

# SOMOS Literary Pilgrimage

## May 4-14, 2020

Land Price: **\$3,400** per person, twin occupancy

Single Room Supplement: \$625

Optional Travel Protection Insurance \$239 per person

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### Tour Includes:

- Exclusive transport by luxury motorcoach with a driver/guide
- Meet and greet service with one group transfer upon arrival and departure at the airport
- Hotel accommodation based on twin bedded rooms with private bath as listed for 9 nights
- Full breakfasts (9)
- Dinners (6):
- Ferry to Inis Meain
- Visits and admission fees to: Trinity College, National Library of Ireland, Dublin Writer's Museum, Chester Beatty Library, Kilmainham Gaol, Patrick Kavanagh Centre, Seamus Heaney Centre for Poetry, Ardagh Heritage & Creativity Centre, Strokestown House, Yeats Society, Drumcliffe Churchyard, Museum of Country Life, Thoor Ballylee, Coole Park, Cathoair Synge, Frank McCourt Museum

- Hotel portorage, service charges and government taxes
- Flight bags, ticket wallets, baggage tags and identifying strap

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Guided literary tour of Dublin
- Scenic cruise on Lough Gill to the Isle of Innisfree
- Theatre performance at the Abbey Theatre
- C.S. Lewis & Angela's Ashes walking tour

### HOTELS

Trinity City Hotel, Dublin (2)  
Europa Hotel, Belfast (1)  
Abbey Hotel, Roscommon (1)  
Radisson Blu Hotel, Sligo (2)  
Galmont Hotel, Galway (2)  
Temple Gate Hotel, Ennis (1)

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**To book or for questions, contact:**

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**WISU Travel**

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**OR**

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This tour is subject to CIE Tours' booking guidelines and cancellation penalties. Refer to General Conditions on website (cietours.com) or back cover of current brochure. CST# 2021285-20.

# SOMOS Literary Pilgrimage Tour Itinerary

## Monday, May 4 DEPART THE UNITED STATES

Depart your hometown and take an overnight flight across the Atlantic. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service as you travel to start your vacation.

## Tuesday, May 5 DUBLIN ARRIVAL

Land at Dublin Airport, complete customs and immigration formalities before meeting your CIE Tours driver/guide, who will welcome you to Ireland. Set off with a local guide who will take you on a literary tour of Dublin. The city has been molded through the centuries with many architectural styles, reflecting the economic, political and artistic influences. Stop at Trinity College to see the Book of Kells, an 8th century illuminated manuscript of the gospels and see the Old Library. Next, visit the National Library of Ireland, which contains the most comprehensive collection of Irish documentary material in the world, including first editions of many prominent Irish authors. It also offers a family history section and a genealogy advisory service for tracing ancestors. Transfer to your nearby hotel, check in and settle into your room. In the evening, join your fellow travelers for dinner in the hotel restaurant.

*Dinner & Overnight: Trinity City Hotel, Dublin*

## Wednesday, May 6 WRITER'S MUSEUM & KILMAINHAM

Today, tour the Dublin Writer's Museum, which provides a good introduction to the field of Irish writing. The collection includes an impressive array of photographs, paintings, first editions and memorabilia, especially from prominent writers such as James Joyce, G. B. Shaw, Brendan Behan and many others. Next, visit Chester Beatty Library, which houses manuscripts, drawings, and other rare books that once belonged to Sir Alfred Beatty. Finally, visit Kilmainham Gaol to see what punishment was like during its years of operation from 1796 to 1924. Learn about political prisoners, especially from the 1916 Rising, detained here because of their efforts to shape Ireland's history. After your visit, you will have some time on your own to explore Dublin on your own.

After an independent dinner, enjoy a performance at Abbey Theatre. Lady Gregory together with W. B. Yeats, founded the theatre in 1904.

*Overnight: Trinity City Hotel, Dublin*

## Thursday, May 7 PATRICK KAVANAGH & SEAMUS HEANEY POETRY

Travel to Inniskeen to visit the Patrick Kavanagh Centre, which is dedicated to the work of the well-known poet, who the centre is named after. Next, take the C.S. Lewis walking tour of Belfast, which will show you areas in the city that inspired C.S. Lewis that eventually helped him shaped the magic and beloved world of Narnia. Your final stop of the day will be to the Seamus Heaney Centre for Poetry (Queen's University) to learn about many great Irish poets, some that might be new and upcoming as well as beloved, classical poetry. Check into your hotel and settle in before dinner with your group.

