



Ireland #1

Field Hockey Tour

Dublin

9 Day / 7 Night Program



SUGGESTED PROGRAM

PLEASE NOTE: Actual sequence and timing of activities will revolve around your game & practice schedule, which will be finalized in the weeks prior to your team's arrival at its destination. All times are approximate and may vary according to flight schedules and other logistical factors.

ALL FIELD HOCKEY ACTIVITIES ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN RED.

Day 1 **USA – DUBLIN**

Evening Depart the USA on your overnight flight to Dublin with a possible change of plane enroute. Enjoy Dinner and Breakfast aloft as you journey east to the Emerald Isle.

Day 2 **DUBLIN**

Morning Arrive at Dublin Airport.

Greeting by your highly-qualified **Tour Manager**. The Tour Managers we select are chosen for their high-energy and commitment to customer satisfaction. For the duration of your stay, your Tour Manager will be coordinating and managing all of your scheduled activities and will be available to you on a 24-hour basis should you need special assistance.

Dublin is Ireland's capital and largest city situated on the Irish Sea in the eastern part of the island. Ireland is commonly known as the "Emerald Isle" for its lush green landscapes dotted by centuries-old castles and rocky-cliffed shores. With 1.2 million people and over a quarter of the country's population, Dublin is famous for its literary tradition, claiming such giants as Nobel laureates William Butler Yeats, George Bernard Shaw and Samuel Beckett plus Oscar Wilde and Jonathan Swift. On a more pedestrian level, the city is known for its ubiquitous pubs and vibrant nightlife.

Transfer to your Three-Star Hotel in or near Dublin.

Afternoon Free time for lunch on your own and to explore the neighborhood around your hotel.

Afternoon **PRACTICE SESSION at an astroturf field to warm-up for the next few days.**

Evening Dinner at Hotel (included in tour program)

Day 3 **DUBLIN**

Morning Breakfast at Hotel.

Morning **City Sightseeing Tour**



Dublin Castle



Dunlaoghaire Harbour



Trinity College

Board your private motorcoach with your Tour Guide for a tour viewing some of Dublin's most interesting sights with special focus on the neighborhoods south of the **River Liffey**.

View **Dublin Castle**, with its high defensive walls and signature **Bedford** and **Record Towers**, and **Trinity College** featuring attractive grounds and many fine landmark buildings evoking Dublin's past. **Temple Bar**, with its tight medieval street pattern typified by narrow cobblestone roads, is known as the city's "Cultural Quarter" for the many cultural and arts institutions based there.

St. Stephen's Green, with 22 acres of lush green landscaping, is Dublin's most popular park and is surrounded by many buildings in the elegant and understated Georgian-style of architecture popular in late-18th and early-19th century Britain. Continue to **Merrion Square**, also bordered by fine Georgian buildings, many of which were home to some of Ireland's most prominent intellectuals, ranging from poets and playwrights to political leaders and even a Nobel laureate.

Afternoon **MATCH # 1 vs. IRISH FIELD HOCKEY TEAM**



Evening Dinner at Hotel (included in tour program)

This evening (and other evenings) visit **Temple Bar** with its many pubs and entertaining nightlife.

Day 4 **DUBLIN**

Morning Breakfast at Hotel.

Morning **Kilmainham Jail**



Transfer to the west side of Dublin to tour **Kilmainham Jail**, a grey forbidding structure that is one of Ireland’s most notorious landmarks. Many Irish rebelling against British colonial rule in the early 20th-century were imprisoned and even executed here, especially after the famous 1916 Easter Rising. The prison closed in 1924.

The tour starts with an engaging audiovisual introduction into the prison’s history, followed by a tour of the building’s grim facilities, including now-abandoned jail cells, winding up in the sobering yard where the 1916 executions took place.

Afternoon Free time in Dublin’s city center to enjoy its many offerings. Dublin is a very walkable city with most attractions concentrated on the south side of the **River Liffey** and along **O’Connell Street** on the north side.

Free-Time Suggestions:

Go to **Grafton Street**, a pedestrian promenade that is Dublin’s most popular shopping street, or visit the imposing domed **Government Buildings** for a tour including the prime minister’s office, the cabinet room, and the ceremonial staircase.

Evening **MATCH # 2 vs. IRISH FIELD HOCKEY TEAM**



Evening Dinner at Hotel (included in tour program)

Day 5 **DUBLIN**

Morning Breakfast at Hotel.

Morning **PRACTICE SESSION at a local hockey field.**

Afternoon

Guinness Storehouse (optional with entry and possible transfer fees additional)



Transfer by private motorcoach to the brewery of the legendary “black” beer that is identified with Ireland as much as pubs, shamrocks, lush green rolling hills, and Gaelic songs. Enter the massive seven-story storehouse tower shaped like a pint of Guinness and enjoy an entertaining and interactive multimedia show telling the story of the classic brew as you make your way up the stunning central atrium to the **Gravity Bar** at the “head” of the beer-like building. Take in the view of the sprawling 65-acre **St. James’s Gate Brewery** and top off your visit with a pint of the famous beer. Be sure to visit the gift and memorabilia stores for authentic Guinness souvenirs !

