IRELAND

History & genealogy tour

September–October 2022

actual dates to be finalised

www.unlockthepasttours.com

BELFAST — DERRY — FERMANAGH — LEITRIM

- Day 1 Sun — meet Belfast – short city tour o/n Belfast
- Day 2 Mon — full day conference with Irish experts o/n Belfast
- Day 3 Tue — Titanic Exhibition - Ulster Folk, transport museum o/n Belfast
- Day 4 Wed — Giant's Causeway, explore nth Antrim coast & church o/n Belfast
- Day 5 Thu — to Derry and explore, Ulster/American Folk Park and the Mellon Centre for Migration Studies o/n Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh
- Day 6 Fri — 18th century country houses and explore ... cruise to Devenish Island on Lough Erne o/n Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh
- Day 7 Sat — focus on the Irish Famine emigration to Australia and the role of workhouses in that emigration. o/n Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim

CLARE — OFFALY

- Day 8 Sun — Visit Strokestown Park House and Ireland's Famine Museum o/n Ballyvaughan, Co. Clare
- Day 9 Mon — touring in the Burren region of north County Clare an area rich with Irish/Australian emigrant connection: Corcomroe Abbey, Ballyvaughan Catholic church (built with Australian emigrant money in the 1860s) o/n Ballyvaughan, Co. Clare
- Day 10 Tue — visit Stradbally Church - Tullamore, County Offaly, with visit to Birr o/n Tullamore, Co. Offaly
- Day 11 Wed — TBA, but focused on doing family and local history research in an Irish rural area as opposed to the big centres in Dublin o/n Tullamore, Co. Offaly

KERRY

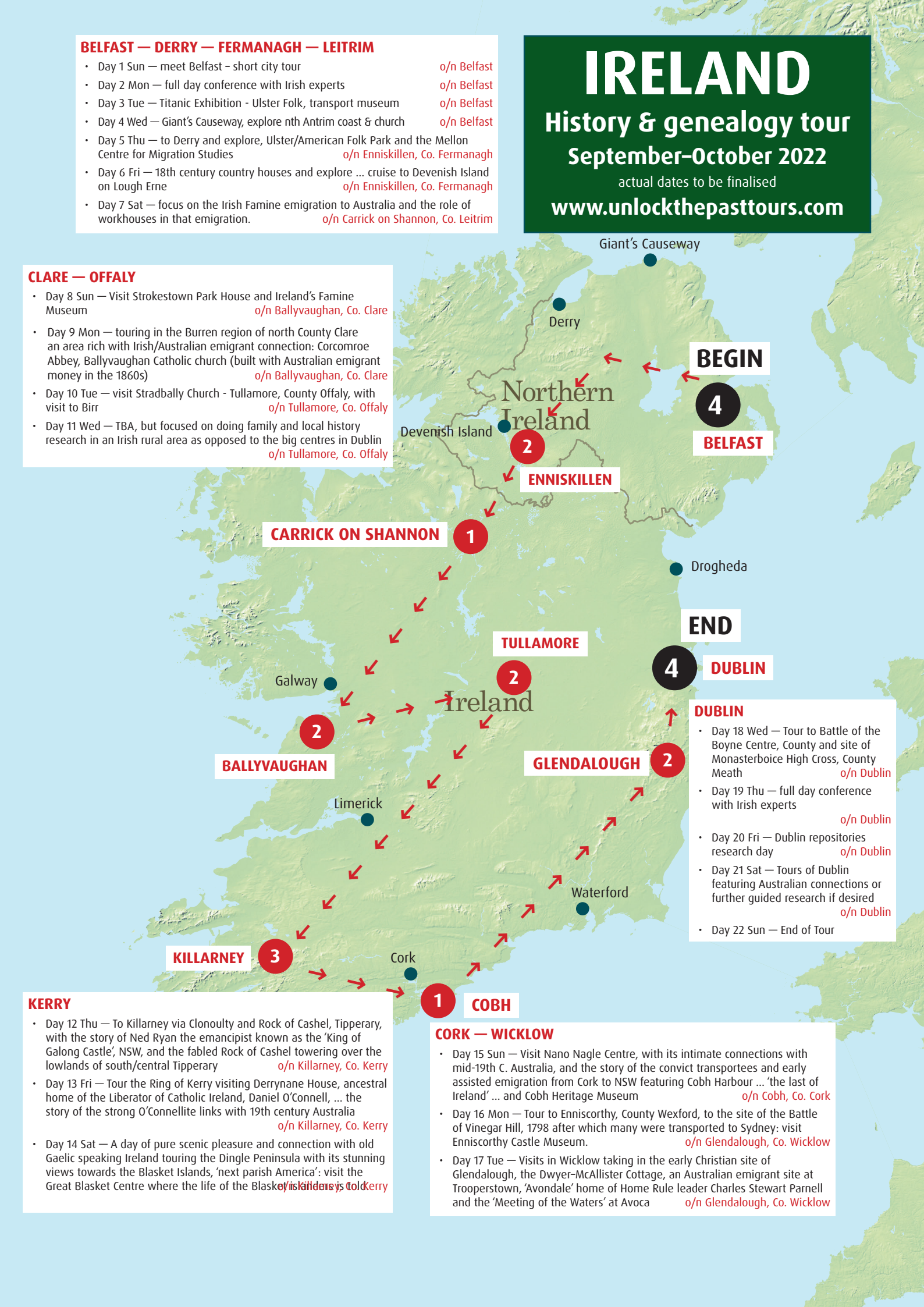
- Day 12 Thu — To Killarney via Clonoulty and Rock of Cashel, Tipperary, with the story of Ned Ryan the emancipist known as the 'King of Galong Castle', NSW, and the fabled Rock of Cashel towering over the lowlands of south/central Tipperary o/n Killarney, Co. Kerry
- Day 13 Fri — Tour the Ring of Kerry visiting Derrynane House, ancestral home of the Liberator of Catholic Ireland, Daniel O'Connell, ... the story of the strong O'Connellite links with 19th century Australia o/n Killarney, Co. Kerry
- Day 14 Sat — A day of pure scenic pleasure and connection with old Gaelic speaking Ireland touring the Dingle Peninsula with its stunning views towards the Blasket Islands, 'next parish America': visit the Great Blasket Centre where the life of the Blasket Islanders is told o/n Killarney, Co. Kerry

