



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
OF AMERICA TOURS

Ireland's *Wild Atlantic Way & Northern Ireland*

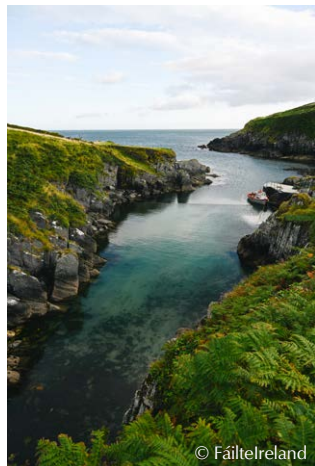
September 1-14, 2025 (14 days | 12 guests)
with geoarchaeologist Stephen Mandal



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Archaeology-focused tours for the curious to the connoisseur.

Archaeological Institute of America Lecturer & Host



Dr. Stephen Mandal is an expert on the Irish landscape, its archaeology, history, and geology. He is the co-founder of award-winning educational organizations: the

Irish Heritage School, Cultural Tourism Ireland, and Dig it Kids. Stephen has co-founded several multi-award-winning community heritage projects, including the “Blackfriary Community Heritage Project,” which was awarded funding under the AIA’s Site Preservation program; and the “Digging the Lost Town of Carrick,” “Building the Lost Town of Carrick” and, most recently, the “Monastic Midlands” Projects. He has presented academic and public talks on these projects in Ireland and internationally, including to the Smithsonian. Stephen completed his Ph.D. in Geoarchaeology (Trinity College, Dublin) in 1995, and has co-authored three academic books: *Discovering Medieval Ferns, Co. Wexford* (2023), *Carrick, Co. Wexford: Ireland’s First Anglo-Norman Stronghold* (2019), and *The Irish Stone Axe Project: Monograph I* (1998). He currently serves as a Director of the Discovery Programme (since 2019), and has served as Vice Chairperson of the Royal Irish Academy Committee for Archaeology (2009-2014) and as External Examiner to Sligo Institute of Technology (2012-2015). Stephen is passionate about the outdoor classroom and active, tactile learning, and has a wealth of experience in communicating geology, archaeology, and history at all levels. On this AIA tour he will assist you in viewing the Irish landscape from the perspective of the people who lived there in the past.

Cover: (top) Céide Fields Visitor Centre, (bottom from left) Westport, Cahermore, sheep, Dunguaire Castle, AIA lecturer Stephen Mandal with travelers at Giant’s Causeway

Corcomroe Abbey



This journey takes you around Ireland’s North Coast, from west to east, exploring its fascinating and diverse landscapes, archaeology, and history. Starting in Shannon and ending in Dublin, this tour has been designed to give you a deep understanding of the multitude of landscapes and rich heritage of the northern half of the island, including time in Northern Ireland.

Highlights:

- Explore the spectacular Burren landscape, spending time at both iconic sites and hidden gems.
- Travel by ferry to two islands: the largest of the Aran Islands, Inishmore, which is home to Dún Aonghasa, a semi-circular fort at the edge of the Atlantic Ocean; and Clare Island, nestled in Clew Bay off the Mayo coast.
- Visit the picturesque heritage town of Westport with a stop at Ballinubber Abbey, which has been situated in a place of pilgrimage and political significance for centuries.
- See Céide Fields, the world’s most extensive Stone Age monument, where we will enjoy a guided site visit and demonstration of survey techniques.
- Explore Sligo in the company of Sam Moore, a lecturer in Applied Archaeology at the Atlantic Technological University Sligo.
- Visit Northern Ireland’s completely walled city of Derry, with stops at Dunluce Castle, the Giant’s Causeway, and the city of Belfast.
- Visit the seaside medieval town of Carlingford.

Throughout this tour, you will explore hidden archaeological sites from earliest prehistory through the Iron Age (Celtic Period), and from early Christian sites to the later medieval period and Ireland’s more recent history, all in the company of highly respected academics, engaging guides, and a tour manager. Travel in a small group and enjoy the personal attention and service of an Irish academic lecturer/host who is both a geologist and an archaeologist.



