Travel with Carleton Alumni, Family, and Friends

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Ireland:

Landscapes, Histories & Stories



Carleton College Faculty Leader



Susan Jaret McKinstry, Helen F. Lewis Professor of English, has taught literature, narrative theory, visual studies, and creative writing at Carleton since 1982. She loves combining research and travel: she directed

Carleton's off-campus studies programs in London and in Ireland as well as the ACM program in London and Florence, taught Visual Studies as a Fulbright Scholar in Moscow, and participated in a poetry retreat in Galway, Ireland. She happily led three Carleton Alumni Adventures trips to Ireland, the UK, and Norway. Susan's research examines 19th-century British artists who use writing and art for social change. Her own poetry highlights the intersection of place, narrative, and identity. Guests on this tour will experience Ireland's spectacular landscapes, history, and geology and create their own stories and images about what we see and what lies beneath it.





Co-leading this adventure is **Dr. Stephen Mandal**, an Ireland native and an expert on the Irish landscape, its archaeology, history, and geology. He is intimately familiar with the sites on this custom-designed itinerary, and is a director of the Discovery Program (the national center for archaeology and innovation in Ireland). Steve has undertaken research at many sites around Ireland; has co-authored two books, most recently *Carrick, County Wexford: Ireland's First Anglo-Norman Stronghold* (2019); and has contributed to a dozen more. He has a wealth of experience in leading tours, including a 2018 Carleton Ireland tour with Susan Jaret McKinstry for which he received excellent reviews; and in communicating geology, archaeology, and history at all levels. On this program he will assist you in viewing the Irish landscape from the perspective of the people who lived there in the past.





Limerick Castle



Marina on the Southern Peninsula, Dingle



Ruins on the Great Blasket Island



Travelers and Dr. Mag Fhlionn at the Reask Monastic site

"Traveling with Carls makes all travel more enjoyable." - David, California

Dear Carleton College Alumni and Friends,

Explore Ireland's landscapes, histories, and stories in the company of Carleton Professor of English Susan Jaret McKinstry and our local Irish co-leader, a geoarchaeologist who will teach you to read the rugged, beautiful landscape for evidence of the people who lived there in the past.

Traveling round-trip from Shannon, this journey takes us through the history and landscapes of Ireland's "Wild Atlantic Way," from south to north along the western coast of Ireland. Explore the breathtaking Dingle Peninsula, County Kerry, visiting numerous off-the-beaten-track monuments from all periods of Irish history. Heading northwards into the incredible karst limestone region of the Burren, County Clare, we will enjoy stunning cliff-top views out to the Atlantic and visit intriguing sites set in a unique geological and ecological landscape. From here we head to County Sligo and Yeats' country, where we will explore the lives and monuments of the first farmers in Ireland and walk in the footsteps of ancient pilgrims, who in turn respected the traditions of even more ancient peoples. You will rest your pleasantly weary traveler's head at comfortable, well-located hotels and appreciate a thorough, well-paced program.

Experience Ireland through the lenses of literature, history, geology, and nature, delving into the diverse, ancient landscapes of the Emerald Isle with an eye (and ear) toward its long roster of literary greats who lived and wrote there. Prof. Jaret McKinstry will share the words of William Butler Yeats, Seamus Heaney, Mary O'Malley, Eavan Boland, and others who were inspired by the land, and some writing and photography will be incorporated along the way so you can create your own story: come with pen and paper, camera (or phone camera), and a sense of adventure.

This Carleton-exclusive tour is limited to 15 guests, so I encourage you to reserve your space soon.

Sincerely,

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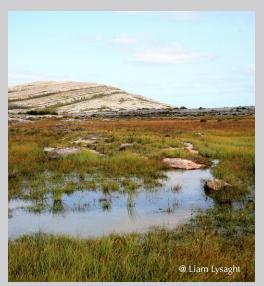
President, Carleton Alumni Council



Cliffs of Moher

@ Tuoerman

Dún Aonghasa



The Burren

ITINERARY

(B)= Breakfast, (L)= Lunch, (R)=Reception, (D)= Dinner

Thursday, June 3, 2021: Depart home

Friday, June 4: Arrive Shannon, County Clare, Ireland | Transfer to Limerick | Welcome lunch | Limerick Castle

Less than 1 mile and little ascent – urban sidewalks

Arrive in Ireland at Shannon Airport (SNN) this morning, where there will be two group transfers (times TBD) to our hotel in the charming Georgian quarter of Limerick, about a half hour away.

