaurants)

Optional Activities that can be arranged (Additional Costs):

- Hill walking with local guide – maps offering several trails
- Surfing – information on renting surf boards
- Sailboarding – information on renting sailboards
- Sea kayaking – information on renting kayaks
- Horseback riding – information on places that offer horseback riding
- Golf – 4 or 5 courses around Dingle – information on making tee time, rentals, transportation
- Tour of Harbor/Fungi
- Irish Language workshop/Irish cooking class/film and literature tour. One of three.
- Farewell dinner (included) at 7:00pm - Location to be confirmed.

DAY 8, JULY 6, 2019

Depart Dingle

- Depart Dingle for Shannon Airport. The bus to bring you back to Shannon will depart Dingle 4:00am, and you should arrive at Shannon Airport at 7:00am.
- Return to US

**Schedules may change depending on weather.**