ITINERARY

(B)= Breakfast, (L)= Lunch, (R)= Reception, (D)= Dinner

Monday, September 1, 2025: Depart home

Depart home on independent flights to Shannon, Ireland.

Tuesday, September 2: Arrive Shannon | Transfer to hotel | Cliffs of Moher | Spanish Point | Welcome reception & dinner

1.5 miles and steep ascent – gravel pathways and rural managed paths
Upon arrival at Shannon Airport (SNN), meet your host and tour manager and transfer as a group to your hotel (time TBD). After a light lunch, take a short trip to the iconic Cliffs of Moher, one of Ireland's most spectacular sights. Five miles long and 750 feet at their highest point, the Cliffs of Moher offer one of the most amazing views in Ireland. On a clear day, the Aran Islands are visible in Galway Bay, as are the valleys and hills of Connemara. You can walk at your own pace, dividing your time between the scenic walks and wonderful interpretative center as you wish. In the evening, we gather for a welcome reception before dinner at our hotel in Spanish Point. *Two nights at the 4-star [Armada Hotel](#).* (L,R,D)

Wednesday, September 3: The Burren | Corcomroe Abbey | Dunguaire Castle | Cahermore | Spanish Point

1 mile and ascent in places – hill walk on karst limestone, 0.5 miles and little ascent – pathway (Poul nabrone)

Today we explore the Burren landscape, including its archaeology, history, mythology, geology, and ecology. We will start with a visit to Poul nabrone dolmen, a dramatic Neolithic portal tomb and the earliest megalithic tomb in Ireland, built ca. 3800 B.C. From here, we will visit the beautiful hidden gem that is Temple Cronin, an Early Christian church nestled into a natural escarpment in the Burren. After lunch at the gorgeous Burren Perfumery, we continue on to the ruins of Corcomroe Abbey, a 13th-century Cistercian monastery set in a beautiful fertile valley. From here we head to the town of Kinvarra and visit Dunguaire Castle, a tower house set in a spectacular coastal location. On our way back to our hotel, we will stop at the 9th-century Cahermore stone ringfort, excavated as part of the Third Harvard Archaeological Expedition, led by Hugh O'Neill Hencken in 1934. Dinner is on your own in Spanish Point this evening. (B,L)

Thursday, September 4: Ferry to Inishmore: Dún Aonghasa, The Seven Churches | Ferry to Rossaveel | Galway

1.5 miles and steep ascent in places – mixed walk; roads, paths, uneven terrain; very challenging on route to Dún Aonghasa
This morning (weather permitting) we will catch a ferry to Inishmore, the largest of the Aran Islands. With a population of about 800, the island is famous for its strong Irish culture, loyalty to the Irish language, and a wealth of Iron Age and ancient Christian sites. Perhaps its most notable monument is Dún Aonghasa (Dún Aengus), a semi-circular stone fort built ca. 1100 B.C. at the edge of a 300-foot-high cliff, offering spectacular views out over the Atlantic. The route to the fort is a partly steep and uneven rough limestone pathway. Ankle

Poul nabrone dolmen



© FáilteIreland

*“Diverse, interesting sites,
extraordinary knowledge
by Stephen and fellow
archaeologists...gorgeous
hotels, delicious food...”*

- Kathleen, California

Aughnanure Castle



© FáilteIreland™



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© TourismIreland

support boots are advised. This walk is unsuitable for those with less than optimal stability and requires a good level of fitness. Our taxi will take us on a tour of the island and will include a visit to the Early Christian monastic site of the Seven Churches (Na Seacht dTeampaill). We will spend some time in Kilonan village before travelling by ferry to Rossaveel, and onward to Galway, where we gather for dinner this evening. *Overnight at the 4-star [Galmont Hotel](#). (B,D)*

Friday, September 5: Connemara landscape and archaeology | Aughnanure Castle | Cong Abbey | Westport

Overall 1.5 miles and some steep ascent – in a parkland setting with some rough pathways (a ride can be arranged for the hilly parts)