Evening

Dinner at Hotel (included in tour program)

Day 6

DUBLIN

Morning

Breakfast at Hotel.

Free-Time Suggestions:

Bike Ride - Your guide will take you through the city on an easy 2-hour ride giving you an overview of Dublin including its history and many of its most significant sites. (optional - approx. US\$ 40)

Kayak Ride - View Dublin from the perspective of the **River Liffey** as you glide effortlessly on its waters under multiple bridges in the heart of the city. (optional - approx. US\$ 40)

Afternoon

Free-Time Suggestions:

EPIC - The Irish Emigration Museum (optional - approx. US\$ 16)

Experience the drama of the Irish emigration which saw 10 million people leave the island in search of a better life. 20 interactive galleries tell this story from the times of the early monks to the famines and the present day through interactive technology, including art, music, dance creative use of audio / video.

Evening

MATCH # 3 vs. IRISH FIELD HOCKEY TEAM



Evening

Dinner at Hotel (included in tour program)

Day 7 **DUBLIN**

Morning Breakfast at Hotel.

Shop and stroll along **O'Connell Street**, north of the **River Liffey**, which has undergone extensive renovations in recent years, highlighted by the "**Spire**" (aka the **Monument of Light**), a 400-foot tall needle-shaped tower that qualifies as the world's tallest sculpture.

Afternoon **Experience Gaelic Games** (optional - approx. US\$ 40-50)

Enjoy a unique introduction to Irish culture through playing the Gaelic Athletic Association's traditional Irish national sports of Hurling, Gaelic Football and Handball.

Hurling is a fantastic fast-paced sport played with a stick capable of both hitting and carrying the ball that is sort of a combination of field hockey and lacrosse with even a little baseball thrown in ! The local coaches will explain to you the rules and skills of each sport and you will form teams for informal games. For more details: <http://www.experiencegaelicgames.com>

Evening Dinner at Hotel (included in tour program)

Day 8 **DUBLIN**

Morning Breakfast at Hotel.

Trinity College



Visit the sprawling campus of Ireland's most prestigious university, dating back to 1592 and officially known as the **University of Dublin**. Chapels, statues, manicured gardens, and impressive architecture make for a lively and engaging cultural experience. Top attraction is the **Book of Kells**, a mammoth and lavishly illustrated manuscript of the four Gospels of the New Testament, which attracts over a half million visitors per year.

Afternoon **MATCH # 4 vs. IRISH FIELD HOCKEY TEAM**



Evening Dinner at Hotel (included in tour program)

Day 9 DUBLIN – USA

Morning Breakfast at Hotel.

Check out of your hotel and transfer to Dublin Airport for your flight to the USA.

Afternoon Depart Dublin on your flight back to the USA.

Arrive in the USA later the same afternoon.

Your Irish Field Hockey & Cultural Adventure comes to a close with many great memories to cherish for a lifetime !

TOUR INCLUSIONS:

Travel Services:

- Economy-class Air Transportation USA – Dublin round-trip.
- Seven Nights at a Three-Star Hotel in Dublin.
- Airport / Hotel / Airport transfers by private motorcoach.
- Breakfast and Dinner Daily (latter includes one soft drink per meal).
- Dublin City Sightseeing Tour with English-Speaking Guide.
- Kilmainham Jail tour
- Trinity College tour
- All of the above tours are with an English-speaking Tour Guide.
- **Tour Manager** available as necessary in Ireland and 24/7 access in case of emergency.
- 24/7 Emergency Support from **Victory Sports Tours**' Operations Office.

Field Hockey Program:

- ***Four Games with clubs at your level.***
- ***Two Practice Sessions.***
- **Bottle of Water provided to each player, each game / practice.**
- **Round-trip Transfers to above Field Hockey Activities by private motorcoach.**

Summary of Included Meals:

- 7 Breakfasts
- 7 Dinners

Tour Price:

- For the most up-to-date pricing information on this tour, please visit our website:

<http://www.victorysportstours.com/sport/field-hockey/>

Scroll down to the tour named **"Ireland #1"**

- Price is based on a minimum of 20 paying travelers.
- Prices are subject to availability of airfares at time of booking.
- One **FREE COACH'S TRIP** is included based on 20 paying travelers (21st is free).
- Coach would share twin room with paying traveler and pay only taxes/fees.

Notes:

- The itinerary text outlines both included services and suggested free time activities. For a definitive indication of what is included in the tour price, please refer exclusively to the "TOUR INCLUSIONS" section above.
- No booking has been made yet. Tour dates are subject to availability.
- Tour price is based on current U.S. dollar / foreign currency exchange rate. Price may vary if the exchange rate were to change significantly prior to receiving your tour deposit.
- Air taxes/fees are determined by the various governments/airlines involved and are those currently in effect. By government regulation, actual air taxes/fees collected will be those in effect at ticketing, approx. 45 days before departure.
- Airlines may add a fuel surcharge if the price of fuel increases significantly.
- Final fuel surcharge is determined 30 days prior to departure.
- Full Terms & Conditions to be provided upon acceptance of this proposal.