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**9 Night Woollinn Adventure, Dublin, Cavan, Derry & Donegal**

**Tour Dates:**

18<sup>th</sup> June 2021

(One Date Only, Limited Availability)

## Tour Overview

Woollinn, Ireland's popular festival of yarn returns to Dublin in June 2021 and knittingtours.com will be there! Join our 9 Night tour which will include the first two days at the show with an exclusive knitting class with Carol Feller at the event! Your package for Woollinn includes a two-day pass to the event, granting access to the marketplace and all associated "bonus" events such as demonstrations, exhibitions and social get-togethers and a ticket to the Woollinn Social Dinner on Friday Night. You will also be entitled to a 10% discount off any of the classes that you would like to book.

We will spend three days in the Dublin area to enjoy the show and see some of the region's best attractions, including Russborough House and Glendalough. After some time in the Boyne Valley at the Old Mellifont Abbey and a tapestry workshop with Aine Dunne. We will also meet Jess from Olann.ie who produces beautiful hand dyed yarn for a short dyeing demonstration. We will stop over in Cavan for two nights, which is often referred to as Ireland's Lakeland County, dotted with many stunning lakes and hills. Here we meet Sandra from Crafts of Ireland for an Irish Crochet Rose Motif workshop as well as spinning and sock knitting demonstration on an antique sock knitting machine.

For the final leg of our journey we travel to Donegal where our exploits will be a trip to Studio Donegal in Kilcar, visiting the stunning Slieve League Cliffs and the quaint folk village at Glencolmcille. In Derry City we will have an Aran knitting workshop with one of our most loved knitting instructors, Edel MacBride and we will explore some of the local attractions including Derry's Medieval Walls.

### Included in This Tour

- Transfers on arrival and departure (for arrivals prior to 10:30am on tour start date and pre-night packages)
- Sightseeing as per itinerary in a luxury coach with an experienced driver and accredited guide
- Accommodation in rooms with private bathroom facilities for 9 nights
- Irish breakfast daily
- 4 hotel table d'hote dinners
- 5 lunches
- 1 dinner social at Woollinn on Friday 18th June
- Entrance to the following attractions: Russborough House, Glendalough, Old Mellifont Abbey, Glencolmcille Folk Village, Slieve League Cliffs, The Ulster American Folk Park
- Derry City Guided Walking Tour

- Belleek pottery Factory Tour
- Carrickmacross Lace Demonstration

## Workshops/Knitting Activities Included in This Tour

- Two-day passes to Woollinn (Fri 18th and Sat 19th June), granting access to the marketplace and all associated "bonus" events such as demonstrations, exhibitions and social get-togethers (details TBC)
- A ticket to dinner social at Woollinn on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June
- A voucher code for 10% off any three-hour workshop at Woollinn, note you will book the workshop yourself when the workshops go on sale. We will provide you with booking information.
- An exclusive knitting workshop with Carol Feller at Woollinn on the topic of short rows
- An Aran knitting workshop with Edel MacBride in Derry
- Irish Crochet Rose Motif, Spinning Demonstration & Antique Sock Machine Knitting Demonstration with Sandra from Crafts of Ireland
- Short Dyeing demonstration by Jess from Olann.ie
- Aine Dunne spinning demonstration

**Wool and patterns are included in all workshops, you need to bring your own needles, sizes will be advised**

## Overnights for this Tour

- Royal Marine Hotel, Dun Laoghaire, Dublin, 3 Nights (this is also the venue for Woollinn)
- The Farnham Estate, Cavan, 2 Nights
- The Mill Park Hotel, Donegal, 2 Nights
- The Maldron Hotel, Derry, 1 Night
- Camden Court Hotel, Dublin 1 Night