This morning we drive through the breathtakingly beautiful landscape of Connemara, the heart of Connaught. We will visit Aughnanure Castle, a Gaelic tower house built by the O’Flaherty’s in the 16th century. From here, we will continue to Cong Abbey, an Augustinian Abbey founded by Turlough O’Connor, High King of Ireland, in the early 12th century. In a practice common at the time, the abbey was built on top of a 6th-century monastery, founded by St. Feichin. We will have lunch in Cong before heading to the beautiful heritage town of Westport, our base for the next three nights. *Three nights at the 4-star [Westport Coast Hotel](#). (B,L,D)*

Saturday, September 6: Roonagh | Ferry to Clare Island | Ferry to Roonagh | Westport

Up to 5 miles with some ascent – mixed walking, on country roads and pathways, and over some uneven, unmarked terrain

This morning we drive to Roonagh, where we take the ferry to Clare Island. Clare is the largest of the 365 islands in Clew Bay, and this vibrant island has a population of about 160. The survey of Clare Island (1909-1911) was the first multidisciplinary (zoological, botanical, archaeological, and geological) survey of its kind ever conducted in the world. In fact, even today it is still the principal survey in Ireland and Britain, and it paved the way for the ongoing New Clare Island Survey, which commenced in 1991. On our journey, we will see numerous layers of human impact on the island, evident in the field walls, stone mounds and circles, ruins, and crop marks. There is no better way to understand the complexity of human habitation in Ireland than in a once densely-inhabited place. We catch the afternoon ferry back to Roonagh, on the mainland, and drive back to Westport. (B,L,D)

Sunday, September 7: Ballinubber Abbey | Westport

3 miles and gentle ascent – on footpaths

Today we travel the short distance to Ballinubber Abbey, founded by King Cathal Crovdearg O’Conor – Cathal Mór of the wine-red hand. He belonged to the royal



© FáilteIreland

"I've traveled in Japan, Israel, and Europe, and I've lived overseas. There have been many wonderful trips, but this was the best...Dr. Mandal's extraordinary mix of personal, scholarly, and leadership gifts was central."

- Victoria, Kansas

lineage of the O'Connors, reigning as King of Connacht and known as a notable patron of the arts. Although historical records often cite 1216 as the year of the Abbey's foundation, the circumstances surrounding its establishment are steeped in legend. In truth, the imposing abbey is sited in a place of pilgrimage and political significance for centuries before. After lunch in a local restaurant, we will return to Westport, where you can enjoy the rest of the day exploring the town with dinner at your leisure. (B,L)

Monday, September 8: Céide Fields | Green Fort | Sligo

3 miles with ascent in places – mixed walks along boardwalks and rough paths

This morning we drive north to Céide Fields, County Mayo, one of the most interesting and important archaeological sites in Europe, and the world's most extensive Stone Age monument. It was discovered by local schoolmaster Patrick Caulfield in the 1930s, who noticed something unusual about the clusters and lines of stones he encountered deep within the bogs as he was cutting turf. His son Seamus continued his passion and, inspired to study archaeology, went on to become professor of archaeology at University College Dublin. Using iron probes, Seamus set about systematically recording the depths, orientation, and extent of these stone walls hidden beneath the bogs. He discovered not only walls, but also houses and monuments extending over a known area of some five square miles. After a guided visit around the site, including demonstrations of the probing survey techniques (yes, you can have a go!), and a light lunch in the visitor center, we will head for Sligo. Time and energy permitting, we will take a quick visit to the 17th-century Green Fort, built to protect Sligo Town during the Jacobite war between William of Orange and King James II. *Two nights at the 4-star [Glasshouse Hotel](#).* (B,L,D)

Tuesday, September 9: Strandhill | Carrowmore | Sligo

3 miles walking – Strandhill beach has sections of water-rolled cobbles which can be slippery; Carrowmore has grassy paths; waterproof footwear is crucial

