

**Ireland II**  
**Haunted by History, Dawning of a New Day**  
**July 2 – 10, 2012**  
**4 graduate semester hour's credit**

**Cost: \$2,600 without credit - \$2,770 with credit. Class cost includes airfare, ground transportation, entry fees, and all lodging with full Irish breakfast. \$1,600 without airfare or tuition. 4 hours tuition cost is \$170**

**Day 1 – July 2, 2012 – Monday** - Depart US for Dublin.

**Day 2 – July 3, 2012 - Tuesday** - Arrive in Dublin early morning. Drive to Trim Castle, which is the largest Norman Castle in Europe and was used in the film, Braveheart. Learn the history of Trim Castle while touring the castle. Visit Monasterbolce, a ruined monastery with a round tower and two of the best carved high crosses in Ireland. Spend the night in Navan, a small village close to Newgrange. Staying in B&B's allows us to meet the local people and learn their views of Irish history and on modern day Ireland. We will sleep in Navan – County Meath

**Day 3 – July 4, 2012 - Wednesday** - Drive to Newgrange Historical Passage Grave Site, which is one of the most famous prehistoric sites in the world. Newgrange is constructed with an astronomical orientation, which shows that prehistoric people understood an astronomical year. During the winter solstice, a narrow beam of light illuminates to the end of a long underground passage. Tour Newgrange and get a glimpse of prerecorded Ireland. We will then tour the site of the Battle of the Boyne and the Hill of Tara. Drive to Belfast where we will spend the night in central Belfast.

**Day 4 – July 5, 2012 – Wednesday** - At 9 AM our black cab driver, Ken Harper, will take us on a tour of Catholic and Protestant neighborhoods while giving us some history of the Irish Troubles from the Belfast perspective. – After the taxi tour we will do the Hop-On Hop-Off Belfast city bus tour. The bus tour will give us an overview of the sights available in Belfast including the shipyards. The rest of the day is a 'choose your own adventure' day. Options are: Ulster Museum, The Grand Opera House, bombed and rebuilt in 1991 – bombed and rebuilt in 1993, Fernhill House Museum, which recaptures the history and troubles of Skankill Area in Belfast. Other sights are City Hall, Linen Hall Library, Botanic Gardens, Belfast Castle, Crown Liquor Saloon, and/or walk the Golden Mile which is Belfast's liveliest dining and entertainment district stretching from the Opera House to University Road. Evening option – Attend the Grand Opera – Spend the night again in Belfast.

**Day 5 – July 6, 2012 - Thursday** - Leave Belfast – Tour Carrickfergus Castle, the best-preserved Norman castle in Ireland, which was built after the Norman Invasion of the late 1100's. William of Orange landed here in 1690 when he began his Irish campaign against deposed King James II. (Battle of the Boyne). Drive up the Antrim Coast and study the fascinating geology along the way. Stop to discuss columnar jointing, plate tectonics, flora, and fauna of this fascinating area of Ireland or just to have a spot of tea and some lunch!! We will then tour Old Bushmills Distillery, the world's oldest whiskey distillery (1408 so they claim) as we pass through the village of Bushmills. Arrive in Portrush. Sleep in Portrush.

**Day 6 – July 7, 2012 - Friday-** Hike along the Giant’s Causeway and learn the geology of these 40,000 hexagonal basaltic columns. This is the same geologic strata that are on the Isle of Staffa, one of Scotland’s Hebrides Islands. After a 15 minute walk along a beautiful and rugged coastline we will walk across Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge, an 80 foot bridge between the mainland and an island used for salmon fishing by the locals. Then we are off to tour Dunluce Castle, one of the largest castle ruins in Northern Ireland that is perched vulnerably on a steep crag. Back to Portrush where there is more hiking available along the coast line or time to explore the small town of Portrush. Sleep again in Portrush.

**Day 7 – July 8, 2012 - Saturday-** Drive back to Dublin. Check in at our hotel by Christchurch. Walk to The Temple Bar area and the Ha’ Penny Bridge. Do the hop on – hop off bus if time. Have dinner in the Temple Bar.

**Day 8 – July 9, 2012 - Sunday -** Walk to and tour Trinity College where the Ancient Book of Kells is displayed. Our tour will include the Long Room of the Old Library, which includes a copy of every book ever published in Ireland. After Trinity College take the Dublin City Hop-On Hop-Off Bus to learn more about the capital city of Ireland. The rest of the day is a ‘choose your own adventure’ day. Options are many: the Guinness Storehouse to learn about one of Ireland important modern products, Dublin Castle, The National Museum of Ireland, which focuses on Irish history from the Bronze Age to the present, the National Gallery of Ireland, which is the finest art collection in Ireland, the Post Office where the 1916 Easter Uprising took place, as well as O’Connell Street, where the statue of Daniel O’Connell oversees the street. There are many other options – refer to your packet and use the Hop-On Hop-Off bus to navigate the city. At 7:00 PM we will meet upstairs at Gogarty’s Pub at the corner of Fleet and Anglesea in the Temple Bar area for a 2 ½ hour Traditional Irish Musical Pub Crawl. Sleep again in Dublin.

**Day 9 – July 10, 2012 – Monday - Fly home. -** Arrive in US late evening.