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## GEEO ITINERARY

Ireland for NYSEC

### **Day 1: Dublin Arrive in Dublin at any time. Meet your group for a welcome meeting around 6:00 or 7:00 p.m.**

Arrive in Dublin at any time. Due to the potential for flight delays or cancellations, we recommend that you plan to arrive in Ireland at least a day in advance. This will also give you time to adjust to the time difference and overcome any jetlag. We can book extra hotel nights for you in Dublin before the trip. Please note that check-in at the hotel is usually around 2:00-3:00 p.m. There are no planned activities until an intro meeting around 6:00 or 7:00 p.m., usually in the hotel lobby. Check for a sign or ask at the reception desk about the exact time and location of the group meeting. Please make every effort to arrive in time for this meeting. If you are delayed and will arrive late, please inform us. Your tour leader will then leave you a message at the front desk informing you of where and when to meet up tomorrow. After the meeting, you might choose to get dinner at a nearby restaurant with your traveling companions and your tour leader to further get to know one another. **Accommodation:** Staycity Tivoli Dublin (or similar) \* For the actual hotel your specific departure will be using, please check your voucher.

### **Day 2: Dublin Take a free day to roam the cobblestone streets of this historic city.**

Today, you are free to roam the cobblestone streets of this historic city. Walk along the River Liffey or marvel at the city's medieval castles and cathedrals. Don't tire yourself out too much – you'll want to get out later tonight and experience the nightlife for which the Temple Bar area is known. If you've already seen the city, this would be a good time to take a day tour of Newgrange and the Hill of Tara. See our optional activities list below for some ideas on how to spend your time. **Accommodation:** Staycity Tivoli Dublin (or similar) **Meals included:** Breakfast

### **Day 3: Dublin/Killarney Continue on to Killarney.**

This morning, we drive to Killarney. After we arrive in the late afternoon, you will have the evening to explore the area at your leisure. You may want to take a traditional Jaunting Cart (horse and buggy ride), visit Muckross House and Abbey, or see Ross Castle along the banks of Lough Leane. You can also visit Killarney National Park, home to the only native red deer in the country. The National Park is a great place to enjoy nature by walking along the edge of the famous and scenic Killarney Lakes or biking on the trails through the forest to seek out some of the waterfalls in the area. If time and weather permits, we recommend taking an optional boat tour to explore the ruins of Inisfallen Abbey. **Approximate travel time:** 4-4.5 hrs by private vehicle **Accommodation:** Tatler Jack (or similar) **Meals included:** Breakfast

### **Day 4: Killarney Enjoy a day trip to experience some sights along the famous Ring of Kerry. Return to Killarney for another night in town.**

We enjoy a day trip to experience some sights along the famous Ring of Kerry today. One of Ireland's most popular destinations, the Ring is a winding coastal road through a gorgeous mountainous and lake-spattered region. Visitors since Victorian times have been drawn to this evocative chunk of the Emerald Isle, where mysterious ancient ring forts stand sentinel on mossy hillsides. Afterward, we return to Killarney for another night in town. **Accommodation:** Tatler Jack (or similar) **Meals included:** Breakfast

### **Day 5: Killarney/Galway City Travel to Ireland's west coast to Galway. Set off on a guided walking tour before enjoying a free afternoon to explore the city.**

This morning, we travel to Ireland's west coast to Galway, where we will set off on a guided walking tour before enjoying a free afternoon to explore the city's colorful streets and bohemian atmosphere. Galway

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is known as Ireland's Cultural Heart and is renowned for its vibrant lifestyle and numerous festivals, celebrations, and events. In the evening, head out for an optional dinner and drinks in a local pub. **Approximate travel time:** 2.5-3 hrs by private vehicle **Accommodation:** Imperial Hotel Galway (or similar) **Meals included:** Breakfast

**Day 6 Galway City Travel to the breathtaking Cliffs of Moher. Walk through picturesque countryside along the cliffs. Return to Galway for the evening. Opt for a night out at the local pub.**

Today, we drive and hike along the Wild Atlantic Way route from Doolin to the breathtaking Cliffs of Moher. The Wild Atlantic Way, 1,600 miles in length, is one of the longest defined coastal routes in the world, winding its way all along the Irish west coast. We will walk along the cliffs, with a maximum height of 214 m (702 ft) above the Atlantic, taking in the amazing views. The hike on the Cliffs of Moher can be difficult for some people. It also can be muddy, so boots are handy here. After spending time along the coast, we return to Galway for the evening. You might choose to have a night out at the local pub. **Approximate travel time:** 1.5-2 hrs by private vehicle **Accommodation:** Imperial Hotel Galway (or similar) **Meals included:** Breakfast

**Day 7: Galway City/Belfast Travel along the coast towards Northern Ireland. Stop for lunch in the historic city of Derry. Visit Dark Hedges. End the day in Belfast.**

Today we travel along the coast towards Northern Ireland. We will stop for lunch in the historic city of Derry, known for the intact 17th-century Walls with seven gates. We will then visit Dark Hedges, an avenue of beech trees that form an atmospheric tunnel that has been used as a location in HBO's popular television series *Game of Thrones*. We'll end the day in Belfast in time for dinner and evening out at a local pub. **Approximate travel time:** 4 hrs by private vehicle **Accommodation:** Ibis Belfast City Centre (or similar) **Meals included:** Breakfast | Lunch

**Day 8: Belfast Stop at the Giant's Causeway and marvel at the natural phenomenon of its volcanic columns. Continue on to Bushmills Distillery for a guided tour of the oldest working distillery in Ireland. Return to Belfast.**

This morning we'll get in our vehicle and drive to the Giant's Causeway, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the most stunning coastlines in Europe. This area is known for its unique, polygonal column rock formations that were created by a volcanic eruption 60 million years ago. You don't want to forget your camera for this one. Then we will take a guided tour of the Old Bushmills Distillery, the oldest working distillery in Ireland. For over 400 years, this distillery has believed the secret to good whiskey is crafting the spirit in small batches; taste the difference yourself as you indulge in a whiskey tasting. We'll return to Belfast for a final night out on the town with the group and raise a pint to this beautiful island! **Approximate travel time:** 3 hrs by private vehicle **Accommodation:** Ibis Belfast City Centre (or similar) **Meals included:** Breakfast

**Day 9: Belfast Depart Belfast at any time.**

There are no planned activities today, so you may depart Belfast at any time. If you wish to extend your stay in Belfast, consider booking post-tour accommodation with us. If you booked a round-trip flight to Dublin, there are convenient and affordable transfer options from Belfast to Dublin, including direct trains to Dublin Connolly station with [Irish Rail](#) (2-2.25 hrs) or buses with [DublinExpress](#), [Aircoach](#), and [Translink](#). Please note that check-out time from the hotel is usually mid-morning, but luggage storage services are available at the reception desk. Want more adventure? Book two or more GEEO programs in the same school year and receive a discount! GEEO will give you 10% off of the lesser value program(s) (up to 3 programs per year). If you would like to extend your time abroad but don't see another GEEO program that interests you, let us know. We can work with you to find a trip from our tour operator's much larger catalog. Their tours are open to the general public and not designed specifically for educators, but we can still offer you and your travel companions a discounted educator price on any additional tours that

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you book. **Meals included:** Breakfast

*\*Itinerary Disclaimer: While it is our intention to adhere to the routes described on our website, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable, to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The information on our website is a general guide to the tour and region, and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.*