



Global Leaders Forum Post Learning Journey 13 Feb – 15 Feb

Discover Ireland's best practices in tourism development whilst enjoying some of its iconic products and experiences.

Ireland is world renowned for its history, culture, landscapes, people and now even the cuisine. It is also seen as a thought leader in tourism development and marketing. You have the opportunity to experience and learn about all of these with the post conference learning journey. Departing from Dublin, you will head west with overnights in Athlone and Galway City, enjoying visits to Ireland's oldest pub, the wildly scenic Cliffs of Moher and many other locations.

Throughout the programme, our local host team from Fáilte Ireland will ensure that you have the best experiences, fully immersing you in Ireland and meeting the locals who run the businesses. Hear how a variety of specially designed programmes have developed not just areas that were not realising their full tourism potential, but how seasons have been extended, businesses have developed more of a digital footprint, ultimately driving more visitors and revenue.

Thursday 13th

Depart from the host hotel in Dublin, via motorcoach, to Athlone in Ireland's Hidden Heartlands. Overnighting at the stunning Glasson Lakehouse on the shores of Lough Ree, the programme will bring you to the oldest pub in Ireland, indulge you with sumptuous local cuisine presented by the producers themselves.

Friday 14th

Following the opportunity to hear the stories of local tourism experiences and how their businesses have been developed through supports from Fáilte Ireland, it is off to discover how the river boat cruise industry is transitioning away from 'dirty' fuels to much greener alternatives.

Onwards to the city of the tribes, Galway – sitting on the Atlantic it is renowned for its music and maritime history. Enjoy the city by bike before an evening of the finest local seafood and discover why we have so many gin distilleries in Ireland, a county synonymous with whiskey! To round the evening off, there is no better way than to stroll down High Street and enjoy the 'craic' and traditional Irish music in one of Galway's historic pubs.

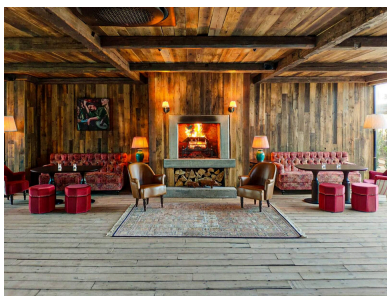
Saturday 15th

Before heading back to Dublin, a trip west is not complete without seeing the true majesty of the Wild Atlantic Way from the Cliffs of Moher, Europe's tallest sea cliffs.

On the return to Dublin, you will stop off at one of Ireland's castles before enjoying your final night in Malahide, a gorgeous seaside village north of Dublin city and only 15-minutes from the airport. Malahide nestles on the edge of a grand demesne with its own castle and the village will spoil you for choice with restaurants and bars for your final night in Ireland.

Cost:

Single occupancy at €1,500 EURO (\$1,575 US)
Double occupancy at €1,750 EURO (\$1,840 US)



Itinerary

Thursday, 13th February 2025

14.50 Final session wraps up in the Radisson Blu, Golden Lane

15.15 Departure by coach from Radisson Blu, Golden Lane, Dublin - hear the story of Ireland hidden heartlands & how this regional destination branding and development strategy is transforming tourism in this previously rarely visited area.

17.00 Arrive Athlone. Visit Athlone Castle, this castle dating from the 12th century is rich in stories of battles & bloodlust, destruction & new beginnings. Enjoying some refreshments Irish Style in Ireland's oldest pub - Sean's Bar - listed in 25 most incredible bars in the world.

18.30 Arrive Glasson Lakehouse Destination Hotel & Golf Resort in **Ireland's Hidden Heartlands**, on the Shores of Lough Ree

19.30 Drinks reception followed by a five-course dinner tasting menu of local produce and meet the local distillers, farmers, butchers, cheese & chocolate makers behind your dinner.

Overnight

Friday, 14th February 2025

08.00 Full Irish breakfast

09.30 Case studies in Visitor Experience Entrepreneurship supported by DMO.

Local suppliers to include

- Celtic Roots Studio
- Golf Simulator
- Ahascragh Distillery
- Mullingar Bike tours

10.30 The Greening of a Fleet - Meeting with Silverline Cruisers to outline their green initiatives & enjoy a short cruise on Irelands longest river - the Shannon (weather permitting)

11.30 Transfer to Galway & learn about the strategies behind one of the most successful regional tourism initiatives development in the world - the Wild Atlantic Way

13.00 Lunch in Blackrock Cottage in Salthill-winter Sea swim option for the brave!

14.30 Lally tours guided bike tour of Galway City

16.00 Visit Galway Hooker Sailing Club based out of the docks in the city centre

17.00 Arrive at the Hardiman Hotel on Eyre Square.

18.00 Visit Gin school in Galway City Distillery

19.30 Dinner Kirwans Lane - After dinner, enjoy a stroll down High Street and enjoy traditional music and "craic" in the Quays Pub, the King's Head and Neachtains.

Overnight

Saturday, 15th February 2025

08.00 Full Irish Breakfast

09.00 Depart Galway for Cliffs of Moher

11.00 Arrive Cliffs of Moher

12.00 Early lunch at the Cliffs

13.00 Depart for Portumna

15.00 Arrive Portumna - Visit the Castle, Harbour and famine workhouse

16.00 Afternoon tea & scones in Portumna (strong destination development story here)

17.00 Depart Portumna

19.30 Arrive Malahide (dinner at leisure)

Overnight GRAND HOTEL, Malahide

Sunday, 16th February 2025

Early morning transfers to Dublin Airport (15 minutes in a taxi)