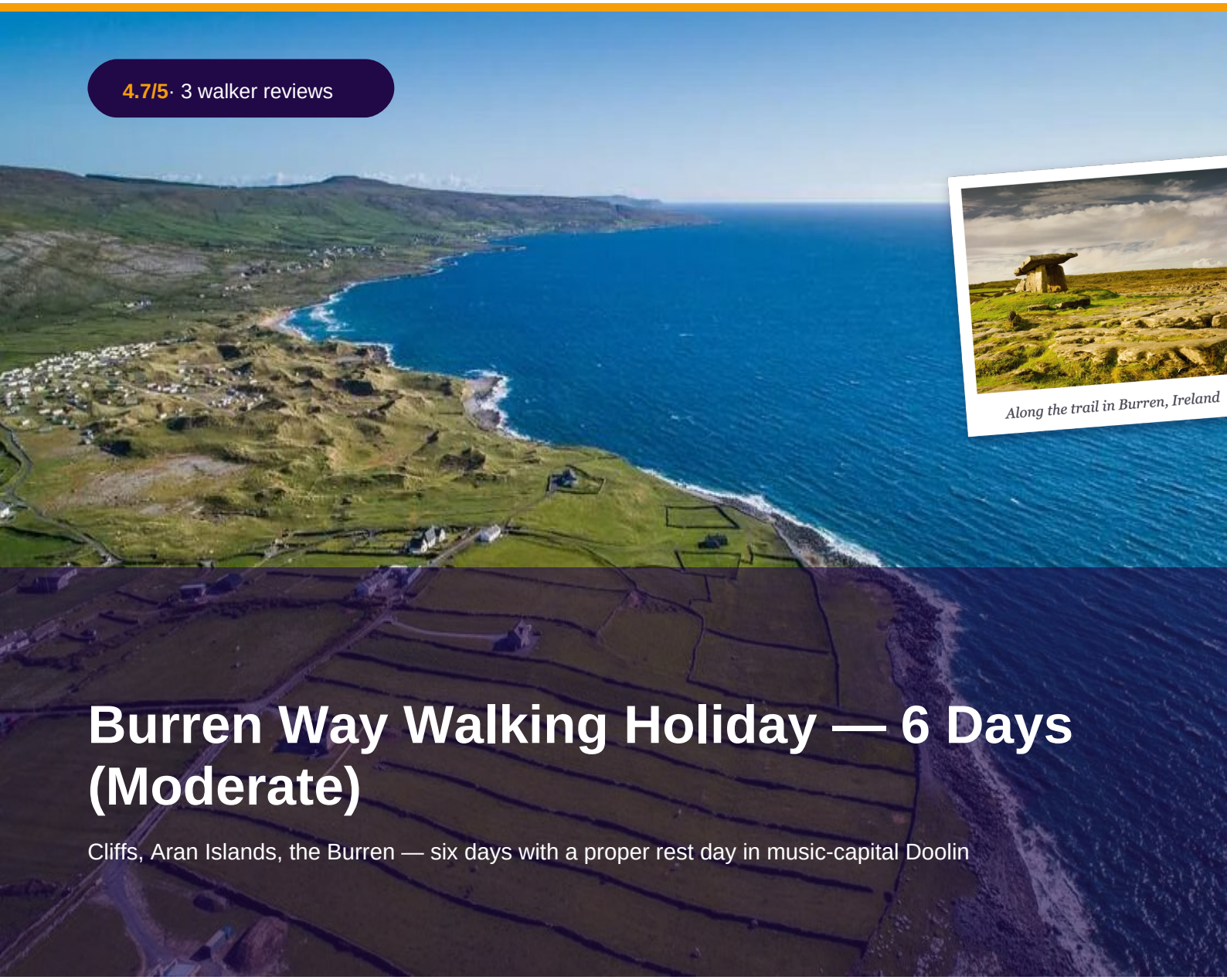
WALKING HOLIDAY IRELAND



4.7/5· 3 walker reviews

Burren Way Walking Holiday — 6 Days (Moderate)

Cliffs, Aran Islands, the Burren — six days with a proper rest day in music-capital Doolin

DURATION	WALKING DAYS	TOTAL DISTANCE	GRADE
6 days	3	46.2 km	Moderate

From

€785

per person

Book or enquire at

walkingholidayireland.com/walking-tours

See website for current rates

About This Tour

Three walking days plus a proper rest day in Doolin — with the option to take the ferry across to the Aran Islands or hire a bike for a leisurely Burren day. Cliffs of Moher, limestone plateau, Black Head Lighthouse, all the way to Galway Bay at Ballyvaughan.

Tour Highlights

- **A Proper Rest Day in Doolin**
  Take the ferry across to the Aran Islands, hire a bike for the Burren green roads, or just sit in Gus O''Connor''s with a lunchtime pint and live music. The flexibility is the whole point.

- **The Cliffs of Moher on Foot**
  Walk the official cliff path from the visitor centre to Doolin — 8 km of 200-metre drops, sea-bird colonies, Atlantic spray and the Aran Islands rising to the north-west. Far more rewarding than the bus-tour version.

