



The graphic features a vertical orange sidebar on the left with the text: "featuring KILKENNY Wexford New Ross ENNIS Cashel Mallow The Burren Cliffs of Moher Aran Islands plus DUBLIN". At the top left is the Alumni Campus logo. The main area is a collage of images: a large stone castle (Kilkenny Castle), a circular stone structure (New Ross), a cliffside (Cliffs of Moher), a horse, and a person on a bicycle. A green banner at the top contains the word "IRELAND" in large, white, serif letters. At the bottom, a white banner reads "An Exclusive Educational and Travel Experience". The phone number "800-323-7373" and website "www.ahitravel.com" are at the bottom.

I wrote the introduction paragraph to the letter below. The rest of the letter was boilerplate copy.



As the Irish say, *céad míle fáilte*, a hundred thousand welcomes to Ireland! Here history lingers among stone castles with ivy-covered walls, storybook towns and ancient ruins — all awaiting your discovery. Revel your way through Dublin, then settle down to regale fellow travelers (and newly made friends) with stories of your adventures over a pint in a village pub.

Travel experts have meticulously planned this exciting program, which showcases the highlights of Ireland. Enjoy preferred access to popular attractions and an exclusive educational program that will enhance your appreciation of the people and the culture. This educational program features expert local speakers and is the hallmark of our Alumni Campus Abroad programs.

This trip combines the security, ease and value of group travel with opportunities for independent exploration. You will enjoy the camaraderie of traveling with a group of like-minded people and, during your free time, feel the thrill of making your own discoveries.

Space is limited for your comfort, so make your reservations early!

The magnificent Cliffs of Moher offer spectacular views of Galway Bay and the Aran Islands

There is no language like the Irish for soothing and quieting.

- John Millington Synge,
Irish playwright,
1871-1909

Think where mans glory most begins and ends, and say my glory was I had such friends.

- William Butler Yeats,
Irish poet and dramatist
1865-1939

Ireland, sir, for good or evil, is like no other place under heaven, and no man can touch its sod or breathe its air without becoming better or worse.

- George Bernard Shaw,
Irish playwright,
1856-1950

The boundless verdant hills and valleys of Ireland have stolen the heart of many a traveler. With luck, you too will be enamored. Listen to the sound of crashing waves at the Cliffs of Moher or duck into a pub in Ennis to mingle with locals. Wander bucolic villages and bustling cities alike, discovering for yourself the wit, wisdom and magic of the legendary Emerald Isle.

DAY ONE

Depart for **Dublin, Ireland**, aboard scheduled jet service.*

DAY TWO

DUBLIN & KILKENNY

Upon arrival in Dublin, transfer* to Kilkenny. In the evening, enjoy a *Welcome Reception and Dinner* at the *Newpark Hotel* with your fellow travelers.

KILKENNY

DAY THREE

KILKENNY

Educational Focus: Irish History. Learn about Ireland's fascinating past, from early battles to the Great Famine to the Easter Rising and more in this informative lecture.

Excursion: Kilkenny Castle & Kilkenny Design Craft Centre. Stroll through the many rooms, corridors and courtyards of the Kilkenny Castle during a self-guided tour. Peruse an array of handcrafted Irish crafts such as crystal, jewelry, and pottery at the Kilkenny Design Craft Centre.

Local Flavor: Lunch of traditional pub fare is served at *Kyteler's Inn*, a medieval tavern established in 1324.

Excursion: Kilkenny. Amble down Kilkenny's main shopping district, High Street, where you'll see historic homes, unique museums and Grace's Castle, which dates back to 1210.



DAY 5

KILKENNY

Educational Focus: Lively fiddles to classic bagpipes and ardent ballads, sometimes happy, sometimes sad, are the heart of Ireland in this enlightening lecture.

Independent Exploration: Spend the afternoon exploring Kilkenny's well-known medieval city center.

DAY 6

ENNIS

DAY 8

ENNIS

Excursion: Aran Islands. Drive from Galway to Rossaveal where you'll board a high-speed catamaran to the Aran Islands. Tour Inishmore, the largest of the three islands. Witness the stark beauty of a craggy coastline and Dun Aengus, an Iron Age fortress.

Local Flavor: Enjoy a lunch of regional gourmet cuisine prepared by the *Mainistir House* proprietor.

DAY 9

ENNIS

Educational Focus: Finding Your Irish Roots. If you're all Irish or only a fraction, you'll enjoy this informative, eye-opening lecture on discovering your Irish heritage.

Independent Exploration: Explore Ennis at your leisure. Stroll along the River Fergus, visit the Ennis Friary or the Cathedral of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, shop in the narrow streets of the Town Centre or eat lunch while listening to music at a village pub.

DAY 10

DUBLIN

This morning transfer to Dublin and check in at the *O'Callaghan Davenport Hotel*.

Excursion: Guided visit to Irish National Stud and Japanese Gardens. Founded in 1946, The Irish National Stud is home to Ireland's finest thoroughbreds. Tour the grounds, including the Horse Museum and the renowned Japanese Gardens.

I wrote the short mood-setting description in italics leading up the itinerary.

A freelance writer wrote the itinerary and I edited it for style, conventions and fluency.

Continuation followed by a farewell dinner at the *O'Callaghan Davenport Hotel*.

DAY 12

DUBLIN/GATEWAY CITY

From Dublin, transfer to the airport for return flights to your gateway city.*

Note: Itinerary sequence and/or scheduled events may change. Many excursions in this program involve an element of walking.

Included meals indicated each day as B/L/D = Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner.

* Provided for Air Program participants.

Eddie Lenihan:

THE ULTIMATE STORYTELLER

When Eddie Lenihan tells one of his enchanting tales, he casts a spell upon his listeners. Lenihan is a *seochair*, Gaelic for storyteller. He has been mesmerizing audiences with Irish folklore for over 30 years and has become as mythical as the stories he tells. As one of Ireland's greatest storytellers, Lenihan has been referred to as a national treasure—one of the last of his kind. He began telling stories to his children in the early '80s which led to performances in schools and other settings, ultimately turning him into an international phenomenon. He now travels to the U.S. and beyond to tell his tales. Devoted to capturing the essence of Ireland's fabled past, Lenihan draws inspiration from storytellers of bygone days. In addition to authoring over 20 books, he has made appearances on TV, film and radio and at numerous folk festivals.

I wrote the biography of Eddie Lenihan based on an old biography on file, coupled with new information garnered from the trip manager and background research I performed.