

Hiking

# The Wicklow Way

Trip Grade: **Green 3**



# The Wicklow Way

Irish naturalist Robert L. Praeger noted, “You can set foot on the heather six miles from Dublin and not leave it until...30 miles to the south.” Inspired by this, local hillwalker, historian and folklorist JB Malone set out to explore the Wicklow Mountains - and thus, in 1966 the Wicklow Way was born.

A long distance route covering 132 km (83 miles), the Wicklow Way meanders through forests, glaciated valleys, over hills and peaks and across the famous heathery hills of Wicklow. It encompasses Irish historical sites like the monastery at Glendalough and Powerscourt Estate. Over the course of 7 days, you’ll hike some of the best portions of the Wicklow Way on this fully guided adventure. Stay in a lavish deluxe eco-lodge, cosy BnBs and a historical Dublin hotel. You’ll finish your trip in with a celebratory dinner in Dublin and historical walking tour of Ireland’s capital city.

## Highlights

- Hike the best of the famous Wicklow Way in Ireland’s Ancient East
- Discover the ancient monastic city of Glendalough & the beautiful Powerscourt Estate among National Geographic's Top 10 Gardens of the World
- Relax in upgraded deluxe eco-lodge & one night in a historical Dublin hotel

## Book With Confidence

- We guarantee this trip will run as soon as **2** people have booked
- Maximum of **8** places available per departure

**PLEASE NOTE** – The itinerary may be subject to change at the discretion of the Wilderness Ireland Guide with regard to weather conditions and other factors.



  
Wilderness Ireland

# Planned Itinerary

Day 1 | [Dublin to Powerscourt Estate](#)

Day 2 | [Powerscourt Waterfall to Lough Tay](#)

Day 3 | [Lough Tay to Glendalough](#)

Day 4 | [Glendalough Monastic Site to Glenmalure](#)

Day 5 | [Glenmalure to the Iron Bridge](#)

Day 6 | [The Great Sugarloaf Mountain](#)

Day 7 | [Dublin Walking Tour](#)

## Arrival Info

- Your Guide will meet you in Dublin Heuston Railway Station by the ticket machines
- **11.00am** on Day 1 of your trip

## Departure Info

- You will be returned to Dublin City centre by **12:00pm** noon on the final day of your trip

**PLEASE NOTE** – The itinerary may be subject to change at the discretion of the Wilderness Ireland Guide with regard to weather conditions and other factors.



## Day 1 | Dublin to Powerscourt Estate

Our adventure starts in multicultural Dublin. After a hearty lunch at Ireland's self-proclaimed highest pub, we set off on the Wicklow Way, weaving through lush woods home to raven, deer, red squirrels and more. Follow the shoulder of the royal hill Prince William's Seat before wandering hills blanketed with rich purple heather for which the Wicklow Way is famous. For a bit of indulgence, we'll stop at the beautiful Powerscourt Estate for tea. Originally a 13th century castle later lavishly embellished in the 1730s, we get a chance to wander the magnificent extensive gardens. **(L, D)**

