

IRELAND: CASTLES, CULTURE, AND HIKING - PACKING LIST

FOOTWEAR

- 1 pair of lightweight hiking boots or trail shoes
- 1 pair of comfortable shoes for general use
- 2-3 pairs of hiking socks: wool or synthetic

CLOTHING

- 1-2 pair lightweight supplex/nylon long pants/capris for hiking. Zip offs work well.
- 1 pair of shorts/3/4 pants (optional)
- 2 - 3 T-shirts; synthetics are much easier to wash out and dry faster than cotton
- 1 lightweight, long-sleeved shirt for hiking - button up front is the best
- 1 warm fleece or lightweight down jacket
- 1 medium-weight top layer – synthetic or wool pull over - fleece or wool vest works well for this layer
- 1 rain jacket and rain pants – **waterproof**/breathable fabric like Gore-tex - not a lightweight plastic poncho
- 1 swimsuit for the occasional hot tub or swim in the ocean
- 1 pair wool, Capilene, or Polartec gloves
- 1 warm/lightweight wool or fleece hat
- 1 wide brimmed or baseball style hat for protection from the sun/rain
- Underwear/nightwear
- 1-2 changes of casual clothes to wear at end of day

EQUIPMENT/ESSENTIALS

- Passport and photocopy of passport
- Sunglasses (100% UV protection) w/ retention strap
- 1 , 1 Liter water bottle
- 1 daypack (see notes on packing list for recommended capacity)
- trekking poles (highly recommended)
- Sunglasses (100% UV protection) w/retention strap
- earplugs and eye mask (for a good night's sleep!)
- Small headlamp or flashlight
- 1 – 2 bandanas/buff
- plug adaptor and converter (if needed)- European type, 2 round prongs usually listed as type E

TOILETRIES (small everything)

- Toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss, hand sanitizer, shampoo, contact lens paraphernalia, sanitary supplies
- Sunscreen and lip protection with sunblock of at least SPF 15
- Personal first aid/patch kit - Band-Aids, 1 safety pin, moleskin, Compeed (or blister bandages), ibuprofen, any personal medications

Please note: Individuals who have had or have the potential for a severe allergic reaction to insect stings, specific foods or medications must bring an epi-pen. Please consult your physician and tell your guide

OPTIONAL (if you want it, bring it – personal preference and not required for the trip)

- Book, notebook, journal, pencil/pen

- ___ folding umbrella
- ___ wristwatch with an alarm or travel clock
- ___ 10 ft. light cord and 4-6 clothespins, detergent
- ___ Camera (extra battery or battery charger) and film/memory card
- ___ washcloth (most hotels in Europe supply towels but not wash clothes)
- ___ your favorite snack
- ___ 1 or 2 bandannas
- ___ binoculars

NOTES ON PACKING

Adventures in Good Company's packing list includes items to help you be prepared for the various activities and conditions. It is not personalized, so please add the items that you require to travel safely and comfortably but remember – less is better! You may not use everything you bring; however, you need to come prepared for all possible weather. At the same time, you must be able to carry your own luggage, sometimes up and downstairs. Bringing a duffel bag or soft-sided suitcase with wheels, rather than a hard-sided suitcase, is easier for packing into the vans that will be transporting our luggage. **As space for luggage on our trips is limited, please do not overpack!**

Footwear: Well-fitting, sturdy boots or trail shoes are very important to your safety and enjoyment. If you plan to buy new shoes/boots, break them in by wearing them around town and taking some short hikes *before* your trip. For general hiking, lightweight or midweight cordura or leather boots with a Vibram sole work well. If you have weak ankles or are recovering from an ankle injury, get boots that come above the ankle– you'll find that this will give you more support in uneven or slippery terrain. Remember to waterproof your boots before the trip. Even boots billed as 'waterproof' need to be treated with a waterproofing product.

Clothing: The clothing listed on the packing list has been chosen for your specific trip conditions and for its versatility for layering. NO COTTON for your active wear! It should all be made from synthetic/synthetic blends, down/down blends or wool/wool blends. Layering is the most practical and efficient method of insulating the body. Several layers of varied weight materials provide better insulation than one thick Layer of clothing. Also, adding or subtracting layers allows you to adjust to the temperature at your particular level of activity.

Rain Gear: You will need a parka or jacket made of a coated nylon or a waterproof/breathable fabric like Gore-tex, HellyTech, Membrane, H2No, or Ultrex. **Be sure it keeps water out.** Before making this important purchase, be sure that it fits you properly. It should be large enough to fit over all your layers. In particular, the hood needs to be effective. It should shield your face from the rain and turn with your head. Movement of your arms must not interfere with the hood. Put on your daypack; can you still raise your arms? Your wind/rain pants should be comfortable, allow enough room for your layers, and permit free movement of your legs (for example, can you crouch comfortably?). Partial or full-length leg zippers are useful for easily putting your pants on over your boots. An inexpensive plastic poncho will both leak and tear easily and is not recommended.

Daypacks: Your daypack should be large enough to hold the following items: 1 liters of water, rain gear, lunch/snacks (for the day), sunscreen, warm layer (fleece pullover or vest), personal first aid kit, lightweight gloves, warm hat and personal items such as camera, etc. We recommend a daypack with a

capacity of between 1800 and 2400 cubic inches with a hip belt, padded shoulder straps, and 'lifters'. Line your daypack with a durable plastic bag to keep your belongings dry, or have an elasticized pack cover that fits snugly over it. Before you leave home check to be sure that it is comfortable to wear all day and has sufficient space for all of your items. **Note: Fanny-packs and hydration packs are not large enough to hold all of the items you will need for the day.**

Trekking Poles: Trekking poles are highly recommended for this trip. Trekking poles contribute to your safety by improving your balance and stability, and to your health by saving stress on your hips and knees. If you are not familiar with trekking poles, [click here to read this blog post](#) that addresses the most commonly asked questions:

Personal First Aid Kit: Bring a small first aid kit with familiar medicine and first aid supplies you might need. Recommendations include the following: blister or foot remedies like moleskin, Compeed, blister bandages, or similar, a small roll of duct tape (always useful!), remedies for respiratory ailments, stomach ailments, sore muscles or joints. The guides will have a first aid kit but having what you know works well for you is a good idea.