



Carleton
ALUMNI ADVENTURES

Explore the world

Maximum
of 22
participants

Ireland: Landscapes & Literature

July 31 - August 11, 2018 (12 Days) with Carleton Professors
Susan Jaret McKinstry and Linda Rossi

"The sites and guides were enthusiastic and very knowledgeable. Each county full of history and lovely landscapes. A perfect combination." – Ruth, Ontario, Canada



Kylemore Abbey

© Lisa Harbin CC BY-SA 2.0



Dear Carleton College Alumni and Friends,

Explore Irish landscapes in word and image in the company of Carleton professors Susan Jaret McKinstry (English) and Linda Rossi (Studio Art). Traveling round-trip, and counter-clockwise, from Dublin, you will see Ireland through the lenses of both literature and photography, delving into the history and diverse landscapes of the Emerald Isle with an eye (and ear) toward its long roster of literary greats, and another eye toward the camera lens to capture some of the stunning beauty you encounter along the way.

Prof. Jaret McKinstry will share the words of poets and novelists, while Prof. Rossi will share her perspectives on how an artist looks at, sees, and interprets the natural and cultural worlds. Some writing and photography workshops will be incorporated along the way, so those who are interested should come prepared with pen and paper, camera equipment, and a sense of adventure. On tour you will also be accompanied by two expert local guides, one who happens to be an enthusiastic storyteller of Ireland's myths and legends, and the other a geo-archaeologist who will assist you in viewing the Irish landscape from the perspective of the people who lived there in the past. You will rest your weary traveler's head at comfortable, well-located hotels for at least two nights apiece, allowing for a thorough, well-paced program. Details of our planned day-to-day explorations follow, in the "Itinerary" section.

This exclusive Carleton tour is limited to 22 participants, so I encourage you to reserve your space soon.

Sincerely,

Sarah Ladner Maris '85

Sarah Ladner Maris '85
President, Carleton College Alumni Association



CARLETON COLLEGE FACULTY LEADERS



Susan Jaret McKinstry, Helen F. Lewis Professor of English, has directed Carleton's off-campus programs to study literature in/ of place: Literature and Theater in London in 1998, 2005, and 2015, and Irish Studies in Ireland in 2009. She will lead the ACM London-Florence program in winter 2018, taught as a Fulbright Scholar in Moscow in 2014, and participated in a poetry retreat in Galway, Ireland, in 2016. Susan's research on words and images by the 19th-century British artists, the Pre-Raphaelites, examines historic materials and contemporary digital resources to link what we see to how we understand, interpret, and represent it. Her own work – both scholarly and poetic – emphasizes that intersection between experience and representation, life and art. This interdisciplinary alumni tour is designed to celebrate that sense of place and presentation through words and images in Ireland. At Carleton, Susan teaches courses on Victorian novels and poetry, Pre-Raphaelite arts, narrative theory, and creative writing (prose, poetry, and memoir).



Linda Rossi, Professor of Art, teaches analog and digital photography courses at Carleton College. She has received numerous Jerome, McKnight, and Minnesota State Arts grants. Linda's work has been exhibited nationally and internationally, including the Russian Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia, and the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art in Iran. Her work can be viewed in the permanent collection of the Minneapolis Institute of Art. Primarily working in large-scale photo installations, Linda includes both video and sculpture to illuminate historical and current issues pertaining to the natural environment. She looks forward to exploring the Irish landscape with each of you. Through demonstrations and discussions, she will help you create a "photographic travelogue" of this provocative journey. Travelers who wish to participate can do so with any camera, whether an iPhone, a compact "point-and-shoot," or a DSLR; however you should be already familiar with the camera, and how to use it, before the start of the tour, as we will be concentrating our relatively limited time on composition and framing.

ITINERARY

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

Tuesday, July 31, 2018: Depart Home

Depart the U.S. on independent flights to Dublin.

Wednesday, August 1: Arrive Dublin, Ireland

Arriving at Dublin airport this morning, join one of two group transfers (times TBA) to our hotel in the charming village of **Dun Laoghaire**, a seaside suburb of Dublin. Our tour begins with a **welcome lunch**, after which we will take a walk along the promenade to the **James Joyce Tower and Museum** in Sandycove. This military tower, built in 1804, is the setting for the first chapter of Joyce's masterpiece, *Ulysses*, and houses a collection of Joycean artifacts. Returning to the hotel, there will be time to settle in and relax before we gather for an **evening reception** with an **overview orientation** of the tour, followed by an early supper. *Overnight at the Royal Marine Hotel for two nights.* (L,D)

"Susan Jaret McKinstry was an asset!"

