



The Beara Way Walking Holiday — 8 Days (Moderate)

Glengarriff to Lauragh — Bere Island, Dursey Cable Car and Stone Circle Country

DURATION

8 days

WALKING DAYS

6

TOTAL DISTANCE

110 km

GRADE

Moderate

From

€885

per person

Book or enquire at

walkingholidayireland.com/walking-tours

[See website for current rates](#)

About This Tour

Six walking days from Glengarriff to Lauragh on Kenmare Bay — 110km around the Beara Peninsula with a Bere Island ferry, Ireland's only cable car to Dursey Island, copper-mine coast and Bronze Age stone circles.

Tour Highlights

- **Bere Island military heritage**

A short ferry from Castletownbere brings you to Bere Island — car-free and quiet, with Martello towers, First World War gun batteries and Second World War observation posts spread across the hillside. Island pub for lunch.

- **Dursey Island cable car**

Ireland's only cable car crosses Dursey Sound to the most westerly inhabited island on the peninsula. A short walk on Dursey in complete Atlantic silence, then back by cable car and east along the north coast to Eyeries.

- **Allihies Copper Mine Museum**

The 19th-century copper-mining village on the Atlantic tip of Beara — Cornish engineers, Welsh miners and a remarkable industrial legacy. Ballydonegan Beach below the village has red sand and a long Atlantic horizon.

- **Ardgroom Stone Circle**

Fifteen standing stones in a Bronze Age ring on open hillside, erected around 1500 BC. No fence, no charge, no board — just the stones and the view over the Atlantic. One of the finest prehistoric sites in Munster.

- **Derreen Gardens and Lauragh**

The final walking day follows the Healy Pass foothills to Lauragh and passes through the Victorian woodland gardens of Derreen — tree ferns, magnolias and exotic planting on the shore of Kenmare Bay.

Who Is It For?

Your fitness level

This tour suits regular walkers comfortable with 12–21km on rough coastal paths and rural roads over six consecutive days. Up to ~500m of ascent on the bigger days. You should be steady on uneven ground and happy in open country without waymarked pavement.

The right kind of traveller

You want the Beara Way in full — every lighthouse, village, stone circle and mountain shoulder. An island ferry, a cable car, copper-mine coast and the Victorian gardens of Derreen. Evenings in village pubs, long days on the ridge.

Solo walkers, couples and small groups

The fully supported self-guided format works for all three. Maximum eight walkers per group.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

DAY
1

Arrival in Glengarriff

Overnight: Glengarriff

The Beara Way begins tomorrow.

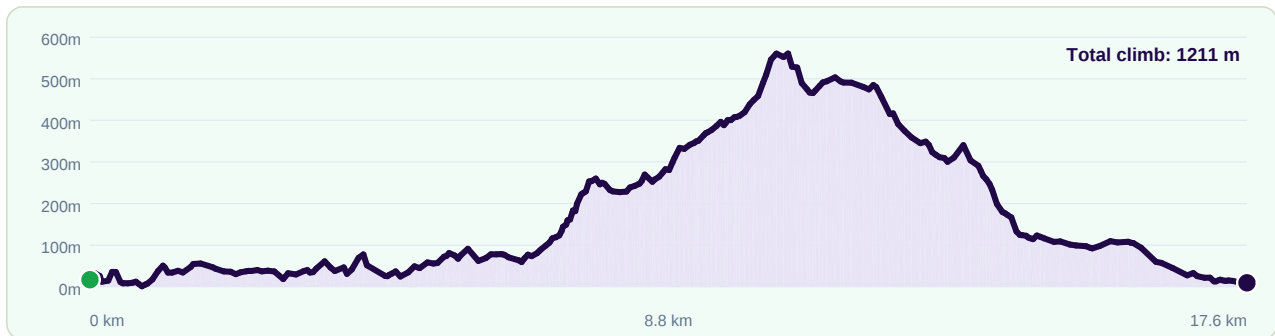
Arrive in Glengarriff, gateway to Beara. Sheltered harbour, native oak woodland and the Caha Mountains. Collect your route notes and waterproof maps from your B&B. The Bamboo Park, the Blue Pool and the harbour walk are all within reach. Early night before the first big day.

