

# **Northern Ireland Extension** *Extend your trip with 3 nights in Northern Ireland*

#### Thurs., Oct. 19, 2017 • Portrush, UK

We will begin the day with a drive into Northern Ireland to visit the Ulster-American Folk Park. It was designed to re-create a Tyrone village, log-built American а settlement and the docks and ships that the immigrants to America used two centuries ago. A tour of the land and religious culture of Ireland would not be complete without a visit of historic Derry. Londonderry, also known as Derry, is the sparkle in one of Northern Ireland's most beautiful regions. It's a center of culture and creativity, and famous for the timeless quality of its craic. Prosperity and peace have made this city a memorable place to visit. We transfer to the city, and enjoy a locally guided city tour, including the only set of complete city walls in the British Isles, guildhall, free Derry, and other important sights. We continue on to Portrush for overnight. B/D

## Fri., Oct. 20, 2017 • Belfast, UK

This morning, we drive to the bizarre geological curiosity, the beautiful Giant's Causeway. We marvel at Finn MacCool's "creation" as we gaze across the Irish Sea to Scotland and Raithlin Island. As we are in the lands of the world's oldest whisky, we make a stop at Bushmills Distillery for a tour and taste of their craft. After a picture stop at the Carrick-a-rede rope bridge, we continue south through the Glens of Antrim. Wave upon wave of grassy green hills curve down into the sea and the views are thrilling. We arrive in Belfast in time for Mass and then dinner at our hotel. B/D

## Sat., Oct. 21, 2017 • Belfast, UK

After a leisurely breakfast we embark on a tour of Belfast and see the sights which make the city famous including Donegall Square, the Queen's University, the Spires, Albert Memorial and St. Anne's Cathedral.



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# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:**

- ★ Tyrone Village
- ★ Historic Derry
- ★ Giant's Causeway
- ★ Bushmills Distillery
- ★ Carrick-a-rede Rope Bridge
- ★ Glens of Antrim
- ★ Donegall Square
- ★ St. Patrick's Gravesite

# **TOUR INCLUSIONS:**

- ★ Breakfast daily
- ★ 3 Dinners
- ★ Professional Tour Guide
- ★ Transfer via Rochester Direct from MSP to Rochester
- ★ End of Tour Tips for Tour Guide and Driver
- ★ Trip Protection Insurance





fellowship, interesting pubs and enchanting music, and most importantly, a wealth of new friends! Welcome home! **B** 

After lunch on our own, we stop at Downpatrick, the traditional gravesite of St. Patrick, a 5th century Briton, as well as St. Brigid and St. Columba. Patrick was captured by the Irish and became a slave before escaping to France, where he learned about Christianity. Later he returned and was influential in converting the local chiefs. We'll explore how Patrick's legacy developed in early Christian times, and marvel at the fabulous artwork and metalwork which was produced during this Golden Age. The exhibition also examines the major impact of Irish missionaries in Dark Age Europe - a legacy which remains to this day. Tonight we enjoy a farewell dinner out on the town. **B/D** 

#### Sun., Oct. 22, 2017 • Return to USA

Regretfully, it's time to say "Slán agat" (Good Bye) and transfer to the airport, where our flight is waiting to return us home. We return, however, with memories of lovely landscapes, verdant fields, renewed faith and

