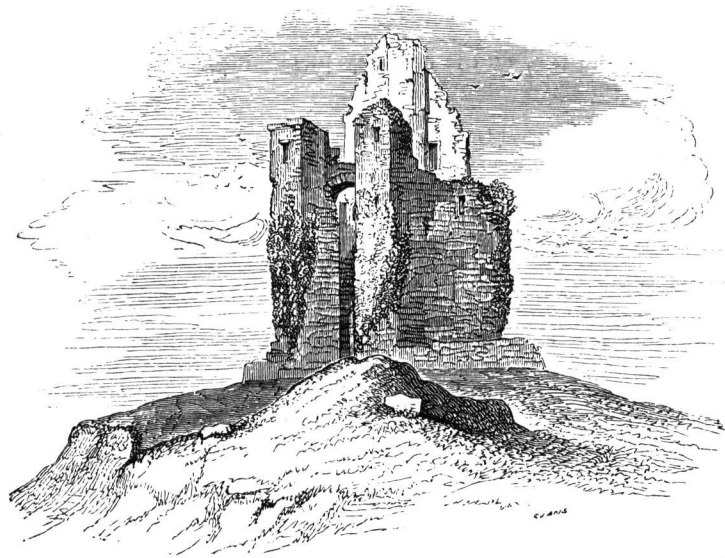


# Ireland

Adventures



The California Native



For information or reservations call:  
**The California Native**  
(310)642-1140  
(800)926-1140  
[www.calnative.com](http://www.calnative.com)

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# Ireland

Country roads wind past neolithic stone ruins, and medieval castles stand in the middle of green fields. Ireland has rugged mountains, sea-battered cliffs, quiet woodlands and beautiful lakes, and each time you turn a corner the scenery changes. Traveling through the countryside, the scores of castles, Iron Age forts and prehistoric burial sites constantly remind you of the country's ancient past. In this fairy tale environment, it's not hard to imagine that a leprechaun is watching you from just behind an ancient stone fence.

The mild climate, quiet country roads and wandering trails make bicycling or walking perfect ways to explore this colorful island country, where there are no language barriers and the friendly Irish people make you feel at home.

We are proud to offer this series of walking and cycling vacations in Ireland and would love to have you join us.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lee Klein". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

February 2019

Call 800-926-1140 or 310-642-1140

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# Bicycle Adventures

The best way to enjoy Ireland is to adopt the Irish pace of life. Each morning we enjoy a hearty breakfast, then start the day's journey around



10 a.m. A few hours of leisurely cycling brings us to our lunch stop, where we relax and swap stories. Then we continue on our way, pedaling through beautiful backroads while our luggage is transferred ahead to a comfortable hotel or guesthouse. In the evening, after a relaxing shower, we meet the rest of our group for dinner, usually ending up in one of the many pubs whose

music and atmosphere have made Ireland famous.

We explore the countryside at our own pace. There is plenty of time to stop, make a detour or grab a pint in a friendly village pub. We bicycle about 30 miles a day, and our guide is always on hand in case anyone wants a lift. There are longer options available for the more serious cyclists in the group. You can link two or more bicycling or walking trips together to tailor a vacation that is perfect for you.

**All bicycle trips include:** Use of bicycle, accommodations, experienced guide, support van, luggage transfer and breakfasts. Trips run from Saturday to Saturday.

**2017 Price per person:** Double occupancy \$1330\*  
Single room supplement \$370\* (if available)

**The following routes are available:**

- Clare and the Burren (Easy to moderate)
- The Wild West Mayo (Easy to moderate)
- West Cork and Kerry (Moderate)
- West Cork Coastline (Moderate)
- Ring of Kerry and the Dingle Peninsula (Moderate to difficult)

\* Prices and itinerary subject to change without notice.

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## **Connemara, Galway and Mayo**

Connemara is perfect cycling country, where the roads go around the hills rather than over them. The scenery changes from dramatic mountain ranges and fjords to sweeping, open bogland and rocky coastline. The route takes us around the lake at Lough Mask, then between Croagh Patrick, a mountain considered holy from Stone Age days and later renowned for its pilgrimage to honor Saint Patrick, and Clew Bay, with its 365 islands. We then continue through the dramatic Delphi valley and the open bogland of Connemara National Park. We have a free day to explore the village of Roundstone and Dogs Bay Beach. The accommodations for this trip will be on main island of Inis Mor. The trip begins and ends in Galway City. Level of difficulty: Easy.