**Hike details:** 6km/ 3.7 miles | approx. 3-4 hours

## Day 2 | Powerscourt Waterfall to Lough Tay

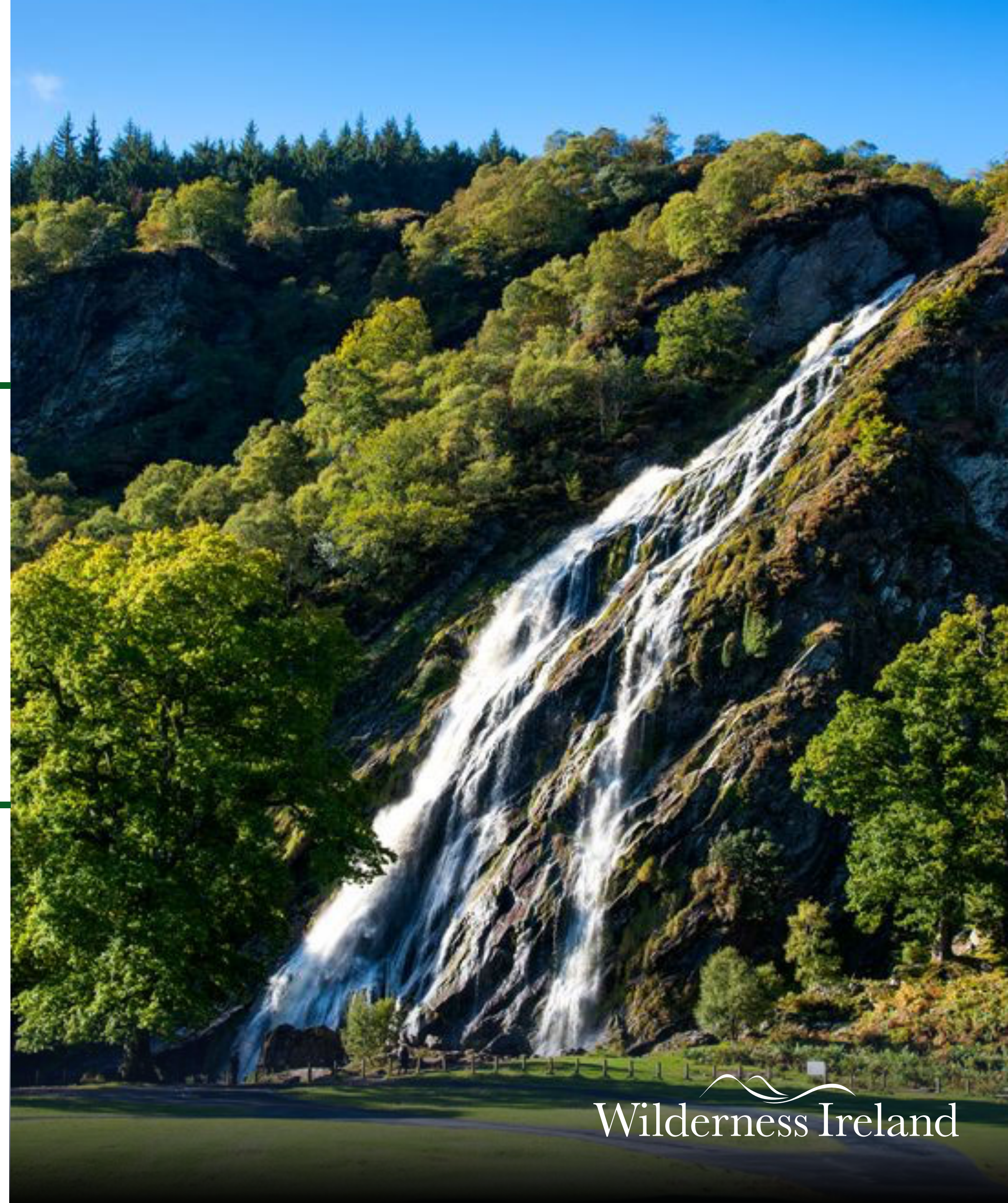
Set in beautiful, verdant surroundings, we'll start our day by admiring the breathtaking Powerscourt Waterfall, the tallest in Ireland. Rejoining the Wicklow Way, enjoy an open mountain trek across the emerald slopes of Djouce Hill, the site of a 70-year-old plane crash where occasional parts of the fuselage still turn up in the heather! If conditions permit, summit the hill to savour the rich panorama of Wicklow's peaks and lakes from its peak. Back on the Wicklow Way, enjoy expansive views of the heathery hills as we descend into the sweeping Luggala Valley and glittering Lough Tay. Inspiration to countless artists, writers and intelligentsia, drink in views of the enchanted valley once gifted as wedding present to a Guinness heiress. **(B,L)**

**Hike details:** 9.5km/ 6 miles | approx. 4-5 hours

## Day 3 | Lough Tay to Glendalough

Mt Luggala comes from the Gaelic meaning 'hollow of the hill' and it's a perfect example of a glaciated valley, dramatically carved out during an ice age some 10,000 years ago. Until the Irish famine of the 1840s, this area was heavily farmed and we will see the shadows of long-abandoned potato fields and the shells of tumbledown cottages. Our hike ambles past the picturesque Lough Dan before winding along an ancient mass path, once used by visitors to St Kevin's Church and the village of Laragh, near the monastic site of Glendalough and its idyllic lake-side setting. **(B,L)**

