



Your Knitting Tours Rep in Ontario:

Cruisenet Tours & Travel inc

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Tour Dates:

26th June 2018

15th July 2018

9th October 2018

6 Night Southwest Ireland Luxury Knitting Retreat

Tour Overview

Begin in Dublin where after some time to explore the city, you will discover one of Dublin's famous knitting shops; the Constant Knitter. The next day we will head south to Kerry and check into the beautiful Parknasilla Resort Hotel. Here meet one of Ireland's top knitters, Carol Feller. You will spend four days with Carol, learning her seamless cables, short row and grafting techniques and relaxing in the surroundings of your retreat hotel. We will have some optional tours lined up so that you can get out and see the local countryside if you wish!

Included in This Tour

- Transfers on arrival and departure by private coach (for arrivals prior to 11am on tour start day)
- Sightseeing as per itinerary in a luxury coach with an experienced driver and accredited guide, entrance fees included if applicable.
- The company of your knitting host Carol Feller for 4 days.
- Knitting workshops as described in the itinerary including yarn and patterns
- Accommodation in rooms with private facilities for 6 nights
- Irish breakfast daily
- 4 hotel table d'hote dinners
- 1 Dinner followed by Traditional Music Show at the Parknasilla Resort Hotel
- 1 Farewell Dinner in Dublin City
- Irish Whiskey and Chocolate Tasting Event at Parknasilla
- Optional touring as described in the itinerary

Workshops/Knitting Activities Included in This Tour

- Knitting workshops as described in the itinerary including yarn and patterns
- Visit Constant Knitter & Hedgehog Fibres Yarn Stores
- Knitting on the Sheep's Head Peninsula
- Visit Zwartables Ireland Sheep Farm
- Visit Cushendale Woollen Mill

Overnights for this Tour

- The Gresham Hotel (or Similar), Dublin, 1 Night
- Parknasilla Resort Hotel, County Kerry, 4 Nights
- The Gresham Hotel (or Similar), Dublin, 1 Night

Itinerary

Important Note: *Attractions, Workshops and Demonstrations May Change According to Availability and Scheduling*

Day 1: Dublin Arrival, Dublin City Tour & Constant Knitter

Begin your knitting tour of Ireland with a transfer to your hotel (for arrivals prior to 11am). At 1pm enjoy an optional panoramic tour of the city including a visit to The Constant Knitter. This has been a favoured stop of many of our knitters through the years. Meet a local craftsperson for a demonstration and informal chat about their craft topic which will either be knitwear design or Irish Lace crochet depending on designer availability. Return to your hotel where you will have time to relax or take a walk around Dublin City before your evening welcome dinner at the hotel. Overnight in Dublin, Bed & Breakfast Included.

Day 2: Travel to Kerry via Cahir Castle & Hedgehog Fibres

Today your knitting retreat will take you to Kerry via the remarkable Cahir Castle and Hedgehog Yarns. One of Ireland's best preserved Castles, Cahir sits on a rocky island above the river Suir. Once the home of the powerful Butler family, the castle's keep, tower and defensive structures remain intact. Continue on your journey stopping next at Hedgehog Fibres; an Irish artisan fibre and yarn dyeing studio located in Cork. The studio was started by Beata Jezek after she saw a gap in the market for soft yarns in vibrant colours. Staff will be on hand to talk to you about the yarn and you may purchase some if you wish before we move on. After your visit continue to Parknasilla Resort Hotel and meet your host, one of Ireland's most famous knitters, Carol Feller. You will spend a lot more time with Carol over the few days spent in Kerry, so this evening is an informal get together and 'get to know each other' session with some informal knitting thrown in for good measure! Overnight at Parknasilla Resort Hotel, Dinner, Bed & Breakfast Included.

Day 3: Knitting, Whiskey, Chocolate and Trad!

