



August Group Itinerary 12th-19th 2026

Day 1 Wednesday 12th August 2026

Arrive into Shannon airport around **7.30 am**. After collection of luggage, customs and passport plus breakfast and coffee (at own expense), you will depart by bus to Bunratty Castle (20-minute drive) for a tour of the castle and a stroll through the living village of



Bunratty Folk Park, a recreation of a 19th century village brought to life with characters and musicians

The bus will be waiting at Shannon Coach Park 2 at **9.00**.

Lunch in Durty Nelly's tavern beside the castle at **12.00**.

Arrive at your accommodation, Bellefield, in the early afternoon. (1 hour drive) Stop on route at Aldi in Nenagh to pick up your favourite tippie.

Evening: Dinner at **18.30** and time to relax.



Day 2 Thursday 13th August 2026

Breakfast from 8.00

Depart by bus 9.00



Activity: Crossogue Preserves (50-minute drive) This artisan product was established in 1995 by Veronica Molloy after she began making homemade preserves for local country markets and delicatessens. Scones and coffee/tea on arrival at 10.15, tour at **11.00.**

Arrive Cabragh Wetlands (10 mins) at **12.30**
This 200-acre wetlands is a protected floodplain marsh. Rich in reedbeds, ponds, wet grassland and woodland. It is an

important haven for birds, plants and wildlife, with easy walkways, bird hides and an education centre focused on conservation, recreation and environmental learning.

Sandwich lunch, biscuits, tea and coffee on arrival

For the duration of this two hour visit you will participate in an immersive nature



experience workshop specially designed to engage you with nature and the environment in a fun and interactive way.



Arrive Holy Cross Abbey (10-minute) for a tour of the beautifully restored 12th century Cistercian abbey renowned for its striking Gothic architecture, peaceful riverside setting, and its historic relic of the True Cross, which made it one of Ireland's most important medieval pilgrimage sites. Tour for approx. 1.5 hours at **15.00**



Home to Bellefield for dinner at **19.30** and Trad music session afterwards in Ryan's Corner House Pub, Cloughjordan.



Day 3 Friday 14th August 2026

Breakfast from 7.45

Depart by bus 8.45

Activity: Coorevin Farm Tour (20 minutes) at 9.15 for 1 hour. This is an historic family-run beef and tillage farm and owned by the Moran family since the pre-famine 1840's.



Onto Cloughjordan (15 minute) for an 11-5.30 pm Riot Rye Level 1 Sourdough Baking class. Tea/Coffee on arrival. There is one hour for lunch and an hour in the afternoon to have a guided tour of the eco-village.



Dinner at 19.30 and relax.



Day 4 Saturday 15th August 2026

Breakfast from 8.00

Depart by bus 9.00

Activity: Brookfield Farm Tour (45 minutes' drive) at **10.00**. This tour will be led by farmer and beekeeper, Ailbhe Gerrard. The farm is situated on the shores of Lough Derg and is known for its regenerative farming practices, organic sheep farming, raw Irish honey, handmade beeswax candles, biodiversity projects and immersive visitor experiences.



After a short 3-minute bus ride to Mota Quay, you will board a Rigid Inflatable Boat at **12.15** and enjoy a thrilling journey to your next destination...lunch at **13.15**

After lunch you will board the bus once more and drive 20 minutes to Portumna Forest Car Park for an E-Bike cycle on the Lough Derg Blueway for **15.00**

This is a 5km (3.1mile) short, flat link between the park and Portumna bridge along the Shannon /Lough Derg waterfront. Bus departs **16.30** from the Forest Park car park.

Dinner at Bellefield 'performed' by Frank Corbett's Irish Food Experience at **18.45**.





Day 5 Sunday 16th August 2026

Breakfast is self-service.

Depart by bus at 11.30. Lunch at The Courtyard Café after church. Bus departs Birr 16.00

Activity: Methodist Church, Birr at **12.00** and Birr Castle train journey at **14.45** through the gardens. Back at Bellefield slow paced yoga outside to rest, restore and reset, with Suzie at **18.00** Yoga mats provided. Evening: Dinner at **19.30**





Day 6 Monday 17th August 2026

Breakfast from 7.45

Depart by bus at 8.45



Activity: Killeen cheese visit outside Portumna (50-minute drive) for a 10.00-11.15 tour.

This is an award-winning Irish Farmhouse cheese produced by Dutch-born cheesemaker, Marion Roeleveld. Since 2004, Killeen has specialised in Gouda-style cheeses made from both goat's milk and cow's milk.

Arrive Mount Shannon for lunch and after exploring the exhibition, there is a twenty-minute boat trip to Inis Cealtra (Holy Island) on Lough Derg at 14.00.

This 44-acre island



was first mentioned in the early 6th century and is Ireland's most sacred monastic sights.

One hour guided tour of the historic town of Killaloe at 16.30 with Una finishing at your dinner venue for 17.30.

Home to Bellefield circa 20.00.



Day 7 Tuesday 18th August 2026

Breakfast from 7.45

Depart by bus 8.45

Activity: A tour with the head gardener, Jennifer at Ballintubbert Gardens (1 hour drive) at **10.00**.

Ireland's first certified organic ornamental garden. This Garden is situated in a peaceful valley between Stradbally and Athy in County Laois. The gardens surround a restored Georgian house dating back to around 1725. Spread across 14 acres, they are designed as a series of interconnected "garden rooms" blending formal and naturalistic landscapes. Visitors move through rose gardens, canals, woodland walks, wildflower meadows and ornamental potagers.



Optional coffee/tea stop in Stradbally

Onto Ballykilcavan Farm and Brewery (10 minutes) for a **13.00** lunch. This farm sits on land that has been farmed by the same family for over 13 generations. David, the owner will lead this tour after lunch. This brewery produces a range of award-winning beers using barley grown on the farm itself, making it a strong example of "field-to-glass" brewing.



If time allows a stop at The Rock of Dunamase at **15.30**, with time to walk up the 46-meter rocky outcrop and explore the extensive, open medieval castle ruins and take in the panoramic views of the Irish countryside and Slieve Bloom Mountains.

Evening: Dinner at **19.00**



Day 8 Wednesday 19th August 2026

Depart Bellefield for Shannon airport at **5.30 am!!!**

We wish you a safe journey home and hope you leave with many wonderful memories of your time in Ireland.