– Beverly, Maryland

Thursday, August 2: Dublin

This morning is dedicated to Dublin's literary collections, beginning with a visit to the **Garden of Remembrance** for an overview of Irish history and the social and political context of Ireland's struggle for independence over many rebellions. Also located here is the sculpture of "the Children of Lir," an evocative story from Irish mythology. Explore the **Dublin Writers Museum**, housed in a fine, 18th-century Georgian period townhouse, where the lives of Dublin's most celebrated writers from the last 300 years are celebrated through its fine collection of their books, portraits, and personal items. After lunch we visit the famine ship, **the Jeanne Johnston**, to learn about the mass emigration from Ireland to the USA in the 1840s, which has been the subject of much Irish music, art, and poetry. Continue our exploration of Dublin's writers on foot, moving between charming, old-world pubs, while being entertained by Irish actors performing some of the works of Joyce, Beckett, Behan, and Wilde. Dinner is on your own this evening, for the opportunity to try one of Dublin's many restaurants or perhaps revisit one of the pubs we toured this afternoon. There is good public transportation (taxi, rail, or bus) from Dublin city center to our hotel. Or, if you prefer to return directly to our hotel after the **literary pub crawl**, our motorcoach will take you there. (B,L)

Friday, August 3: Dublin | Hill of Tara | Belfast, Northern Ireland

Check out of our hotel and travel to the **Hill of Tara**, where many of the legends of Irish Celtic Mythology have a foothold on this, the seat of the ancient Irish High Kings. Listen to the stories of how this hilltop was the center of Irish power for thousands of years, and visit the inaugural stone of destiny and archaeological monuments. After lunch, continue our journey north to **Belfast**; along the way, enjoy Irish music and mythology story-telling. Our visit to Belfast begins with an amble through the beautiful **Botanic Gardens**. Dinner is on your own this evening. *Overnight at the Park Inn by Radisson Belfast for two nights.* (B,L)

Saturday, August 4: Belfast | Giant's Causeway | Belfast

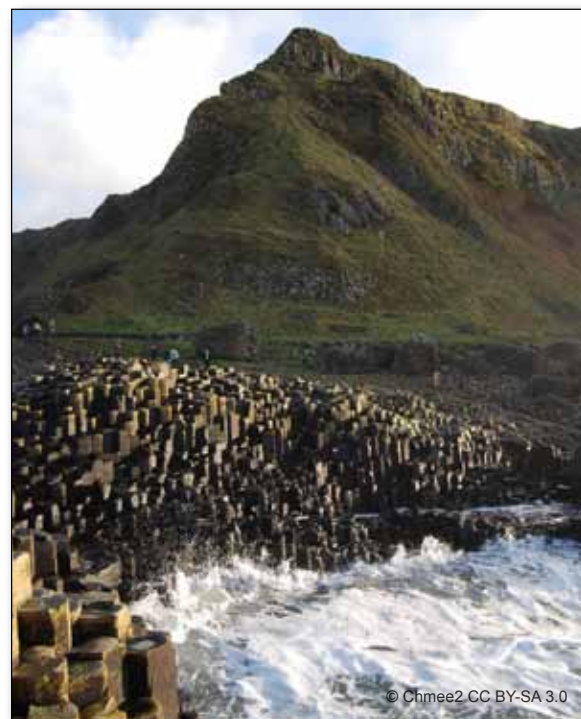
Today's visit to the **Giant's Causeway**, a UNESCO World Heritage site of outstanding natural beauty, is an explorer's delight. We will walk through the distinctive, hexagonal, basalt rock columns while learning about the opening up of the Atlantic Ocean 65 million years ago, and enjoy an independent lunch. A fun part of today's visit is to search for the characters, formed in volcanic rock, of the myth of Finn MacCool, the legendary giant who built the Causeway. Return to our Belfast hotel, and gather for dinner this evening. (B,D)

Sunday, August 5: Belfast | Bellaghy | Sligo, Ireland

Departing Belfast, we drive west towards County Sligo, known as **Yeats' Country**. On the way, stop in Bellaghy to visit the **Seamus Heaney HomePlace**, an arts and literary center that celebrates the late Poet and Nobel Laureate Seamus Heaney with an interactive exhibition of artifacts, photos, videos, and more. After lunch, we continue on to the west coast of Ireland, where we check-in to our hotel in the heart of Sligo town. The evening is at leisure. *Overnight at the Clayton Hotel Sligo for two nights.* (B,L)



Above, the Dublin Writers Museum. Below, the Giant's Causeway, a UNESCO World Heritage site, Northern Ireland. Bottom, the grounds of Kylemore Abbey. Opposite, the Connemara region.



