



## IRELAND: BACK TO MY CULINARY ROOTS with Chef John Bishop

SEPTEMBER 11 - 24, 2014

Join Chef John Bishop as he ventures back to his Irish culinary roots. This carefully crafted tour highlights the very best of culinary experiences ranging from traditional pub fare to gastronomic feasts. True to John's passion, we will be sourcing locally produced foodstuffs and meeting with local farmers along the way.

From the spectacular coast of Northern Ireland to the charming, cobblestoned streets in the South, this two week tour offers the best that Ireland has to offer, including stays at the majestic Ashford Castle, grand country estates, and even a lakeside resort. Watch and listen as we weave together the history, culture and cuisine of John's beloved Emerald Isle. Those with time on their side and a penchant for wild oysters are invited to join us for an optional 4 night extension to participate in the famous Galway Oyster festival. Does life get any better?

**SEPT 11. ARRIVE SHANNON, SEE THE CLIFFS OF MOHER**  
Tour begins: 1:00 PM, Old Ground Hotel. A transfer is included from Shannon Airport to the Old Gound Hotel in Ennis. See the Cliffs of Moher this afternoon, and join us for a welcome dinner with local entertainment tonight. Meals D

**SEPT 12. A DAIRY FARM & AN ELIZABETHAN MANSION**  
Visit a working dairy farm for a light Irish lunch and stories. Then it's on to Killarney and a visit to Muckross House. Your accommodations for the next two nights are at Aghadoe Heights Hotel & Spa, where your guest room gazes out upon Killarney's incredibly beautiful landscapes. Meals BLD

**SEPT 13. A ROUND OF BEAUTY ON THE RING OF KERRY**  
Drive 'round the Ring of Kerry amidst scenes of sandy beaches, mountains, lakes and cliffs, old oak forests and bogs. View ruins of ancient monasteries, castles and forts, and small villages, like seaside Waterville, that reveal a glimpse of local life. Meals BD

**SEPT 14. THE BLARNEY STONE & KINSALE**  
Journey to 15<sup>th</sup> Century Blarney Castle to see the famous Blarney Stone; a kiss upon the stone means a blessing of the gift of gab. Afterward, we head to Kinsale, where Chef John Bishop spent ten years as a chef. One of the simplest pleasures of this visit to Kinsale is to wander its narrow winding streets on a walking tour with John and absorb the colors, aromas and bustling life of the town.



## Traveling Well Includes...

- TAUCK'S YELLOW ROADS! Journey through the Irish wilds of Connemara & along the spectacular coastal scenery of Northern Ireland's Antrim Coast Road
- Belfast's newly opened *Titanic* exhibit & a sumptuous 9-course *Titanic* tasting dinner
- Accommodations at majestic Ashford Castle, country estates & a lakeside resort
- Learning – at an Irish farm, the Belleek Pottery factory & the Ulster American Folk Park
- Visits to castles, abbeys, walled cities & a graveyard with stories to tell, history to reveal
- Two nights in Dublin to explore the delights of its parks, streets, history & pubs
- Airport transfers upon arrival and departure as noted
- 29 meals, service charges, gratuities to local guides, admission fees, taxes & portage

**SEPT 14. CONTINUED...** Reminisce with John as you visit his old stomping ground, Spaniard Inn, for a ploughman's lunch at the . After lunch, time permitting, visit the many shops and galleries or immerse yourself in the history. Arrive early evening at Mount Juliet Hotel, a country estate in the heart of Kilkenny, where you will dine a la carte this evening. Meals BD

### SEPT 15. KILKENNY TALES & COUNTRY LIVING

Explore the ruins of Jerpoint Abbey, including a cloister whose sculpted pillars reveal an ancient sense of humor, and take a guided walking tour of Kilkenny for insights into its medieval Black Abbey, Rothe House and Kilkenny Castle. Meals BD

### SEPT 16. CROSSING INTO CONNEMARA

Travel through the towns of Portumna on the River Shannon and Loughrea, known for its striking cathedral, on your way to fast-growing Galway City, where you'll have time to have lunch and explore the sights. An afternoon cruise across Lough Corrib in Cong precedes your arrival at Ashford Castle for a royal two-night stay you'll long remember. Meals BD

### SEPT 17. KYLEMORE ABBEY & ASHFORD CASTLE

Visit lakeside Kylemore Abbey this morning; built in the late 19th century as a private residence, the castle is now home to a prestigious boarding school for girls. Return to Ashford Castle, where the remainder of the day is free. Meals BLD

