



FLAVORS OF IRELAND

2026 YOUNG ALUMNI JOURNEY



TREASURE SEEKER

US Departure Date: **August 8, 2026**

Land Tour Start Date: **August 9, 2026**

Return Date: **August 16, 2026**

Land package from: **\$3265**

Visit our website www.aesu.com/umich for more details and to book.



START YOUR ADVENTURE

Dear Young Alumni and Friends!

Can you think of a better way to travel than with fellow University of Michigan young alumni?

The University of Michigan Alumni Association young alumni travel program, designed for recent grads ages 22 – 35, offers you this opportunity by bringing you together with individuals in the same age range, with similar backgrounds and experiences, while enriching you on well-designed, hassle-free tours of the world.

These programs provide social, cultural, and recreational activities and many opportunities for learning, enrichment and enjoying a connection back to University of Michigan. Our journeys are of great quality and value, operated by a travel company with over 48 years of experience in the young travel market.

In this brochure you will find a detailed itinerary, travel dates and pricing.

If you have any questions about this tour, please contact our tour operator, AESU Alumni World Travel, by calling 800-638-7640 or email alumni@aesu.com.

To make an online booking, please visit our young alumni tour landing page www.aesu.com/umich and select this tour to be directed to the tour web site.

We are looking forward to traveling with you this coming season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rachele Neu'.

RACHELE NEU B.S. '08, M.A. '12
Senior Travel Program Manager
Alumni Association of the University of Michigan
alumnitravel@umich.edu

The Young Alumni Travel Program is a benefit to current members of the Alumni Association of the University of Michigan. To join the Alumni Association, please visit
<https://alumni.umich.edu/membership/>

We strongly recommend that you protect yourself from anything that may occur on your trip by purchasing travel insurance through our partnership with Trawick.:
<https://alumni.trawickinternational.com/school/welcome/677/>

FLAVORS OF IRELAND

Embark on an unforgettable Irish adventure! Start in Dublin's lively Temple Bar district, enjoying a pint at the iconic Guinness Storehouse. Next, visit Kilbeggan Distillery for a taste of smooth Irish whiskey. Then, explore the artsy streets of Galway, indulging in fresh seafood and stunning coastal views. Finally, marvel at the breathtaking Cliffs of Moher, where dramatic cliffs meet the Atlantic. This journey promises unforgettable memories and a heart full of stories.

9-DAY TOUR OF DUBLIN, GALWAY, AND CORK

Transportation and Lodging

- 7 nights in superior tourist class hotels or better with private bath/shower, 2-share rooms
- Airport transfers included with purchased international AESU group airfare
- Private motor coach

Meals

- 7 Irish breakfasts
- 3 specialty lunches:
 - Birr Castle lunch
 - Foodie tour
 - Ballymaloe cooking school lunch
- 3 specialty dinners:
 - Welcome dinner
 - Franciscan Well Brick Pizza Oven dinner
 - Irish farewell dinner

Activities & Admissions

- Franciscan Well Microbrewery tasting
- English Market in Cork
- Dublin city sights:
 - College Green
 - Dublin Castle
 - Guinness Brewery
 - St. Patrick's Cathedral
 - Temple Bar and more
- Guided tour of Ballymaloe organic gardens
- Birr Castle
- Blarney Castle
- Kilkenny Castle
- Foodie tour of Galway
- Cliffs of Moher
- Burren Region
- Tour and tastings:
 - Kilbeggan Distillery
 - Jameson Distillery

Sights

- Dublin sights
- Town of Galway
- Cliffs of Moher
- Burren Region
- Kilkenny Castle
- Birr Castle
- Blarney Castle
- Cork city sights

PLUS

- Private tour director for the entire duration of the land tour
- All service charges and local taxes



EXPERIENCES

This trip has been carefully designed for young travelers and features fantastic inclusions and highlights. For a glossary of these key aspects, visit: www.aesu.com/aspects-awt



