

Waukee Northwest High School

FANS Tour

March 14 – 22, 2025

**BRT** Bob Rogers Travel



# IRELAND

## Trip Highlights

- St. Patrick's Day Parade
- Irish Dancing Lessons
- City Tour of Belfast
- Cliffs of Moher
- Trinity College
- Christ Church Cathedral
- Guinness Storehouse
- Phoenix Park
- Kilkenny Castle
- ...and much more!

---

**WAUKEE NORTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL FRIENDS AND FAMILY  
DESTINATION: IRELAND  
DATES: MARCH 14-22, 2025**

**SUGGESTED ITINERARY  
AS OF  
DECEMBER 4, 2023**

**Mike Wallace – Travel Consultant  
Erin Harrah – Tour Coordinator**

---

**FRIDAY, MARCH 14** \_\_\_\_\_ **CHICAGO - DUBLIN** \_\_\_\_\_ **(in-flight meals)**

AM Coaches arrive at Waukee Northwest High School (Time TBD)

PM Coaches depart for O'Hare Airport

PM Arrive at **Chicago's O'Hare Airport**

Upon arrival Meet the **BRT Representative** ~ who will assist you and the group with check in; **you will be allowed one piece of checked baggage not to weigh more than 50 lbs.**

**\*Must have VALID Passport. Passport must be valid for at least 6 month after your travel dates.\***

PM Group departs on **transatlantic flight** bound for Dublin

Enjoy the in-flight entertainment and your dinner en-route to Ireland

---

**SATURDAY, MARCH 15****DUBLIN****(Lunch & Dinner)**

## WELCOME TO IRELAND!

- AM After clearing Irish customs and Immigration you will meet your Professional **Tour Director** outside the customs area in the Arrival Hall. Walk as a group to the Coach parking area.
- AM Load Motor coaches, and depart for Nassau Street for some free time, and lunch (traveler cost)
- Afterwards Group departs for Guinness **Dublin**
- PM Visit the Guinness Storehouse
- PM Visit + Tasting - Guinness Storehouse  
*The Storehouse was originally built in 1904 to house the Guinness fermentation process. The core of the building is modelled on a giant pint glass. The tour takes you step by step through the brewing process, finishing at the Gravity Bar where you will receive a complimentary pint of Guinness whilst enjoying the panoramic views over Dublin city.*  
[www.guinness-storehouse.com/en](http://www.guinness-storehouse.com/en)
- PM Load coaches, and depart for your hotel
- PM Dinner and overnight at Clayton Hotel Charlemont  
<https://www.claytonhotelcharlemont.com/>

---

**SUNDAY, MARCH 16****KILKENNY****(Breakfast and Dinner)**

AM Enjoy your first taste of a **full Irish Breakfast** this morning (eggs, rashers (bacon), sausage, black pudding, white pudding, beans and brown bread and wash it all down with a cup of Irish Tea. ~ Of course you can have a breakfast of cereal, yogurt, toast and coffee if you wish

Load Coaches and depart for **Kilkenny**

We drive to the medieval city of **Kilkenny** today.

We will walk through **St. Canice's Cathedral** and admire the high crosses found in the cemetery, and the round tower adjacent to it. With a chance to appreciate the strength and charm of the Anglican influence, we visit the imposing fortress, **Kilkenny Castle** and its **lovely gardens**. It was once the seat of the Butler family, Marquesses and Dukes of Ormonde and is now ours to explore.

**Waukee Northwest High School Marching Band will have a performance at Kilkenny Castle (subject to acceptance)**

Enjoy some free time in this beautiful city for souvenir shopping

PM Enjoy **dinner** and a **pint of Guinness** at a local Kilkenny Pub

PM Load motor coaches, return to hotel

**MONDAY, MARCH 17**

**PARADE DAY!!!**

**(Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner)**

- 
- 8:00 AM Enjoy your breakfast in the hotel (*group will be split into 3 groups for breakfast. 7:00, 7:30, and 8:00*)
- Time TBD** Depart for the Grand Stand near Christ Church Cathedral. You will be able to relax and sit after your morning breakfast. Enjoy the parade and of course be ready to cheer for the “Marching Illini”
- 12:00 PM The Parade steps off -the parade in Dublin is possibly the most colorful and vibrant St. Patrick's Day parade in the world, attracting thousands of revelers each year. – it should take approximately 20-25 minutes for the first unit in the parade to arrive at your viewing stand
- Afterward You will have some free time to enjoy the hustle and bustle of Dublin on St. Patrick's Day. Take in the sights and sounds, and enjoy lunch (traveler cost)
- PM Load motor coaches, return to hotel, freshen up for dinner
- PM **Dinner** and overnight at hotel

