

# CRIME & CULTURE in IRELAND

An Adventure in Ireland for RIT Alumni & Friends

June 7–15, 2019

Hosted by RIT Professor Babak Elahi + Onward Travel

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ONWARD TRAVEL ✈️

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## Join RIT alumni and friends on a small group adventure in Ireland!

Inspired by the undergraduate study abroad partnership between Waterford Institute of Technology and RIT, we've planned a special week in the Emerald Isle to visit our friends in Waterford and explore this beautiful country. To deepen our experience, the itinerary is influenced by the academic lens of Professor Babak Elahi, Professor of Communication.

The small group, led by Professor Elahi and local experts, will explore social justice and crime in Ireland, tracing its roots to social dynamics, and following its outcomes not only within Ireland, but as part of the emigrant experience, and the immigrant culture of Irish-America.

What some may call an outlaw, others would call a rebel—we will explore many of the stories surrounding some of the outlaws/rebels in Ireland. We will learn about the Easter Uprising of 1916 and visit the historic Kilmainham Gaol where many of the rebels were executed. We'll visit one of the oldest pubs in Waterford (dating from 1705) and hear traditional Irish music that focuses on the Irish Outlaw. We will meet with the owner of the historic Granville Hotel – once the home of Thomas Francis Meagher, an outlaw who went on to become the acting Governor of Montana. Many more fascinating stories and experiences await!



## Imagine yourself...

Dining in Dublin with  
new friends

Enjoying academic  
lectures that add  
context and depth to  
your travels

Gazing at the  
Cliffs of Moher

This 8-night adventure will travel from Dublin to Waterford to enchanting Southwest Ireland. In Dublin and Waterford we will visit sites that provide knowledge and insight into the Irish experience, the Famine, the history and culture of Ireland. And we'll dive in to contemporary Irish literature, so we can see Ireland as it sees itself today. We'll end our journey in the Southwest for jaw dropping scenery. Excellent accommodations, an entertaining Irish driver-guide, local whiskey and Guinness, picturesque villages, and a fun group of traveling companions round out this one-of-a-kind week!

## Welcome to The Land of Smiles

DAY 1: FRIDAY JUNE 7

- Explore Dublin's vibrant streets
- Experience just how fabulous Irish food is with a delicious dinner at Winding Stair

Most flights arrive to Dublin at daybreak and you'll be met at the airport to start our adventure! This morning our local guide will lead a driving tour to orient us to Dublin and we'll visit St. Patrick's Cathedral, the largest church in Ireland, founded in 1191, plus expansive Phoenix Park and Christ Church Cathedral. Once we have the lay of the land and a dose of culture, we'll settle in for a beautiful locally sourced lunch at Fallon & Byrne.

Then we're off to our centrally located home base: Buswells Hotel. Get some shut eye or a head start on discovering this friendly, historic city located on the mouth of River Liffey. We'll convene to toast our Irish adventure and enjoy a delicious dinner of modern Irish cuisine at Winding Stair, an atmospheric three-story restaurant facing the river.

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Meals Lunch, Dinner

## A Delightful Day in Dublin

DAY 2: SATURDAY JUNE 8

- Gaze upon the Book of Kells, a 9th-century gospel manuscript
- Immerse yourself in top-notch exhibits to learn about Ireland's path to independence

Enjoy a leisurely morning and an Irish breakfast in the heart of Dublin. Just a few minutes walk from Buswells Hotel, located on the Trinity College campus, is Ireland's national treasure: the Book of Kells. After we have a look at this legendary manuscript we're off to Dublin's General Post Office where Professor Elahi will walk us through the exhibit dedicated to the 1916 Easter Rising, a rebellion that led to Ireland gaining independence from Britain.

Time for sustenance! Ireland has a wonderful network of markets and we'll head to Temple Bar Market where you may grab something yummy for lunch and browse the stalls. After lunch we'll take a guided tour at Kilmainham Gaol, a former prison, that held some of the most famous political and military leaders in Irish history, including the 1916 Easter Rising leaders. The Gaol, in operation from the 1780s to the 1920s, coincided with the making and breaking of the Union between Great Britain and Ireland. There is much history in these walls and it's a lesson in Ireland's criminal justice system.

To cap off our sightseeing day, let's head to the seven-story Guinness Storehouse. The storehouse provides a unique look at how Guinness emerged as a global brand, with 1.8 billion pints enjoyed each year. The evening is yours to enjoy. Join Professor Elahi for an optional literary crawl or event at the theatre, schedule depending.