**Hike details:** 13km/ 8miles | approx. 5-6 hours



## Day 4 | Glendalough Monastic Site to Glenmalure

Now for the Wicklow Way's crown jewel: the ancient monastic site of Glendalough. As you explore the ruins of this peaceful place, your guide will recount the legends of Glendalough and St Kevin. Once a great centre of learning, the monastic city has been a pilgrimage site for over a 1,000 years. Rejoining the Wicklow Way, we'll feast our senses on a beautiful hike through the wooded monastic grounds that passes between Glendalough's upper and lower lakes. Marvel at the quiet panoramas missed by Dublin day trippers before our gentle descent into the next enchanting valley. **(B,L)**

**Hike details:** 15km/ 9.5 miles | approx. 6-7 hours

## Day 5 | Glenmalure to the Iron Bridge

Our last day hiking on the Wicklow Way, we leave behind the high peaks of the Wicklow Mountains and descend into the rolling, green pastures and emerald landscapes of south Wicklow. Our path weaves leisurely in and out of luscious green forests on Wicklow's road less travelled. This the afternoon, we're in for a well-earned treat: the chance to relax at a spa retreat where we can chose from a range of spa treatments\*\* or simply unwind in the refreshing pool and thermal suite **(B,L)**

**Hike details:** 11km/ 7 miles | approx. 5-6 hours



## Day 6 | The Great Sugarloaf Mountain

Enjoy a relaxing morning at your accommodation, or take advantage of the spectacular 9 hole golf course\*\* or spa treatments.\*\* The Great Sugar Loaf Mountain, our final stop in Wicklow, dominates the Wicklow Way skyline. Standing apart from Wicklow's other peaks, Great Sugar Loaf's conical shape makes it an easy climb. The rewarding views over the captivating countryside we've just conquered is a fitting end to a fantastic few days on the trail! Tonight, we celebrate our hiking achievements with a final dinner celebration in the bustling downtown Dublin.(B,L,D)

**Hike details:** 2.5km/ 1.5 miles | approx. 2 hours

## Day 7 | Dublin Walking Tour & Departure

After a relaxing final morning, we'll explore the lively, cosmopolitan city of Dublin on a historical walking tour led by local history enthusiasts. Learn about Irish history from the founding of Dublin, the Great Famine, world wars, and of course, the Easter Rising and War of Irish Independence. **(B)**

**Walk details:** Approx. 2 hours



## Trip Grading | Green 3 | ●●●●●●●●

Green graded hiking holidays are suitable for active travellers who are reasonably fit and enjoy moderate hikes.

- We hike at a comfortable pace - expect to be out for 5-6 hours a day.
- The terrain will be on mostly good paths and hill trails but these can still be muddy and rough in places.
- Some hikes may involve an ascent up to a max of approx 1,500 feet/450m.
- Distances will be typically 8-10km but there may be the odd slightly longer day. Daily hike details are available in the itinerary.

If you have any questions about the grading, then please do give our Adventure Consultants a call to chat through your experience and suitability for this trip.



It is your responsibility to ensure you are appropriately fit and capable of doing the described hikes in the expected times. Please refer to the [grading section](#) on our website for more details. If you are unsure we encourage you to speak to us first.