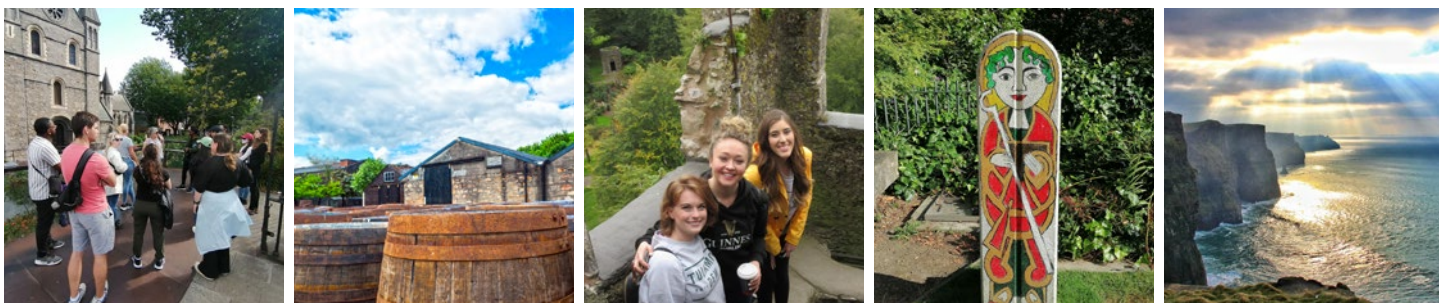
ACTIVITY LEVEL: MODERATE

This tour requires standing and walking for some extended periods of time during city or nature tours, museum visits, and/or outdoor activities. For more visit: <https://www.aesu.com/activity-levels-awt/>



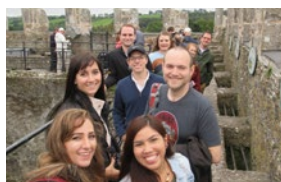
HOTELS

Hotels are centrally located and many offer great extra amenities such as pools, gyms or roof-top bars. All land package rates are based on two people sharing a room. If a single room is desired, a supplement of \$625 applies. If traveling solo and not wanting to pay the single supplement, AESU will attempt to arrange a share with a same-gender traveler. If a share cannot be arranged the single supplement will apply.



FLAVORS OF IRELAND ITINERARY

- DAY 1** **Day 1 – TRAVEL TO IRELAND**
 Board your overnight fl–ight to Dublin today.
Meals: In-flight
- DAY 2** **DAY 2 – LAND TOUR START DATE: DUBLIN**
 Welcome to Ireland! Proceed to your hotel in downtown Dublin with free time to rest or explore your surroundings. This evening, meet your travel companions for a welcome dinner and orientation with your tour director.
Inclusions: Airport transfer with purchased AESU airfare | Welcome orientation | Welcome dinner
Meals: In-flight | Dinner
- DAY 3** **DAY 3 – DUBLIN**
 On our city tour today, we will take in top attractions and landmarks including College Green, Dublin Castle, the Guinness Brewery, St Patrick’s Cathedral and Temple Bar. We then explore the Georgian streets around Parnell Square and Merrion Square and gain insight into Dublin’s rich history. Later we visit the Guinness Storehouse making sure to stop by Brewer’s Dining Hall for a taste of Guinness straight from the source. During free time this afternoon, explore Teeling, the only operational distillery in the city, for a tasting or tour the historic Dublin Jameson Distillery where the famed spirit was originally produced and bottled before moving to its new home in Midleton.
Inclusions: Guided tour of Dublin, led by a local historian | See College Green, Dublin Castle, St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Temple Bar and more | Guinness Storehouse visit
Meals: Breakfast
- DAY 4** **DAY 4 – DUBLIN - GALWAY**
 Expect a day chock-full of whiskey-filled knowledge. We’re off to Kilbeggan, one of Ireland’s oldest distilleries, established back in 1757. Get ready for an epic tour of the old warehouses, where we get an insider’s look at the whiskey-making process. We have the chance to chat with the passionate distillers and taste four unique whiskeys that showcase the rich flavors of Ireland. It’s the perfect blend of history and craft that’ll have your taste buds buzzing! Continue to Birr Castle with its grand gardens and intriguing science center. Enjoy a tranquil stroll among the exotic flowers of the castle’s award-winning gardens and browse the exhibits in the Historic Science Center before enjoying lunch in the castle’s café. We make our way to Galway, on the west coast of Ireland. From castles to cathedrals, from stone forts to beaches and picturesque filming locations, Galway is a place of stunning natural beauty. Enjoy an evening at your leisure.
Inclusions: Kilbeggan distillery tour and tasting | Birr Castle Gardens | Lunch at Birr Castle
Meals: Breakfast | Lunch



DAY 5

GALWAY

During leisure time this morning, consider a visit to the Latin Quarter, at the heart of which is colorful, bohemian Shop Street. Walk down from Lynch's Castle passing a lively mix of unique small shops. At lunch time, join us on a fun foodie tour. Stroll past Lynch's Castle, the Druid Theatre Company, and the broad expanse of Eyre Square, then view the city's medieval walls, the Spanish Arch and the Oscar Wilde statue while learning about Galway's history and heritage. Discover Galway's award-winning bars and restaurants on this gastronomic exploration. Taste delicious treats from family-run businesses and artisanal producers, hear their stories and bond over a glass of craft beer.