- **The Burren — Limestone Like Nowhere Else**
  You''ll cross one of Europe''s most extraordinary landscapes — bare grey pavement, rare wildflowers in every crack, ancient dolmens and ringforts, stone walls older than most countries.

- **Black Head and the Galway Bay Finish**
  The final walking day takes you high above the coast past Black Head Lighthouse with sweeping views across the bay to Connemara, then down through farmland into Ballyvaughan harbour. One of the great Atlantic walks.

Who Is It For?

Walkers who want time, not just distance.

Six days, three walking days, one full rest day. The pace lets you genuinely arrive in each place rather than passing through it — and the Doolin rest day means you can fit the Aran Islands into the trip without sacrificing a walking day.

Couples and friends who like options.

The rest day flexes around what you want — ferry trip, bike ride, long lunch, traditional-music afternoon. Different guests use it differently, and that's the point.

People who want the Wild Atlantic Way at its most varied.

Cliffs of Moher, the Burren plateau, Aran Islands (optional), Black Head and Galway Bay — there's no other six-day window in Ireland that gives you this much landscape variety on foot.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

DAY 1

Arrival in Liscannor

Overnight: Liscannor

Arrive in Liscannor and settle into your first accommodation — a small coastal village where the Wild Atlantic Way meets ancient Irish landscape. Liscannor has good local pubs (Vaughan''s Anchor and Joseph McHugh''s are the two everyone talks about), a small harbour, a sandy beach to walk along, and the Cliffs of Moher quite literally on your doorstep. Doolin''s traditional music scene is a short drive down the coast.

We will provide you with information on how to get here using public transport in your pre-departure pack — or talk to us about private transfer options from Shannon Airport or Ennis train station, the two closest entry points.

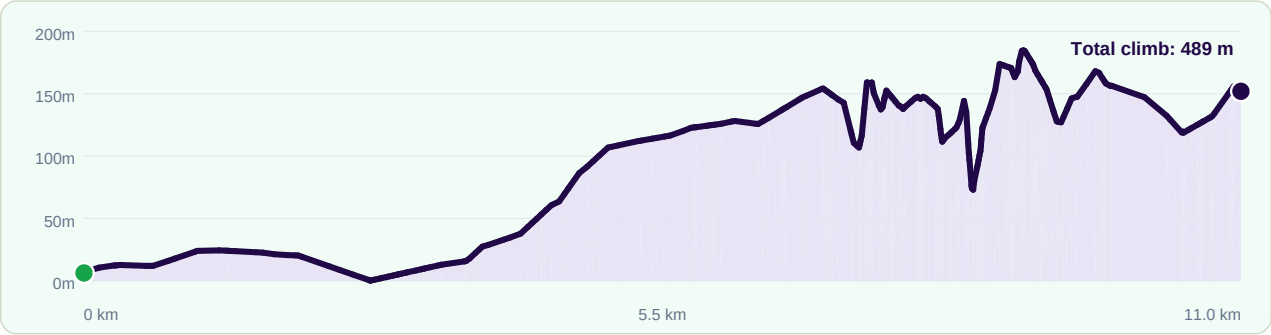
Tonight, rest. Tomorrow is big.

DAY 2

Cliffs of Moher to Doolin

Walk: The Burren Liscannor to Doolin (11 km) · Overnight: Doolin

ROUTE 11 km · 451 m ascent · Easy · Liscannor to Doolin



After breakfast we transfer you up the coast to the Cliffs of Moher visitor centre. From there you walk the official cliff path north to Doolin — 8 km of as much drama as Ireland can offer in a single morning. The path runs along the very edge: 200-metre vertical drops, sea-bird colonies on every ledge, the Aran Islands rising white out of the Atlantic to the north-west.

You finish in Doolin, Ireland''s traditional-music capital. Spend the afternoon exploring the village or walking down to the harbour — and tonight, find a seat at Gus O''Connor''s, McGann''s or McDermott''s for live music with your dinner.

Note: there is currently a partial closure on one short section of the official clifftop path. Your route notes route around the closed section. If the closure lifts before your trip, the full path is open.

DAY 3

Rest Day in Doolin

Overnight: Doolin

A full day with no luggage to pack and no schedule to keep. Three popular ways to spend it:

1. Ferry to the Aran Islands. Doolin Pier is a fifteen-minute walk from the village. The morning ferry runs across to Inisheer (the smallest island, around 30 minutes) or Inishmore (the largest, around 45 minutes), with several return crossings each afternoon. Both islands offer a different world — ancient stone walls, ringforts, Dún Aonghasa on Inishmore, sea-cliffs, and the kind of quiet you only get on a small island. Optional extra; we can pre-book or you can buy on the day.

2. Hire a bike for the Burren. Easy to arrange in Doolin on the morning, or we can pre-book for you. The quiet green roads behind the village are spectacular cycling country — limestone hills, distant Atlantic, occasional wildflowers and the odd ringfort. Optional extra.