This morning, we will take a walk along the coast to Strandhill to see Cullenamore shell middens in the company of Sam Moore, a local archaeologist and lecturer at Atlantic University Sligo. The middens are truly remarkable in their age, extent, and sheer scale; people have feasted on seafood here for millennia. After lunch in a local pub we drive to Carrowmore, one of the four large passage tomb complexes in Ireland, to discuss their siting, construction, purpose, and extent in this breathtaking landscape. Time and energy permitting, we may sneak in a few more hidden gems along the way! Dinner in Sligo is under your own arrangements this evening. (B,L)



Sligo

© Mandal



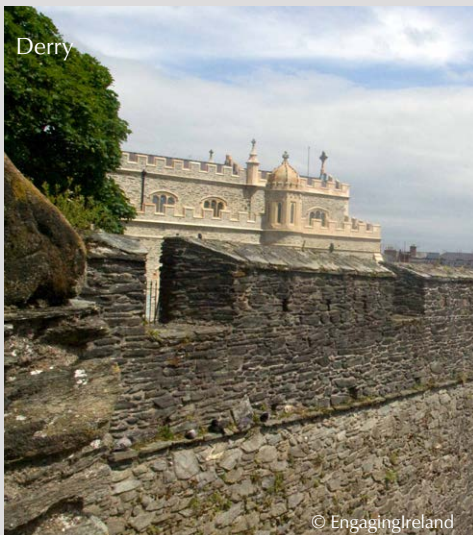
Drumcliffe

© FáilteIreland



Grianan of Aileach

© GarethWrey



Derry

© EngagingIreland

Wednesday, September 10: Drumcliffe | Creevykeel | Grianan of Aileach | Derry, NORTHERN IRELAND

2 miles and some ascent – three short walks; the path to Grianan of Aileach can be slippery and uneven

This morning we drive northwards, stopping in Drumcliffe to visit the grave of W.B. Yeats, in the shadow of the beautiful Benbulbin Mountains, the inspiration for much of his work. Also visit Creevykeel, one of Ireland's finest examples of a full-court tomb, dating from the Neolithic period but reused in Early Christian times by iron smelters. From here we continue on to Grianan of Aileach, an impressive stone fort that dates back to 1700 B.C. and was restored in the late 19th century. Here we explore the intersection of mythology, history, and archaeology. Continue to Derry, Northern Ireland, where we check-in to our hotel. *Two nights at the 4-star [The Ebrington Hotel](#).* (B,L,D)

Thursday, September 11: Derry: City tour, Guildhall

2 miles and some ascent – gentle walk around the city walls in an urban environment, steep in places

This morning we are joined by a local guide for a tour of the city of Derry, which is steeped in history and was pivotal to so much of Irish, British, and European history. Derry is the only completely walled city in Ireland, and its impressive, early-17th-century walls acted as a defense from Scottish and English attacks. Derry has a turbulent past and was divided as a city during 'The Troubles,' also known as the Northern Ireland Conflict, which began in the 1960s and ended in 1998 with the signing of the Good Friday Agreement. We will see the city murals, known as 'The People's Gallery'; these 12 paintings depict key events during 'The Troubles.' After lunch we will visit the Guildhall, one of the City's most recognizable landmarks since 1887. The Guildhall's most arresting feature is its collection of stunning stained-glass windows. Donated by London Companies, they represent everything from fishmongers to musicians. Enjoy dinner under your own arrangements in the city. (B,L)



Benbulbin Mountains

© FáilteIreland



Carlingford

© TourismIreland



©Caillotte

Friday, September 12: Dunluce Castle | Giant's Causeway | Belfast

3 miles and optional significant ascent – paved roads and rough pathways

This morning we head eastwards along the north coastline. Our first stop is the dramatic Dunluce Castle, spectacularly sited on the edge of a basalt outcrop. First built in the 13th century by Richard Óg de Burg, 2nd Earl of Ulster, the castle had a fascinating and complex history, overlooking some key events in Irish and European history such as the Spanish Armada of the late 16th century. From here, we will continue to the Giant's Causeway. At this UNESCO World Heritage Site, comprising 40,000 basalt polygonal columns formed 60 million years ago after a volcanic eruption, we will explore the major themes of mythology, geology, landscape, ecology, culture, and social history. After our visit, we will drive southwards to Belfast city center.

