

Self Drive

Trip Grade: **Self Drive**

# Kerry, West Cork & the Haven Coast



  
Wilderness Ireland

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# Kerry, West Cork & the Haven Coast

The southwest region of Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way is perhaps the Emerald Isle's most popular and iconic but Kerry and West Cork still hold a few secrets! Explore the quiet waters and secret inlets of Cork by kayak, visit the Ring of Kerry via a unique foraging and fishing experience and get off the tourist track by visiting the ancient monuments, sweeping landscapes and rugged peninsulas of Cork and Kerry!

Southwest Ireland has become a foodie hotspot in the last few years. Tickle your tastebuds on this culinary adventure through some of Ireland's most delicious towns and villages, culminating in Kinsale, the gourmet of Ireland.

## Highlights

- Explore Killarney National Park, one of Ireland's most beautiful parks
- Try foraging & gourmet fishing for an off-the-beaten-path Ring of Kerry experience
- Kayak the little-visited West Cork coastline & listen to tales of pirate invasions

## Book With Confidence

- This is a Private Self Drive trip which means it can suit any group size.

**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.



# Planned Itinerary

Day 1 | [Killarney National Park](#)

Day 2 | [The Ring of Kerry & Haven Coast](#)

Day 3 | [The Beara Peninsula](#)

Day 4 | [Wilds of West Cork](#)

Day 5 | [Colourful Kinsale](#)

Day 6 | [Kayaking West Cork](#)

Day 7 | [Departure](#)

## Arrival Info

- Pick up your rental car at Dublin Airport (please note that all car rentals are made independently by you) and make your way to Killarney on Day 1 of your trip.

## Departure Info

- You can drop off your car at the airport of the final day of your trip.

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## Day 1 | Killarney National Park

