

## **FIVE DAY ITINERARY**

With countless walks, secluded lakeshores and stunning waterfalls, Killarney is the perfect location for a break and the ideal location for exploring all that our beautiful county has to offer.

# DAY ONE Killarney National Park

Secluded hidden lakes, beaches, enchanting waterfalls and mesmerising sunsets. Killarney National Park has it all. Explore to your heart's content and you will probably come across some of the other locations coming up on this list.

## **Ross Castle**

Ross Castle sits on the edge of Lough Leane, built in the 15th century and is just a stone's throw from Killarney town.

We recommend travelling to Ross Castle via jaunting Cart for a truly special experience. The castle is open for tours throughout the summer and boat trips are available to Inisfallen Island and around the lakes from the castle too.

### Lough Leane

The largest of the three lakes of Killarney. Locals and tourists alike pause and catch their breath at its unique natural beauty. Make sure to get a boat tour around the lake.

### **Muckross Abbey**

An old Irish Monastery is situated in the middle of the national park. Founded in 1448 as a Franciscan friary, Its most striking feature is a central courtyard, which contains a large tree and is surrounded by a vaulted cloister.

### **Torc Waterfall**

A cascade waterfall at 20 metres high, and 110 metres long, A short walk of approx 200 metres brings you to the waterfall. From that point, steps lead to another viewing point at a higher altitude that provides a view over the Middle Lake.

### **Ladies View**

The Gap of Dunloe, Purple Mountain and the MacGillycuddy Reeks can be seen from Ladies View! Probably the best views in all of Killarney, make sure to get a snap.

### **Meeting of the Waters**

Where all three of Killarney's glorious lakes merge together. Most definitely one of the best hidden gems in Killarney. The area is so beautiful, echoing peace and tranquillity in a world of its own. Found just a short walk from Dinis Cottage.



# **DAY TWO**

Day two leads us to the ever brilliant Dingle Peninsula. Dingle Peninsula has roads you never dreamt existed, with mesmerising tight loop bends that weave in and out of the coast & more sheep on the road than cars. Our favourite places to visit along the Dingle Peninsula are as follows.

### Inch Beach

Famous for being the place where an inch is three miles long. It comes complete with a quaint little coffee shop overlooking the ocean. The only beach in Kerry where you can have a coffee while enjoying the sun. Hot chocolate with marshmallows and cream for me, please!

# Kayaking on the Dingle Peninsula

A fantastic setting for everyone, from beginners to experienced kayakers. A unique opportunity to experience the unforgettable seascapes and wildlife. Dingle Peninsula has some great natural bays that are sheltered in most weather and ideal for sea kayaking - Dingle Harbour, Ventry Harbour, Smerwick Harbour and Sandy Bay. Kayaking is a great way to see parts of the coast that are inaccessible from land.

# The Beehive Huts

These conical huts are scattered across Ireland. Once the homes of monks, these huts were popular because their construction was completed using local stones only. Believe it or not, these ageless buildings somehow remain reasonably dry and cosy inside despite the oftharsh Irish weather, and have no mortar or anything to keep them together.

# **Dingle Distillery Tour**

Continuously growing in popularity, 'Dingle Distillery' has brought back to life the diminishing distilleries of Ireland. A fascinating place to tour you will be amazed at what you learn and at how good the gin is!

# **Great Blasket Island**

The Blasket Islands are the westernmost point in Europe, and they have a fascinating history. Inhabited until the 1950s and was once home to some of Ireland's most famous writers. It's still home to an impressive array of flora and fauna!

### Hike up Mount Brandon

A hike that takes only a few hours up one of Ireland's most iconic mountains with an impressive panorama of the Atlantic Ocean, an absolutely incredible experience amongst the landscape of the extraordinary peninsula.



# **DAY THREE**

Ring Of Kerry Drive on The Iveragh Peninsula – This 179km long, circular route takes in rugged and verdant coastal landscapes and rural seaside villages. Take the tour by car and on the way take a look at our favourite picks from this extraordinary day trip!