Overnight at the 4-star [Europa Hotel](#). (B,L,D)

Saturday, September 13: Belfast | Carlingford, IRELAND | Dublin | Farewell reception & dinner

1.5 miles on paved paths – gentle short walks

This morning we will go on one of the iconic Belfast Cab Tours. Designed to give the visitor an authentic and personal understanding of Belfast and Northern Ireland's recent political history, this tour will include visits to the Shankill Road, the Peace Wall, and other places that will resonate with anyone who listened and watched 'The Troubles' unfold from the '70s through the '90s. After our tour, we will travel southwards to the seaside medieval town of Carlingford, Ireland, where we visit some of the town's most important medieval buildings, including King John's Castle, before lunch in a local restaurant. Finally, we will complete our journey to Dublin for our farewell reception and dinner. *Overnight at the 4-star [Portmarnock Hotel](#). (B,L,R,D)*

Sunday, September 14: Fly home

Transfer as a group (time TBD) to Dublin Airport (DUB) for independent flights homeward. (B)

The AIA & AIA Tours

The Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) is the oldest and largest archaeological organization in North America. The AIA seeks to educate people of all ages about the significance of archaeological discovery. For more than a century the AIA has been dedicated to the encouragement and support of archaeological research and publication, and to the protection of the world's archaeological resources and cultural heritage. By traveling on an AIA Tour you directly support the AIA while personally gaining the benefit of the AIA's network of scholars and worldwide contacts.



Giant's Causeway

© Jal74



© iKBreman

What to Expect



ACTIVE: Must be able to walk three or more miles per day on mostly uneven terrain, and up and down inclines and steps.

The duration of each day's walking is estimated within the enclosed itinerary. Hiking boots are suggested as we will walk mostly on rough pathways, quiet roads, and uneven terrain. There will be some steps and/or steep ascents along the way, and surfaces may be wet.

The actual itinerary is subject to variables such as the abilities and interests of the group and the weather conditions. All participants are expected to be physically active, not be an impediment to others on excursions, and enjoy traveling as part of a group. Participants who are not able to walk unassisted for extended periods (at least three miles a day) are kindly advised not to join this tour. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Sponsors/Operator, local staff, and host country laws. Any participant showing signs of illness will be asked to wear a mask when in close proximity to others. If the tour manager decides that a participant cannot visit a site safely or in a timely manner, their judgment will be final. Where possible, an alternate activity may be suggested; additional costs may apply. If you have any questions about your ability to participate, we suggest that you visit your personal physician with this brochure in hand, and discuss whether or not the program is appropriate for you.

Lunches may be packed and eaten outside when appropriate or, where possible, lunch will be taken in a local restaurant or pub. September weather conditions vary from cool to warm and back again within a week—or even within a day. While we can hope for a maximum daytime temperature of 65-80° F, it is important to be prepared for cooler temperatures, including packing clothing to cope with rain, which could be blustery and heavy, and with anything from cool, windy weather to warmer temperatures. Coastal walks, in particular, are likely to be breezy and on the hills it can turn cold quickly. Average temperatures at night will usually drop to around 55° F. *Complete pre-departure details will be sent to participants.*

Accommodations



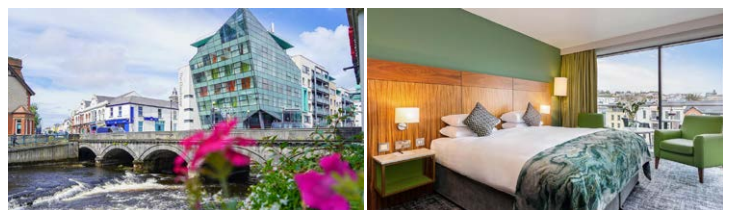
SPANISH POINT: Two nights at the 4-star [Armada Hotel](#)



GALWAY: One night at the 4-star [Galmont Hotel](#)



