

Exploring Whisky



Whisking You Away to Scotland and Ireland MAY 7-20, 2019

Whether you're a lover of great whiskies, or just a lover of breathtaking landscapes of mountains, glens, and lochs dotted with romantic and historic castles, few places on earth will evoke a native spirit for you the way Scotland and Ireland will.

Please join us in May 2019 for a special two-week luxury exploration of the dramatic and compelling allure of these two Gaelic centers of culture, history, and the wee dram.



Inverlochy Castle Hotel



Cliffs of Moher

We'll be a small group of no more than 14 adventurers. In Scotland we'll visit several of the world's best single-malt whisky distillers, such as The Macallan, Balvenie, Bruichladdich and Laphroaig. In Ireland we'll tour Jameson and Bushmills.



Loch Ness

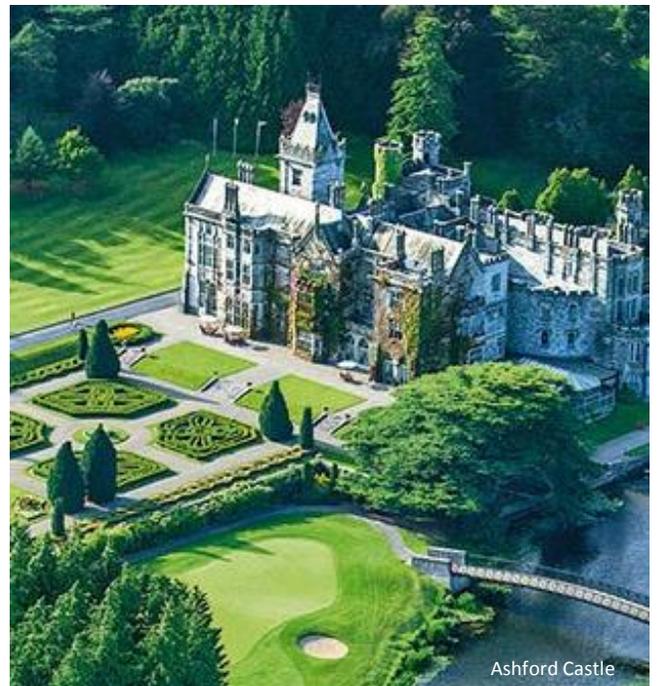


Scotch Whisky Experience

Much of our time we'll be enjoying the wild, gorgeous countryside of craggy mountain peaks, deep lakes, fields of heather, and bogs of peat. The Highlands of Scotland and the coast of Ireland offer some of the most unusual and dramatic scenery in the world.



Bru na Boinne Archeological Site



Ashford Castle

Our hotels are mostly manor houses and castles. Several dinners will feature world-class cuisine. Picture an evening enjoying an aperitif surrounded by manicured lawns and English-style gardens backed by mountains and a deep blue lake.



Kilronan Castle Hotel



Laphroaig Distillery



Glenfiddich Distillery

We'll experience rich local music traditions: bagpipes in Scotland and tin whistles in Ireland, perhaps even a harp. We'll have a chance to look for Nessie. We'll see the original Book of Kells, a 9th century illuminated codex of the four gospels of the New Testament, perhaps the most elaborately illustrated book known.



We'll stay at some of the greatest manor hotels in the world, such as Inverlochy Castle in Scotland and Ashford Castle in Ireland.



Our lunches will typically be informal, featuring local food in a local setting, often a famed pub with character. Many dinners will be grander affairs at an international standard of quality, drawing on fresh local ingredients.

Our main mode of transport will be a comfortable coach with a local driver. We'll be busy each day, but not too busy. Every day includes some time for relaxation. One evening in Dublin is free to explore and dine at your leisure.



Sample Day:



Your guide for this exceptional experience is Charles Bennett, CWP, CSW, founder of *Exploring Wine*. A wine lover and collector for 30 years who honeymooned in Burgundy and once lived on a vineyard in Germany, he speaks French and German and has traveled extensively around the world. Charlie is certified as a wine professional by the Culinary Institute of America. He was also the chief U.S. wine officer (*Grand Echanson*) for the Chaîne des Rôtisseurs, the world's largest wine and food society, for whom he oversaw the annual "Best Young Sommelier in America" competition. He holds degrees from Stanford and Tufts. In years past he won three Emmy awards on public television, was a business strategy consultant to CEOs of several Fortune 500 companies, and was VP of Internet Services for a major computer company. Wine is now his primary passion.

For more information, [CLICK HERE](#)

- ❖ We rise with a hearty Scottish breakfast followed by a tour and tasting of top single malt scotch at an internationally renowned distillery
- ❖ We visit a working cooorage to see how barrels are made, repaired, and toasted
- ❖ Our drive along Loch Ness is capped with a visit to an ancient castle ruin at the headland where Nessie has most often been seen
- ❖ We check into a dramatic and elegant 17-room castle
- ❖ Dinner follows at the castle's fabulous Albert Roux restaurant with a sweeping view of the manicured gardens and grazing sheep.



**Exploring
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