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Meals Breakfast

## The Scenic Route to Waterford

DAY 3: SUNDAY JUNE 9

- Drive through Ireland's gorgeous countryside
- Receive a personal welcome to Waterford

After breakfast we'll meet back up with our charming guide and drive south through Ireland's countryside. Our Irish guide will share history and folklore about the island during our drive. En route, we'll stop in Kilkenny, a charming Medieval town known for crafts and architecture. Enjoy time for lunch and browsing the shops and attractions.

Our next few days are very special as we're guests of Waterford Institute of Technology and they're leading the group in a dynamic program of sightseeing and learning. Upon arrival in Dublin we'll check in at the historic Granville Hotel then head off on an entertaining walking tour to get introduced to the city. After some time to freshen up, a special dinner is planned with guests from WIT plus Waterford's Mayor, who has a special connection to the group as Rochester and Waterford are Sister Cities!

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Meals Breakfast, Dinner

## Waterford Immersion

DAY 4: MONDAY JUNE 10

- [Relive university days on the WIT campus](#)
- [Tap your feet to the musical duo at Jack Meade's pub](#)

This morning we'll have the study abroad experience as our day will commence at WIT's campus with a lecture by Dr. Jennifer O'Mahoney about the Magdalen Laundries, infamous laundries where "fallen women" were held in servitude. Then for something a bit lighter, we'll partake in an Irish Coffee Masterclass hosted by the culinary program. Lunch in the dining hall will cap off a wonderful morning on campus.

This afternoon consists of free time for sightseeing in Waterford, so you may choose your own adventure. Recommended sights include the Waterford Crystal Factory, Viking Triangle, Millenium Museum, and Reginald's Tower. Maps and more info provided. This evening a special treat is in store: dinner and music at Jack Meade's pub, a favorite spot of the RIT study abroad program!

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Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



## South East Ireland Sightseeing

DAY 5: TUESDAY JUNE 11

- [Stroll the grounds of Tintern Abbey](#)
- [Go back in time on the Dunbrody Emigrant Ship](#)

The day will start with a lecture at the Granville Hotel, all about Thomas Francis Meagher, a colorful character who was an Irish nationalist and leader of the Young Irelanders in the Rebellion of 1848. The Granville Hotel was a former home of his, so Anne Cusack, hotel proprietor, will join the group to regale us with this tale.

Today we'll spend the day outside of Waterford, visiting destinations that focus on local history and the emigrant story. First we'll visit Hook Head Lighthouse, a fascinating example of medieval architecture. Next be wowed at Tintern Abbey, founded c. 1200. Then we'll experience the Kennedy Homestead, birthplace of JFK's great-grandfather Patrick Kennedy, who was a famine emigrant. The Kennedys are arguably the most famous Irish American family through the 20th century to the present day. Our final activity will be a tour and dinner aboard the Dunbrody Emigrant Ship, a reproduction 1840s emigrant vessel. Learn about the famine emigrant experience and the bravery and determination of the Irish people.

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Meals Breakfast, Dinner

## To Killarney We Go

DAY 6: WEDNESDAY JUNE 12

- [Learn about Irish whiskey in a historic setting](#)
- [Tick an item off your bucket list: kiss the Blarney Stone](#)

Ireland's craggy coast makes for excellent walking. We'll bid farewell to Waterford and head to the quaint small town of Shanagarry to walk the breathtaking (and deserted) cliffs. A short drive takes us to Midleton, where we'll embark on the Jameson Distillery tour. We'll learn about Irish whiskey and of course enjoy a glass, too.

You can't visit Ireland without kissing the Blarney Stone, the stone of eloquence, to attain the gift of gab. The castle is beautiful and the spiral staircase and precarious lean backwards to kiss the stone make great memories. Enjoy plenty of time to explore the elaborate gardens on the grounds, shop at the Woolen Mills, and have a bite to eat.

Late afternoon we'll arrive in Killarney, a charming town where there are numerous shops, restaurants, pubs, and hiking opportunities to enjoy. Our comfortable spa hotel, The Brehon, is located a mile outside the town center. The Brehon will be a perfect place to relax, with an Angsana Spa featuring a full menu of spa treatments plus pools, steam rooms and saunas for guest use. Killarney National Park is at your doorstep. This evening we'll enjoy a multi-course dinner at The Brehon. It will be a fun and festive evening!