---

**TUESDAY, MARCH 18** **BELFAST** **(Breakfast and Dinner)**

- Morning **Breakfast** at your hotel.
- Afterwards Board motor coach; depart for **Belfast** (*approximately 2 driving hours*)
- Upon arrival Enjoy a step-on guide tour of Belfast, featuring **Shankill and Falls Road, Belfast City Hall, Belfast Castle**, and then we'll learn about the city's great **industrial era and the remarkable Titanic**, which was launched from Belfast's shipyard in 1911. The troubles took their toll on the economic life of Belfast but the past ten years of peace have returned much prosperity while the genuine friendliness of the city never left!
- Afterwards Enjoy time for lunch on own before we visit the **Titanic Museum** *Titanic Belfast extends over nine galleries with innovative interactive features to explore the Titanic story in a fresh and insightful way. Explore the shipyard, travel to the depths of the ocean and uncover the true legend of Titanic, in the city where it all began.*
- Evening Return to Dublin; freshen up for the evening
- TBD **Dinner** in the hotel this evening

---

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19** **DUBLIN** **(Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner)**

- AM Breakfast at the hotel
- AM Load coaches and depart for Glasnevin Cemetary  
*Visit the Cemetery and Museum - Glasnevin Cemetery Museum*  
*Glasnevin Cemetery was established by legendary Irish **statesman Daniel O'Connell** in 1832. Key figures from **Irish history and culture** have been laid to rest within these grounds such as: **Michael Collins**, Charles Stewart Parnell, **Éamon de Valera**, Countess Markievicz, Maud Gonne, **Luke Kelly** and **Brendan Behan** to name but a few. The site spans **124 acres**, boasting a vast array of **ornate sculptures, Celtic crosses** and stunning flowers & trees.*  
<https://www.glasnevinmuseum.ie/tours/>
- PM Load coaches, and return to Dublin City Centre and for lunch and dinner (both traveler cost)
- PM Overnight at Clayton Hotel Charlemont

---

**THURSDAY, MARCH 20****DUBLIN/CLARE****(Breakfast and Dinner)**

AM Enjoy Breakfast in the hotel

PM Load and depart for Galway City

Arrive in **Galway City - the Arts Capital of Ireland**

**Arty**, bohemian Galway (Gaillimh) is one of Ireland's most engaging cities. **Brightly painted storefronts** heave with **live music**, while restaurants and cafes offer **front-row seats for observing buskers and street theatre**. Remnants of the **medieval town walls** lie between shops selling **handcrafted Claddagh rings**, books and **musical instruments**, bridges arch over the salmon-stuffed River Corrib, and a long promenade leads to the seaside suburb of Salthill, on Galway Bay, the source of the area's **famous oysters**. While it's **steeped in history**, the city buzzes with a **contemporary vibe**, thanks in part to students, who make up a quarter of the population. Its energy and creativity have seen it designated the **European Capital of Culture in 2020**.

Lunch (Traveler Cost)

Load coaches and depart for the Cliffs of Moher

AM Arrive at the **Cliffs of Moher**

**Cliffs of Moher**, which rise nearly **700 feet from the Atlantic Ocean**. The cliffs take their name from a ruined promontory fort "Mothar", which was demolished during the Napoleonic wars in the early 1800s to make room for a signal tower at Hag's Head. On a clear day, the **Aran Islands, Galway Bay**, as well as the **Dingle Peninsula** are all in view.

PM Load coaches and depart for Durty Nelly's

PM Enjoy **dinner** and a **drink** at **Durty Nellies** (venue, based on availability)

PM Load coaches and return to hotel

**FRIDAY, MARCH 21** **DUBLIN** **(Breakfast, lunch, and dinner)**

AM **Breakfast** at your hotel

AM Load coaches, and depart for Dublin City Centre

AM Depart on a **panoramic tour of Dublin** with a local step-on guide

Our city guides will take us on a panoramic **tour of Dublin City**, discovering the north side of the River Liffey. This area offers great striking monuments such as the **GPO** (General Post Office) on the city's main thoroughfare, **O'Connell Street**, or the Custom House along the quays, as well as the **Phoenix Park**, the largest public park in Europe, and **Christchurch Cathedral**.

Lunch in the area (student cost)

Afterward Visit **EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum**

As you uncover the story of **Irish emigrants** and how they **shaped the world**, you'll realize that emigration is not about what people leave behind, but what they bring with them. The museum was founded on the belief **that emigration is one of the most interesting ways to fully understand a country**.  
[www.epicchq.com](http://www.epicchq.com)

PM Load coaches and depart for dinner

PM Enjoy dinner and a show at **The Merry Ploughboy**

Widely regarded as the **best traditional music show in Dublin**. A highly entertaining performance of live **traditional Irish Music, Song and Irish Dancing**. The very best of **fresh Irish food** is served and offers a **choice menu**.  
<https://www.mpbpub.com/>

PM **Dinner** and overnight at your hotel



---

**SATURDAY, MARCH 22**                      **Departure Day**                      **(Breakfast and in-flight meals)**

- AM    Enjoy your final Irish Breakfast
  
- AM    Check out of hotel
  
- AM    Depart for Dublin Airport for check in and US Immigration and Customs Clearance
  
- PM    Depart Dublin on your transatlantic flight for Chicago
  
- PM    Arrive at O'Hare Airport Chicago
  
- PM    Board motor coaches and depart for Waukee Northwest HS
  
- PM    Arrive at Waukee Northwest HS

**WELCOME HOME!!!**