

We Bike

Your Adventure Detailed Itinerary

Donegal

Geographically speaking, Donegal is a county of contradictions: it contains the northernmost point in the whole of Ireland – Malin Head on the remote Inishowen Peninsula and yet it is in 'the South' (Republic of Ireland). It is in Ulster (i.e. the nine-county province), but not in Northern Ireland. The county is very sparsely populated, with large tracts of land being uninhabited and a good deal of the open land is covered by blanket bogs. It is a perfect place to explore on foot or by bike & outside the main towns, the county is still relatively undiscovered & untouched.



Ireland Walk Hike Bike

For 25 years Ireland Walk Hike Bike (IWHB) has been welcoming guests to Ireland. The realisation of a dream for company founder Linda Woods who sought to show people the "real Ireland" rather than the traditional tourism template! These ideals continue today, showing you Ireland the way we believe it should be seen: slowly, intimately and knowledgeably. Our terrific office personnel and great guides all share the same philosophy – "to take people into those hidden parts of Ireland that few know about and give people a real "taste and flavour" of Ireland the way we know and love it".

With today's fast pace of life & the lack of "downtime", we at IWHB take great pride in the trust our guests show in us to create great experiences for you. All of us in IWHB are committed to ensuring our fascination for Ireland, its' history, culture, diversity & humour, is part of your holiday. Ireland enjoys a relaxing pace of life; beautiful and varied scenery, with the sea never far from sight & a great selection of music at night. While in Ireland, we ask you to PLEASE take your time as you discover small sections of Ireland, for if you rush, the charm of the country and the people will pass you by. The best made plans will always change in Ireland, and your adaptability to enjoy chance encounters with friendly locals, incredible characters and the odd charismatic sheep is what will make your holiday a truly memorable experience!!



Itinerary at a Glance

Day Activity

- Arrive to Dunfanaghy 1
- 2 3 4 5 Gweedore to Dunlewy Hike
- Dunlewy to Falcarragh Hike
- Bloody Foreland Hike
- Depart Dunfanaghy

Overnight

Dunfanaghy Dunfanaghy Dunfanaghy Dunfanaghy

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Day 1 Arrive to Dunfanaghy

Your holiday starts in either the beautiful village of Dunfanaghy – right in the heart of the "Gaelteacht" an Irish speaking area of Ireland. It is lovely little place on the shore of the Wild Atlantic Way. If you are lucky enough to arrive early in the day, you may be able to take a boat trip out to the beautiful Gola Island or perhaps visit Tory Island.

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A private bus service can be taken from Donegal town or Letterkenny to either of these destinations.

Day 2 Gweedore to Dunlewy Hike

You will be driven to the start of your walk this morning at Clady Bridge near Gweedore. From here, you will be following a lovely walk through forestry to Dunlewy. As you come closer to Dunlewy Lake you will have magnificent views of Errigal – the famous mountain. Descending to Dunlewy you ring for your taxi to collect you and return you to your accommodation. Alternatively, today – you may prefer to avail of the opportunity to take a boat & visit the beautiful Gola Island – a walker's haven and a very unspoilt place, or take a boat to the better known Tory.

Terrain: Grass tracks – rocky and muddy in places. Can be wet and muddy underfoot – boots recommended. Some road walking.

Walk Details: Approx. Distance – 8.9km Height gain - 234m Height loss - 200m Max Height - 166m

Day 3 Dunlewy to Falcarragh Hike

From Dunfanaghy, you will be driven to Dunlewy where you walk along very remote & small back roads to the village of Falcarragh. This is a beautiful walk under the foothills of Errigal, following part of the old railway line that ran from Creeslough to Dungloe & finishing close to the coast. On your arrival to Falcarragh, you can phone your taxi to collect you & bring you to your accommodation in Dunfanaghy.

Terrain: Grass tracks – rocky and muddy in places. Can be wet and muddy underfoot – boots recommended. Some road walking.

