Contemplative Ireland

A Celtic Pilgrimage

May 6–20, 2016

Illuminated Journeys and the
Center for Ministry invite you to

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Welcome!

You are invited to join us not as a tourist, but as a pilgrim. Along the way you will be encouraged to approach each experience with contemplative awareness and each sacred site with care. Time will be given for learning, integration, meditation and interaction. As we journey together, we will focus on major themes in the Irish spiritual tradition. Time will be spent exploring how those themes can be integrated into our lives.

Optional meditative sessions will include the music of the Taizé community, Celtic music, mandala work, journaling, small group interaction, discussions with our leaders, Irish music and prayer.

Because registration is limited to 15 partcipants, group size will encourage personal interaction in style and content.

When we are joined by local specialists, mythologists, archaeologists, artisans, musicians and storytellers to share experiences and offer guidance to us, there will be opportunities for interaction.

We are confident that your journey will be a fulfilling one. We have gone before you, having traveled to Ireland many times to meet with those who will join us as we go.

Accessibility: Many of the places we visit and explore reflect the rugged isolation of early Irish hermits. In order to reach these sacred prayer cells, passage tombs and monasteries, we will often travel by foot. This pilgrimage is not recommended for those who have severe health problems or limited mobility.

May 5, 2016 - Fly to Dublin.
Arrive before noon on May 6.

Friday, May 6, 2016
We arrive in Dublin early in the morning. We'll meet our bus and driver and head North for an introduction to Celtic Spirituality at a 5000 year-old passage tomb in county Meath. The rest of the afternoon at our retreat center in the Boyne Valley is yours to walk or to relax. Short evening welcome reception after dinner.
STAY: In the Boyne Valley

Saturday, May 7, 2016
This day's journey will take us to the most extraordinary high crosses in all of Ireland at Monasterboice followed by a short drive north to visit one of the most well-preserved ancient dolmen stones in Ireland. Dinner at our retreat center followed by an evening meditation.
STAY: In the Boyne Valley

Sunday, May 8, 2016
Today we tour the ancient burial sites of Newgrange and Knowth and visit the informative visitor's center there. After lunch we'll move on to the Hill of Slane and the famed Hill of Tara with its mysteries. We return to our retreat center for a meal and a meditation.
STAY: In the Boyne Valley

Monday, May 9, 2016
This morning we say goodbye to our retreat center in the Boyne Valley and travel across the border of Northern Ireland on our way to the town of Sligo on Ireland's dramatic West Coast. Lunch in the Northern Irish town of Enniskillen. Dinner and overnight at a lovely seaside hotel. We may venture out late evening to hear some traditional Irish music. (Hotel has hot tubs, pool and exercise equipment. You may want to bring swim wear and swim cap and/or work-out clothes)
STAY: Sligo

Tuesday, May 10, 2016
First thing this morning, we'll visit the Carrowmore megalithic monuments near Sligo, one of the world's most impressive prehistoric ritual sites. Back to the hotel in time for lunch and time to rest and relax, walk on the beach, or visit the Yeat's gravesite in Drumcliffe to reflect on his life and poetry.
STAY: Sligo

Wednesday, May 11, 2016
Today we wind our way through the beauty of county Mayo toward Kylemore Abbey and Connemara National Park. Following lunch in Westport, we move on through County Galway to board a late afternoon ferry to cross Galway Bay for two nights on the Aran Islands.
STAY: Aran Islands (Inishmore)

Thursday, May 12, 2016
Home to some of the earliest Christian settlements in Ireland, we will discover how rugged, isolated landscapes on the Aran Islands formed a distinct spirituality that became a beacon of light for European Christianity in the Middle Ages.
STAY: Aran Islands (Inishmore)

Friday, May 13, 2016
Following a guided exploration of the unique spiritual tradition of the Aran Islands, we board the ferry where we'll enter the rugged beauty of the Burren and visit the cliffs of Moher, one of the most dramatic cliffs in Western Europe. Dinner and overnight at our seaside hotel.
STAY: Spanish Point

Saturday, May 14, 2016
We'll enjoy a drive through Co Clare on our way to the remote western beauty of the Dingle peninsula. For the next two nights our group will take over two bed and breakfast inns. (Ferry ride from Clare to Kerry)
STAY: Dingle Town

Sunday, May 15, 2016
The Dingle peninsula is home to a variety of stone circles, monastic settlements, beehive huts, a perfectly preserved oratory, the Blasket Islands, and an excellent visitor's center. A local archeologist and guide will join us for our tour of the Dingle peninsula. Dingle Town is home to artisans and musicians who specialize in the Celtic tradition. Free evening.
STAY: Dingle Town