## Itinerary

**Important Note:** Attractions, Workshops and Demonstrations May Change According to Availability and Scheduling

### **Day 1: Dublin Sightseeing/Woollinn Dublin or optional Dublin Tour & Woollinn Welcome Dinner**

Your Woollinn Knitting tour begins in Dublin Airport with a transfer to your hotel (for arrivals prior to 10:30am on start day of tour). Entrance fees are included for you to explore Woollinn Yarn Festival at your leisure. Your pass will grant you access to the marketplace and all associated "bonus" events such as demonstrations, exhibitions and social get-togethers. You will also receive a 10% discount off any three-hour workshop that you would like to book. Please note that workshops at Woollinn are not included in this package and we do not book people into workshops, we will provide you with the information on how to book directly with the organisers as soon as this information is available to us. Please note, spaces at the workshops are available on a first-come first-served basis and that neither KnittingTours.com nor Woollinn can be responsible if you do not manage to secure a place at your chosen workshop. Please book your classes directly on the Woollinn website <http://woollinn.com/> - you are entitled to a 10% discount if you book this tour. Once you have booked, a discount code will be sent to you as soon as it is available to us.

For non-knitters or those that want to do some Dublin sightseeing today, there will be an optional tour of Dublin included. At 1pm, meet at Hotel reception and begin your sightseeing with a panoramic tour of Dublin City. Visit the National Museum of Archaeology which is home to the Irish Antiquities Division of the National Museum of Ireland, the national repository for all archaeological objects found in Ireland. It holds in trust for the nation and the world a series of outstanding archaeological collections spanning millennia of Irish history and also holds extensive collections of non-Irish antiquities. The museum houses artefacts ranging in date from 7000 B.C. to the late medieval period and beyond.

This evening, enjoy a sumptuous dinner which includes a sit-down meal and entertainment, with some of the Woollinn Special Guests in attendance! Dinner will be included for knitters and non-knitters alike.

**Overnight in Royal Marine Hotel, Dun Laoghaire, Dublin, Dinner, Bed & Breakfast included.**

### **Day 2: Woollinn/Free Day in Dublin**

For those that want to spend another day at Woollinn, the option is there for you. Otherwise there will be return transfers to/from Dublin included so that you can do your own personal sightseeing.

**Overnight in Royal Marine Hotel, Dun Laoghaire, Dublin, Dinner, Bed & Breakfast included**

### **Day 3: Exclusive Knitting Class with Carol Feller at Woollinn – Local Sightseeing, Russborough House & Glendalough**

This morning, meet with Carol Feller for an exclusive KnittingTours.Com three-hour workshop at Woollinn. Carol's popular class on Short Rows works students through several different ways of creating short rows until they find the method that perfectly suits them. Once the short rows have been perfected you will explore innovative ways to use your short rows and incorporate them into your work! This afternoon, we will take a tour around Dublin visiting Russborough House & Glendalough. Russborough House is a stately house situated near the Blessington Lakes in County Wicklow and is reputed to be the longest house in Ireland, with a frontage measuring 210 m/700 ft. It is an example of Palladian architecture, designed by Richard Cassels for Joseph Leeson, 1st Earl of Milltown and built between 1741 and 1755. Your visit will include a tour of the house and there will be time for you to walk around its pretty gardens and perhaps visit one or two of the local craft makers operating in the west courtyard. After your visit to Russborough we take a quick visit to Glendalough a glacial valley located a short distance from Russborough and renowned for both its Medieval monastic settlement and stunning mountain vistas.