## Accommodation and Meals

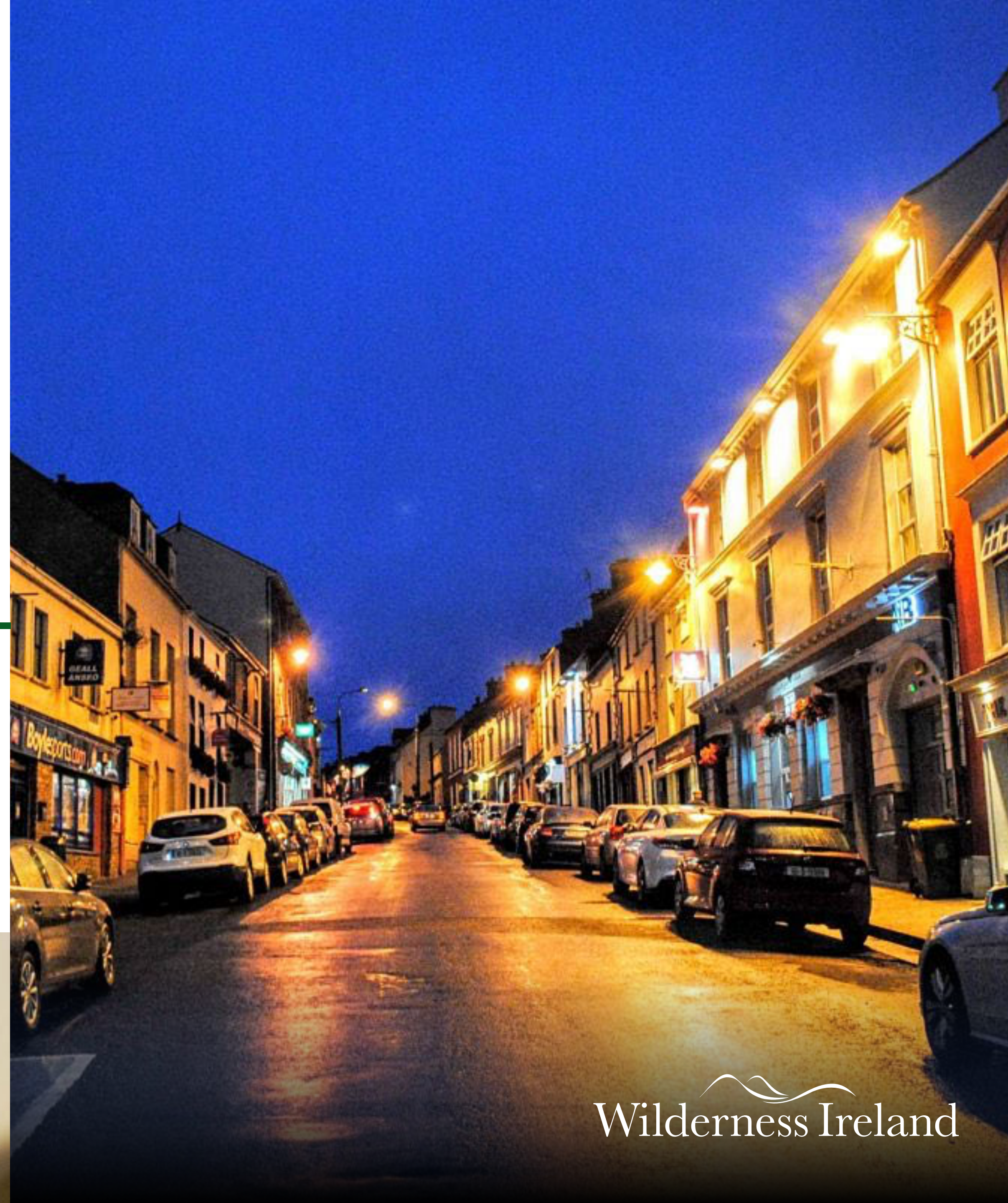
This hiking trip features accommodations chosen for their excellent location, service and comfort along or near the Wicklow Way. This trip also includes a stay at a Deluxe-grade lodge, in addition to classic-grade comfortable and characterful lodging in B&Bs, family-fun hotels or guesthouses, both in towns as well as in rural communities. Accommodation is a choice of double or twin rooms, which are en-suite with a shower. Evening meals will be taken either in local towns, which offers a good choice of restaurants to suit every taste, or perhaps in a different location along the Wicklow Way depending on the day's hike.

Each morning, enjoy a homemade breakfast of your choice at your accommodation. Lunch will be taken in a cafe in day 1, and a Wilderness Picnic along route. Throughout the day, your guide will provide water and tasty, Irish snacks. Evening meals are included on the first and last nights only. For all other evenings, your Wilderness Guide can provide expert recommendations.

## Single Rooms

There is no supplement charged to solo travellers, however you will be required to share a room with **another person of the same sex**. If you request a double room for single occupancy, a supplement of **€250** is charged.