Monday, May 16, 2016
Leaving Dingle en route to the Irish heartland, we stop in the quaint town of Adare, known for its thatched cottages, then travel on to Kildare Town, stopping to visit two important high crosses in Castledermot and the unique cross at the ancient monastery of Moone.
STAY: Kildare

Tuesday, May 17, 2016
Kildare, the church of the oak, is the historic home of St. Brigid and now the home of the Brigidine sisters. We begin our day with a meditation at the Christian Community Center called Solas Bhride and spend time with the energetic and visionary sisters who are leading a renaissance in women's spirituality in Ireland. We'll pray with them in the serene surroundings of Brigid's well and visit the Cathedral before driving over the ancient pilgrim route across the Wicklow Mountains to Glendalough.
STAY: Glendalough

Wednesday, May 18, 2016
Glendalough, the "valley of the two lakes," is where we will be greeted by one of the most remarkable round towers in all of Ireland. We'll stay next to Glendalough so you can visit these magnificent ruins early in the morning or late in the evening.
STAY: Glendalough

Thursday, May 19, 2016
A day in Glendalough to explore, relax and reflect. A beautiful outdoor labyrinth is available all day for your walking meditation. Dinner and goodbye celebration.
STAY: Glendalough

Friday, May 20, 2016
6:30 am transfer to the airport

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Tour Price:

Basic Tour Price: $3595 US

Single Occupancy Supplement:
Add $495 US to basic price

(This pilgrimage does not include transportation to and from Ireland)

Payment schedule:

- $395 non-refundable deposit due upon receipt of application. If this trip is canceled due to insufficient numbers, your deposit will be returned.
- Send early to ensure your place: $395 deposit
- August 1, 2015 - $1000 due
- November 1, 2015 - $1000 due
- March 1, 2016 - Balance due

All payments payable to:
Illuminated Journeys and mailed to:
8273 E. Davies Ave., Centennial, CO 80112

A pre-pilgrimage travel kit will be shipped to you approximately 25 days prior to departure provided final payment has been received.

Cancellation Schedule:

- The deposit of $395 is non-refundable.
- Up to November 1, 2015 - cancellation fee: $500
- After November 1, 2015 - cancellation fee: $1000
- After March 1, 2016 - No refund except as contracts with suppliers allow for doctor certified medical reasons.

In addition, charges incurred to cancel arrangements will be added to above cancellation penalties.

Refund for unused arrangements:
Unused arrangements, services or features of any tour are not refundable or exchangeable unless agreed upon prior to departure.

Tour price includes:

- Comfortable accommodations
- Good food
- Deluxe motor coach
- All scheduled sightseeing, entrance fees,and guides
- Meals as follows: Day 1 - D; Day 2 - B, D; Day 3 - B, D; Day 4 - B, D; Day 5 - B,L,D; Day 6 - B, D; Day 7 - B, D; Day 8 - B, D; Day 9 - B; Day 10 - B; Day 11 - B, D; Day 12 - B, D; Day 13 - B, D; Day 14 - B, D; Day 15 - B.

(B = breakfast, L = lunch, D = dinner)

Tour price does not include:

- Your transportation to and from Ireland.
- Travel/medical insurance (supplement recommended)
- Tips for items of a personal nature (such as room service, beverages, meals, telephone and valet charges, etc.) are not included in the tour cost and are left to your own discretion.
- Group Tip for bus driver - 30 to 35 Euros per person. (suggested)
- Your transportation cost to meet the group if you arrive later than noon on Friday, May 6, 2016 and miss the group departure from the airport.
- Fees for passports and visas; laundry; telephone calls; wine, liquor, mineral water; sightseeing and services other than those specifically mentioned; personal items; excess baggage: foreign airport taxes
- Some meals : Day 1 - B, L; Day 2 - L; Day 3 - L; Day 4 - L; Day 6 - L; Day 7 – L; Day 8 - L; Day 9 - L, D; Day 10 - L, D; Day 11 - L; Day 12 - L; Day 13 - L; Day 14 - L; Day 15 - L, D

(B= breakfast, L= lunch, D= dinner)

For More Information:

720.489.8073 (Denver Metro)
1.877.489.8500 (Toll Free)
email: brad@illuminatedjourneys.com
web: www.illuminatedjourneys.com