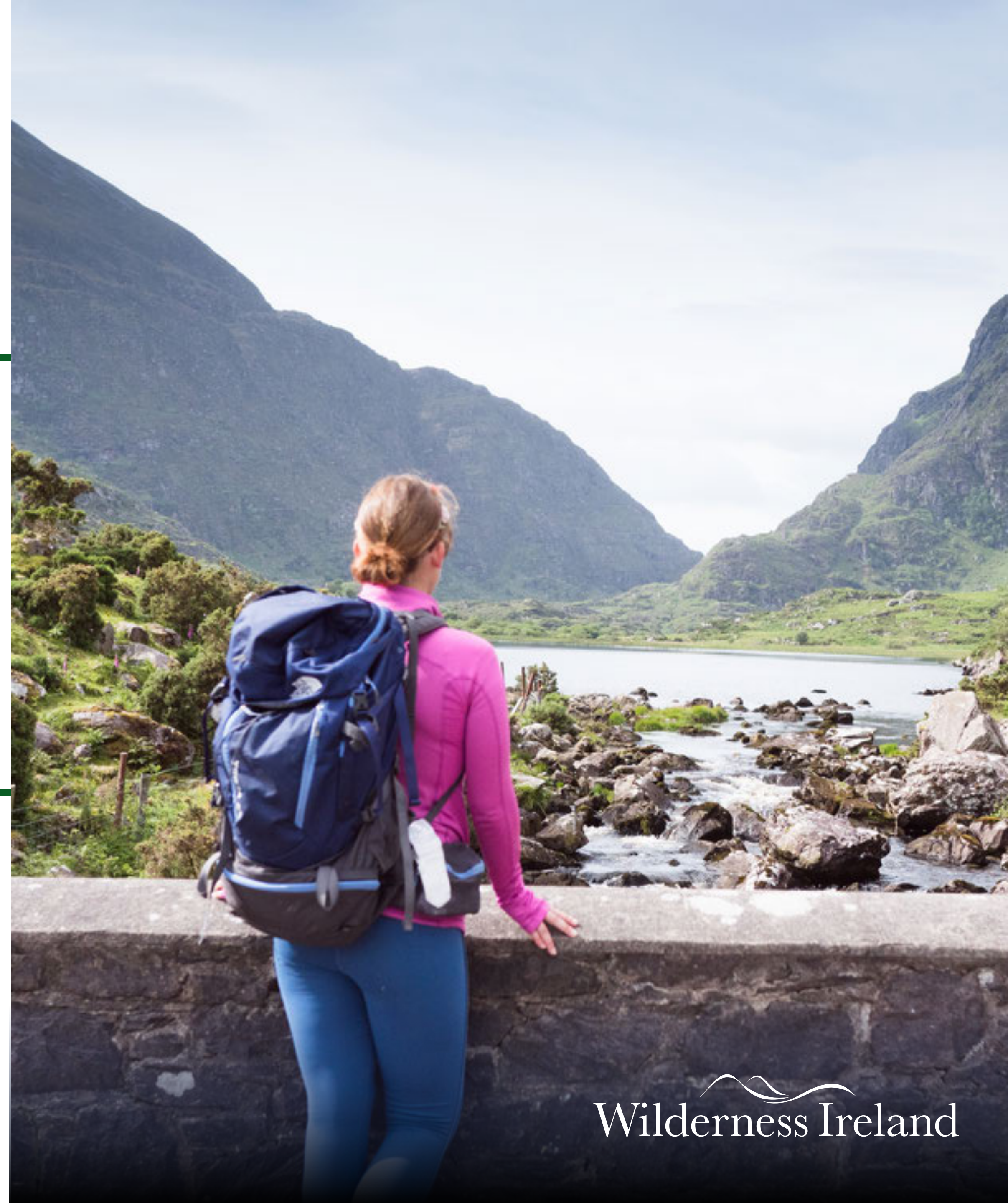
On the doorstep of the lively Killarney town, Killarney National Park is the most famous of Ireland's national parks - and with good reason! Follow our recommendations to discover some of Killarney's most breath-taking mountains, lakes and waterfalls. Historic manor Muckross House makes for a great easy day's touring but it would be hard to leave without stretching your legs along some of the beautiful looped walks on offer that take in the best of the scenery or heading out onto the lakes of Killarney in a traditional boat.

## Day 2 | The Ring of Kerry & Kerry Coast

Heading into the southern part of the Ring of Kerry today, the landscape becomes wilder and more rugged as you leave the verdant greens of Kerry's interior behind. At a secluded bay, meet a local foodie who has made a lifetime's work of uncovering the Kerry Coast's edible gems, such as various kinds of seaweed, considered a superfood. Together, spend the morning fishing in the quiet waters off of Kerry and then learn how to make sushi and ceviche from your catch as you enjoy an island picnic with views across the Skellig Coast and beyond. If fishing isn't your cup of tea, your guide will take you out on a seaweed foraging expedition! **(B,G)**

## Day 3 | The Beara Peninsula

The least visited of Kerry's peninsulas, the Beara Peninsula is wonderfully wild. Head south to the even wilder peninsulas of West Cork via a stunning mountain pass. Along the way, we will recommend a handful of fascinating and little-known cultural stops for you to connect with the landscape and the region. Opt for the scenic rather than most direct route south which brings you to a paradisaical island garden or even head over to an island accessed only by cable car. **(B)**



## Day 4 | Wilds of West Cork

Crafters, artists and artisan food producers have long since retreated to West Cork, creating a fascinating cultural mix in a magical setting. Explore West Cork's dynamic landscapes with an expert guide to visit this region's remote corners. With the wealth of hiking options in West Cork, your guide will find a hike best suited to your fitness level, coupled with the opportunity to explore some of the artesian galleries and delicatessens that add vibrancy to the region. And of course, you can't leave the area without sampling some of the best cheese in the world! **(B,G)**

