



# Ireland 2027

St. Brigit's Garden, Galway City, Connemara Loop, Strokestown House, River Shannon, Clonmacnoise, Iron Age Roadway, Birr Castle...

## ‘Connemara & Ireland’s Hidden Heartland’ Tour, 2027

with James & Bronagh Keigher: *Mahog Music Tours*

10 Nights: May 5 – 14 (Dispersing morning of 15<sup>th</sup> May)

The Park Inn at Shannon Airport...Co Clare

1 Night

The Station House, Clifden...Co Galway

3 Nights

Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone...Co Meath

5 Nights

The Park Inn at Shannon Airport...Co Clare

1 Night

\$3,500 Per/Person (Sharing room)      Single: \$4,100

**(Note: Limited Single space. Please check availability)**

**Check or money order only, payable to Mahog Music. (No credit card, sorry)**

**Mahog Music, PO Box 1256, Talent, OR 97540 USA**

**Includes:** 10 nights Dinner, B&B – Coach - Activities/Visits - Meal-tips.

**Excludes:** Air Travel — Lunches — Driver-tip — Insurance.

**Contact:** Bronagh (541) 326-6808      James (541) 941-9415

**E-mail:** [ToursMahogMuisic@proton.me](mailto:ToursMahogMuisic@proton.me)

## **Proposed Itinerary: Weather in May can affect slight changes.**

### **Day 1**

#### **Activity**

### **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2027**

As tour members arrive independently at Shannon Airport, cross the road to the Park Inn, and check in under **Mahog Music Tours**.

**6.00pm**, we gather in the bar for a **Welcome Drink**, prior to **Dinner at 7.00pm**

After **Dinner**, Evening free to relax, and prepare for morning departure.

**Park Inn, Shannon Airport (D. B.)**

### **Day 2**

#### **Activity**

### **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2027**

Depart for Clifden via **St. Brigit's Garden**; All 4 Seasons are celebrated at Ireland's Award-Winning Celtic Gardens & Visitor Centre.

En route, we will travel through the ruggedly beautiful Connemara landscapes.  
(Provided Lunch at St. Brigit's)

**After Dinner:** Entertainment with James and special guests.

**The Station House, Clifden...Co Galway (D. B.)**

### **Day 3**

#### **Activity**

### **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2027**

Today we meet up with renowned archeologist **Michael Gibbons**, for a journey on the western part of the Connemara Loop. Time with Michael is quality time indeed, as he has a rare talent for clarifying the past and how it relates to the present. We shall be on the bus listening to his commentary - a coastal drive through **Ballyconnelly** and **Roundstone**, with stops along the way.

(Independent lunch)

**After Dinner:** Entertainment with James and special guests.

**The Station House, Clifden...Co Galway (D. B.)**

### **Day 4**

#### **Activity**

### **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2027**

Today we take the ferry out to **Inishbofin** for a free day wandering the wonders of the island, looking for wildlife every step of the way – from corncrakes and starlings to red clover and wild thyme. Along the hedgerows, among the sand dunes and on ‘Bofin’s beautiful seashore – each day is different from the last on magical Inishbofin! (Independent lunch on the island)

**After Dinner:** Entertainment with James and special guests.

**The Station House, Clifden...Co Galway (D. B.)**

### **Day 5**

#### **Activity**

### **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2027**

Today will leave for Athlone via a stop in **Galway City**. We will have time to explore Galway; This medieval city is a whirlwind of activity with a wonderful selection of pubs, markets and modern art. The shops and restaurants run along a mile of original cobbled streets scattered with pretty churches, making the heart of the city easy to walk.

Suggestions include: **Hop-on-Hop-off bus & Galway Cathedral**.

**(Independent lunch in Galway)**

After **Dinner**, Entertainment with James and special guests.

**Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone...Co Meath (D. B.)**

#### **Evening Hotel**

## Day 6

### Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2027

#### Activity

Today we have a guided tour of Athlone Town. In the afternoon we will visit Tullamore for a guided tour of [Tullamore D.E.W. distillery](#).

(Independent Lunch, in Athlone)

#### Evening Hotel

After Dinner, Entertainment with James and special guests.

**Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone...Co Meath (D.B.)**

## Day 7

### Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2027

#### Activity

Today we visit [Strokestown Park](#) and [The Corlea Iron Age Roadway & Visitor Centre](#). In Strokestown Park House, Gardens & National Famine

Museum we discover the intimate and intriguing links between dramatically different Irish lives and explore the parallel lives of Strokestown Park's aristocratic landlords and their tenants during the Great Irish Famine at the state-of-the-art National Famine Museum. On the way home we stop at the Corlea Iron Age Roadway; Hidden away in the boglands, an inspiring relic of prehistory: a *togher* – an Iron Age road – built in 148 BC. Known locally as the Danes' Road, it is the largest of its kind to have been uncovered in Europe.

(Independent Lunch at Strokestown)

After Dinner, featured guests are a favourite vocal group, **Vinegar Bill.'**

**Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone...Co Meath (D.B.)**

## Day 8

### Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2027

#### Activity

Today we visit [Clonmacnoise](#); St Ciarán founded his monastery on the banks of the River Shannon in the 6<sup>th</sup> Century. The monastery flourished and became a great seat of learning, a University of its time with students from all over Europe. We will depart Clonmacnoise via the River Shannon on a [Viking](#) boat which will take us to Lough Ree and the hotel.

After Dinner, Entertainment with James and special guests.

**Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone...Co Meath (D.B.)**

## Day 9

### Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2027

#### Activity

Today we will visit the Historic [Castle of Birr](#). Set in the heritage town of Birr, Birr Castle Demesne spans 120 acres of stunning parklands and gardens, featuring over 5,000 species of trees and plants, wildlife, and scenic trails along rivers and waterfalls. Discover the Great Telescope, the Lunar Heat Machine, one of the world's oldest darkrooms, welcome videos, and Ireland's Historic Science Centre.

(Independent Lunch in Birr)

After Dinner, Evening at leisure.

**Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone...Co Meath (D.B.)**

#### Evening Hotel

## Day 10 Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2027

### Activity

Depart for the return drive back to the Park Inn. En route we stop at [Portumna Castle](#) for lunch then continue to Lough Derg for an hour-long cruise aboard the [Spirit of Killaloe](#).

(Independent Lunch)

### Evening

After **Dinner**, **James** hosts a final concert program with **Special Guests**

**Andrew (accordion)   Mark (fiddle)   Brendan (Guitar & Vocals)**

### Hotel

[\*\*Park Inn, Shannon Airport \(D. B.\)\*\*](#)

## Day 11 Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2027

### Activity

Breakfast is included, between 6:30am and 10am.      (Not as a group)

**This is the Official End of the Tour! Thank You!**

**You could plan to fly out of this morning...or make other plans.**

For those staying an additional night, or nights, at the Park Inn before or after the tour, we will ask you in good time if extra nights are required and will process and make the reservations on your behalf. You don't need to contact the Park Inn; just show up with your Credit Card.

Call with questions: Bronagh (541) 326-6808   James (541) 941-9415

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