Monday, August 6: Sligo and environs

This morning we head 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 Ben Bulbin, the mountain he loved. Visit **Lissadell House and Gardens**, once home to Countess Markievicz, Yeats' great friend and the first female member of the British Parliament. After lunch and a scenic drive around **Lough Gill**, to catch a glimpse of Yeats' remote "Lake Isle of Innisfree," we have some free time to spend in Sligo's **Abbey Quarter**. Gather for dinner this evening. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, August 7: Sligo | Connemara | Galway

Today we drive southwest, into the beautiful countryside of **Connemara**, revealing some of Ireland's most dramatic landscapes. Take a picturesque morning walk on the grounds of **Kylemore Abbey & Victorian Walled Garden**, including a view of the lake and the castellated Abbey, enjoying the peace and beauty of the six-acre walled garden, with the longest double herbaceous borders in the country. After lunch under your own arrangements at the Abbey's large café, we continue driving through the Connemara landscapes to see the Twelve Bens Mountains and Lough Corrib en route to **Galway**, a small city, where we check-in to our hotel and have the evening at leisure. The historic pedestrian street, Shop Street, is filled with wonderful open pubs and live music. *Overnight at Jurys Inn Galway for three nights.* (B)

Wednesday, August 8: Galway | Inishmore | Galway

This morning we drive west, through the Gaeltacht (Irish-speaking area) via the coastal town of Rossaveal. Weather-permitting, embark the ferry for a 40-minute ride to **Inishmore**, the largest of the Aran Islands, in Galway Bay. The landscape is an extension of the rocky Burren limestone outcrop, and the Islanders are a hardy bunch, maintaining old Irish traditions in their clothing (knitwear), farming, fishing, and speaking the Irish language. We explore the impressive prehistoric monuments on the island and have a picnic lunch along the way. Return by ferry to Rossaveal, where we meet our coach, and return to Galway for an evening at leisure. (B,L)

"The small group added so much to the experience. Our tour leaders were excellent in personality and knowledge and helped us understand the history of Ireland." – Jim, Florida

Thursday, August 9: Galway | Burren National Park | Cliffs of Moher | Kinvarra | Galway

Drive south to the **Burren National Park**, a striking karst landscape abounding in unusual plants, caves, underground rivers, and disappearing lakes. Amidst this landscape we follow the literature of both Seamus Heaney and William Butler Yeats. Walk around **Lake Marie**, a 1.9-mile loop on the flaggy shore, and watch the swans who inspired Heaney's poem "Postscript." Return to our coach and travel along the Atlantic coastline to the spectacular **Cliffs of Moher**, for picture-perfect views on a fine day and a picnic lunch. Continue across the Burren landscape to Yeats' summer home, the 15th-century **Thoor Ballylee Castle**, also known as **Yeats' Tower**, which Yeats lovingly restored; it was his inspiration for his 1928 collection "The Tower." Climb Yeats' tower house's "winding stairs" to enjoy the fine views over river, woodlands, and farmland (and imagine living there with the Yeats family, including small children). Our knee-jiggling, after-dinner **music and dance show** will leave you with an appreciation of the Irish spirit. (B,L,D)

Friday, August 10: Galway | Clonmacnoise | Dublin

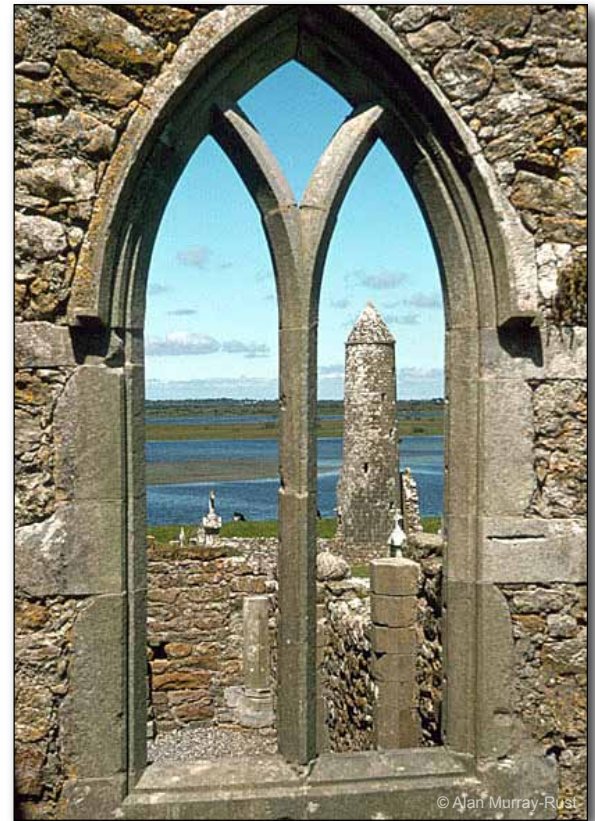
We return to Dublin today, crossing the mighty Shannon River, which was the busiest route in medieval Ireland. The ancient monastery of **Clonmacnoise** is situated on the River, and we will arrive at the Monastery much the same way as did raiding Vikings in the 9th century (in our case, via a **gentle, 90-minute cruise downriver** from Athlone). Clonmacnoise was the inspiration for Seamus Heaney's poem "Lightnings," which we will appreciate as we walk among the ruins of some 17 churches, finely carved stone High Crosses, and Round towers. After a picnic lunch, continue traveling east to our hotel in **Dun Laoghaire**, South Dublin, overlooking Dublin Bay. After some time to settle in, we gather for a **farewell dinner**. *Overnight at the Royal Marine Hotel.* (B,L,D)

