

# Barrington Community School

presents

# An Irish Interlude

The 11th Annual Superbowl Getaway January 27 - February 1, 2009

If your idea of a great long weekend does not include the Super Bowl, pack a bag and escape the madness with BCS, as we continue our "escape" tradition with a great getaway to the romantic west coast of Ireland. A direct flight from Boston takes us to Shannon and then a short drive to Killarney, where we'll spend the long weekend.

From the Rose of Tralee to Dublin's fair city, Ireland is an almost mythic land of lyrical folk song, romantic poetry, turbulent history and deep green fields. It is as beautiful as it is proud and its religious backdrop is as disturbing as it is hopeful. From the pre-Celtic hill forts punctuating the island to her dramatic seascapes and picturesque farms and hedgerows, Ireland is a land of gracious discoveries.

Our base is in the southwest corner of the island, in Killarney, the county town of County Kerry. This is



Spectacular Coastal Scenery

part of the region that hosted the "Golden Age" of Ireland, when the religious communities kept the flame of knowledge alight while the rest of Europe was plunged into the Dark Ages. We'll see the remnants of some of these communities as we tour the Ring of Kerry and the Dingle Peninsula.

This year, leave the nacho-making to others, and join BCS Director Sandi Tinyk, and all the Super Bowl Escapees who have come to look forward to this annual trip, on our 11th annual escape, at a time when we need it most.



The cost of this program, double occupancy is \$1890 per person (single supplement \$280). This includes the following:

- i) Roundtrip airfare on Aer Lingus from Boston to Shannon
- ii) 4 nights' accommodation in a first-class hotel, all rooms with private facilties.
- iii) 4 full Irish breakfasts, and 2 dinners.
- iv) Hosted by Discover Europe's David Phillips and BCS Director Sandi Tinyk.
- v) All ground transportation by private motorcoach as detailed in the itinerary.
- vi) Entrance fees to all sites featured in the itinerary.
- vii) Porterage of one suitcase per person.
- viii) All customs fees, airport & hotel taxes & service charges.
- ix) Round trip transfers Barrington-Logan airport.



## Tuesday, January 27th

Overnight: Plane

Afternoon departure from Barrington to Boston's Logan Airport, where we'll board Aer Lingus' direct overnight service to Shannon.

### Wednesday, January 28th

**Overnight: Killarney** 

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Morning arrival at Shannon airport where we will be met by our tour escort and touring coach. A pleasant drive through the beautiful scenery of southwest Ireland brings us to our hotel in Killarney. There will be time to unpack, rest, relax and have a leisurely lunch before an afternoon visit to nearby Muckross House, an imposing Victorian mansion with elegant rooms full of period furnishings including a museum of Kerry Life. The setting is spectacular, on the edge of the largest of the Killarney Lakes and nestling in the shadows of the Macgillycuddy's Reeks – the wonderfullynamed local mountain range. A dinner party at the hotel this evening, welcomes us to the Emerald Isle. (**B**, **D**)

#### Thursday, January 29th

Today, a panorama of some of Ireland's most famous scenery as we tour the Ring of Kerry. We'll meander leisurely around the Ring – 112 miles of the most beautiful coastal scenery in the world - stopping for photographs and chances to stretch our legs and admire the views. The rest of the afternoon and evening are free in Killarney. (B)

#### Friday, January 30th

A full day excursion today around the scenic Dingle Peninsula that will blend magnificent views of coastal scenery with fascinating antiquities ranging from Iron Age stone forts to inscribed stones, early Christian oratories and beehive huts. We'll head straight out to Slea Head for the breathtaking views over to the Blaskets and continue around, to visit the Oratory of Gallarus. We'll stop



Muckross House

for lunch in the town of Dingle. Just outside Dingle we stop in Ballintaggart to view a collection of nine Ogham Stones in a circular burial ground and then cross over to the north coast of the peninsula. The evening is free in Killarney. (B)

**Overnight: Killarney** 

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The Oratory of Gallarus

entertainment at a nearby pub. (B, D)

#### Saturday, January 31st

We head east today to the second city of Cork. Just outside Cork is Blarney Castle, where you can climb the ruined tower and kiss the Blarney Stone. We'll stop for lunch and a chance to shop at the Blarney Woollen Mills before continuing to Cobh to visit the museum dedicated to the memory of the hundreds of thousands of emigrants who embarked here to escape the

famine. We'll return to Killarney in time to rest up and relax before dinner at the hotel. After dinner perhaps you'd like to sample some local



Putting on the Green - even in January

#### Sunday, February 1st

**Overnight: Home** Morning transport back to Shannon Airport for the returning Aer Lingus flight to Boston. Our private coach will greet our arrival to take us back to Barrington. (B)

Key to included meals:  $\mathbf{B} = \text{Breakfast}$ ,  $\mathbf{L} = \text{Lunch}$ ,  $\mathbf{D} = \text{Dinner}$ 