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Meals Breakfast, Dinner

## Ring Around the Ring of Kerry

DAY 7: THURSDAY JUNE 13

- Be wowed on a scenic drive around the Ring of Kerry
- Visit Irish sheep at the Kissane Sheep Farm

Enjoy a lovely breakfast and have your camera at-the-ready because today we are driving around the iconic Ring of Kerry, characterized by coastal views and charming towns.

We'll make plenty of stops - whether for a quick photo snap, a stroll on the beach or a visit to a historic fort. We'll also visit the picturesque Kissane Sheep Farm, home to over 1000 sheep. Enjoy a sheepdog demonstration and see sheep being shorn, plus take in views of Moll's Gap. We will also take a break today for lunch on the coast. As always, our guide will keep us informed and entertained.

After a full day exploring the Iveragh Peninsula, enjoy the evening as you please.

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Meals Breakfast, Lunch



KILKENNY CASTLE

## Irish Inspiration

DAY 8: FRIDAY JUNE 14

- Take in Killarney National Park from a horse-drawn cart and a boat
- Feel tiny and inspired at the Cliffs of Moher

This morning we'll explore Killarney National Park during a jaunting car ride through the Gap of Dunloe, a picturesque narrow mountain pass. The jaunting car is actually a horse-drawn cart and the driver will share interesting stories during the ride. We'll then embark on a cruise of Killarney National Park's lake system. The scenery is beautiful as the lakes are surrounded by the rugged McGillicuddy Mountain Range.

Early afternoon we'll set off for the Cliffs of Moher. The Cliffs are absolutely striking: reaching over 700 feet above the Atlantic ocean. Some of the best views in the world, no doubt. Boxed lunches and good craic will be provided en route. This evening we'll check into a charming country hotel for our last night together: Bunratty Manor. We'll have one last festive dinner hurrah and savor Ireland and the good company.

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Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## Homeward Bound

DAY 9: SATURDAY JUNE 15

We'll be conveniently located near the Shannon airport, and a transfer will be provided at your convenience. Head home with wonderful memories. If you'd like to extend your stay and transfer back to Dublin this morning, transportation is provided.

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Meals Breakfast

## TRIP ESSENTIALS

BEGINS	Dublin, Ireland on Saturday, June 7, 2019 Transfer provided from Dublin Airport to Dublin Hotel <i>If you would like to arrive early, Onward Travel will gladly help you extend your stay.</i>
ENDS	Shannon, Ireland on Saturday, June 15, 2019 <i>(no activities scheduled 6/15)</i> Transfer provided from Shannon Hotel to Shannon Airport Complimentary transfer also available to Dublin
SUITABILITY & MOBILITY	This tour includes walking for 15-30 minutes at a time, plus stairs and cobblestones. If you have limited mobility, we can accommodate you, but it is essential to let us know at the time of registration. Travelers may always opt out of activities they deem too physically challenging but refunds will not be provided.
TRIP LENGTH	9 days, 8 nights
LODGING	Unique lodging with an Irish sense of place has been selected <b>Buswells Hotel</b>   2 Nights   <i>Charming boutique hotel in Dublin near Trinity College</i> <b>Granville Hotel</b>   3 Nights   <i>Gracious 4-star historic hotel in Waterford</i> <b>The Brehon</b>   2 Nights   <i>Comfortable large hotel in Killarney, easy walk to town. Luxury amenities and beautiful spa/pool.</i> <b>Bunratty Manor Hotel</b>   1 Night   <i>Small, casual, family owned inn with excellent restaurant.</i>
TOUR DATES & PRICE	June 7–15, 2019 Double Occupancy \$3850 per traveler Single Supplement \$455 additional  Contact Onward if you are interested in a room upgrade. Please note that air travel is not included and a current passport is required for travel to Ireland. <u>Please ensure that your passport is valid 6 months after the date of travel.</u>  <i>You are welcome to pay your trip fee by credit card, please note that a 3% processing fee will be applied.</i>

## Trip price includes the following:

- Airport transfers and ground transportation to/from all scheduled activities.
- Eight nights accommodations.
- Most meals: daily breakfasts, four lunches, and six dinners. We have fantastic gourmet experiences, with alcoholic libations included!
- Local guide services throughout the tour to truly understand Ireland and Onward Travel guide at your service.
- Activities, tastings, lectures, excursions, and tours as detailed in the itinerary.