Saturday, August 11: Dublin | Home

After breakfast, a group transfer takes us to Dublin airport for independent flights homeward. (B)



Above, Ben Bulbin, in County Sligo. Below, the ancient monastery of Clonmacnoise, with the river Shannon in the distance. Bottom, Thoor Ballylee Castle, also known as Yeats' Tower.





What to Expect

This exclusive 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 ranges from one to four miles per day, mostly on paved paths, but also on some grass, rough terrain, and/or rocky steps. Surfaces may be wet, so sturdy hiking shoes are required. The visit (by ferry) to Inishmore on August 8th is weather-dependent and a substitute activity will be arranged for that day 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. Participants who are not able to walk unassisted for extended periods are kindly advised not to join this tour unless accompanied by a companion who will be available to assist you at all times. 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 the program is appropriate for you. Early August conditions vary from cool to warm and back again within a week—or even within a day. While we can hope for a maximum daytime temperature of 60–70°F, it is important to be prepared for cooler temperatures. Average temperatures at night will usually drop to around 50°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. Our office will provide you with comprehensive pre-departure information, including packing suggestions.

Air Arrangements

Airfare to/from Dublin, Ireland, is not included in the tour cost. Group transfers (times TBD) are provided upon arrival on August 1st and departure on August 11th. 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.

For questions and reservations, please contact us:



800-811-7244

Fax: 603-756-2922 Toll: 603-756-4844

Email: carleton@studytours.org

Website: go.carleton.edu/adventures

P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608

© 2017 Eos. All rights reserved. Photos copyright Operator, commons.wikimedia.org.

10-Night Tour Prices (Per Person)

Double Occupancy (18-22 participants).....\$6,995

Double Occupancy (14-17 participants).....\$7,595

Single Supplement\$1,345

Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required (limited availability). With fewer than 14 participants, a small group surcharge may be added.

PRICES INCLUDE:

- Carleton Professors Susan Jaret McKinstry and Linda Rossi
- Accommodations in three- and four-star hotels, as indicated in the itinerary
- Ten breakfasts, eight lunches, and five dinners as indicated in the itinerary
- Services of a professional, local tour manager/guide throughout
- All sightseeing and excursions as indicated in the itinerary, weather permitting
- All entrance fees to sites included in the itinerary
- Surface transportation by air-conditioned motorcoach, including bottled water, parking fees, highway tolls, and local taxes
- Baggage handling (one bag per person)
- Gratuities to hotel and restaurant staff and porters, tour manager/guide, and drivers
- Group airport transfer upon arrival on August 1st and for departure on August 11th (times TBD)
- 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; alcoholic and other beverages (except as noted above); taxi, telephone, and fax charges; optional excursions or deviations from scheduled tour.

PASSENGER CANCELLATION FEES: All requests by passengers for cancellations must be received in writing. Cancellations received at least one hundred (120) days prior to departure are fully refunded less an administrative fee of three hundred dollars (\$300) per person. Cancellations received between one hundred nineteen (119) and ninety (90) days prior to departure are fully refunded less an administrative fee of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per person. Cancellations received between eighty nine (89) and sixty (60) days prior to departure subject to a cancellation fee equal to 50% of the total tour cost per person. Cancellations received within fifty nine (59) days of departure are subject to a penalty of 100% of the tour cost. **Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. (An application will be sent with confirmation of receipt of your deposit.)**

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 Ireland8/18. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure and must be by personal 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.

Prices, itinerary, 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 <https://apps.carleton.edu/alumni/adventures>.