CORK — WICKLOW

- Day 15 Sun — Visit Nano Nagle Centre, with its intimate connections with mid-19th C. Australia, and the story of the convict transportees and early assisted emigration from Cork to NSW featuring Cobh Harbour ... 'the last of Ireland' ... and Cobh Heritage Museum o/n Cobh, Co. Cork
- Day 16 Mon — Tour to Enniscorthy, County Wexford, to the site of the Battle of Vinegar Hill, 1798 after which many were transported to Sydney: visit Enniscorthy Castle Museum. o/n Glendalough, Co. Wicklow
- Day 17 Tue — Visits in Wicklow taking in the early Christian site of Glendalough, the Dwyer–McAllister Cottage, an Australian emigrant site at Trooperstown, 'Avondale' home of Home Rule leader Charles Stewart Parnell and the 'Meeting of the Waters' at Avoca o/n Glendalough, Co. Wicklow

DUBLIN

- Day 18 Wed — Tour to Battle of the Boyne Centre, County and site of Monasterboice High Cross, County Meath o/n Dublin
- Day 19 Thu — full day conference with Irish experts o/n Dublin
- Day 20 Fri — Dublin repositories research day o/n Dublin
- Day 21 Sat — Tours of Dublin featuring Australian connections or further guided research if desired o/n Dublin
- Day 22 Sun — End of Tour



Proposed Ireland tour itinerary — September – October 2022

actual dates to be finalised

Day 1 - Sunday

Meet Belfast – short city tour
Overnight Belfast

Day 2 - Monday

Full-day conference with Irish experts – Public Record Office of Northern Ireland/Ulster Historical Foundation introduction to Irish family history and historical research using resources like PRONI and other major Irish repositories – stay next to PRONI in Titanic quarter hotel. *Overnight Belfast*

Day 3 - Tuesday

Morning – Visit 'Titanic, the Exhibition'.
Afternoon – Ulster Folk and Transport Museum: the sorts of original buildings the ancestors knew. *Overnight Belfast*

Day 4 - Wednesday

Drive to the Giant's Causeway, via the Antrim Coast road, one of the great scenic sights of Ireland; afternoon tea and exploration of a typical north Antrim church and churchyard. *Overnight Belfast*