**Dates, 2019:** May 18–25, June 1–8, June 22–29, July 6–13, August 3–10, August 17–24, August 31–September 7

## **Clare and the Burren**

The Burren has a maze of backroads with little traffic, boasting fields of exotic flowers and cracked limestone. The county's greatest pride is its traditional music, which means that most villages will have a variety of musical programs each night. We start our cycling by heading west to the Atlantic Coast and Spanish Point. We visit the Cliffs of Moher and wind along the limestone escarpments of the Burren. There is a free day to explore the village of Ballyvaughan, located in the heart of the Burren region, and many options for walks. We cycle around the lake at Mullaghmore before returning to Ennis for a final night of jigs and reels. The trip begins and ends in Ennis. Level of difficulty: Easy to moderate.

**Dates, 2019:** May 25–June 3, July 22–29, August 24–31

## **The Wild West Mayo**

Mayo boasts some of Ireland's least known and most beautiful scenery. We start at Westport and circle around Lough Conn, then head to the Atlantic and the wide-open plains of West Mayo. Our rest day is on Achill Island, which has inspired painters and writers for generations. We cycle along the shores of Lough Conn to the historic village of Killala, where the French landed in 1798, spreading their revolution to Irish revolutionaries. The trip begins and ends in Westport. Level of difficulty: Easy to moderate.

**Dates, 2019:** August 24–31

## **West Cork and Kerry**

On this trip, one of our favorite routes, we cycle around the beautiful Beara and Mizen Peninsulas to peaceful Gougane Barra, where St. Finbar built his monastery in the sixth century. Along the way we travel through Killarney National Park, with its beautiful lakes, and past Macgillycuddy's Reeks, the most spectacular mountains in Ireland. We have a free day to take a boat trip to Bere Island, bike to the ruins of Dunboy Castle, hike Hungry Hill or just relax. The trip begins and ends in Killarney. Level of difficulty: Moderate.

**Dates, 2019:** June 8–15, August 10–17, September 7–14

## **West Cork Coastline**

We cycle along the River Lee and the West Cork Coast, where the smell of the sea mixes with the scent of bracken and wildflowers, then on to beautiful Gougane Barra, where St. Finbar built his monastery in the sixth century. Traveling on, we head south to Sheep's Head peninsula and the Mizen Peninsula, Ireland's most southwesterly point, with its rugged landscape and ancient heritage. There is a free day to roam around the lovely seaside village of Baltimore and explore the nearby islands and countryside. Then we cycle through Clonakilty, the birthplace of the revolutionary leader Michael Collins, and the village of Timoleague, home to an old Franciscan friary. The trip begins in Cork and ends in the historic town of Kinsale. Level of difficulty: Moderate.

**Dates, 2019:** June 22–29, August 3–10

## **The Highlands of Donegal**

Donegal is a magical place, different from the rest of the Republic and, in many ways, closer to Scotland than Ireland. It has some of the country's most dramatic scenery, a particular music tradition, a distinctive accent and a friendly welcome. We start our tour by heading out from Donegal along the coastline towards the Slieve League Marine Cliffs on our way to the first nights stop, the Irish speaking village of Glencolmcille. Over the week we keep to quiet backroads passing some of Ireland's most wonderful coastal scenery. Dramatic mountains fall into the Atlantic interspersed with unspoiled beaches. We continue through a rolling landscape of sleepy villages, then through Glenveigh, Ireland's largest National Park. Our rest day is in the seaside village of Dunfanaghy. We continue our journey to the bustling town of Letterkenny, then wind our way back to Donegal town. The trip begins and ends in Donegal.

**Dates, 2019:** June 29–July 6

**Call 800-926-1140 or 310-642-1140**

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## Ring of Kerry and the Dingle Peninsula

The ring of Kerry is famous throughout the world for its spectacular scenery. We begin by cycling through Killarney National Park to Molls Gap, then head west and over the Ballaghbearna Gap to the village of Glenbeigh. We then motorcoach to the Dingle peninsula and cycle the Sleah Head Route to Dingle, where we have a free day to explore the town and its surrounding countryside. We continue our trip, pedaling up dramatic Conor Pass and coasting down to the village of Camp, then on to the Gap of Dungloe for a spectacular cycle through the Black Valley. The trip begins and ends in Killarney. Level of difficulty: Moderate to difficult.

