



Birr Castle

‘Heartland & Inishbofin’ Tour, 2028

Strokestown House, Clonmacnoise, Birr Castle, Galway City, Inishbofin & Inishturk...

10 Nights: April 19 – 28
(Disperse morning of Sat 29th April)

Park Inn, Shannon Airport... Co Clare

Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone...Co Meath

Murray’s Doonmore Hotel, Inishbofin Island... Co Galway

Park Inn, Shannon Airport... Co Clare

1 Night

3 Nights

5 Nights

1 Night

\$3,500 Per/Person (Sharing room, Double or Twin))

\$4,100 Per/Person (Single)

(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: ToursMahogMusic@proton.me

Proposed Itinerary: Weather in April can affect slight changes.

Day 1 Wednesday 19th April 2028

Activity As tour members arrive independently at Shannon Airport, cross the road to the Park Inn, and check in under **Mahog Music Tours**.
At 6pm, we gather in the bar area for a **Welcome Drink**, prior to **Dinner at 7.00pm**
Evening After **Dinner**, Evening free to relax, and prepare for morning departure.
Hotel **Park Inn, Shannon Airport (D. B)**

Day 2 Thursday 20th April 2028

Activity Today we leave for Athlone via a stop at 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)
Evening After **Dinner**, Evening free.
Hotel **Hodson Bay Hotel, Co Meath (D. B.)**

Day 3 Friday 21st April 2028

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)
Evening After **Dinner**, Concert featuring the return of **Vinegar Bill** a renowned folk/trad band.
Hotel **Hodson Bay Hotel, Co Meath (D. B.)**

Day 4 Saturday 22nd April 2028

Activity Today we visit [Clonmacnoise](#); St Ciarán founded his monastery on the banks of the River Shannon in the 6th 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.
(Independent lunch at Clonmacnoise)
Evening After **Dinner**, Entertainment with James & special guest.
Hotel **Hodson Bay Hotel, Co Meath (D. B.)**

Day 5

Sunday 23rd April 2028

Activity

Today we leave Athlone for [Inishbofin](#). We will stop Clifden; a picturesque coastal town, often referred to as the "Capital of Connemara." It is known for its stunning landscapes, outdoor activities, and vibrant cultural scene. We will have time for lunch before journeying onward to the village of Cleggan and the ferry.

Upon arrival on the island, we will check into **Murray's Doonmore Hotel**, our home for five nights.

(Independent lunch in Clifden)

Evening Hotel

After **Dinner**, Entertainment in the Function Room
Murray's Doonmore Hotel, Co. Galway (D. B.)

Day 6

Monday 24th April 2028

Activity

Today we meet with local guide [Tommy Burke](#) for an audio visual & chat re: Inishbofin. The rest of the day is free to explore 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)

Evening Hotel

After **Dinner**, Entertainment in the Function Room
Murray's Doonmore Hotel, Co. Galway (D. B.)

Day 7

Tuesday 25th April 2028

Activity

Free morning on the Island.

This afternoon we will meet with a wildlife Ranger for a birdwatching walk. Inishbofin is a breeding area for many species of birds which can be viewed from a distance without causing distress to the breeding population.

(Independent lunch)

Evening Hotel

After **Dinner**, Entertainment in the Function Room
Murray's Doonmore Hotel, Co. Galway (D. B.)

Day 8

Wednesday 26th April 2028

Activity

Free morning on the Island.

An afternoon guided walk on the island with archaeologist Michael Gibbons, the founder of the Clifden Hill Walking Club. Michael has also lectured Archaeology at Smithsonian's, Harvard, Sydney & Melbourne Universities. His special interests include Pilgrimage Mountains & Islands of Ireland.

(Independent lunch)

Evening Hotel

After **Dinner**, concert featuring the **Inishbofin Céili Band**.
Murray's Doonmore Hotel, Co. Galway (D. B.)

Day 9 Thursday 27th April 2028

Activity

Depending on the weather and landing possibilities, we make the crossing to the neighboring island of [Inishturk](#) (approximately 45 min. journey). Inishturk is renowned for its' majestic cliffs and is regarded by many as the highlight of their visit.

We will have **Michael Gibbons** and **Tommy Burke** with us for a walk around the Island.

(Provided lunch in the Island's community center)

Evening

After **Dinner**, Entertainment in the Function Room.

Hotel

Murray's Doonmore Hotel, Co. Galway (D. B.)

Day 10 Friday 28th April 2028

Activity

We depart Inishbofin for the Park Inn, Shannon Airport. On the way south we will have a leisurely stop in [Galway City](#), arriving back at the Park Inn late afternoon.

(Independent lunch in Galway)

Evening

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

Andrew (accordion) Mark (fiddle) Brendan (guitar & vocals)

Hotel

Park Inn Co. Clare (D. B.)

Day 11 Saturday 29th April 2028

Activity

Breakfast is included, served 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 Bronagh with questions: (541) 326-6808 James (541) 941-9415

ToursMahogMusic@proton.me