Day 5 - Thursday

Morning – drive to Derry and explore the famous 'Walls' and Cathedral with all their significance for Irish history and emigrant memory.
Afternoon – Visit the Ulster/American Folk Park and the Mellon Centre for Migration Studies.
Overnight Enniskillen, County Fermanagh

Day 6 - Friday

Morning – Visit one of Ireland's great 18th century country houses and explore the story of the Fourth Earl of Belmore, Governor of NSW, 1868 to 1872.
Afternoon – a cruise to Devenish Island on Lough Erne providing a sense of early Christian Ireland.
Overnight Enniskillen, County Fermanagh

Day 7 - Saturday

To be advised but will be a day focused on the Irish Famine emigration to Australia and the role of the infamous workhouses in that emigration. This will involve a visit to a surviving workhouse, and the site of a poignant Irish family emigration from this area to NSW over a period of 25 years in the mid 19th century. *Overnight Carrick on Shannon, County Leitrim*

Day 8 - Sunday

Morning – Visit Strokestown Park House and Ireland's Famine Museum. *Overnight Ballyvaughan, County Clare*

Day 9 - Monday

A day touring in the Burren region of north County Clare an area rich with Irish/Australian emigrant connection: this will include visits to Corcomroe Abbey, Ballyvaughan Catholic church (built with Australian emigrant money in the 1860s), the unique limestone pavement scenery of the Burren, Paul-na-Brone ancient dolmen and the Cliffs of Moher.
Overnight Ballyvaughan, County Clare

Day 10 - Tuesday

Morning – Visit Stradbally Church of Ireland and burial site of Australia's most influential Irish Governor, Sir Richard Bourke, 1832 to 1838.
Afternoon – drive to Tullamore, County Offaly, with visit to Birr with its 18th century environment.
Overnight Tullamore, County Offaly

Day 11 - Wednesday

To be advised but focused on doing family and local history research in an Irish rural area as opposed to the big centres in Dublin. *Overnight Tullamore*

Day 12 - Thursday

Touring to Killarney via Clonoulty and Rock of Cashel, Tipperary, with the story of Ned Ryan the emancipist known as the 'King of Galong Castle', NSW, and the fabled Rock of Cashel towering over the lowlands of south/central Tipperary.
Overnight Killarney, County Kerry

Day 13 - Friday

Tour the Ring of Kerry visiting Derrynane House, ancestral home of the Liberator of Catholic Ireland, Daniel O'Connell, encompassing the story of the strong O'Connellite links with 19th century Australia. *Overnight Killarney, County Kerry*

Day 14 - Saturday

A day of pure scenic pleasure and connection with old Gaelic speaking Ireland touring the Dingle Peninsula with its stunning views towards the Blasket Islands, 'next parish America': visit the Great Blasket Centre where the life of the Blasket islanders is told. *Overnight Killarney, County Kerry*

Day15 - Sunday

Visit the Nano Nagle Centre, with its intimate connections with mid-nineteenth Australia, and the story of the convict transportees and early assisted emigration from Cork to NSW featuring Cobh Harbour … 'the last of Ireland' … and the Cobh Heritage Museum. *Overnight Cobh, County Cork*

Day 16 - Monday

Tour to Enniscorthy, County Wexford, to the site of the Battle of Vinegar Hill, 1798 after which many were transported to Sydney: visit Enniscorthy Castle Museum.
Overnight Glendalough, County Wicklow

Day 17 - Tuesday

Visits in Wicklow taking in the early Christian site of Glendalough, the Dwyer–McAllister Cottage (with its links to Sydney's 1798 Memorial at Waverley Cemetery), an Australian emigrant site at Trooperstown, 'Avondale' home of Home Rule leader Charles Stewart Parnell (a household name in Irish Australia) and the 'Meeting of the Waters' at Avoca, about which Thomas Moore wrote a song famous among Irish emigrant communities everywhere (statue of More in Ballarat, Victoria). *Overnight Glendalough, County Wicklow*

Day 18 - Wednesday

Tour to Battle of the Boyne Centre, County and site of Monasterboice High Cross, County Meath, both with important Australian historical connections. *Overnight Dublin*

Day 19 - Thursday

Full-day conference – Introduction to Dublin repositories.
Overnight Dublin

Day 20 - Friday

Dublin repositories research day. *Overnight Dublin*

Day 21 - Saturday

Tours of Dublin featuring Australian connections or further guided research if desired. *Overnight Dublin*

Day 22 - Sunday

End of Tour.