**Overnight in Royal Marine Hotel, Dun Laoghaire, Dublin, Bed & Breakfast included.**

### **Day 4: Aine Dunne, Olann Dyeing Demonstration & Old Mellifont Abbey in The Boyne Valley**

Leaving Dublin we travel to Drogheda to meet Aine Dunne a tapestry weaver and artist, resident and working from the Boyne Valley. With Aine and her team, you will enjoy a tapestry workshop and try your hand at weaving a sample piece on a four-sided tapestry frame loom. During your time with Aine you will gain insight into her designs, weaving methods and work schedule. Today, we will also meet Jess from Olann.ie who produces beautiful hand dyed yarn from her hub in Cavan for a short dyeing demonstration. For non-knitters we will arrange a trip to nearby Drogheda where places of interest include Oliver Plunketts Head at St. Peter's Church! We continue to The Boyne Valley is one of Ireland's most historic regions and has many famous monuments. We will enjoy a guided tour of Old Mellifont Abbey the first Cistercian monastery in Ireland, founded in 1142 by Saint Malachy, Archbishop of Armagh. In 1603 the famous Treaty of Mellifont was signed at Mellifont Abbey between the English Crown and Hugh O'Neill, Earl of Tyrone.

**Overnight tonight in Farnham Estate, Cavan, Dinner, Bed & Breakfast included.**

### **Day 5: Crochet Rose Workshop, Sock Knitting and Spinning Demonstration at Crafts of Ireland.**

Today we partner with Sandra at Crafts of Ireland some craft activities. Non knitters or those that prefer to do some touring can do some additional Boyne Valley sightseeing including a visit to the Heritage town of Trim and Trim Castle. The group at Crafts of Ireland will learn how to Crochet a traditional Irish Rose motif that often adorns Irish knitwear, see a spinning demonstration as well as a sock knitting demonstration on an antique sock knitting machine. For non-knitters we will

arrange a trip to the heritage town of Trim and a tour of Trim Castle. After the craft workshops continue to your hotel in Cavan for some leisure time.

**Overnight in Farnham Estate, Cavan, Bed & Breakfast included.**

#### **Day 6: Travel to Donegal via Belleek Pottery and Donegal Castle**

Set off early, traveling along the Northwest coast to the Belleek Pottery Centre, stopping on route at the Butter Market in Enniskillen where the early 19th century Buttermarket buildings have been beautifully restored and house such diverse crafts as pottery, fly-tying, ceramics, handmade jewellery, textiles, picture framing and original art. At Belleek Pottery Centre take a guided tour walking you through all aspects of pottery production which has been in operation since the 1800's. Continue to Donegal where you will have some time to explore a bit of the town. In the afternoon we will visit Donegal Castle, the castle consists of a 15th-century rectangular keep with a later Jacobean style wing. The complex is sited on a bend in the River Eske, near the mouth of Donegal Bay, and is surrounded by a 17th-century boundary wall. There is a small gatehouse at its entrance mirroring the design of the keep. Most of the stonework was constructed from locally sourced limestone with some sandstone. The castle was the stronghold of the O'Donnell clan, Lords of Tír Conaill and one of the most powerful Gaelic families in Ireland from the 5th to the 16th centuries.

**Overnight in Mill Park Hotel, Donegal, Bed & Breakfast included.**

#### **Day 7: Studio Donegal, Slieve League Cliffs and Glencolmcille**

Begin your day with a visit to Studio Donegal, a hand-weaving and clothing manufacturing business committed to preserving and promoting traditional Irish hand-weaving. Here you will see the process of hand-weaving including the spinning, warping and weaving of the wool. Beautifully tailored vests, jackets and homeware products are made on site from their own fabrics. Studio Donegal's soft Merino yarn is dyed and spun in the region and sold on site. Next stop is the stunningly beautiful Slieve League Cliffs some of the highest and finest marine cliffs in Europe and the inspiration for Edel's locally spun Sliabh Liag wool. Travel onward to Glencolmcille Folk Village, a collection of several small cottages, called a 'clachan', resting on a hillside that overlooks the stunning Glen Bay Beach. Designed, constructed and conserved by local people, the Folk Village is one of Ireland's longest running living-history museums.

