



Four Day Itinerary- Southern Peninsulas

Day 1 and 2: Cork

Day 2 and 3: Kerry

Travelling Direction South to North

Day 1

Arrive Cork

Depart for Kinsale

Morning - The Spirit of Kinsale

Take a boat trip round historic Kinsale's natural harbour, past the famous headland Old Head which is also a WAW Discovery Point, and out to where the transatlantic Lusitania was sunk by a German u-boat in 1915 ... a seismic event that brought the US into WW1. On board the Spirit of Kinsale, there's freshly brewed coffee, blankets to keep you warm, and – best of all – stories that will stay with you from skipper and historian Jerome.

Early Lunch in **Fishy Fishy**

Fishy Fishy Kinsale is a `must do` item during any visit to Kinsale. We cater for all seafood lovers. We will cook and serve the most wonderful seafood dishes in our pier side restaurant.

Continue along the Wild Atlantic Way Coastline

Suggestion to Visit to Inchydoney Island Lodge & Spa

Embrace the storms of the WAW - go 'Storm Watching'. Ireland experiences some pretty extreme weather throughout the year and there is one place where you can make the most of it whilst still remaining warm and dry. The dominant influence on Ireland's climate is the Atlantic Ocean and Inchydoney Island Lodge & Spa is situated right at its edge. The hotel boasts magnificent views over the ocean and guests can get to the heart of the action and watch storms break over the West Cork coast line with the 'Storm Watcher' package.

West Cork Moonlight Night-time Trip with Jim Kennedy from Atlantic Sea Kayaking

One of our most magical and popular kayaking experiences, a moonlight / starlight paddle starts one hour before





darkness. This gives you a little time to get used to the kayak. We use a mix of singles and doubles. This is a very

Atmospheric trip and we do not travel a great distance, so it is suitable for everyone. There is always something to make you gasp on the moonlight / starlight kayak trip, whether it be the silhouette of the seabirds on the bank, the red sunset, the whole panoply of stars overhead, the moonlight reflected on the water, or, at certain times of year, the astonishing bio-luminescence. This is a light emitted by marine life, which, from the paddler's point of view, causes the water to light up around your paddle in 1,000 tiny lights.

Day 2

Visit to Mizen Head Visitor Centre

Mizen Head Signal Station, built to save lives off the treacherous rocks at Ireland's most south-westerly point, five miles from Goleen, is open to the public. An award winning Maritime Museum and Heritage Attraction, this authentic all-weather experience is a must-see with its spectacular location on high cliffs with swirling Atlantic Ocean tides. From the Car park and Visitor Centre, the Signal Station is a ten minute walk along the path, down the 99 steps and across the Arched Bridge. The Mizen is famous for its wildflowers and sightings of wildlife, dolphins, whales, seals, gannets, kittiwakes, choughs – the bird migration north-south flight path is just a mile off shore.

Tea/coffee Break at the **Crookhaven Inn**,

The Crookhaven Inn is a fully modernised bar located on the famous Mizen Peninsula, one of the most westerly outposts of Europe. The tranquil village of Crookhaven lies beside the harbour from whence it gets its name and attracts many small yachts and tourists in search of protected waters, clean air and good food.

Whale Watch West Cork with Nic Slocum

The clear unpolluted waters off West Cork provide a feeding ground for Risso Dolphins, Minke Wales, Basking Sharks or Humpback Whales to name but a few. Enjoy sunset tours leaving at 7pm and early morning sunrise tours with a qualified zoologist who is an outspoken advocate for marine conservation and sustainable tourism. Tours are scheduled according to demand.





Late Lunch
Visit to **Bantry House**

Bantry House is not only one of the finest historic houses in Ireland but it also commands one of the best views overlooking Bantry Bay in West Cork.

Dinner & Overnight Bantry

Day 3
Depart for Kerry;

Kenmare

Visit the historic town of Kenmare, the name in Irish is 'Neidin' which means little nest!
Founded in 1670 and recognised by Fáilte Ireland as a 'Heritage Town' Kenmare has a unique atmosphere with its brightly painted craft shops, quaint coffee shops and amazing restaurants.

Walk the Heritage Trail

The trail is looped around the town center. It covers 1.5km and can be easily walked in 30/45 mins.
You can venture to the town's pier built in 1826 or Reenagross Wood planted by the First Marquis of Lansdowne over 200 years ago. There is a map / leaflet with information on all the stops on the trail. In main season there is a commercial guided walks via '**Kenmare Heritage Walks**' for those who would like a guided tour.

Sneem

Whose Gaelic name means 'the Knot' is a traditional village of colourful houses and two little squares. The village is also home to a **sculpture park**, a Geo-Park exploring local geology, a sensory garden, riverside wildlife trail and a rare coral beach, one of only two in the country.

Sneem Sculpture Park, Sneem, Co. Kerry

The village of Sneem is a treasure trove of international sculpture, free of charge, throughout the year. The various works including a panda sculpture donated by the Peoples





Republic of China. "The Risen Christ" by Brother Joseph McNally is located on the grounds of St. Michael's Church

and the goddess ISSES donated by the people of Egypt stands at "The Way The Fairies Went"

A collection of buildings designed by Kerry sculptor James Scanlon, and executed by local stoneworkers are located overlooking the Sneem River near St. Michael's Church.