**Dates, 2019:** June 15–22, July 27–August 3, August 17–24



# Walking Adventures



Ireland, with its lush green hills, dramatic coasts, lonely moorlands and ancient ruins, is the perfect place to explore on foot. On these delightful self-guided walking trips you stroll through the scenic countryside and discover the cultural and natural history of this beautiful country. These trips are suitable for moderately fit people of all ages. You can also link these tours with our bicycling trips and explore this lovely country both by foot and cycle.

**All walking trips include:** Accommodations in a mixture of guest houses, farm houses and country homes, breakfasts, packed lunches, luggage transfers, route details and maps.

**Tour can start any day from April until October.**

**2019 Price per person:** Call for Price\*

**The following routes are available:**

- Kerry Way
- Dingle Way
- Beara Way
- Sheeps Head Way
- Wicklow

**Please call us for detailed itineraries.**

\* Prices and itinerary subject to change without notice.

**Call 800-926-1140 or 310-642-1140**



## Frequently Asked Questions:

### **Are the tours guided?**

On our bicycle trips, your guide will be driving the support van, making sweeps to ensure that all is well, and offering lifts to those who want a break. This provides freedom to travel at your own pace, with the security of knowing that our guide is there if you need him. Our walking trips are self-guided—we provide accommodations, route details and we transfer your luggage—taking away all of the hassles but none of the adventure.

### **What is the weather like?**

While Irish weather is not easy to predict, the mild climate is ideal for walking or cycling. The temperature will almost always be moderate, 60°–80° F. We recommend that you bring some rain gear, however, as well as suntan lotion and a hat!

### **What about accommodations?**

We stay in a combination of small family run hotels and guest houses. We try to pick places with character—typically a Victorian town house, a remote lakeside hotel, a farmhouse by the sea, an attractive harbor guesthouse.

### **How about our luggage?**

Our luggage is transported ahead of us to our next hotel or guest house.

### **Do I have to be an avid cyclist or hiker?**

People of all ages and abilities come on the tours (except young children), so don't worry if you are not super-fit.

### **What kind of bikes do we get?**

We are currently using hybrid bicycles for our tours, equipped with 24 speed grip-shift gears, carrier, mudguards, water bottle carrier and small pannier bag. If you wish to use toe clips please bring your own pedals with toe clips which we can attach to our bikes.

### **Where do we meet the tour?**

Our tours start close to bus and railway stations and are accessible by public transport. At the time of booking, we will send you more specific information on the travel arrangements to and from the starting point. Each tour starts on a Saturday evening and ends the following Saturday morning.

# Terms, Conditions and Stuff Like That

## **RESERVATIONS:**

Please reserve as early as possible, as space is limited on all of our trips. A \$300 deposit is required at the time of booking. Due to changes in exchange rates between the U.S. dollar and the Euro, the deposit does not guarantee the final price of the trip, which is subject to change until paid in full. Airfare not included in packages must be paid in full at time of booking. Final payments are due 60 days prior to the trip date. All deposits and payments are **nonrefundable**. For your convenience, we accept most major credit cards.

## **CANCELLATIONS:**

In the case of cancellation by participants, **no refunds** will be made. To protect yourself against unforeseen illness or other emergencies, we encourage you to purchase travel insurance.

## **TRAVEL INSURANCE:**

We offer optional travel insurance.

## **RESPONSIBILITY:**

The California Native is acting only as an agent for the particular airlines, lodgings and other providers of services. Accordingly, these arrangements are made for you upon the express condition that neither The California Native nor its officers or employees shall have any responsibility for, nor shall they be liable for, any claim or loss whether or not arising from any personal injury, illness, property loss or damage, wrongful death, monetary loss, accident, delay, inconvenience, irregularity, omission, failure to provide adequate service, additional charge, failure to warn, defect or failure in any vehicle, facility, roadway or structure or by any breach of contract, negligence or wrongful act by any person.

## **SUBSTITUTIONS:**

We reserve the right to substitute accommodations, transportation and itinerary when we deem it necessary or advisable.

**CST 2027100-40**

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