



Here to navigate your group tour throughout the UK, Europe, North Africa and beyond



## Northern Ireland – Belfast & Derry

The tiny province of Northern Ireland sits in the north eastern corner of the Island of Ireland and is part of the United Kingdom. Beset by troubles since it was partitioned from the Republic of Ireland in 1921, it has, over the past 20 years seen a period of peace which in the last 5 years has led to an influx of tourists coming to visit this friendly and hospitable region of the UK with one of the most beautiful coastlines on our shores.

The capital, **Belfast** – ‘a city reborn’, is now considered one of the safest places in the world to live, and is fast becoming a leading city break destination. The opening of the Titanic Experience in April 2012 has seen tourists from all over the world come flocking through its doors. This iconic building tells the story of the building of the ship right through to its sinking

**Londonderry** (also known as Derry) is the first UK City of Culture for 2013. Fought over and besieged many times by the Irish and the English, the city's 400 year old walls, complete with cannons, are among the best preserved city walls in Europe. The Peace Bridge, opened in June 2011 was built with the sole objective of bringing people from all communities and faiths together in peace.



Tours by coach

Sea crossings by Holyhead Dublin route with Irish Ferries or Stena Line then approx 2.5 hour journey to Belfast. (Optional overnight in Dublin). Alternatively Stena Line service from Cairnryan to Belfast.



Tours by air

Flights from regional airports into Belfast City or Belfast International.

### Tour Highlights

The ‘Titanorak Experience’ takes you deep into the Dry Dock where Titanic was fitted out and the last place she rested on dry ground – the ship’s physical footprint in history. See also the drawing offices where the famous ship was designed.

Titanic Belfast Building – this £97million pound attraction is located in the very spot where she was built. Experience the construction, launch and history of the ship, and hear some moving accounts of that fateful night on 14th April 1912

Giant’s Causeway– a wonderful geological jigsaw puzzle and World Heritage Site.

The Causeway Coastal Route – takes you along miles of the most beautiful coastal scenery imaginable

Mount Stewart – 18<sup>th</sup> century mansion with inspiring and unusual gardens, and some world famous artefacts

Dunluce Castle- 17<sup>th</sup> century castle strikingly perched on rocky cliffs

Old Bushmills Distillery – where Irish whiskey has been made for over 400 years

## 5 DAY ITINERARY



### Day 1

Arrive Belfast by air from your regional airport or by coach via Dublin. Check into your hotel in centre of Belfast

### Day 2

Morning city tour with guide. Break for lunch and in the afternoon head for the Titanic Quarter for a tour of the Dockyard and Pumproom for a fascinating journey into the history of this iconic ship. Afterwards visit the Titanic Experience where you can wander through the galleries that will take you on a fascinating journey, from the shipyard where she was built, the launch, the fit out, the maiden voyage and the sinking on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2012.

### Day 3

A free day at leisure to visit Belfast’s attractions in your own time. Belfast Cathedral is well worth a visit and operates regular guided tours; the Crown Bar is the finest Victorian gin palace in the UK and owned by the National Trust; stroll around the grounds of Stormont, just 10-15 minutes out of the city; or visit the Ulster Museum, Northern Ireland’s treasure house of past and present.

### Day 4

Travel up the Causeway Coastal Route to Derry via the Giant’s Causeway, Northern Ireland’s top tourist attraction and UNESCO World Heritage Site. This geological wonder displays unusual formations of six sided basalt

columns that are truly a wonder to behold. Access to the stones is by road or minibus for a small charge. From here we visit Bushmills - Ireland’s oldest working distillery, granted a royal licence in 1608. Continue to Derry/Londonderry for our final overnight in the centre of the city.

### Day 5

Morning city tour of Derry with walk along the city walls and time to walk the Peace Bridge before commencing our journey back to Belfast to catch our return flights.