Our tour begins in earnest with a welcome lunch, and in the early afternoon we take a walk to Limerick Castle. One of the best-preserved Norman castles in Europe, it was built on the orders of King John at the start of the 13th-century, although the site dates back to A.D. 922 when the Vikings lived on the island. Returning to our hotel, there will be time to settle in and relax before gathering for an evening reception and an overview orientation of the tour, followed by an early supper. Overnight at the 4-star *No.1 Pery Square Hotel*. (L,R,D)

Saturday, June 5: Lough Gur | Dingle Peninsula, County Kerry

1.5 miles and little ascent – some short steep rough pathways (optional)

After breakfast, we drive the short distance to Lough Gur, a lake that has seen over 6,000 years of human activity and habitation, from the Stone Age through to the post-medieval period. Highlights of our gentle walk here include the Early Christian 'crannog' (a man-made island that served as a defended dwelling); ringforts; an early prehistoric wedge tomb; and the Great Grange Stone Circle, Ireland's largest stone circle, comprising 113 standing stones. This area is steeped in Irish mythology and is a beautiful location to explore the juxtaposition between Irish folklore, mythology, landscape, archaeology, and history. After lunch in the quaint heritage town of Adare, we will continue our drive to Dingle, in the heart of the Dingle Peninsula. Dingle town is a thriving fishing town with plentiful pubs, narrow streets, and a busy harbor. In the evening we will enjoy a talk and traditional music workshop with Dr. Billy Mag Fhlionn, folklorist, archaeologist, and musician. *Overnight at the 4-star Dingle Skellig Hotel for three nights.* (B,L,D)

Sunday, June 6: Ferry to/from the Blasket Islands | Dingle

2 miles and ascent of about 200 feet – rough pathways and grass trackways (optional) This morning we take the short drive to Dunquin Harbor to board a small ferry for the Blasket Islands (subject to weather conditions). On this magical, relaxing trip to the most westerly parish in Ireland (next stop: USA), we are likely to see dolphins, porpoises, minke wales, and a host of seabirds. We will spend about six hours on the island, enjoying a guided tour of the relict village, giving powerful insight into pre-famine life in Ireland and the literature that arose from it. After a picnic lunch, you can relax in the village or take a walk around the island to experience its spectacular and remote landscapes. Afterward we return to our hotel in Dingle and then gather for dinner this evening. (B,L,D)

Monday, June 7: The Dingle Peninsula: An Riasc, Gallarus

Several short walks of less than ½ mile – some grass trackways

This morning we tour the breathtaking Dingle Peninsula along the iconic Slea Head Drive. Visits will include the enigmatic Reask Monastic site (An Riasc), the ruins of an early Christian religious community, where we enjoy a picnic lunch



(weather permitting). The afternoon will be spent exploring the most hidden of archaeological sites, as well as the iconic Early Christian church of Gallarus. This evening, back at our Dingle hotel, we will enjoy a quiet dinner and cozy chat. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, June 8: Bunratty Folk Park | Coole Park | Kinvara | Ballyvaughan, The Burren, County Clare

A number of short walks, each less than ½ mile – pathways, some grass trackways, bare rock Today we leave Dingle and head northwards into the Burren landscape. Along the way, we will stop at Bunratty for lunch and some free time in Bunratty Folk Park. Set on 26 acres, the impressive park features more than 30 buildings in a 'living' village and rural setting. Rural traditional Irish farmhouses, village shops, and streets are recreated and furnished as they would have been according to their social standing, from the poorest, one-roomed dwelling to Bunratty House, a fine example of a Georgian residence built in 1804.

