



Gormanstown Tournament & Tour of Ireland 2004 July 10th – 21st 2004.

2. Donegal Area
Day 4

- Sightseeing around Donegal area. Enjoy a coaching session on Gaelic Football.
- Enjoy a session learning to Surf hosted by Bundoran Activity Centre. (Bundoran was home of the European Surf Championships)

Day 5

- Friendly Match against Donegal own FC
- Post game Social

3. Tara, Newgrange & Dublin
Day 6 - 10

- Tournament play in the Gormanstown Cup Tournament
- Coaching Sessions from guest coaches from the FAI
- Opening and Closing ceremonies

Opportunities to visit Limerick and surrounds during tournament

- Visit Tara, seat of the high kings of Ireland
- Visit Newgrange Tomb (6000 BC)
- Visit Croke Park & Activity Centre, home of Gaelic Sports.
- Dublin Sightseeing Tour, visiting Trinity College, Guinness, the GPO and shopping on Grafton Street.

1. Galway Area
Day 1. Depart US on transatlantic flight to Shannon, Ireland.

Day 2 Arrival in Ireland:

- Sightseeing Around Galway 'City of the Tribes'
- Cliffs of Moher
- Light Training Session

Day 3 Friendly Match:

- Fun activity
- Salthill Devon FC
- After match social
- Transfer to Donegal

4. The Kingdom of Kerry
Day 11

- Transfer to Tralee and visit the World famous Ring of Kerry

Day 12

- Depart for the US

‘**Cead Mile Failte**’ meaning a hundred thousand welcomes, is a common greeting expressed in the Irish language and it is a fair representation of how welcome visitors are made to feel in this home of hospitality.

Immerse yourself in the unique and inspiring diversity that is Ireland, romantically known as the land of saints and scholars. Explore the ancient tombs, and monoliths left from a far distant time, always breathtakingly positioned among some of the most beautiful landscapes in Europe.

Hear of great heroes and warriors, of writers and Poets and see why our greatest export, our colorful, lively people, have had such an impact in all 4 corners of the earth. But best of all, enjoy soccer with one of the most playful and respected soccer nations in the world today. Ireland - Journey to Discovery.

Gormanstown Tournament & Tour of Ireland 2004

July 10th – 21st 2004 (11 day Tour)

The Gormanstown Tournament was developed on behalf of the Schoolboy Football Association of Ireland and invites entries from the following age groups – U10, U12, U14 & U16's. The tournament will also cater for U14 & U16 girls as of 2004. All competition takes place at Gormanstown College, with superb facilities and activities for participants.

The Tournament is only one part of this awesome tour package in which you will play 2 tour games, 1 in Galway and 1 in Donegal as a pre-cursor to tournament play. You will visit the amazing and breathtaking West and North West Coasts, soak up the culture and vibrancy of Dublin, a European capital of culture and visit many amazing castles, prehistoric sites and world heritage icons. On the activity side we have lined up the opportunity for you to participate in a surfing session, Gaelic sports session, go-karting grand prix, paintball game, bowling and a chance to watch a League of Ireland soccer match.

Day 1: United States – Shannon, Ireland **Saturday July 10th 2004**

Depart USA on a scheduled transatlantic flight to Shannon Airport, Ireland.

Day 2: Galway Area **Sunday July 11th 2004**

Arrive in Shannon and board your private bus to your Hotel where you will check in your luggage. After some rest it's off on a sightseeing tour to the Cliffs of Moher, the staggeringly beautiful and imposing rock formation where we avail of amazing views from Ireland's western shoreline. A short visit to Lahinch and other picturesque villages of the area, then back to the Hotel for a light training session and a good night's rest prior to your first friendly game of the tour.

Day 3: Galway Area **Monday July 12th 2004**

Following breakfast at the Hotel we depart for Galway City, where we'll explore 'The City of the Seven Tribes', with its narrow streets, winding walkways, Cathedral, cafes and the west's best shopping. We then enjoy a relaxing afternoon at Salthill Water Park, before going to Galway United Football Club's ground to take in the passion, commitment and thrills of a League of Ireland soccer match.

Day 4: West of Ireland **Tuesday July 13th 2004**

Our first tour game is mid morning in beautiful Salthill, where we play a Salthill Devon select team in a friendly. After the match we have a social with the other team and then it's off on the road again. We'll travel up Ireland through 'Yeats' Country', past the magical Benbulbin mountain range and into County Donegal (English translation – 'The Fortress of the Foreigner') where, as the name suggests you'll be made to feel more than at home.

Day 5: Donegal – ‘Fortress of The Foreigner’
Wednesday July 14th 2004

Day 5 is action packed with some of the most breathtaking sightseeing and unique activity experiences available in Ireland for young travelers. We start the day with a leisurely tour of West Donegal, visiting Ireland’s largest fishing port on our way to one of Ireland’s many Gaeltacht areas (Irish speaking) where we’ll be given a feeling for Irish life back through the centuries at Glencollumbeille Folk Village. After viewing Slieve League (Europe’s highest sea cliffs at 1,972 feet) we make our way back to Donegal and onto Donegal Activity Center. The Center offers archery, surfing, body boarding, canoeing, horse riding, dune boarding, cliff jumping and mountain biking. After a busy afternoon’s adventuring it’s back to the Hotel for our evening meal and a bit of R and R before sharing a very unique experience provided by Donegal GAA coaches, where our participants will learn to play Gaelic Football, Ireland’s most played sport as well as hurling, Ireland’s most ancient sport dating to the times of ‘Cu Chulainn’ – Defender of Ulster –said to have invented the great game.

