

IRELAND
Honeymoon, June, 1995

Monday, June 19

Arrive Dublin

- Trinity College - Book of Kells
- Dublin Castle - tour to Undercroft
- Royal Chapel and Record Tower

Deli lunch in front of City Hall

- Christ Church Cathedral - crypt and stone bridge over street
- St. Patrick's Cathedral

Back to car via Temple Bar and short rain

Head for Malahide - Heatherview B&B

Walk beach from Malahide to Portmarnock

Dinner with music in Malahide pub called "Lounge"

Tuesday, June 20

Visit Malahide Castle furnished in period antiques

Drive to Drogheda

- St. Peter's Church with embalmed head of St. Oliver Plunkett
- St. Laurence Gate
- Magdalene Steeple on top of hill

Lunch in bakery

Climb Millmount and see Butter Gate

Two arches remaining from old abbey

Boyne View B&B in Slane

- Knowth (under restoration)
- Newgrange with tour in tomb
- Back to Knowth for refund - we now have Heritage Passes!
- Mellifont Abbey with lavabo
- Monasterboice with round tower and high crosses
- Hill of Slane where St. Patrick lit fire in defiance of the Druids

Dinner at Poet's Rest

Wednesday, June 21

- Hill of Tara (Druid settlement and seat of kings)

Drive around Dublin and through Wicklow Mountains (Sally's Gap down Old Military Road with waterfall along roadside) to Rathdrum

St. Bridget's B&B

Buy lunch in grocery and eat in park

Drive to Glendalough

- Slide show and tour including double gates and gate house
- Sanctuary Stone
- Round tower
- Church
- St. Kevin's kitchen (with small tower)
- Walk by lower lake to upper lake
 - Stone ring (fort)
 - Reefert Church ruins
 - St. Kevin's cell
 - Waterfall along Poulanass Trail

Eat dinner at Woolpack Pub

Thursday, June 22

Got groceries at same place as yesterday

Back to Glendalough (upper car park)

- Hiked a lake loop

- Out on miners' road
- Saw Kevin's Cell across lake
- Through old mine workings
- Around waterfall
- Boak Spink Mountain Walk (about 4 mi.)
 - Saw deer and sheep herd
 - Very spongy ground
 - Very steep descent
 - Better views than Walden Pond

Lunch beside stone circle

Drive to Athgreavy Piper's Stones (14 plus 1 stones)

Drive to New Ross Killarney House B&B

Dinner at John V's Pub

Walk in downtown New Ross -- dirty

Friday, June 23

Drive to Waterford and go directly to glass crystal factory -- saw blowing, inspection, wedge cutting, flat cutting and engraving of big pieces

Old city walls and towers

Drove to Rock of Cashel

Slide show, tour and putter around ruins.

Drove to Fervoy B&B

Eat at Charlie Browns, wait for bride and groom who never arrive

Saturday, June 24

Drive through Cork and on to Blarney.

Spend most of day in castle and gardens

- Kiss Blarney Stone
- Explore all levels of castle
- Walk through gardens and rock close with rock features with Druid names
- Ate lunch on green outside of castle

Drove to Fairways B&B in Tralee

Went to mass and walked rose garden

Drove to Tralee Golf Club and walked on the adjacent beach (Randy in the water)

Ate dinner at the Tankard Pub

Sunday, June 25

Drove over Connor Pass to Dingle

Take Sleah Head Loop

Visit ironage Dunbeg fort and beehive ruins nearby

Go along steep cliffs along pensinsula

Stop at Riach Monastic Settlement ruins

See Gallarus Oratory with two tour buses

Next go to Kilmalkedar Church ruins

Go to Brandon Creek

Return to Dingle for a beer while watching hurling

Dinner at the Forge Restaurant

Return to Tralee via Connor Pass

Monday, June 26

Leave Tralee for Ring of Kerry (buy makings for lunch before we go)

Stop to look at Abbey in Cahirciveen

Stop at craft center and buy a bracelet for Becky (bangle)

Take Skellig loop and stop at Portmagee

Try to get a boat to Skellig Island -- no luck, all boats leave in the morning

Left for Ballinskelligs
Eat lunch at the pass
Found pier (handy to town) and book boat trip for tomorrow
Went to Waterville and found Klondyke B&B
Drove along Ring of Kerry and find Stargue Fort (pre-Christian fort)
Walked along Kerry Way climbing to pass (about a mile)
Ate dinner at Scarriff Inn overlooking ocean
Return to B&B

Tuesday, June 27

Return of Ballinskelligs and take boat to Great Skellig
Climb to monastic ruins

- Eat lunch on cliffs
- Take pictures of puffins
- Bird poop everywhere (bridge over walkway to protect people from poop!)
- Saw basking sharks in water with divers near them

Boat trip back is around other side of Little Skellig which is a gannet rockery
Look at Ballinskellig Abbey ruins
Try to see Derrynane house but it is closed
Finish Ring of Kerry loop and find Cascades B&B in Killarney
Stop at Quills and get sweater for Jan

Wednesday, June 28

Rent bikes, buy lunch, change money and walk/ride to Dunlove Gap
Bike ride down through Killarney National Park
Take shortcut around lake where Jan falls and we end up walking bikes for long periods
Legs dead and rears sore on main road to Killarney
Stop at Torc Falls
Somehow make it back
Get ice cream as a reward
Drive to Limerick and get help finding Tickincor B&B
Eat dinner with wine again at Green Onion Caffé

Thursday, June 29

Get to airport without trouble
Turn in car
Shop duty free