After an independent lunch we will visit Coole Park, a nature reserve of approximately 1,000 acres. Coole is synonymous with Lady Gregory (through marriage to Sir William Gregory), a writer, dramatist, and folklorist who was also a close friend of William Butler Yeats. They, with others, co-founded Dublin's Abbey Theatre in 1904, with the intention of writing, producing, and performing plays about Irish life for Irish people. This evening we enjoy a medieval banquet at Dunguire Castle, Kinvara, before retiring to our hotel in the charming fishing village of Ballyvaughan. *Overnight at the 3-star Hylands Burren Hotel for three nights.* (B,D)

Wednesday, June 9: Ferry to/from Inishmore, Aran Islands: Dún Aonghasa, island tour | Ballyvaughan

1 mile and ascent of about 100 feet – rough pathways, challenging bare rock in places at Dún Aonghasa (optional)

This morning we travel west to the fishing port of Doolin where (weather-permitting) we will catch a 1.25-hour ferry to Inishmore, the largest of the Aran Islands. With a population of about 800, the island is famous for its strong Irish culture, loyalty to the Irish language, and a wealth of Iron Age and Christian ancient sites. Perhaps its most notable monument is Dún Aonghasa (Dún Aengus), a semi-circular stone fort built ca. 1100 B.C. at the edge of a 300-foot-high cliff, offering spectacular views out over the Atlantic. The route to the fort is a partly steep, uneven, rough limestone pathway. Ankle support boots are advised, and this walk is unsuitable for those with less-than-optimal stability. A good level of fitness is required too. Our island taxi then takes us on a tour of the island, and we spend some time in Kilronan village before returning by ferry to Doolin and onward to our hotel, where we gather this evening for dinner. (B,L,D)

WHAT TO EXPECT

This tour has been tailor-made to combine active walking and observation with expert-led visits to cultural and natural sites. The average daily walking distance is less than two miles (plus some optional walks, for those who are interested), with varying amounts of ascent (generally under 200 feet). Although we will mostly walk on rough/grassy pathways and quiet roads, there will be uneven terrain and some steps and/or steep rocky ascents along the way and surfaces may be wet. While we will do our best to facilitate all guests seeing all sites, please bear in mind that some sites (for example, Dún Aonghasa on Inishmore) can only be visited if you walk to them. Sturdy hiking shoes with good grip and ankle support are required. The visits (by ferry) to the Blasket Islands and Inishmore are weather-dependent and substitute activities will be arranged for those days if necessary. All accommodations are in three- and four-star hotels chosen for their charm and proximity to the sites we visit. A full Irish breakfast is included each morning. For the few lunches and dinners on your own, there are lunch facilities and/or fine restaurants conveniently located nearby, and our tour manager will be available to offer suggestions and assist with arrangements. All participants are expected to be physically active and not be an impediment to others on excursions, to enjoy traveling as part of a group, and to be ready to experience cultural differences. If the tour manager decides that a participant cannot visit a site safely or in a timely manner, their judgment will be final. Where possible, an alternate activity may be suggested; additional costs may apply. If you have any questions about your ability to participate, we suggest that you visit your personal physician with this brochure in hand and discuss whether or not this program is appropriate for you. June weather conditions vary from cool to warm and back again within a weekor even within a day. While we can hope for a maximum daytime temperature of 65-80°F, it is important to be prepared for cooler temperatures. Average temperatures at night will usually drop to around 55°F. You need to be prepared with clothing to cope with rain, which could be blustery and heavy, and with anything from cool, windy weather to warmth. Coastal walks, in particular, are likely to be breezy and on the hills it can turn cold quickly. Our office will provide you with comprehensive predeparture information, including packing suggestions.

Thursday, June 10: The Cliffs of Moher | The Flaggy Shore | Ballyvaughan

Short walks of up to 1 mile – some grass trackways and some uneven ground (optional)

Today we continue our exploration of the Burren, a National Park with a dramatic landscape renowned for its unusual geology and unique mixture of Arctic and Mediterranean flora. This limestone wonderland boasts archaeology from the Neolithic, early Christian, and early medieval periods. We visit the iconic Cliffs of Moher, one of Ireland's most spectacular sights. Five miles long and 750 feet at their highest point, the Cliffs offer one of the most amazing views in Ireland. On a clear day, the Aran Islands are visible in Galway Bay, as are the valleys and hills of Connemara. After lunch we visit the Flaggy Shore, a truly beautiful

coastal lake setting made famous by Nobel Laureate Seamus Heaney's poem of the same name. In late afternoon we return to our hotel in Ballyvaughan, where dinner and the evening are at leisure. (B,L)