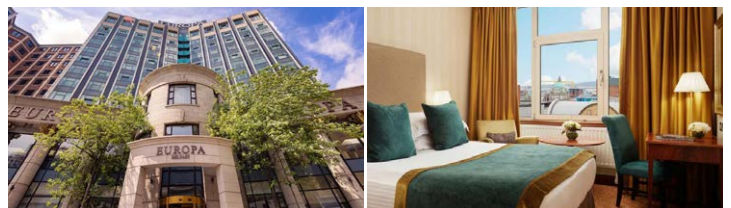
WESTPORT: Three nights at the 4-star [Westport Coast Hotel](#)



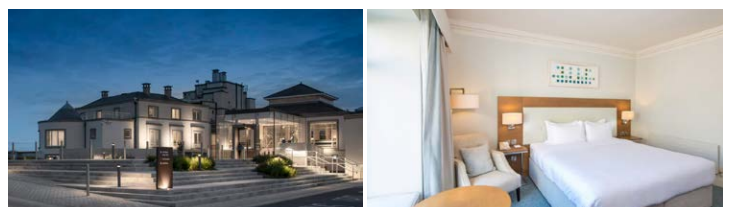
SLIGO: Two nights at the 4-star [Glasshouse Hotel](#)



DERRY: Two nights at the 4-star [The Ebrington Hotel](#)



BELFAST: One night at the 4-star [Europa Hotel](#)



DUBLIN: One night at the 4-star [Portmarnock Hotel](#)



TOUR PRICES Per Person (12 nights)

Double Occupancy (8-12 participants)\$9,895

Single Supplement (*limited availability*).....\$1,195

Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required.
With fewer than 8 participants, a small group surcharge may be applied.

PRICES INCLUDE:

- Leadership of **AIA lecturer/host Dr. Stephen Mandal** and services of a **professional, local tour manager/guide** throughout
- **12 nights' accommodations** in ideally-located, 4-star accommodations as indicated in the itinerary
- **Most meals:** Breakfast daily; 11 lunches; and 8 dinners, including welcome and farewell dinners with beer or wine
- **All gratuities** to tour manager/guide, drivers, hotel staff, restaurant staff at included meals, and porters where available
- **Group airport transfers** (times TBD) on program arrival and departure dates
- **All sightseeing and excursions** as indicated in the itinerary, weather permitting
- **All entrance fees** to sites included in the itinerary
- Surface transportation by **air-conditioned vehicles**, including bottled water, parking fees, highway tolls, and local taxes
- Complete **pre-departure information**, including a suggested reading/media guide and packing suggestions

FLIGHTS & TRANSFERS

Airfare from/to home is not included in the tour cost. Group transfers (times TBD) are provided on the program arrival date at Shannon Airport (SNN) and to Dublin Airport (DUB) on the program departure date. Once you have received your final payment invoice, you should book your flights. If you are considering booking your flights before this time, please contact AIA Tours first. Your flight itinerary must be provided to our office prior to departure. *We do not accept liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets.*

Prices Do Not Include: Airfare from/to home; passport and visa fees; independent transfers; all airport fees and departure taxes; cost of personal, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; transportation of excess baggage; items of a personal nature, such as medical expenses, laundry, taxi, telephone, and fax charges; meals and beverages except as noted; optional excursions or deviations from scheduled tour and anything not expressly included.

Payments: A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or check made payable to "Eos AIA-Ireland9/25." Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure and must be by personal check, ACH transfer, or wire transfer only; credit cards are not accepted for final payment. By submitting your deposit you are bound by the terms and conditions delineated throughout this brochure or elsewhere published.

Participant Cancellation Fees: All requests by participants for cancellations must be received in writing by AIA Tours. Cancellations received at least 180 days prior to departure (March 5, 2025) are refunded less a cancellation fee of \$250 per person. Cancellations received from 179 through 121 days (May 3, 2025) prior to departure are refunded less a cancellation fee of \$500 per person. Cancellations received from 120 through 91 days (June 2, 2025) prior to departure forfeit their full deposit of \$1,000 per person. Cancellations received from 90 through 61 days prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee equal to 50% of the tour cost. Cancellations received 60 days or less prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost. *For this and other reasons, participants are strongly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance. Information will be provided with confirmation of receipt of your deposit.*

Note: Prices are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect at the time of publication and are subject to change prior to departure. Substantial changes in tariffs, exchange rates, and the price of fuel, services, and labor may increase the cost of arrangements significantly, and we reserve the right to alter our prices.