### SEPT 18. NORTHERN IRELAND: DRUMCLIFFE TO BELLEEK

Travel today to the foothills of Benbulbin Mountain and the village of Drumcliffe, where the final resting place of poet W. B. Yeats lies in a graveyard marked by carved Irish "high crosses" dating back to a 6th-century monastery. Continue on to the villages of Mullaghmore and Ballyshannon and the market town of Belleek, for a behind-the-scenes tour of its porcelain factory. Following lunch, travel to Lough Erne Golf Resort. Meals BLD

### SEPT 19. CASTLEDERG, DERRY & ULSTER

En route to Derry, stop in Castlederg – once a stop along an ancient pilgrimage route, view the remains of its thatched-roof castle. A walking tour of the old city in Derry showcases its historic ramparts, marking the only completely walled city in the British Isles. Head next to Ulster American Folk Park, where you will hear the stories of three centuries of Irish emigrants who left the Emerald Isle to build new lives in North America. Meals BLD

### SEPT 20. BELFAST & TITANIC HISTORY

Drive to Belfast for a day that begins with a visit to the Titanic Quarter to see the newly opened *Titanic* exhibit, and a brief tour of the city. This evening, a special treat – a nine-course *Titanic* tasting menu dinner in the sumptuous Great Room of The Merchant Hotel, honoring the ship's grand style. Meals BD

### SEPT 21. MEDIEVAL CASTLES & A GIANT'S CAUSEWAY

Castle towns are this morning's focus on a stop in Carrickfergus and in Ballygally, site of a charming baronial castle that looks out over the sea. Drive on to the town of Bushmills for lunch at the Bushmills Inn whose origins date back to 1608. This afternoon explore the Giant's Causeway, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Over 40,000 symmetrical basalt columns lead from coastal cliffs out to the sea. Your evening is at leisure. Meals BL

Maximum Elevation: 1,500 ft.







**SEPT 22. THE SAINT PATRICK CENTRE & ON TO DUBLIN**  
 En route to Dublin, visit the Saint Patrick Centre in Downpatrick, an interpretive exhibition that tells the story of Ireland's patron saint. In Dublin a guided walking tour includes Trinity College, home to the must-see 9th-century *Book of Kells*. The remainder of the day is free for you to explore on your own. Meals B

**SEPT 23. THE GREEN & GEORGIAN SIGHTS OF DUBLIN**  
 City sightseeing today takes you down cobblestoned streets past brick Georgian row houses famous for their intricate, glass-laced doorways. Stop at Phoenix Park and Victorian St. Stephen's Green; drive among the statues and monuments of O'Connell Street, and see the Lord Mayor's residence. A highlight of your explorations is Tauck's private guided visit to the State Apartments at Dublin Castle, in continuous occupation since it was built in 1204 AD. Enjoy lunch and the afternoon at your leisure. Join us for a farewell dinner at your hotel. Meals BD

**SEPT 24. JOURNEY HOME OR CONTINUE TO GALWAY**  
 Tour ends: Dublin. Fly home anytime. A transfer is included from the Four Seasons Hotel Dublin to Dublin Airport. Allow a minimum of 3 hours for flight check-in at the airport. Meals B



**JOHN BISHOP**  
 Acclaimed Restaurateur, Chef,  
 Cookbook Author

VANCOUVER, BC - British born John Bishop, who has been cooking since his early teens, attended hotel school in Wales and served his apprenticeship at a private London club. After ten years as chef at a restaurant in Kinsale, County Cork, he came to Canada in 1973, where he continued to pursue his culinary career. In 1985 he launched the restaurant that bears his name Bishop's, located in Vancouver, was an immediate success and continues to garner accolades. The fare at Bishop's is regional and seasonal. In Chef Bishop's view, it makes sense to showcase British Columbia's lush bounty of seafood, organic produce and meats. His exquisite West Side restaurant blends classic and modern flavours with a casual elegance that keeps clients coming back for a truly exceptional dining experience.

**PRICE PER PERSON**  
 September 11 - 24, 2014  
 Double USD \$6,690    Single USD \$7,977  
 International Airfare is additional.

- Fine Hotels / Great Locations**  
 Night 1 Old Ground Hotel Ennis  
 Night 2,3 Aghadoe Heights Hotel & Spa K illarney  
 Night 4,5\* Mount Juliet Hotel Thomastown  
 Night 6,7 Ashford Castle Cong  
 Night 8,9 Lough Erne Golf Resort Enniskillen  
 Night 10,11 The Merchant Hotel Belfast  
 Night 12,13 Four Seasons Hotel Dublin

**OPTIONAL**  
 4 night Galway Oyster Festival Extension  
 Contact us for details.

Additional: CAD \$500 direct donation to the  
**Looking Glass Foundation.**  
 ([www.lookingglassbc.com](http://www.lookingglassbc.com))  
*Tax receipt will be issued.*

**For more information or to book  
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