DAY
2

Glengarriff to Castletownbere

Walk: Beara - Glengarriff to Adrigole (17.8 km) · Overnight: Castletownbere

ROUTE 17.8 km · 1329 m ascent · Challenging · Glengarriff to Adrigole



Through the ancient oak woodland of Glengarriff Nature Reserve, up onto the Caha mountain flank, under Hungry Hill (685m) — Beara's highest peak — past the Mare's Tail waterfall on its north face, and along the southern coast via Dunboy Castle ruins to the fishing port of Castletownbere. A combined day of 21km covering the best of the southern Beara coast. Dinner at MacCarthy's Bar.

Distance: 21km. Ascent: ~500m.

DAY
3

Bere Island day trip

Overnight: Castletownbere

Morning ferry from Castletownbere to Bere Island. The island loop takes in Martello towers, First World War gun batteries (when Berehaven was a major Royal Navy base) and Second World War observation posts — all now quiet in the grass with wide views across the harbour. Island pub for lunch; evening ferry back.

Distance: 12km. Ascent: ~150m.

DAY

4

Castletownbere to Allihies

Walk: Beara - Castletownbere to Allihies (14.7 km) · Overnight: Allihies

ROUTE 14.7 km · 820 m ascent · Moderate · Castletownbere to Allihies



West from Castletownbere on the copper-mine heritage trail over Miskish Mountain. Engine-house ruins, tramway cuttings and drystone walls from the 19th-century mines appear on the hillside. The descent into Allihies reveals the village between Ballydonegan Beach's red sand and the green hillside. Copper Mine Museum visit; beach walk at dusk.

Distance: 18km. Ascent: ~250m.

DAY

5

Allihies to Eyeries via Dursey Island cable car

Walk: Beara - Allihies to Eyeries (13.3 km) · Overnight: Eyeries

ROUTE 13.3 km · 718 m ascent · Moderate · Allihies to Eyeries



Walk west from Allihies to the Dursey Sound cable car — Ireland's only cable car, a small box strung on a wire above the churning sound between Dursey Island and the mainland. Cross to Dursey Island for a short loop walk — Atlantic silence, seabirds and a view west that goes all the way to the horizon. Back by cable car, then east along clifftop and coastal paths to the painted village of Eyeries and Caureen's Bar.

Distance: 21km. Ascent: ~300m.

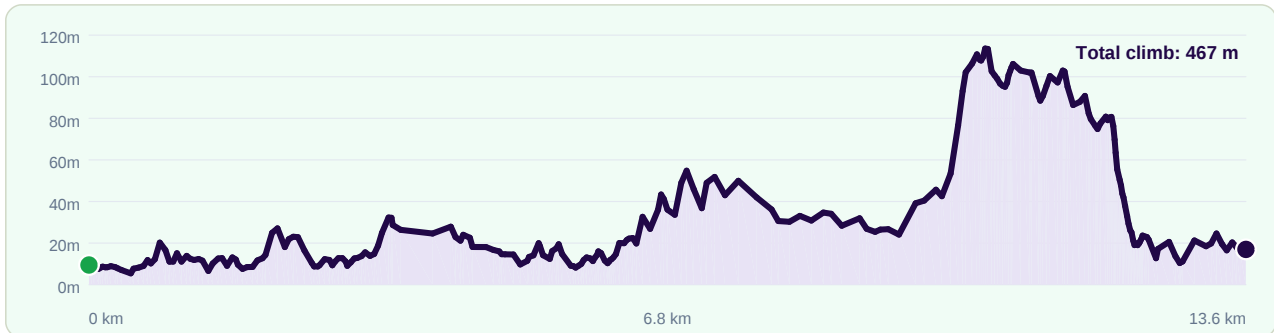
DAY

6

Eyeries to Ardgroom

Walk: Beara - Eyeries to Ardgroom (13.7 km) · Overnight: Ardgroom

ROUTE 13.7 km · 509 m ascent · Easy · Eyeries to Ardgroom



East along Beara's northern shore — clifftop paths and hill tracks with the Atlantic below. The day ends at Ardgroom and the Ardgroom Stone Circle: fifteen standing stones on open hillside, erected around 1500 BC, with no fence and no sign. One of the finest prehistoric sites in Munster. Harrington's pub for the evening.