Prices, itinerary, accommodations, and leader are subject to change. Prices quoted are based on group participation and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which you choose not to participate. It is understood that refunds cannot be made to participants who do not complete the tour for whatever reason.

Due to space limitations, this is abbreviated information. Complete terms and conditions are available upon request, and can be viewed online at www.aiatours.org.



For questions, and to reserve your space, please contact AIA Tours at:

800-748-6262 | Toll: 603-756-2884 | Fax: 603-756-2922 | aia@studytours.org | www.aiatours.org

P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608



Archaeological Institute of America Tours
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Cong Abbey

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Ireland's

Wild Atlantic Way & Northern Ireland

September 1-14, 2025 (14 days | 12 guests)
 with ge archaeologist Stephen Mandal

*Archaeology-focused tours
 for the curious to the connoisseur.*



Dún Aonghasa

Ireland's

Wild Atlantic Way & Northern Ireland



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
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To fill out an online reservation form, [click here](#). Or, print and mail or fax this form to the address below.



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
OF AMERICA TOURS

RESERVATION FORM
**IRELAND'S WILD ATLANTIC WAY &
NORTHERN IRELAND**

September 1-14, 2025 (14 days | 12 guests)
with geoarchaeologist Stephen Mandal

To hold your reservation for seven days while this form and your deposit are in the mail, please contact us at 800-748-6262 or aia@studytours.org.

Name 1
(as it appears on passport)

Name 2
(as it appears on passport)

Address

City State Zip

Phone (home) Phone (cell)

Email(s)

I/We have read the 'What to Expect' section and am/are physically able to participate fully on the program.

Are you traveling with any other parties on this program? Yes, _____

How did you hear about this tour? eNewsletter mailing website friends/family other _____

ACCOMMODATIONS:

(Accommodation preferences are not guaranteed.)

Double (one bed) Twin (two beds) Single

I will be sharing with: _____

Share - please assign a roommate (not guaranteed)

Please share my contact information with potential roommate(s).

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENT:

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to confirm a reservation. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure.
Please note that credit cards are not accepted for final payment. All prices and payments are in US dollars.

DEPOSIT TYPE (please check one):

Check payable to: Eos AIA-Ireland 9/25 Visa Master Card American Express Already paid by phone

CC#

Exp. Date 3- or 4-Digit Code

Name on Card

Please complete this reservation form, choose/enclose your method of deposit, and sign the release statement below.
Submit via email, mail, or fax to:

AIA Tours - P.O. Box 938, Walpole, NH 03608-0938

Fax: 603-756-2922 • Email: aia@studytours.org

By signing this form, you are acknowledging that you have read and agree to all Terms & Conditions delineated throughout.

Signature (participant #1) Date

Signature (participant #2) Date

TERMS AND CONDITIONS, RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION AGREEMENT