The Center for Ministry
www.centerforministry.com

Your guides

Brad Berglund will facilitate this pilgrimage. Brad is an author, pastoral musician and spiritual director. He is an experienced tour guide and has special skill in the spirituality of pilgrimage. **Rebecca Youngblood** will provide a pastoral presence. Rebecca directs the Center for Ministry, which is based at Millsaps College in Jackson, MS and offers continuing education and spiritual formation for religious leaders of many denominations in Mississippi and beyond. A United Methodist minister and trained spiritual director, she relishes the gifts of pilgrimage. In addition, knowledgeable Irish guides enhance and deepen your experience by joining you along the way. Your guides in Ireland are specialists from many disciplines. They include:

- PhD students studying megalithic culture
- Artists and woodcarvers who interpret Ireland's mythology in creative ways
- Musicians who've played traditional Irish music all their lives
- Gaelic speaking archeologists who bring Ireland's past to life
- The community of St. Brigid who've committed themselves to keeping her flame alive both outwardly and inwardly
- Committed leaders who unwrap the mysteries of Glendalough's monastic city

Each of these friends will impact your life in surprising and unforgettable ways.

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Reservation Confirmation Form

Please print this page and mail completed form with your deposit made payable to:

Illuminated Journeys
8273 E. Davies Ave.
Centennial, CO 80112

Questions about the tour itinerary? Contact Brad Berglund:

Phone: **720-489-8073**
1-877-489-8500 toll free
E-mail: **brad@illuminatedjourneys.com**

Please reserve _____ space(s) for the Contemplative Ireland Celtic Pilgrimage. A check for a non-refundable deposit of $395 per person is enclosed. Cancellation policy is outlined in this brochure.

Reserve soon—this tour is limited to 15 participants.

Name: _____
(as it appears on your passport)

Name: _____
(as it appears on your passport)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: ( ) _____

Evening Phone: ( ) _____

Email _____

Tour cost Please mark appropriate box(es)
(Note: prices do NOT include transportation to and from Ireland)

❑ Basic Tour Price PP: $3595 US (sharing twin/double room)
  ❑ Sharing—I need a roommate
  ❑ Sharing—I have a roommate
  Roommate's name _____

❑ Single Occupancy Supplement: Add $495 US to basic price

Declaration: I/We have read, understand and accept the Fine Print section in the accompanying brochure. I further understand and accept that Brad Berglund and Illuminated Journeys and Rebecca Youngblood and the Center for Ministry are not responsible for the specific incidents mentioned in the *Fine Print* section.

Signature _____

Signature _____

Date: _____

The Fine Print - ***Contemplative Ireland 2016***

Illuminated Journeys, LLC, 8273 East Davies Avenue, Centennial, CO 80112-1889 is not responsible for any personal injury, property damage or other loss you may suffer or incur on this tour arising from acts or failure to act on the part of any Air Carrier, Public Transport Company, Hotel, Car Rental Company, sub-contractor or other person or organization, whether or not such air carrier, public transport company, hotel, car rental company, subcontractor or other person or organization is rendering any of the services or accommodations offered or supplied on the tour. All tickets, coupons and orders are furnished and issued subject, in all respects to the foregoing and to any and all terms and conditions under which the transportation and other services and accommodation provided thereby are offered and supplied. Illuminated Journeys, LLC accepts no responsibility for losses or expenses due to delay or changes in schedules, sickness, weather, strikes, war, quarantine or other causes. All such losses or expenses will be borne by the passengers. Baggage is at owner's risk throughout the tour unless insured. Small articles, (coats, wraps, umbrellas, etc.) are entirely in the care of the passengers. The right is reserved to decline or accept or return any person as a member of any tour or to cancel or alter the tour.

Accommodation: Land arrangements will be provided as described in each tour. The right is reserved to substitute hotels and sightseeing features listed herein for accommodations in similar categories.

Baggage: Airline baggage allowance and fee structure is unique to each airline. You are responsible for those fees. We encourage you to fit everything into one small bag and one carry on.

Children: Children (under 10 years of age cannot be accommodated on escorted tours) are charged the full adult fare and must be accompanied by an adult.

No Smoking: Smoking is not allowed on the escorted tours while on board the motorcoach. Frequent sightseeing and rest stops will be made at which time there will be an opportunity to smoke.

Currency Exchange: All prices in this program are shown in U.S. Dollars and are based on currency rates existing on February 1, 2015. Prices are per person based on sharing a twin room. Illuminated Journeys, LLC reserves the right to alter prices at any time prior to your departure and without prior notice if, in this opinion, circumstances so warrant. Any devaluation or revaluation of currencies will affect the printed prices.

Insurance: Information regarding travel insurance will be made available to all participants. Travel insurance covers losses in the event of cancellation of the tour, loss or damage to baggage, and medical expenses in the event of accident, injury or illness. Its most valuable feature is coverage for "medical evacuation" in the event that you need special travel arrangements or assistance to return home.