## Day 5 | Colourful Kinsale

A foodie haven, Kinsale is a bolthole for Ireland's most culinary-minded and its pretty harbour with mystical sea views is a perfect place to end your time on Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way. Follow a jaw-dropping coastal route through southwest Ireland as you learn of pirate invasions, famine and conflict. A visit to 17th century star-shaped Charles Fort or a sunset stroll along a waterside walkway is a perfect end to your day's touring. **(B)**



## Day 6 | Kayaking West Cork

The tranquil waters of Kenmare Bay are today's adventure. You will meet an expert kayak instructor as you paddle alongside hidden coves and beaches in the remote coasts and peninsulas of West Cork. Keep an eye out for the wildlife that frequents these waters while your guide regales you with tales of conquests, wine smugglers and battles of old. On your final evening, make sure you enjoy some of Ireland's best sea food at a restaurant overlooking the magical harbour. **(B,G)**

## Day 7 | Departure

Today, say goodbye to the wilds of southwest Ireland. From here, you may head straight to the airport - we will provide interesting stops along the way. **(B)**



## Trip Grading | Self Drive - At Your Own Pace

Self Drive are suitable for anyone as the trip activity can be tailored to meet your needs, preferences and fitness levels.

- Self drive trips include personal activities and experiences tailored to your own group's personal activity level.
- They allow you to experience Ireland at your own pace with one-to-one meet ups with local guides and experts who can lead you through activities at your own pace.
- They also include overnight stops at the very best local 4 and 5 star accommodations.
- Active experiences are at your own pace and can be tailored to meet green, blue or red graded levels depending on your group's preferences.
- For self-guided days, we'll provide you with suggested points of interest to visit, places to eat, local recommendations, and things to see along with maps and directions.



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.



  
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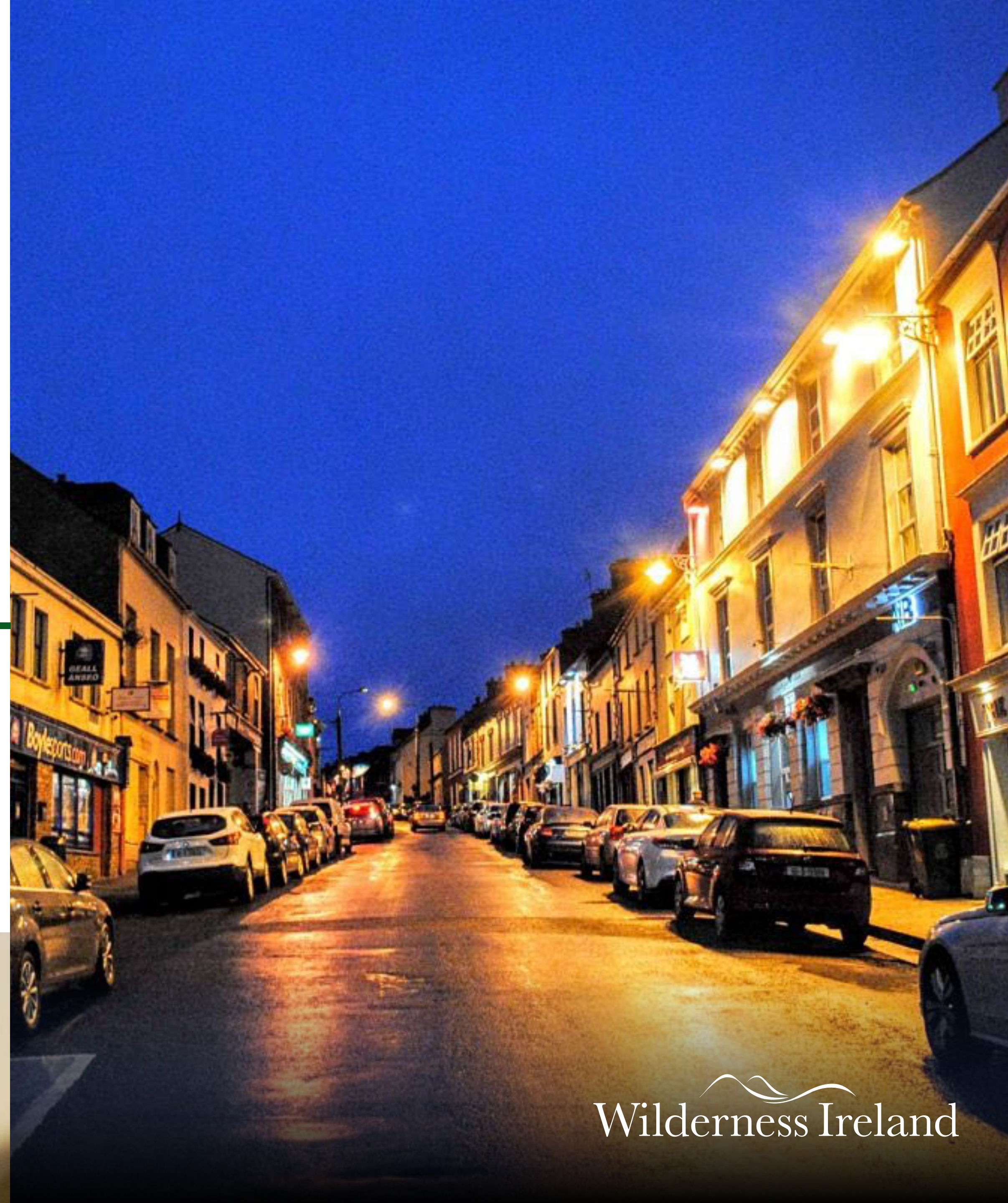
## Accommodation and Meals