Inclusion: Foodie tour of Galway | Foodie lunch

Meals: Breakfast | Lunch

DAY 6

GALWAY – BURREN REGION – CLIFFS OF MOHER - CORK

As we continue our journey south, explore Ireland's beautiful Burren region, a wildly diverse ecosystem that is filled with the riches of Irish history; eons of stories, told and untold. Walk on top of the mighty Cliffs of Moher, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and enjoy panoramic views over the coastal scenery while watching the skies for sightings of native birdlife. We continue to Cork and stop at the Franciscan Well Microbrewery for a tasting of their local brews and to enjoy dinner at the Well's brick oven pizza pub situated right on the river Lee. Tonight, consider going on a pub crawl of Cork's best-loved, old-fashioned pubs together with new-found friends.

Inclusion: Cliffs of Moher, UNESCO World Heritage Site | Tasting at Franciscan Well Microbrewery | Brick oven pizza dinner

Meals: Breakfast | Dinner

DAY 7

CORK – BALLYMALOE - JAMESON

We head to Blarney Castle to explore the grounds, then leave a kiss on the Blarney Stone and receive the gift of eloquence and persuasiveness. Our next stop is beautiful Ballymaloe, a famous cooking school in southern Ireland run by celebrity chef Darina Allen. The farm is accompanied by a full restaurant, shop, and café. We'll tour the organic gardens of this amazing establishment that practiced 'farm-to-table' service before it was cool. Afterwards, we'll enjoy lunch at the farm's restaurant. We continue to Midleton to go on a journey from past to present at the Jameson Distillery. Come face to face with the world's largest pot still, hear stories of Jameson's rich heritage, and learn about the hard-working people and field-to-glass processes responsible for the whiskey that bears John Jameson's name. The tour finishes with a guided tasting of three famous whiskeys. We return to Cork with free time to explore the city and make dinner plans with travel companions.

Inclusions: Blarney Castle | Ballymaloe cooking school & organic gardens | Jameson Distillery in Midleton

Meals: Breakfast | Lunch



DAY 8

CORK – ENGLISH MARKET – KILKENNY CASTLE - DUBLIN

This morning, we visit the English Market which is one of the oldest and most well-known markets in Ireland. A blend of local organic foods mixed with fares from all over, this market has been around since the 18th century. In the early afternoon, we are on our way north to Dublin. We visit Kilkenny Castle, one of the largest and most important castles in Ireland's history dating from as far back as the first decade of the thirteenth century. Explore some of the castle's fifty acres of rolling parkland with mature trees and an abundance of wildlife and take a self-guided tour of the Victorian Stately home of the Butler Family. Stroll through the picturesque streets of this quaint town during free time for lunch or treat yourself to a delightful cup of tea at a cozy tearoom before we continue our journey to Dublin. At tonight's Farewell Ireland dinner, we share the good times we had on our journey and toast a final 'Slainte' to new-found friends.

Inclusions: English Market in Cork | Kilkenny Castle admission | Irish farewell dinner

Meals: Breakfast | Dinner

DAY 9

TRAVEL HOME

After breakfast our group says goodbye to Ireland, filled with not only delicious Irish food and spirits, but also with a better knowledge of what goes into making some of the great beverages of this country and a feeling of having seen how incredible this isle truly is.

Inclusions: Airport transfer with purchased AESU group airfare

Meals: Breakfast | In-flight

“ THIS WAS THE BEST VACATION. I HAD A WONDERFUL TIME AND MADE LIFELONG FRIENDS WHICH MADE IT EVEN BETTER. ”

TOUR DIRECTORS

Our qualified tour directors and staff of local experts mean a trouble-free journey with the added security of group travel. Show the tour director and driver your appreciation with a tip. We suggest \$6-7 per person/per day for your tour director and \$4 per person/per day for your driver. To learn more visit www.aesu.com/tour-directors

By booking your trip with AESU, you are agreeing to all the terms and conditions as outlined on our website: www.aesu.com/terms-conditions-awt/