Walk Details: Approx. Distance – 14.9km Height gain - 338m Height loss - 369m Max Height - 178m

Day 4 Bloody Foreland Hike

Today you have a choice of walks from Dunfanaghy. If the weather is good – then we strongly recommend you walk McSwyne's Gun Loop on Horn Head – walking from your accommodation to Horn Head Bridge & back again. This walk is 12kms & can be extended to 21kms if you wish. Otherwise your walk today takes you around Bloody Foreland on a beautiful coastal walk & through extensive bog lands which are still harvested today for turf which is sold locally. A taxi will take you to Glashagh where you start walking & follow the coastline to Gortahork. From there – a phonecall will get your taxi to come & collect you & bring you back to Dunfanaghy for your final overnight.

Terrain: Road walking, grass and sandy tracks, bog roads & open bogland. Can be wet and muddy underfoot – boots essential.

Walk Details: Approx. Distance – 22.6km Height gain – 378m Height loss – 393m Max Height – 89m



Day 5 Depart Dunfanaghy

Departure after breakfast, transfer to Letterkenny bus station for onward connection to Derry, Donegal, Dublin and to all major towns and airports in Ireland.

Elevation Graphs

Please see below daily elevation graphs for your selected tour



What's included



Stay in en-suite room at our hand-picked accommodations



Complimentary access to our app, tailormade for your tour, containing all your documents, GPS navigation & points of interest



Delicious Breakfast each morning.



24 hour, emergency telephone support



Move your luggage as per itinerary



Detailed, easy to read, Route Notes with marked maps of each route



Extra days/ nights booking on request



Dedicated, in house, Holiday Specialist to assist with planning any additional activities, travel, airport transfers, etc.

Testimonials



Mathilda, Netherlands, 2022

The people of Ireland Walk Hike Bike were extremely helpful - as much before the trip (re-arranging the schedule because of corona) as during the trip. The literally catered to all our needs. The information we got was very complete, we stayed in nice B&B's and we could always contact Francis if we had a question or a problem. I highly recommend Ireland Walk Hike Bike to anyone who wants to go to Ireland.

David, USA, 2022

We just returned from our guided tour of the Burren, Aran islands and Connemara and it was truly a wonderful experience! The communication and help from Niamh was fantastic, and our guide, Joe O'Donnell was outstanding! Very knowledgeable, and just a good person that we were lucky to get to know. All of the accommodations were also great. This was a two year wait for us due to Covid cancellations and restrictions and everyone at Ireland Walk Hike and Bike were great to work with. Highly recommend using their services if you wish for the best.

Dale, USA, 2022

My wife and I worked exclusively with the team at IrelandWalkHikeBike to arrange a 3-week private tour of Ireland's West Coast this past May, 2022. We actually had to defer the trip twice due to Covid issues and this outfit was amazingly proactive and accommodating through all of the delays. My wife and I had just turned 70 at the outset of the trip and so we wanted to include all of the transportation as I did not want to undertake driving on the "other" side of the road. In addition to all the transfers IWHB arranged all or of our hotels, ferry tickets, and e-bike rentals and provided detailed maps and instructions for all of the hikes and bike circuits. Our trip played out seamlessly, with no glitches or problems and the hotel arrangements were terrific throughout. We visited four islands and each one was a unique adventure. The hikes in Connemara were beautiful and the biking around the Dingle peninsula, Clifden and Westport fantastic. Our drivers were super friendly and knowledgeable. Considering all of this, we thought the cost of the trip was eminently reasonable. Highly recommended!

Russ, UK, 2021

My wife, daughter, her partner and myself have recently returned home after a 7-day self-guided walk of the Dingle Way organised by Ireland Walk Hike and Bike. It was the most fabulous holiday being everything we expected and so much more.

The walking itself was the heart of the holiday. Every day was different. On a daily basis the scenery memorable. Fortunately, we have hundreds of photos to remind ourselves.

We have resolved to go back the west coast of Ireland and already Dean has made a couple of suggestions. Whatever walk we chose to do, it will be organised by Ireland Walk Hike and Bike.



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Our full terms and conditions can be found at www.irelandwalkhiked