Short walks of up to ½ mile – some grass trackways

This morning we leave the Burren and set out for Sligo, Yeats' Country. Along the way we visit Clonmacnoise, an ancient Irish monastery situated on the busiest medieval routeway in Ireland. This monastic settlement was the inspiration for Seamus Heaney's poem "Lightnings" and, as we walk among the ruins of some 17 churches, finely carved stone High Crosses, and Round towers, we learn about the history of this "lost city" of Clonmacnoise. After a picnic lunch (weather permitting), we continue our drive to Sligo, where we check-in to our hotel and gather this evening for dinner. *Overnight at the 4-star Clayton Hotel Sligo for two nights.* (B,L,D)

Saturday, June 12: Sligo, Yeats' Country: Lissadell House and Gardens, Lough Gill, Glencar Waterfall, Sligo

Short walks of up to 1 mile – some grass trackways and wooden steps at Glencar Waterfall loop walk

This morning we drive into the Sligo landscape that Yeats loved so well. We visit the little churchyard where Yeats' grandfather served as a rector, and where W.B. Yeats himself is laid to rest, beneath the mountain he loved, Ben Bulben. Visit Lissadell House and Gardens, once home to Countess Markievicz, Yeats' great friend, the first female member of the British Parliament and, later, under the Irish Free State, the first female government minister in Europe. Our visit to Sligo includes lunch, a scenic drive around Lough Gill to catch a glimpse of Yeats' remote "Lake Isle of Innisfree," and a walk to Glencar Waterfall, which was the setting for Yeats' haunting poem "The Stolen Child." We return to our hotel in Sligo, where there are ample restaurants and a vibrant traditional Irish music scene. Dinner and the evening are at leisure. (B,L)

Sunday, June 13: Galway | Ennis, County Clare | Farewell dinner

Short, independent walks – on pathways

Today we leave Sligo and drive south to Galway City, a beautiful heritage town bustling with life. Enjoy the late morning and early afternoon exploring the core of the city before we drive onward to the town of Ennis and checkin to our hotel. This evening we gather for a farewell reception and dinner. *Overnight at the 4-star Temple Gate Hotel.* (B,R,D)

Monday, June 14: Transfer to Shannon Airport | Fly home

There will be two group transfers (times TBD) to Shannon Airport (SNN) for your homeward flights. (B)



Lissadell House and Gardens

Air Arrangements & Transfers

Airfare to/from Shannon Airport (SNN), is not included in the tour cost. Group transfers (times TBD) are provided upon arrival on June 4th and departure on June 14th. Once you have received your final payment invoice, you should book your flights. If you are considering booking your flights before this time, please contact our office first. We do not accept liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets.



Sligo



Lough Gur

Tour Prices Per Person (10 nights)

Double Occupancy (14-15 participants)	\$6,995
Double Occupancy (12-13 participants)	\$7,695
Double Occupancy (10-11 participants)	\$7,895
Single Supplement	\$745

Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required (limited availability). With fewer than 10 participants, a small group surcharge may be added.

PRICES INCLUDE:

- Carleton faculty leader Susan Jaret McKinstry and co-leader/ geoarchaeologist Stephen Mandal
- Accommodations in four-star hotels, and one ideally located three-star hotel, as indicated in the itinerary
- **Most meals included**: ten breakfasts; eight lunches; and eight dinners, including welcome and farewell receptions and dinners with beer/wine
- Services of a **professional**, **local guide/tour manager** throughout **plus guest speakers**
- **All sightseeing and excursions** as indicated in the itinerary, weather permitting
- All entrance fees to sites included in the itinerary
- Surface transportation by spacious air-conditioned motorcoach, including bottled water, hand sanitizer, parking fees, highway tolls, and local taxes
- **Baggage handling** (one bag per person)
- **Gratuities** to hotel staff, restaurant staff for included meals, porters, tour manager/guide, and drivers
- **Group airport transfers** (times TBD) upon arrival on June 4th and for departure on June 14th
- Complete pre-departure information, including a suggested reading guide and packing suggestions

Prices Do Not Include: Airfare from/to home; passport and visa fees; inoculation fees; all airport fees and departure taxes; cost of personal, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; transportation of excess baggage; items of a personal nature, such as laundry; meals and beverages except as noted; taxi, telephone, and fax charges; optional excursions or deviations from scheduled tour.