## Register now!

Visit [onwardtravel.co/rit](http://onwardtravel.co/rit) to complete the registration form and submit payment. \$1,250 deposit due upon booking, balance due by April 1, 2019.

## AIR TRAVEL:

The tour will start and end with transfers to/from Dublin Airport (DUB) upon arrival and Shannon Airport (SNN) upon departure. A complimentary transfer is available back to Dublin after the tour on June 15. Please confirm with Onward Travel that the tour is a “go” before booking non-refundable airfare. Contact Onward Travel for assistance or to coordinate with other travelers.

## TRIP INFORMATION *Crime & Culture in Ireland June 7–15, 2019*

### About RIT Tour Host Professor Babak Elahi

Babak Elahi is a Professor in the School of Communication at RIT where he teaches Mass Communication, Technical Writing, Public Speaking, and courses in rhetoric and cultural studies. He also teaches for the English Department. He writes about American literature and film, and about Iranian and Iranian-American culture and media. His book, *The Fabric of American Literary Realism* was published in 2009. He was Associate Dean of Liberal Arts from 2010 until 2016. Babak is also a singer and musician. He has created music for a documentary film, and a short fiction film. He is also in two local bands in Rochester: The Tree Shakers with fellow Communication Professor Grant Cos, and The Resonant Freqs whose album of original music (ten songs composed by Babak) was released independently in August 2018.

### About Onward Travel

Onward Travel is a group tour operator owned and operated by sisters Molly Crist and Katerina Dhand. Onward Travel is focused on unique, thoughtful small group tours with itineraries that are researched and pieced together carefully to ensure authentic, engaging trips that foster genuine connection to places and people. A deep love of hospitality and adventure has been in Molly and Kat's blood for generations as Onward Travel is inspired by their family's cooking school on a farm in Bucks County, PA that offered culinary-focused travel to customers for over two decades.

### Ireland in June

June is a wonderful time to visit Ireland. The weather is pleasant, albeit variable, with average temperatures in the 60s. The days are getting longer and sunnier. Bring layers and prepare for inevitable Irish rain showers. Onward Travel will provide packing notes in advance of the trip.

### Miscellaneous Travel Information

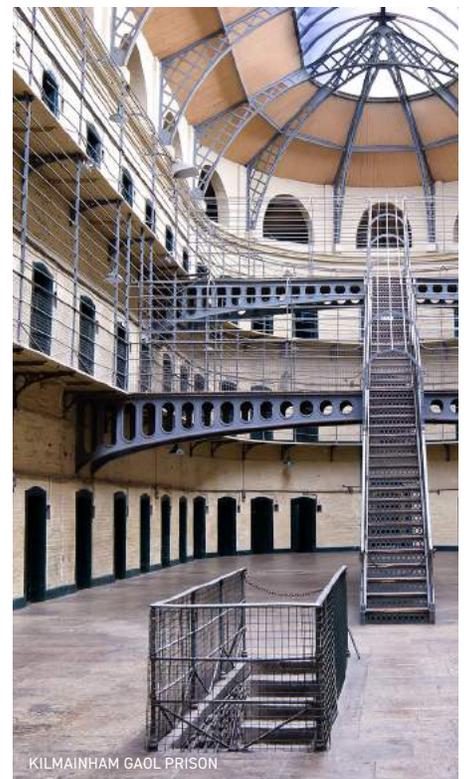
- *Passports are required for American citizens travelling to Italy. Visas are not required. Note your passport should be valid for at least six months beyond the date of travel.*
- *To determine the current exchange rate, Google "USD to EUR."*
- *Travel Protection: Onward Travel recommends that you purchase a travel protection plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected. Travel protection plans include coverage for Trip Cancellation, Trip Interruption, Emergency Medical and Emergency Evacuation/Repatriation, Trip Delay, Baggage Delay and more. For more information on the recommended plans or to enroll, contact Travelex Insurance Services at 800-228-9792 and reference location number 32-0704.*
- *For a summary of plan details on benefits, coverages, limitations and exclusions, please refer to the applicable Description of Coverage. Travel Insurance is underwritten by*

## Get in Touch!

Contact Molly with questions or special requests:

[molly@onwardtravel.co](mailto:molly@onwardtravel.co)

845-293-2729



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