



Bridge Garage, Urlingford, Co Kilkenny  
Tel: (056) 8838833  
info@kavanaghtravel.com

## UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY (NUIG) RETIRED STAFF TO NORTHERN IRELAND & DONEGAL

**22–25 SEPTEMBER 2025**

### **Monday 22 September 2025**

Depart Galway City at 09.00hrs and travel towards Sligo with a stop for tea/coffee and a scone at the 4\*McWilliam Park Hotel at 10.30hrs. We will continue on to Belleek Pottery in Co Fermanagh where you can have a browse around their showroom, have a tour of the production factory and time for some lunch in their café before we board the coach and continue on to Derry City where we will check into the hotel for the first of 3 nights with dinner served in the evening. (D,B&B)

Hotel: City Hotel, Derry

### **Tuesday 23 September 2025**

We will depart the hotel this morning after breakfast and make our way to Bushmills Distillery for a tour at 10.30hrs. The tour takes approximately 40 minutes. After the tour there will be a tasting before you leave the Distillery to travel the short distance to Northern Ireland's most spectacular natural attraction, the Giants Causeway (booked for 12.45hrs). At the Causeway you will enter the Visitor Centre before either walking or taking the shuttle bus to see the impressive basalt columns formed millions of years ago by a volcanic eruption which culminated in the formations seen today. There is a café at the Visitor Centre where you will be able to get food before we depart at 14.45hrs and set off for our final stop of the day in Bellaghy and the Seamus Heaney Homeplace Visitor Centre – (last entrance here is at 16.00hrs and they close at 17.00hrs). Seamus Heaney is undoubtedly Northern Ireland's most literary legend. He was one of Ireland's best loved public figures and one of the world's greatest writers. The Visitor Centre includes a stunning exhibition which interprets Seamus Heaney's work. We will return to the hotel and this evening's dinner will be in Browns Bonds Hill Restaurant. You will have a 3-course meal with tea/coffee booked for 19.00-19.30hrs. Your driver will be able to drop you to the restaurant but you will have to make your own way back to the hotel after your meal. It is about a 20-minute walk over the Peace Bridge. Or you can get taxis!

### **Wednesday 24 September 2025**

After breakfast, depart the hotel at 09.30hrs and we will make our way to Glenveagh National Park in Co Donegal, arriving there for approximately 10.30hrs. You will have time to have some refreshments in the tearooms before going to tour the Castle and the Gardens. After Glenveagh we will take a scenic Atlantic drive to Fanad Head via the Rosguill Peninsula and the Harry Blaney Bridge. We will visit Fanad Head Lighthouse, once voted one of the most beautiful lighthouses in the world. You will have a tour of the lighthouse and hear stories of lightkeepers in days gone by and if you wish, you can climb to the top of the tower for the most spectacular views. We will return to the hotel via the coastline of the western shore of Lough Swilly. We will pass by Rathmullan, where the famous Flight of the Earls took place from in 1607. We will arrive back at the hotel with time to freshen up before dinner in a local restaurant under your own arrangements.

### **Thursday 25 September 2025**

We will check out of the hotel this morning and our journey home will take us through Omagh, where we will stop for a visit to the Ulster American Folk Park. Here, you can take a walk around the Emigrants Exhibition which explains the story of over 200 years of migration from Ireland to America. Then step outside to explore life in rural Ulster 150 years ago through a range of authentic exhibits, meeting an array of costumed characters on your journey with traditional crafts to show, tales to tell and food to share! There will be free time for lunch in the restaurant there before boarding the coach again and heading home with comfort stops en-route as required.

### **Included in Tour:**

Luxury coach with experienced driver  
3 nights hotel accommodation with (1 x D,B&B & 2 x B&B)  
Tea/Coffee and scone on first morning  
Guided tour of Belleek Pottery  
Entrance to Glenveagh Castle & Gardens  
Entrance to Fanad Lighthouse  
Entrance to Giant's Causeway  
Entrance and tour of Bushmills Distillery  
Entrance to Seamus Heaney Homeplace Visitor Centre  
Entrance to Ulster American Folk Park, Omagh  
Evening meal in Browns Bonds Hill Restaurant – 3 courses with tea/coffee – no drinks included.

### **Cost of Tour - based on minimum 16 people (1 x B&B, 2 x D,B&B)**

€845 per person sharing  
€230 single supplement

### **Based on minimum 20 people**

€780 per person sharing  
€230 single supplement

**A non-refundable deposit of €100 per person should be paid by 27 June 2025 with the balance due on or before 1 August 2025.**

**Deposits can be paid by card over the phone to Lorraine at Kavanagh Travel or by cheque payable to Kavanagh Travel if preferred.**

*The above itinerary is subject to amendment depending on availability and times for entrances – we may have to make slight changes to facilitate bookings.*