

Concert tour Ireland with Belfast – 7 days – by flight

Target group: Choir

Program of the tour:

Day 1: Flight to Dublin - Belfast

Arrival at **Dublin** airport and welcome by the local tour guide. Departure to Northern Ireland.

During the trip you can see the most historical region of the Ireland; the Boyne Valley with many sights. And in the green landscape there is **Monasterboice**, a monastery estate with impressive Celtic crosses. The highlights of this place of interest are 2 preserved high crosses from the 9th and 10th century.

Drive to Belfast, the capital of Northern Ireland and dinner in the hotel.

Day 2: Belfast - Derry

In the morning city tour in **Belfast** with the town hall in a Renaissance style, the Grand Opera from 1894 and the Waterfront Hall, the concert hall of Belfast. Followed by the leaning tower of Albert Clock and the Queens University. And you will pass the place, where the Titanic has been built.

Drive to the **Giant's Causeway**, an UNESCO World Heritage, with more than 40.000 basalt pillars, forming the cliffs and plateaus close to the sea.

Drive to Derry, check-in and dinner.

Day 3: Derry - Sligo

After the breakfast drive to Teelin. Switch to mini busses to drive to the **Slieve League Cliffs**, one of the **highest cliffs all over Europe**. At the top of the cliff you can find the ruin of the hermitage of the holy Aed and a holy spring.

Drive to the **picturesque market place Sligo**, known as the birth place of the famous **Irish poet W. B. Yeats**. His tomb in Drumcliff is in marvellous scenery.

Drive to Sligo, check-in and dinner.

Day 4: Sligo - Dublin - concert

Drive to the **Marble Arch Caves** and boat trip in the caves of the Cladagh River with impressive stalactites and stalagmites, cascades and curious limestone formations.

Drive to **Belvedere House and Garden** in an extensive landscape of woods and parks. It has been constructed by the German architect Richard Castle as a residence for hunting and fishing for the 1st Earl of Belvedere. You will hear some stories about the scandalous behaviour of the Rochefort's and you will see the largest magnificent building, ever made by humans – the wall of jealousy.

Drive to the hotel in **Dublin** and check-in. Meet a choir from Dublin and sing each other your best songs.

Dinner in the hotel.

Day 5: Dublin – guided tours and performance

Guided city tour in Dublin, divided by the river Liffey. The Northern part has many sights as the **General Post Office** at the most important street in Dublin, the **O'Connell Street**, and the **Custom House** at the Quays of Liffey or the **Phoenix Park**.

The Southern part of the city seems to be nobler with the **Gregorian squares**, the famous **coloured doors** and the shopping area at the **Grafton Street** with its luxury shops.



Guided tour in the **St Patrick's Cathedral, built in 1213** and the largest Anglican cathedral in Ireland.

Concert at noon in the St Patrick's Cathedral.

Afternoon free for individual activities. Dinner in the hotel.

Day 6: Dublin – half day guided tour

The **Guinness Brewery** with Storehouse is the biggest „Stout“-Brewery in Europe. It is not possible to get a tour in the brewery. In the 26 ha of the former warehouse for hop informs the **Guinness Storehouse** about history and production of the brewery? **Performance in the Storehouse** for the visitors and guided tour.

The afternoon is for individual activities and shopping.

In the evening drive to a suburban of Dublin to visit an **Irish Evening with dinner, music and show.**

Day 7: Departure

Drive to the cosy fisher town **Howth**, situated between rocks at a peninsula. From there transfer to the airport and departure.

Including all local transport with guide, mid-class hotels with half board, organization of 2 concerts, tour guide in several languages in Ireland: Costs about € 550 with 45 travellers in May 2011.

Further round trips in Ireland on request.

For music groups we can arrange performances in the Guinness Storehouse too, as well as friendship concerts with Irish music groups.

Comment of the choir:

On behalf of the Bürgerschaftstchöre I want to thank you for our wonderful concert tour of Ireland. Our choir did particularly appreciate the tour of Northern Ireland (including Belfast, Londonderry, Sligo). Highly recommended. We also had a great guide and even a singing bus driver. Just great. Wonderfully as well the "Irish Evening" with tap dancing and wonderful music. **(Bürgerschaftschöre Essen/Germany - May 2011)**