#### **Skellig Ring Road**

Take a very small detour (18km to be precise) to the Skellig Ring Road, voted as one of Lonely Planet's top 10 most beautiful destinations in 2017, you'll get unparalleled views of The Skellig Islands via Portamagee and Ballinskellig.

#### Visit Skellig Islands

A UNESCO World Heratige Site. Once home to monks between the 6th & 12th centuries, this island is dotted with beehive huts, chapels and more. From the islands, you'll see colonies of Gannets, Puffins, Seals, Dolphins & Basking Sharks.

#### **Molls Gap**

Moll's Gap boasts one of the most dramatic views on the Ring of Kerry route. On the road between Killarney and Kenmare, Moll's Gap boasts the ultimate view of the MacGillycuddy's Reeks mountain range. It derives its name from Moll Kissane who set up an illicit bar here during the 19th century. Moll's Gap is the highest point on the Ring of Kerry with a 235metre climb.

#### **Derrynane Beach**

Derrynane Beach for breathtaking coastal views of the Ring of Kerry. Pull in at Derrynane House and take a walk down to Derrynane Beach for unforgettable views of the rocky sea as well as the crumbling Derrynane Abbey.

#### **Muckross House and Gardens**

Your final stop on the Ring of Kerry has to be to Muckross House and Gardens. It is home to a magnificent 19th century Victorian mansion and around 13,000 acres of nature. A fantastic way to end a great day.



# **DAY FOUR**

#### Climb a mountain in Kerry

Killarney Valley is surrounded by beautiful mountains which range in their degree of difficulty. At the easier end of the spectrum stands Torc and Strickeen and the degree of difficulty increases from there. Carrauntoohill is Ireland's highest mountain, it's a hugely rewarding day out but its level of difficulty should not be underestimated. Our advice... to truly enjoy the experience hire the expertise of a local guide.

Some mountains nearby:



Carrauntoohill



Mangerton



MacGillycuddy Reeks



The Paps



# **DAY FIVE**

A day trip to Kenmare & Glengarriff via the Caha Pass equals a truly unforgettable drive. You'll drive on some of the windiest roads in Ireland, but not in vain of the true beauty of this country. You'll see jaw-dropping valleys and even drive through the middle of a mountain.

### Visit Bonane Heratige Park

Bonane Heritage Park should be at the top of your list of things to do. It boasts one of the most significant archaeological sites in Ireland as well as making the perfect setting for amateur and professional photographers and walkers. So whether you're interested in history and heritage or just looking to embrace all that makes Ireland truly special, a visit won't disappoint. Nestled at the point where the Ring of Beara meets the Ring of Kerry, it makes the perfect place to start your exploration of the area.

### **Gleninchaquin Park**

Gleninchaquin Park provides breath-taking landscapes and scenery in which it is a sheer delight to wander around, over and across streams with log bridges. Enjoy the mountain paths with carved steps. Take the routes to the lakes at higher altitudes. Marvel at the view overlooking the lakes, delicate green meadows, a spectacular 140-metre high waterfall, woodlands and Kenmare Bay; a superb vista that unfolds from the top of the falls. This idyllic valley is perfectly suited for day outings with the entire family. Ample parking facilities are provided close to the waterfall and picnic areas. The walk routes around the waterfall, cascades, streams, woodlands and lakes are accessible for all ages. The best part, you can bring your own lunch basket for a picnic within the park or a small barbeque (weather dependant of course!)

# Garinish Island in Glengarriff, West Cork

Garnish Island is located in the sheltered harbour of Glengarriff in Bantry Bay. A short 30 minute drive from Kenmare, through the breath-taking Caha Pass, Garnish is world-renowned for its gardens which are laid out in beautiful walks and it has some stunning specimen plants which are rare in this climate. A short boat trip from Glengarriff takes you to the island, ideal for a family outing. Keep an eye out for a colony of seals on the way over!!