Day 6: New Grange & Tara
Thursday July 15th 2004

We depart Donegal in the morning and make are way across Ireland’s belly traversing New Grange and Tara, two of Ireland’s most significant historical sights. Tara was the inauguration point of Ireland’s high kings and was significant at other points in history as a rallying point for Irish Nationalism. New Grange is an incredible Neolithic tomb, built approximately 3500 BC and only rediscovered in 1609 by local landowners. A beam of light, striking the tomb entrance, on every winter solstice, majestically illuminates the interior of the tomb. Enjoy the reconstruction of the event and be amazed by the incredibly advanced nature of this early Irish pagan society.

Day 7: Gormanstown Tournament
Friday July 16th 2004

Today is the official beginning of the Gormanstown Youth International Tournament and our participants will be involved in a launch parade and other festivities. Our first game is on Friday evening and we hope to fit in a tour of Croke Park, the home of GAA, where our players can get to grips with the history of GAA as well as play with some interesting new interactive sports games designed to test your skills as a potential GAA all star.

Day 8: Gormanstown Tournament & Dublin
Saturday July 17th 2004

Our Tournament continues with a further 2 games at Gormanstown College and we will also break up the day by visiting Dublin and partaking in a guided City Tour of Ireland’s capital, visiting cultural icons such as Trinity College, Kilmanam Gaol, The GPO, Guinness, Irish Parliament, Phoenix Park, Grafton Street and O’Connell Street.

Day 9: Gormanstown Tournament & Closing Ceremony
Sunday July 18th 2004

Finals day at the Gormanstown tournament where even if unsuccessful in our pursuit of outright glory we will still have an involvement in the tournament and closing ceremony. Then it’s off to Tralee to our accommodation at the Beautiful Earl of Desmond Hotel.

Day 10: Killarney & Co. Kerry
Monday July 19th 2004

After a relaxing morning we're off discovering the Ring of Kerry, a most beautiful and unique destination for visitors to Ireland. County Kerry or 'The Kingdom' as it is fondly referred boasts some of Ireland's most beautiful and serene villages and interesting landscapes. We play a friendly match on Monday evening against local Killarney opposition and enjoy an after match social with the team.

Day 11: Cork and Kinsale
Tuesday July 20th 2004

Our last full day in Ireland, we visit Cork and Kinsale. Kinsale is as beautiful as fishing posts come and is awash with culturally aware Europeans who come to enjoy the relaxed and intimate feel of the place. We travel onto Cork and have a look around a city which was the last port of call for many Irish Emigrants as they left these shores to start afresh in the new colonies of America. We finish our tour with a spot of 'Paintball' action, where players will align themselves with specific coaching staff having played soccer together, traveled together, now it's time to spill paint together! You may even get a chance to hunt down your favorite coach in our 'Sneaky Sniper' game.

Day 12: Shannon, Ireland - United States
Wednesday July 21st 2004

We depart our hotel for Shannon Airport and board our return flight to the USA, which will arrive in the USA at pretty much the same time as departure from Ireland (time travel, eh!).

TOUR COST = \$1,695 Player
= \$1,695 Supporter

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN YOUR TOUR PACKAGE?

- FREE place for each 15 paying travellers (normally reserved for coach or team administrator)
- 2 nights half board (full Irish breakfast and dinner) at the Hydro Hotel at Lisdoonvarna
- 2 nights half board (full Irish breakfast and dinner) at the Hyland Hotel at Donegal
- 1 nights half board (full Irish breakfast and dinner) at the Killishin Hotel in Portlaise
- Gormanstown Tournament Entry Fees
- Entrance into Opening and Closing tournament ceremonies
- Coaching sessions from Irish National Staff (FAI) Coaches
- 3 nights half board (breakfast and dinner) college accommodations at Gormanstown University
- 2 nights half board (full Irish breakfast and dinner) at the Earl of Dresmond Hotel at Tralee
- Private chartered bus throughout your stay
- 2 x friendly games
- Gaelic Football coaching session by Donegal GAA coaches
- Chance to watch a League of Ireland game
- Entrance into Water world and other fun activities through the tour
- Paintballing visit
- Travel Insurance as part of your tour cost
- Challenger travel Shirt
- Challenger Group Leader

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED IN YOUR TOUR PACKAGE?

- Airfares and departure taxes
- Optional activities/excursions not listed in above itinerary

Flight Option:

All groups have the option to book their own flight or to book their travel arrangements through Challenger World ' will work with our travel agent to get you the lowest group airline rate we can. These prices will obviously be subj availability as well as city of departure and dates of travel etc.



Please note:

This is a sample itinerary and actual events may vary or can tailored dependent upon certain requests from your group, please be aware that this alteration to the itinerary may in some way alter the final cost for the tour.

All Irish costs are calculated in Euro's at a present exchange rate of 1.1 (Dollar to Euro's). Please be aware that certain costs may alter due to a change in this rate and thus again affect the final cost of the tour.

Challenger Sports and Challenger World Tours may in it's absolute discretion make changes to, or cancel any section of the above mentioned soccer tour should circumstances beyond the company's control make such actions necessary. These include: inappropriate weather conditions, schedule changes, advertised facilities not available, transportation problems and failure of other suppliers of services or goods to the company. If the above occurs then Challenger World Tours will attempt to substitute the changed section of the tour to an equal or better standard.

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