Due to the nature of the accommodations we use, single supplement are limited and are allocated on a first come first served basis.





## Inclusions

### This trip includes the following:

- 6 nights accommodation in a hand-picked, family-run guesthouses, B&Bs & boutique hotels incl. a stay at an upgraded deluxe-grade lodge
- Most meals, incl. all Breakfasts, Lunches on Days 1-6, and Dinner on Day 1 and Day 7 (**Meals included indicated as B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner**)
- The services of an experienced and knowledgeable hiking guide throughout
- All transport throughout the trip starting and finishing in Dublin
- Activities stated in itinerary, incl. historical walking tour of Dublin
- Access to the pool and thermal suite at a spa retreat

**This trip includes all accommodation, guiding and travel, as well as most meals. It does not include drinks or any gratuities you may choose to leave.**

***\*\*Please note that spa treatments and golfing are not included & should be booked in advance***



# Our holidays reviewed in your words...

“

*We are happy we found and contracted with Wilderness Ireland. This was an experience that we wouldn't have had otherwise. We saw and did things that were amazing. It was a great trip!*

**Carol Penne 11/09/2018**

”



[All Trip Reviews Here](#)

## Your Guide

During this trip you will be accompanied and led by one of our professional guides. Our guides are among the most highly experienced and qualified in the country. Defined by their passion for Scotland's wild places, they have an intimate knowledge of the natural and social history of this land which they will be delighted to share with you. For more info and to meet the team please see our [Guide Pages](#).



## Sustainable Travel

Wilderness Ireland is committed to the development of Ireland's sustainable tourism sector. We focus on developing sustainable operational practices and we endeavour to support the local tourism economy in each of the areas in which we work.

We are a proud partner of the Burren Beo, which enhances our commitment to responsible activity in Ireland's wild lands, particularly in the Burren region of County Clare.

Wilderness Ireland is an active, participating member of Leave No Trace Ireland, an outdoor ethics programme designed to inspire responsible outdoor recreation through education, research and partnerships.

Thanks in part to the generosity of our clients by participating in our voluntary Conservation Contribution Scheme, we are able to provide financial support to a range of environmental and nature conservation charities and rural communities.



## Equipment List

Check out our guide on what to wear when adventuring in Ireland.

[Hiking-Kit-List-What-to-wear.pdf](#)



## Eat | Stay | See

Looking for accommodation for before or after your adventure with us?  
Check out our list of where to stay and what to do

[Eat – Stay – See – Dublin.pdf](#)



## Getting Around Ireland

From airports to trains to buses, read our Getting Around Ireland document for more information.

[Getting-Around-Ireland.pdf](#)



Wilderness Ireland

## Travel Insurance

It is your responsibility to take out appropriate travel insurance to cover you during your trip. This should include cover for cancellation prior to the trip\*, the activities undertaken (i.e hiking), curtailment, and adequate medical insurance for sickness/ injury and medical repatriation. We also strongly recommend you have cover for your other travel arrangements such as flights, and your personal possessions.

If you cancel your trip, charges will apply. Please see section 2 of our terms and conditions for a breakdown:

<https://www.wildernessireland.com/make-a-booking/booking-conditions/>

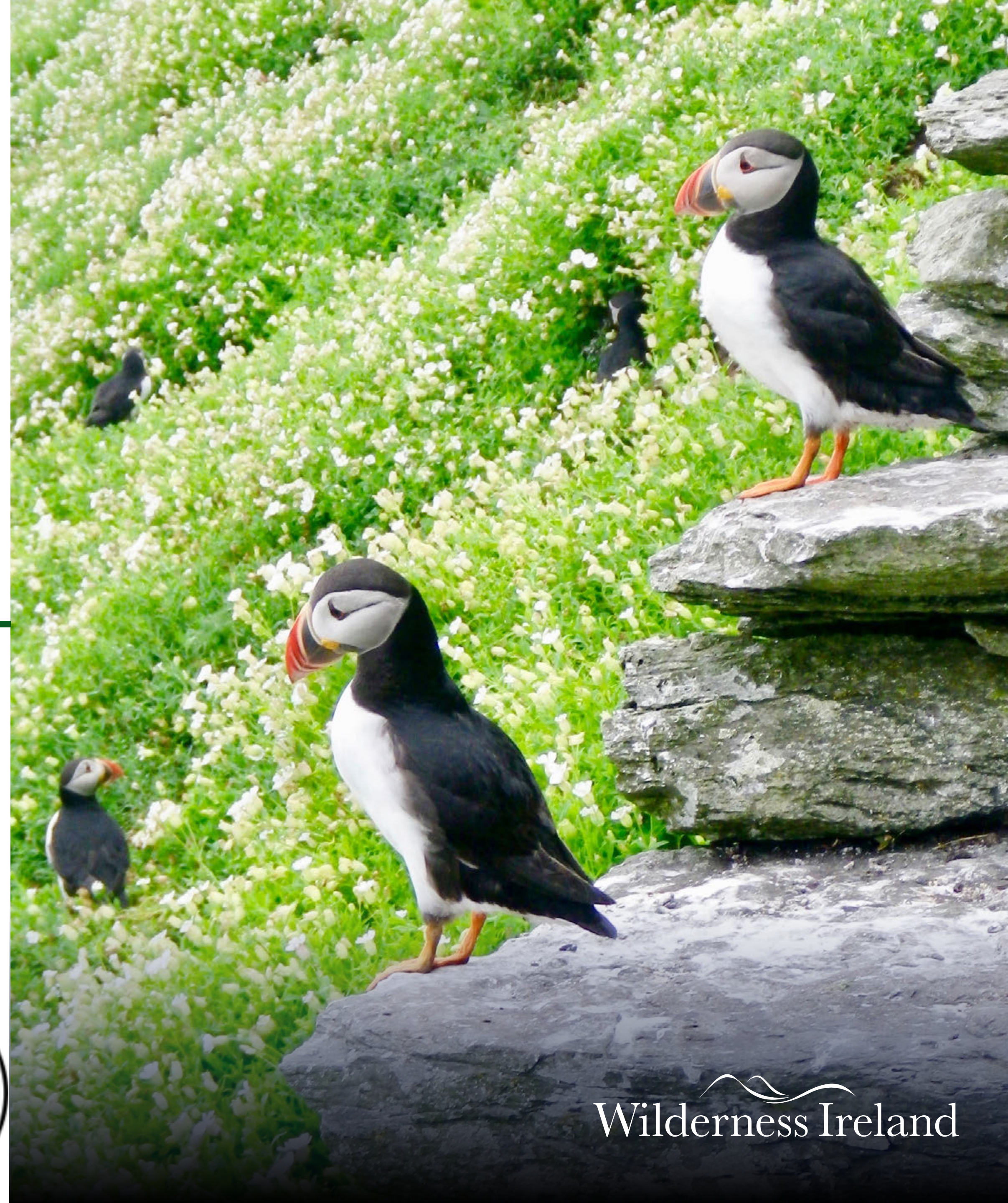
## Your Satisfaction, Guaranteed

At Wilderness Ireland, we believe our tours are top notch. To back that up, we're the only Irish travel company offering a no-strings-attached 100% Satisfaction Guarantee.

If you're not completely satisfied with any aspect of your trip, then let us know. If the issue was not resolved by Wilderness Ireland during your trip, then we'll invite you back to experience another Wilderness Ireland tour of similar value, FREE OF CHARGE to prove you can have a world class vacation in Ireland. See details more here.



Wilderness Ireland



## FAQs

Looking for more information? Check out our frequently ask questions page.

[wildernessireland.com/faq](http://wildernessireland.com/faq)

## Questions To Ask? Ready to Book?

If you want to get in touch please send us an email or give us a call. We accept bookings online, by email, or over the phone. A deposit of 25% is required at the time of booking to secure the trip with the balance payable 8 weeks (56 days) before departure. If booking less than 56 days before the trip start date, full payment of the trip price is required immediately.

We accept payment by credit or debit card, or bank transfer.

email: [info@wildernessireland.com](mailto:info@wildernessireland.com)

Tel (EU): +353 (0) 91 457 898

Tel (US and Canada): 844-235-6240

[View Trip Dates](#)  
[Book Now](#)

 Wilderness Ireland