This self drive trip is graded Deluxe, meaning you can expect 4\* and 5\* hotels. This itinerary features accommodations chosen for their excellent location, service, amenities and comfort. Expect comfort, character and luxury in some of Ireland's most beautiful and sought-after castles, manors, deluxe guesthouses and boutique hotels. Each traveller has a choice of double or twin rooms, all of which are en-suite with a shower.

Each morning, enjoy a hearty homemade breakfast of your choice at your accommodation. We'll provide local recommendations for afternoon and evening meals in each town or region as well as wilderness picnics for those days spent in the great outdoors.

## Single Rooms

Single rooms are available upon request. If you would prefer a double room for single occupancy, a supplement will be charged depending on availability. If you require a single room, please get in touch and let us know.





## Inclusions

**This trip includes the following:**

- 6 nights accommodation in a hand-picked 4\* and 5\* accommodations
- A detailed itinerary and map outlining your itinerary, accommodations and stops
- Breakfast every morning at your accommodation (**Meals included indicated as B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner**)
- The services of experienced and knowledgeable guides or local experts at various stages in the trip as stated in the itinerary (**marked G**)
- Recommended stops, hikes and points of interest along the way

**This trip includes all accommodation, all full day guided experiences and activities, as well as breakfast. It does not include other meals, entry fees and activities while self-guided, car rental or any gratuities you may choose to leave.**



# Our holidays reviewed in your words...

“

*Would definitely travel with you again and turn to Louise for another tailor made trip.*

**Anna Hall - Tailor Made Ireland Trip - 9/08/2018** ★★★★★

”

[All Trip Reviews Here](#)

## Guided Activities

This is a Self Drive trip, meaning that it you will not have a guide for the entire trip duration. However, you will benefit from certain guided activities as stated in the itinerary. Our guides are among the most highly experienced and qualified in the country as well as passionate about Ireland's history, culture, nature and traditions. 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.