*Dinner & Overnight: Europa Hotel, Belfast*

## Friday, May 8 STROKESTOWN HOUSE

Leave Belfast and head to Ardagh so you can visit the Ardagh Heritage and Creativity Centre. While here, learn about Ardagh rich literary history along with the towns' connection with Sir Walter Scott, Maria Edgeworth and Oliver Goldsmith. Continue on to visit the Strokestown Park House which dates from the 17th century. This fine mansion shows the lifestyle of the affluent owners and also the conditions of the servants and farmers of the area, particularly during the

Famine era of the 1840s when many Irish emigrated to the United States. Then drive to your hotel in Roscommon, where you will check in for dinner and your overnight stay.

*Dinner & Overnight: Abbey Hotel Leisure & Conference Centre, Roscommon*

## Saturday, May 9 YEATS SOCIETY

This morning, visit the Yeats Society, which houses many informational displays on the life and work of the poet W.B. Yeats. The Yeats Society also offers workshops and seminars on various literary topics throughout the year. Also, visit the Sligo County Museum before checking into your nearby hotel. If time permits, explore some of Sligo on your own before dinner with your group.

*Dinner & Overnight: Radisson Blu Hotel, Sligo*

## Sunday, May 10 DRUMCLIFFE CHURCHYARD

Motor a short distance to Drumcliffe Churchyard so you can view W.B. Yeats' grave. Continue to the shores of Lough Gill to embark on scenic cruise. Relax and enjoy the panoramic view while the crew gives a live commentary. Then you might enjoy a casual hike through a section of the Benbulbin Mountain before heading back to Sligo for a free evening.

*Overnight: Radisson Blu Hotel, Sligo*

## Monday, May 11 MUSEUM OF COUNTRY LIFE & GALWAY

After breakfast, tour the Museum of Country Life, an eye-opening exhibition portraying the lives of ordinary people who lived in rural Ireland in the period 1850-1950. Next, drive to just outside of Gort to visit Thoor Ballylee. The writer W. B. Yeats purchased the 16th century tower house in 1916 and restored it as a summer retreat. Stop at Coole Parke before checking into your Galway hotel. You may wish to relax or freshen up before tonight's festivities. Tonight, head to Dunguaire Castle, a beautifully restored 15th century castle for a sumptuous meal and fun program that focuses on Ireland's literary heritage.

*Overnight: Galmont Hotel, Galway*

## Tuesday, May 12 EXCURSION TO INISH MEAIN

Today, take a ferry to Inish Meain to visit Teach Synge, which was once owned by John Millington Synge, who was a playwright, who was key in the Irish Literary Revival. He also had a hand in founding Abbey Theatre. Continue on to visit Cathaoir Synge, which was the home of J.M. Synge, who is known for writing the play, Playboy of the Western World and Riders to the Sea. Return to Galway for a free evening.

*Overnight: Galmont Hotel, Galway*

## Wednesday, May 13 FRANK MCCOURT MUSEUM

Depart Galway and head to Limerick so you can visit the Frank McCourt Museum, dedicated to the author who wrote the novel, Angela's Ashes. Learn about the struggles that Frank McCourt endured while he and his siblings grew up in poverty. Then take the Angela's Ashes walking tour to see sites associated with the famous book. Afterwards, drive to the village of Ennis and check into your hotel. Once you settle in, you are free for individual pursuits and dining.

*Overnight: Temple Gate Hotel, Ennis*

## Thursday, May 14 RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES

Transfer to Shannon Airport in good time to check in for your flight. You may do some last minute shopping at the duty free stores before boarding your aircraft and flying across the Atlantic Ocean back to the United States.

**For reservations, please complete the form below and include your non-refundable deposit of \$250 per person. Optional Trip Protection Insurance is additional at \$239 per person and is also due at the time of deposit.**

Full name of passenger (must match passport) _____	
Nationality _____	Date of Birth ____/____/____ Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F
Inbound Flight Arrival Details _____	
Outbound Departure Details _____	
Type of Room: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 BED <input type="checkbox"/> 2 BEDS If sharing a TWIN room, provide name of roommate _____ (N/A if no roommate)	
Street Address _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> I would like the Optional Trip Protection Insurance. \$239 payment is enclosed.	
City/State/Zip _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> I am paying via credit card. Please charge \$ _____	
Daytime Phone _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/> American Express <input type="checkbox"/> Discover	
Evening Phone _____	
Name on Card _____	
Email _____	
Card Number _____	
Expiration Date ____/____ Security Code _____	
Emergency Contact _____	
Emergency Contact Phone _____	

**Send Reservation Form with credit card payment to:**

**WISU Travel, Attn: William Leslie, PO Box 157, 5794 Hwy 518, Vadito, NM 87579**

**GRP #492897**