**Overnight in Mill Park Hotel, Donegal, Dinner, Bed & Breakfast Included.**

#### **Day 8: Workshop with Edel MacBride & Derry City Walking Tour**

After breakfast travel to Derry to meet one of Ireland's finest knitwear designers, Edel MacBride for a core workshop including yarn pack, working the best of Irish moss, cable and Edel's favourite Aran stitches. After your workshop, take a Walking Tour of Derry City which will include some of the local attractions including Derry's Medieval Walls, Information on The Bogside, The Peoples

Gallery (Murals) The Bloody Sunday Story, The History of the Apprentice Boys, The Marching Season Traditions. Finish up with some free time to explore Derry city at your leisure & tonight dinner is not included so you can check out one of this city's superb restaurants.

**Overnight in Maldron Hotel, Derry, Bed & Breakfast Included**

**Day 9: Return to Dublin via The Ulster Folk Museum**

Check out of your hotel and return to Dublin via the Ulster American Folk Park in Omagh. The Ulster American Folk Park explores the historical link between Ulster and America, focusing particularly on the lifestyle and experiences of those immigrants who sailed from Ulster to America in the 18th and 19th centuries. Of particular interest to you may be the weaver's cottage where you will see an authentic handloom which would have been used to weave tweed or linen by the man of the house while his wife spun the flax fibres into yarn and the children carded and combed the flax in preparation for the spinning wheel. Staff here will give you a demonstration on the spinning wheel and tell you all about traditional yarn dyeing methods. Your final stop today will be Carrickmacross Lace to see the fine lace masterpieces that have been produced in the region since the early 1800's. Enjoy a demonstration where staff that are passionate about the beauty of this meticulously created craft will show you the intricate needlework involved with creating the finished pieces. Continue to your hotel in Dublin City Centre Hotel and check in. The remainder of the day is free for personal sightseeing or shopping before our final farewell dinner tonight.

**Overnight Camden Court Hotel, Dublin, Dinner, Bed & Breakfast included.**

**Day 10: Tour Ends**

After your final Irish breakfast depart the hotel for Dublin airport arriving in time to complete check-in formalities and that last-minute duty free shopping.

## Prices

18<sup>th</sup> June 2021 €3199 per person sharing/€729 supplement if single room required

Please note we charge in Euro for this tour.

### Optional Pre Tour Arrangements (Additional Cost Applies)

#### Package A

- 2 x Pre-Nights at a Dublin City Centre Hotel (Camden Court or similar)
- Arrival Transfer from Dublin Airport to Dublin City & transfer to Royal Marine Hotel for Woollinn
- Hop-On Hop-Off Sightseeing Ticket

Per person sharing one room €428

Supplement if single room is required €200

#### Package B

- 1 x Pre-Night at a Dublin City Centre Hotel (Camden Court or similar)
- Arrival Transfer from Dublin Airport to Dublin City & transfer to Royal Marine Hotel for Woollinn
- Hop-On Hop-Off Sightseeing Ticket

Per person sharing one room €297

Supplement if single room is required €100

## Booking Requirements & Cancellation Information

Please read our full terms & conditions on our website here:

<https://www.knittingtours.com/terms-conditions/>

An initial deposit of 20% of the total tour price is required to secure your booking and this is due once we receive your booking form.

Final payment is due 60 days before the tour departure date. Failure to pay final balance by this date may result in the cancellation of your place.

### **Cancellation Penalties:**

- Cancellation more than 60 days or more prior to itinerary start date – Full deposit is forfeit.
- Cancellation 59 days – 31 days prior to itinerary start date – 50% of total paid is forfeit
- Cancellation 30 days – 15 days prior to itinerary start date – 75% of total paid is forfeit
- Cancellation 14 days or less – 100% of total paid is forfeit

Note: Day one of the tour is the day of arrival. Cancellation charges will also apply to any extra services pre and post tour.

### **Postponements and Amendments**

- Should you wish to change your tour to one of our other available tours or to a different date, you can do so subject to tour availability. An amendment fee of EUR250/GBP250 per person will apply.
- Within 59 days of the tour commencement date the cancellation penalties set out in section 5 will apply and postponements will not be possible.