

US ULSTER SCOTS FAM

23rd – 26th SEPTEMBER 2019

Day 1: Mon 23 Sept

TBC Morning arrival at Dublin Airport and transfer to Belfast with your guide, SEAMUS MILLIKEN, Toast the Coast

Arrive Titanic Hotel – where you will be having lunch (and returning to overnight later)

1430 Belfast City Orientation Tour by coach - during your tour you will see many of Belfast's famous attractions (allow 1 hour)

1530 Visit to Belfast City Hall – at the centre of Donegall Square proudly stands Belfast City Hall, the civic headquarters of Belfast City Council. The grounds feature a number of statues and memorials relating to Belfast's historic past. Daily tours of the building allow visitors to admire the opulent interiors, artwork and stained glass windows. (allow 1 hour)



Belfast City Hall

1645 Linen Hall Library - founded in 1788, it is the oldest library in Belfast and the last subscribing library in Ireland. It is renowned for its Irish and Local Studies Collections, ranging from Early Belfast and Ulster printed books to the 250,000 items in the Northern Ireland Political Collection, the definitive archive of the recent troubles. (please note Library closes at 1730)

1700 Return to Titanic Hotel - freshen up for dinner

1900 Dinner in Hadski's

Coach required for drop off and pick up

2230 Return to hotel for overnight

Day 2: Tues 24 Sept

0900 Depart Belfast via scenic Causeway Coastal Route

0930 **Andrew Jackson Cottage & US Rangers Centre** - meet Dr David Hume from Toast the Coast and experience a snapshot of his Ulster Scots Foodie Tour



Andrew Jackson Cottage

1030 Continue North

1100 **Ballycarry Templecorran Graveyard** - Templecorran stands on an early ecclesiastical site in the village of Ballycarry, an area favoured for Scottish settlers in the early 17th century. Home of the first Presbyterian minister in Ireland for a brief period in the 1690s, it was one of the parishes for which the celebrated novelist, Jonathan Swift was responsible. With stunning views and it's a connection to yonder lands, Templecorran cemetery is steeped in history, notably a monument to James Orr. James Orr known as the Bard of Ballycarry was a foremost of the Ulster Weaver Poets and writing at the same time as Robert Burns. He was one of many Ulster Presbyterians who fled to America after taking part in the ill-fated Ulster Irish Rising in 1798. (30mins stop)

1200 **Broth/Stew lunch in the Prom Cafe Larne** (after viewing the Ulster American Memorial/Port memorial) Departure of Goodwill ship to Boston in year 1717. Cafe views look yonder to Scotland

1315 Depart Cafe

1345 **Glenarm St Patrick Church & Old Friary** - sits on the coast road in Glenarm looking out to sea towards Scotland and inland to Glenarm Castle Estate. The site was donated by Scotsman Robert Bissett and dates back to 1465 where a Franciscan order was established. A favoured burial place for locals and Scottish settlers alike, inside many points of interest including a fine collection of stain glass windows. One such of St Patrick in a purple robe, an unusual depiction. (30 mins stop)

1500 **Arthur Cottage** - in the village of Cullybackey, is the ancestral home of Chester A. Arthur, the 21st President of the United States. The thatched cottage and interpretive centre detail the story of President Arthur and his road to the Presidency. President Arthur's grandparents lived in Cullybackey at Arthur Cottage. Their son, William (the President's father) was born 1797 in the cottage and emigrated, with other members of the family, to North America between 1816 and 1820. (allow 30 mins)

1530 Depart Cullybackey for Ballygawley (*David will depart group here*)

1700 **Ulysses S Grant Homestead** - Visit the homestead of the US Grant, 18th President of the United States, whose great grandfather was born just outside the Ballygawley. The original ancestral homestead has been preserved and is open to visitors all year round. (allow 1 hour)

1800 Depart for Omagh

1830 **Check into Silverbirch Hotel** – freshen up for dinner

1930 **Dinner in hotel restaurant**

Overnight

Day 3: Wed 25 Sept

0945 After a leisurely breakfast - depart hotel for short drive to the Folk Park

1000 **Ulster American Folk Park** (*with refreshments before departure*) - a world to excite your inner explorer. Immerse yourself in the story of the brave emigrants who made the journey across the Atlantic to America hundreds of years ago. Wander through the thatched cottages and log cabins and meet costumed characters who will show you traditional crafts, tell you a few stories and maybe even share a bit of their good food. Board a full-scale emigrant ship to experience the conditions faced by many as they set sail for a new life in America. (allow 1 hour 30 mins)

1100 Depart for Derry~Londonderry

1200 Arrive Derry – **meet your Derry Guide to take the Walking Tour of Derry's Walls** – this year is the 400th anniversary of the walls and the tour tells the story of the plantation of Ulster.



Derry's walls

1300 **Lunch at Shipquay Hotel followed by a showaround** (allow 1 hour 30 mins)

1430 **Siege Museum** – a permanent display of the history of the Siege of Londonderry and of the Associated Clubs of the Apprentice Boys of Derry, including artefacts, video and interactive media. (allow 45 mins)

1530 **Museum of Free Derry** - opening in 2007 the museum's object is to tell the story of what happened in the city during the period 1968 – 1972, popularly known as 'Free Derry', and including the civil rights era, Battle of the Bogside, Internment, Bloody Sunday and Operation Motorman. (allow 45 mins)

1615 **Guild Hall Tour** - A major £9.5m restoration of the Guildhall was completed in June 2013. The building which had been closed since 2012 now also boasts a new multi-faceted tourism experience providing a central hub for visitors exploring the city.

1730 **Check into Bishop's Gate Hotel** – freshen up for dinner

1900 **Dinner in Soda & Starch**

Coach not required - return to hotel for overnight

Day 4: Thu 26 Sept - Depart for ROI after leisurely breakfast