Distance: 19km. Ascent: ~280m.

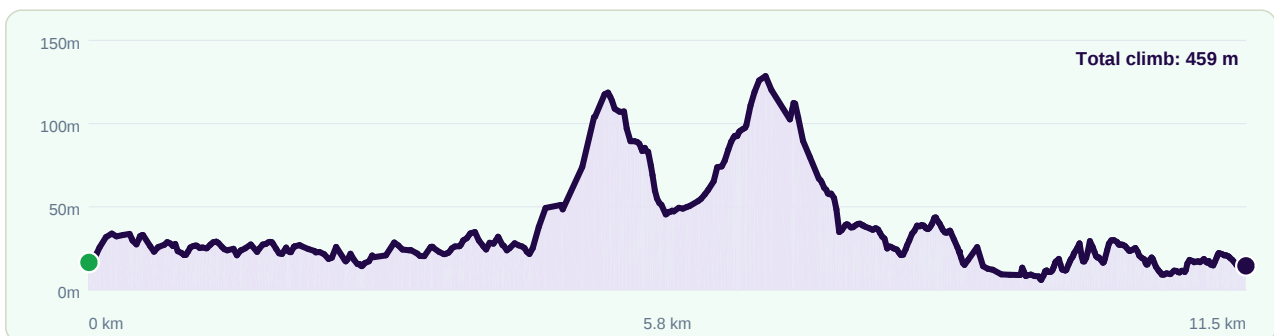
DAY

7

Ardgroom to Lauragh

Walk: Beara - Ardgroom to Lauragh (11.5 km) · Overnight: Lauragh

ROUTE 11.5 km · 459 m ascent · Easy · Ardgroom to Lauragh



The final walking day follows the Healy Pass foothills east along the northern shore of the peninsula. The path passes through the woodlands of Derreen Gardens — a Victorian-era estate garden of tree ferns, magnolias and exotic planting on the shore of Kenmare Bay, one of the great hidden gardens of Ireland. Into Lauragh, a small Kerry village on the bay, for the last Beara evening.

Distance: 19km. Ascent: ~250m.

DAY

8

Departure from Lauragh

Last Beara breakfast in Lauragh, then your scheduled transfer to Kenmare (20 minutes) for onward connections — bus to Cork or Killarney, or the drive to Kerry airport. Cork airport is around 2hrs. Kenmare itself is worth a stop: excellent food, a Druid's Circle, good bookshops.



Along the trail in Beara Peninsula, Ireland

Ready to Walk Ireland?

Every tour is self-guided with hand-picked accommodation, daily luggage transfer, detailed route notes and GPX files, plus our personal local support throughout your walk. Dates and group sizes are flexible — just ask.

What's Included

- ✓ Accommodation: Welcoming en-suite B&B rooms
- ✓ Breakfast: Full Irish breakfast every morning
- ✓ Luggage Transfer: Daily transfer of your main bag between accommodations
- ✓ Personalised Itinerary and route app for your smart phone that keeps you on the trail at all times.
- ✓ Support: 24/7 emergency support throughout your holiday
- ✓ Pre-Departure Pack: Information pack sent before you travel, so you know exactly what to expect

Not Included

- ✗ Flights: Travel to Ireland is not included
- ✗ Insurance: You'll need travel and walking holiday insurance
- ✗ Meals: Lunches and dinners are not included (though we'll recommend great local spots)



Get in touch

Email: info@walkingholidayireland.com

Web: walkingholidayireland.com

This tour: walkingholidayireland.com/walking-tours/beara-way-8-days-moderate

FROM

€885

per person

See website for current rates