

KUDOS

Executive Transfer

Giants Causeway & Belfast City Day Tour

Giants Causeway & Belfast City Tour / Duration 8 hours

Leave Belfast at 0900 (or time of your choosing), and travel inland with a 1hr 15min drive arriving at Carrick A Rede Ropebridge.

CARRICK -A-REDE ROPEBRIDGE



Carrick A Rede Ropebridge - Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge (locally pronounced carrick-a-reedy) is a famous rope bridge near Ballintoy in County Antrim, Northern Ireland. The bridge links the mainland to the tiny island of Carrickarede (from Irish: *Carraig a' Ráid*, meaning "rock of the casting"). It spans 20 metres (66 ft) and is 30 metres (98 ft) above the rocks below. The bridge is mainly a tourist attraction and is owned and maintained by the National Trust. In 2009 it had 247,000 visitors. The bridge is open all year round (subject to weather) and people may cross it for a fee. Duration here 1hr Rest rooms and on-site restaurant are available.

GIANTS CAUSEWAY



We then drive the 20mins to Giants Causeway

It is located in County Antrim on the northeast coast of Northern Ireland, about three miles (4.8 km) northeast of the town of Bushmills. It was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1986, and a national nature reserve in 1987 by the Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland. In a 2005 poll of *Radio Times* readers, the Giant's Causeway was named as the fourth greatest natural wonder in the United Kingdom.^[5] The tops of the columns form stepping stones that lead from the cliff foot and disappear under the sea. Most of the columns are hexagonal, although there are also some with four, five, seven or eight sides. The tallest are about 12 metres (39 ft) high, and the solidified lava in the cliffs is 28 metres (92 ft) thick in places. Duration here 1 hr 45mins - Hotel on site

Light lunch at The Red Door Tea Rooms – a quaint family run establishment offering excellent food and a great atmosphere. We can pre-order lunch for it to be ready on our arrival.



BUSHMILLS WHISKEY DISTILLERY



From the Giants Causeway, it is a short five minute drive to Bushmills Whiskey Distillery. The Old Bushmills Distillery is a distillery in Bushmills, County Antrim, Northern Ireland. As of December 2014, it was in the process of transitioning from ownership by Diageo plc to Jose Cuervo. All of the whiskey bottled under the Bushmills whiskey brand is produced at the Bushmills Distillery and uses water drawn from Saint Columb's Rill, which is a tributary of the River Bush. The distillery is a popular tourist attraction, with around 120,000 visitors per year.

The company that originally built the distillery was formed in 1784, although the date 1608 is printed on the label of the brand – referring to an earlier date when a royal licence was granted to a local landowner to distil whiskey in the area. After various periods of closure in its subsequent history, the distillery has been in continuous operation since it was rebuilt after a fire in 1885. This is a short 20 minute stop to visit gift shop or stay longer and have a tasting session of 4 different whiskey ages.....not for the faint hearted.

Having had lunch, we make our way on the 1hr 20min drive back to Belfast to experience the sights of the vibrant and controversial city:

TITANIC VISITORS CENTRE



Titanic Belfast is a visitor attraction and a monument to Belfast's maritime heritage on the site of the former Harland & Wolff shipyard in the city's Titanic Quarter where the RMS *Titanic* was built. It tells the stories of the ill-fated *Titanic*, which hit an iceberg and sank during her maiden voyage in 1912, and her sister ships RMS *Olympic* and HMHS *Britannic*. The building contains more than 12,000 square metres (130,000 sq ft) of floor space, most of which is occupied by a series of galleries, plus private function rooms and community facilities.

TROUBLES AREA (Falls Road & Shankill Road)



The Troubles (Irish: *Na Trioblóidí*) is the common name for the ethno-nationalist conflict in Northern Ireland during the late 20th century. Also known internationally as the Northern Ireland conflict, it is sometimes described as a "guerrilla war" or "low-level war". The conflict began in the late 1960s and is usually deemed to have ended with the Good Friday "Belfast" Agreement of 1998. Although the Troubles mainly took place in Northern Ireland, violence spilled over at times into parts of the Republic of Ireland, England and mainland Europe.

The conflict was primarily political and nationalistic, fuelled by historical events. It also had an ethnic or sectarian dimension, although it was not a religious conflict. A key issue was the constitutional status of Northern Ireland. Unionists/loyalists, who are mostly Protestants and consider themselves British, generally want Northern Ireland to remain within the United Kingdom. Irish nationalists/republicans, who are mostly Catholics and consider themselves Irish, generally want it to leave the United Kingdom and join a united Ireland. The conflict began amid a campaign to end discrimination against the Catholic/nationalist minority by the Protestant/unionist government and police force in 1968. The campaign was met with violence, eventually leading to the deployment of British troops and subsequent warfare

CRUMLIN ROAD GAOL



HMP Belfast, also known as Crumlin Road Gaol, is a former prison situated on the Crumlin Road in north Belfast, Northern Ireland. It is the only Victorian era prison remaining in Northern Ireland since 1996. It is affectionately known as *the Crum*.^[1]

The Northern Ireland Environment Agency has given it a grade A listed building status because of its architectural and historical significance. The Crumlin Road Courthouse, which is currently derelict, stands opposite the Gaol. A tunnel under the main road connects the two buildings and was used to transport the prisoners to the courthouse.

In addition to the above mentioned attractions, we can also visit the following attractions :

Ulster Museum

Queens University

Belfast Castle

Holywood Golf Club (Where "Rory" learned his profession)

Long's Fish & Chip Shop (Opened in 1914 - still original staff)

Europa Hotel (Reported to be most bombed hotel in the world – Bill & Monica stayed here)

At this time, 8 hotels are currently being built in Belfast city centre, this is testimony to the fact that Belfast is a "must do" city for the day visitor and weekend visitor alike. In addition to this, the many conference centres and the excellent transport infrastructure, make Belfast the first choice for many world hostings of professional conferences.

Belfast boasts excellent hotels, and indeed our restaurants along with the bars, are on a par with the best in the world - but we have that added "craic", and everyone is assured of welcome..... wherever they go

Belfast is a compact, yet very much an up and coming city, primarily a legacy of the 1998 Good Friday Agreement (Peace Agreement) and you will leave Belfast with a broader knowledge of the wonderful and sometimes painful history of the city.

Your tour does not include the following:

Visitor Attraction Fees

Refreshments & Lunch

Drivers Gratuity