[wildernessscotland.com/blog/hiking-in-scotland-what-to-wear](https://wildernessscotland.com/blog/hiking-in-scotland-what-to-wear)



## 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 – Inverness.pdf](#)



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## 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/>

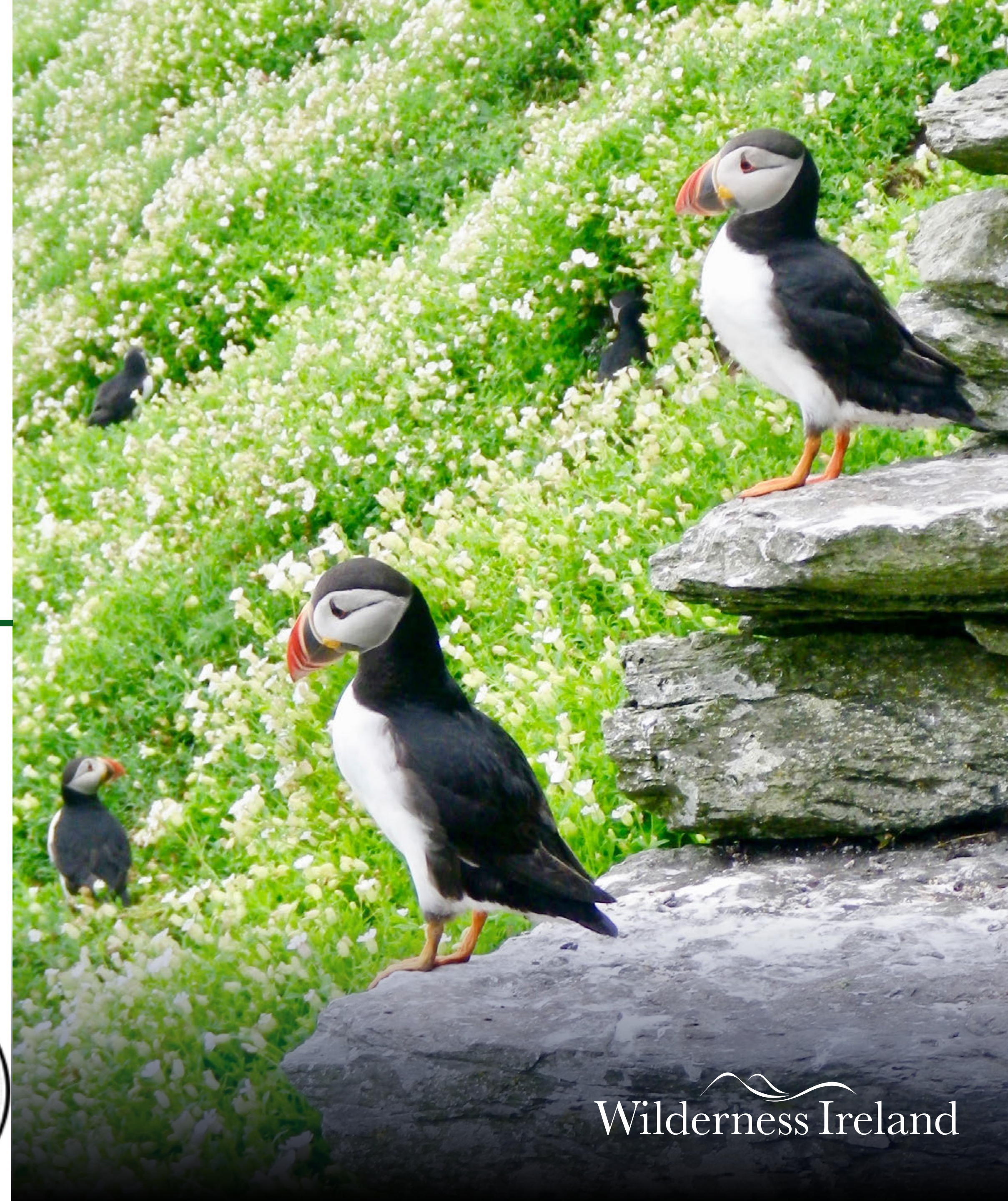
## Your Satisfaction, Guaranteed

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.



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## 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

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