Payments: A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or check made payable to "EOS-Passenger Account-CAA Ireland6/21." Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure and must be by check only; credit cards are not accepted for final payment. By submitting your deposit, you are bound by the terms and conditions delineated throughout this brochure or elsewhere published.

Participant Cancellation Fee: All requests by participants for cancellations must be received in writing by Alumni Adventures. Cancellations received at least 90 days prior to departure are refunded less a cancellation fee of \$250 per person. Cancellations received between 89 and 61 days prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee equal to 50% of the tour cost. Cancellations received 60 days or less prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost. For this and other reasons, participants are strongly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance. Information will be provided with confirmation of receipt of your deposit.

Note: Rates are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change prior to departure. Substantial changes in tariffs, exchange rates, the price of fuel, services, and labor may increase the cost of arrangements significantly, and we reserve the right to alter our prices.

Prices, itinerary, accommodations, and leaders are subject to change. Prices quoted are based on group participation and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which you choose not to participate. It is understood that refunds cannot be made to passengers who do not complete the tour for whatever reason.

Due to space limitations, this is abbreviated information. Complete terms and conditions will be sent upon confirmation or upon request, and can be viewed online at go.carleton.edu/adventures.

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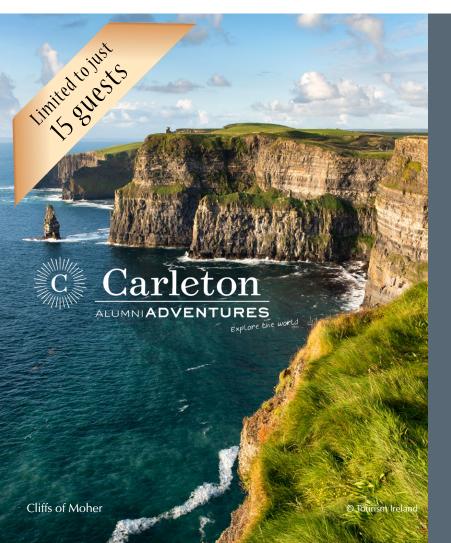
PO Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608

Ireland:

Landscapes, Histories & Stories

June 3 - 14, 2021 (12 days | 15 guests) with Carleton Professor Susan Jaret McKinstry





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Ireland: Landscapes, Histories & Stories June 3 - 14, 2021 (12 days | 15 guests)

with Carleton Professor Susan Jaret McKinstry

To hold your reservation for seven days whi	le this form and your deposit are	in the mail, please o	contact us at 800-811-7244 or carleton@studytours.or	
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Signature (participant #2)			Time and Date	

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In any such arbitration, the arbitrator, and not any federal, state, or local court or agency, shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT & CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL: Both the Centers for Disease Control and U.S. State Department publish and update important country-specific information for travelers. We strongly recommend that you review them. They can presently be found at: https://wwwnc. cdc.gov/travel/notices and https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html. MISCELLANEOUS: Participants should not purchase airline tickets prior to receiving their final payment invoice so as to avoid airline cancellation penalties if a tour is canceled or otherwise modified subsequent to the participant's purchase of those tickets. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant. If, due to weather, flight schedules, or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend (an) additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers, and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner's risk. Sponsors/ Operator reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any participant at any time. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a participant, or remove from a trip, without refund, any person it judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other trip participants, leaders, or third parties, or who is determined to detract from the enjoyment of the trip by others. Specific room assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel. APPEARING IN PHOTOS: Photos from Alumni Adventures' trips may be posted on photo-sharing web sites or on social networking sites. Your likeness may appear in some photos or videos, posted either by other travelers or tour lecturers/guides, and the circulation of the materials could be worldwide. Trip photos may also be selected to appear in future Alumni Adventures promotions; no compensation is available for appearing in a trip photo used for promotional purposes.

<u>ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT</u>: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she agrees with these terms and conditions, and accepts the terms contained in these Terms and Conditions, Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.