Over the course of this knitting retreat you'll work on a very special cabled hat and cowl set with Carol which you will start today. Both of these patterns will provide a great learning experience as they are knit from side-to-side with some fantastic techniques! You'll learn how to do a provisional cast-on, cables without a cable needle, short rows in pattern and grafting in pattern. Carol will walk you through every step of the project over the following days. Learn how to tighten up loose cables and fix cable mistakes. Go on a virtual tour of the Irish Mills with Carol and even learn how to pick the right size garment to knit. This afternoon, enjoy a Whiskey and Chocolate Tasting Event where experienced whiskey and chocolate connoisseurs will take you through the history of Whiskey in Ireland and how to pair it with the perfect chocolate flavour. You can enjoy samples of both or either! This evening after dinner enjoy a Traditional Irish Music Show in the hotel's bar. Overnight at Parknasilla Resort Hotel, Dinner, Bed & Breakfast Included.

Day 4: Optional Tour: Ring of Kerry

Today if you prefer to stay at Parknasilla you can do that or join us for a tour of the Ring of Kerry. If you do decide to tour with us, bring your knitting as Carol will be touring with you and there will be plenty of opportunities to knit along the way! The Ring of Kerry is the road that winds between the Macgillycuddy's Reeks, Ireland's highest mountains, and the varied Atlantic coast. You will be amazed at the breath-taking views and you will stop for photos at the most dramatic scenes. Pass through the colourful village of Sneem and pause at Moll's Gap to view the Three Lakes of Killarney. Return to the hotel where there will be time to relax and work on your knitting projects. Overnight at Parknasilla Resort Hotel, Dinner, Bed & Breakfast Included.

Day 5: Optional Tour: Sheep's Head Peninsula with Workshop

Again, today if you prefer to stay at Parknasilla you can do that or join us for a tour of the Sheep's Head Peninsula in Cork. If you do decide to tour with us, bring your knitting as Carol will again be joining us. Today we travel to Cork across the magnificent Healy Pass. The Healy Pass is known for some of Ireland's best views. It was built in 1847 during famine times to connect Cork and Kerry and to provide relief work for the poor. There are a number of places to stop where you can get out and enjoy the view. After a short stop continue to Sheep's Head and meet Niamh and the other organisers of the annual Sheep's Head Yarn festival. Enjoy some knitting sessions with Niamh and the gang on the topic of travel sock knitting or textured stitches depending on your preference. After the workshop and some lunch we will explore the peninsula some more before returning to the hotel in time for dinner. Overnight at Parknasilla Resort Hotel, Dinner, Bed & Breakfast Included.

Day 6: Return to Dublin via Zwartables Farm & Cushendale Mill

Today the knitting retreat ends and we travel back to Dublin, making a few stops along the way. Firstly we stop at Crampton Farm to meet Suzanne and her family who breed and rear Zwartables Sheep. Tour the farm, meet the sheep and chat with the family who will tell you all about their unique yarn which you can buy direct from the farm if you wish. Nearby, we will also pay a quick visit to Nicholas Mosse Pottery where you can explore the shop at your leisure and enjoy lunch (included). After lunch, your final stop for today is Cushendale Mill where products made on site are crafted natural-fibre textiles made with mohair, Irish wool and merino lambswool. Enjoy a tour of the mill and see the spinning mule in action. You might even spot some of the wool from the sheep at Crampton farm! Continue to Dublin where after checking into your hotel there will be time for you to take a walk around the city or simply relax before dinner. This evening your final farewell dinner will be served at the hotel. Overnight in Dublin, Dinner, Bed & Breakfast Included.

Day 7: End of Tour

After your final Irish breakfast depart the hotel for Dublin airport arriving in time to complete check-in formalities and that last minute duty free shopping.

Prices

26th June 2018:

€2349 (\$3500 CAD) per person sharing/€539 (\$804 CAD) supplement if single room required

15th July 2018:

€2349 (\$3500 CAD) per person sharing/€539 (\$804 CAD) supplement if single room required

9th October 2018:

€2399 (\$3575 CAD) per person sharing/€539 (\$804 CAD.) supplement if single room required

Note: The CAD Dollar rate is an indication only and is based on the rate of exchange Euro 1.00 = CAD Dollar 1.49. All payments will be taken in Euro.

Booking Requirements & Cancellation Information

A deposit of 20% of the total tour price is required to hold your booking. The balance of the tour is due 60 days before arrival. Mastercard and Visa accepted with no additional charges.

Cancellation Policy:

- 29 days or longer deposit will be forfeit and non-refundable.
- 28 days to 15 days 50% is forfeit
- 14 days or less 100% of all money paid is forfeit.