Afterwards embark on the **Skellig Coast** starting at Castlecove. See the amazing Derrynane Bay it's almost a Mediterranean scene with islands and inlets. Enjoy **Caherdaniel village** and **Waterville** and enjoy a walk down the promenade in Waterville and visit the statues of world renowned **Charlie Chaplin** and the local legendary GAA figure **Mick O'Dwyer**.

Travel to **Valentia Island** via **Portmagee**. This beautiful little fishing village was the winner of Ireland's first ever Tourism Town in 2012,

At various vantage points you can see the Skellig Islands located 8 miles off the mainland.

*(Skellig Michael one of the wonders of the world: Skellig Michael. 1300 years ago, early Christian monks built a remarkable hermitage at the top of this jagged ocean crag – This extraordinary, far-flung place of pilgrimage – described by George Bernard Shaw as "part of our dream world" – it is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Skelligs also featured in the recent **Star Wars: The Force Awakens film**. The island is not accessible during the off season but can be still be enjoyed and viewed from the mainland.)* A visit to the **Skellig Experience Centre** which tells the story of the Skelligs Islands is recommended www.skelligexperience.com

Knightstown is the main village on the island and is a beautiful historic village. There are many options on Valentia, visit the highest point on the island at **Geokaun**





Mountain and Fogher Cliffs <http://geokaun.com/> (a Wild Atlantic Way Discovery Point the Tetrapod Track way between 350 and 370 million years old and thought to be the oldest reliably dated evidence of four legged vertebrates (amphibians) moving over land. **Bray Head looped Walk** www.irishtrails.ie/Trail/Bray-Head---Valentia/595/. Overnight on Valentia Island or in Portmagee in one of the hotels, Guesthouses or Bed & Breakfasts open at this time.

There are great restaurants in this area of Valentia Island, Portmagee, Cahersiveen and Waterville.

Evening: Enjoy a music session (check details locally) and or avail of a **Dark Sky Tour** as you are in one of three Gold Tier Dark sky Reserves in the World and the only one in the Northern Hemisphere. www.kerrydarkskytourism.com

Day 4

Depart for The Dingle Peninsula - Corca Dhuibhne

Before arriving in Dingle town, you can stop at Inch **Beach**, home to where the famous "**Ryan's Daughter**" was filmed. Dusting off those cobwebs and taking a walk on this beautiful sandy beach, the same spot where Sarah Miles as Rosy Ryan met Robert Mitchum as Charles Shaughnessy come here and share in their love story.

Maybe call into **Annascaul Village** to see the statue of Tom Crean (July 1877 –July 1938), Tom Crean was an Irish seaman and Antarctic explorer from. He was a member of three major expeditions to Antarctica during the Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration, Annascaul is also home to Annascaul Black Pudding!

Dingle Town

Dingle is a fishing town....stop off and go shopping in this famous fishing town of Dingle, see the many local craft shops, coffee shops and restaurants...see why Fungie a wild Bottlenose Dolphin made Dingle his home.., he has been resident in Dingle Harbour for over 30 years! There are one hour trips to see Fungie all year round.weather permitting. Book in advance...www.dingledolphin.com





Dingle Ocean World – Mara Beo

Gaze in wonder as you get up close and personal with our magnificent marine life inhabitants. Submerge yourself in the wonderful enchanted underwater world!

Come face-to-face with the most fearsome creatures of the sea: sharks. Gain exclusive access to Sand tiger Sharks - this is the only location in Ireland where you can see them! Meet our delightful Polar Penguins and gets hands-on experience at the Touch Tank where you can stroke the friendly Rays and even hold a Starfish. OPEN ALL YEAR

www.dingle-oceanworld.ie

Travel around Sleah Head and the Dingle Peninsula

At the very edge of Europe, as far west as you can go in Ireland, the breath-taking Dingle Peninsula, Once described by **National Geographic** as 'the most beautiful place on earth'. It's a place of Spectacular seascapes and landscapes shaped by the elements, with a wild and rugged coastline of steep of steep cliffs and wide sandy beaches, a place where the mountains roll into the ocean.

There are a number of Islands off the coast of Kerry that offer remote wildernesses to explore. Off Sleah Head – the most westerly tip of the Dingle Peninsula – lies a deserted village with a poignant past, on an archipelago that gave birth to Ireland's greatest born

Storytellers: the mystical **Blasket Islands**; now an emblem of the Irish story of emigration. Imagine you can touch America, you can feel the past and history of the people who went before you, there is an aura there, a feeling, it's mystical. And visit the **Blasket Centre** (open March to early November) a wonderful interpretive Centre in a long, white hall ending in a wall-to-ceiling window overlooking the islands. Great Blasket's rich community of storytellers and musicians are profiled along with its literary visitors like John Millington Synge, writer of *The Playboy of the Western World*.





Visit the other villages on the Peninsula such as Ballyferriter (**Baile an Fheirtéaraigh**) - and Ballydavid (**Baile na nGall**) Feohanagh (**An Feothanach**) - and return to Dingle Town.

Have Dinner and an overnight in one of the many restaurants and accommodations available in Dingle.