RESPONSIBILITY: The Archaeological Institute of America and its agent, Eos Study Tours, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (hereinafter "Sponsors"), and the tour operator and/or its agents (collectively "Sponsors/Operator") do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities; airline, vessel, or other transportation companies; guides or guide services; local ground operators; providers or organizers of optional excursions; food service or entertainment providers; etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Sponsors/Operator are not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or of any other third party. In addition and without limitation, Sponsors/Operator are not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of force majeure; acts of God; acts of government; acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection, or revolt; bites from or attacks by animals, insects, or pests; strikes or other labor activities; criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof; sickness, illness, epidemics, pandemics, or the threat thereof; the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof; overbooking or downgrading of accommodations; mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation; or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely. In addition, Sponsors/Operator are not liable for their own negligence, and participant assumes all risk thereof. **CHANGES IN ITINERARY OR FEATURES:** Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Sponsors/Operator shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Sponsors/Operator are not required to cancel any trip for any reason including, without limitation, United States Department of State, World Health Organization, or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. Sponsors/Operator are not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers resulting from operational and/or itinerary changes, even if Sponsors/Operator make the flight arrangements or cancel the trip. Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to substitute hotels or attractions of a similar category for those listed in this brochure. **LUGGAGE:** Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without prior notice. **PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY:** All programs require physical independence and mobility. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Participants must be able to embark or disembark transportation vehicles, stand for extended periods, climb stairs, and step over raised thresholds all without assistance. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Sponsors/Operator, local staff, and host country laws, and any participant who refuses to follow protocols may be asked to leave the program with no refunds provided. **REFUNDS:** Prices quoted are based on group participation. No refunds will be made for any part of the program in which a participant chooses not to participate. Refunds cannot be made to participants who do not complete the tour for any reason, nor to participants whose entry into any country or aboard any transportation vehicle, including airplanes and cruise ships, is delayed or denied. **TOUR CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:** Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to cancel this tour prior to departure, in which case payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part unless trip cancellation, itinerary changes, and/or delays are mandated by causes beyond our control, in which case the participant shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by Sponsors/Operator, or else receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as Sponsors/Operator are able to recover on the participant's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc. Sponsors/Operator, however, shall not have any obligation or liability to the participant beyond the foregoing. **TRIP INSURANCE:** Sponsors/Operator strongly recommend that participants purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation, trip

cancellation insurance is available through Sponsors/Operator and others and covers certain expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident and damaged or lost luggage. Sponsors/Operator will send participants an application upon receipt of their reservation. **PRICES:** Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of publication and are subject to changes at any time. On all programs, even after full payment, Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in supplier costs, tax increases, currency fluctuations, or fuel and energy surcharges, and all such increases are to be paid to Sponsors/Operator upon notice to the participant. **FORUM AND METHODOLOGY FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION:** Any dispute or claim which refers or relates to this contract, any literature related to the trip, or the trip itself shall be litigated solely and exclusively in and for courts in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive and procedural New Hampshire law, and for this limited purpose, the parties agree to exclusive venue and personal jurisdiction therein. At the participant's option, however, in lieu of litigation, Sponsors/Operator will agree to binding arbitration in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive, but not procedural, New Hampshire law, pursuant to the then existing commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association. In any such arbitration, the arbitrator, and not any federal, state, or local court or agency, shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. **U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT & CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL:** Both the Centers for Disease Control and U.S. State Department publish and update important country-specific information for travelers. We strongly recommend that you review them. They can presently be found at: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices> and <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html>. **ASSUMPTION OF RISK:** Participants agree to fully accept all known and unknown risks, including the potential risk of exposure to respiratory illnesses or other illnesses, viruses, diseases, or conditions. Participants understand and agree to hold Sponsors/Operator, their officers, vendors and suppliers harmless and not liable for any real or perceived symptoms of any disease, virus, illness, or condition, nor for exacerbating any existing symptoms of any illness, virus, disease or condition, quarantine requirements, disability, and other short-term and long-term health effects, including death. **MISCELLANEOUS:** Participants should not purchase airline tickets prior to receiving their final payment invoice so as to avoid airline cancellation penalties if a tour is canceled or otherwise modified subsequent to the participant's purchase of those tickets. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant. If, due to weather, flight schedules, or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend (an) additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers, and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner's risk. Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any participant at any time. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a participant, or remove from a trip, without refund, any person it judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other trip participants, leaders, or third parties, or who is determined to detract from the enjoyment of the trip by others. Specific room assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel. **APPEARING IN PHOTOS:** Photos from AIA Tours' trips may be posted on photo-sharing web sites or on social networking sites. Your likeness may appear in some photos or videos, posted either by other travelers or tour lecturers/guides, and the circulation of the materials could be worldwide. Trip photos may also be selected to appear in future AIA Tours promotions; no compensation is available for appearing in a trip photo used for promotional purposes. **ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT:** By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she agrees with these terms and conditions, and accepts the terms contained in these Terms and Conditions, Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Dispute Resolution Agreement. The participant affirms that he/she has not received or relied upon any oral representation of Sponsors/Operator as a basis for executing this Release.