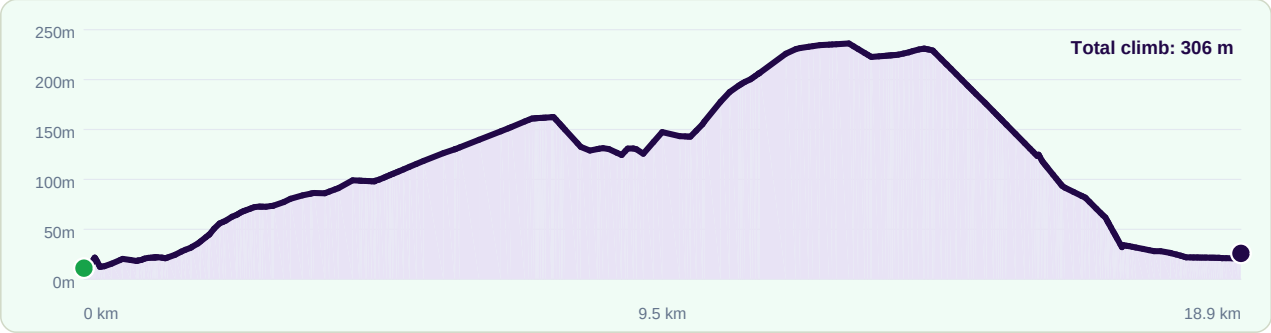
3. Stay in Doolin. Long lunch at one of the cafés, an afternoon walk down to the harbour, traditional music at lunchtime in O''Connor''s. Many guests do exactly this and don''t regret it.

DAY 4

Doolin to Fanore

Walk: Burren Doolin to Fanore (18.9 km) · Overnight: Fanore

ROUTE 18.9 km · 255 m ascent · Moderate · Doolin to Fanore



Today the Burren begins. Out of Doolin you climb gently inland onto the limestone plateau — bare grey pavement scored by glacial fissures, rare wildflowers in every crack, stone walls older than most European cities. It looks unlike anywhere else in Europe.

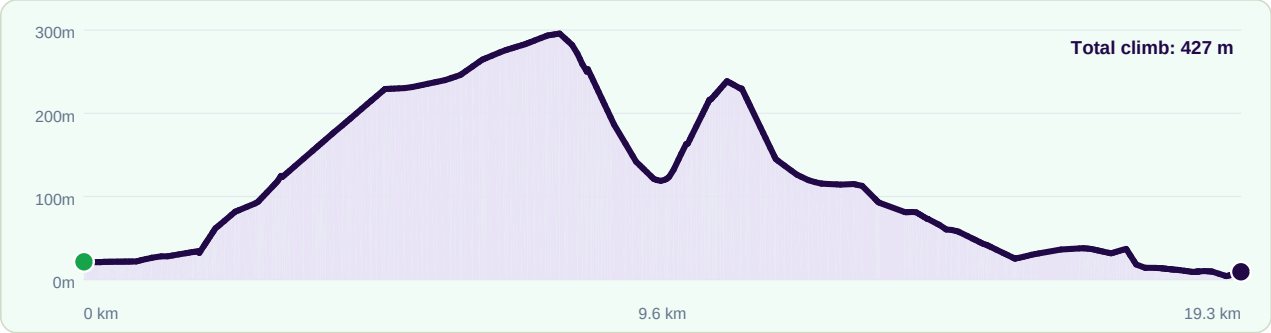
The route descends through traditional farmland to the long sandy strand at Fanore — one of the few proper beaches on the Wild Atlantic Way. Settle into your accommodation, walk down to the beach for a paddle if the weather plays along, and enjoy a quiet dinner.

DAY 5

Fanore to Ballyvaughan

Walk: Burren Fanore to Ballyvaughan (19.3 km) · Overnight: Ballyvaughan

ROUTE 19.3 km · 392 m ascent · Moderate · Fanore to Ballyvaughan



Your final walking day is the showpiece. Out of Fanore the path climbs onto high coastal ground above Galway Bay, with views across the water to Connemara that genuinely stop you in your tracks. The dramatic Black Head Lighthouse sits at the northwestern tip of the Burren — you pass within sight of it on the descent.

From Black Head the path drops gradually through traditional Irish farmland into Ballyvaughan — a small harbour village that has quietly become known as the food capital of County Clare. Monk"s Bar, the Tea Junction Café and L"Arco Italian are all within five minutes" walk; tonight will be a good one.

DAY 6

Departure from Ballyvaughan

A leisurely morning. A last full Irish breakfast. A last look at Galway Bay.

Make your way onward — Galway city is around 50 minutes by road, Shannon Airport around 1 hour 30 minutes. Many guests add a night in Galway before heading home; it"s well worth it.

What Our Walkers Say

Rated 4.7/5 by 3 walkers

*****

A deep dive into the West Atlantic of Ireland - stunning scenery, generous people, and diverse landscapes. Accommodation and food options were first class, and hosts all incredibly helpful.

- Debs Martin - 2026

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A deep dive into the West Atlantic of Ireland - stunning scenery, generous people, and diverse landscapes. Accommodation and food options were first class, and hosts all incredibly helpful.

Definitely taking the one day to head out to Inish Mr - but really it was the whole experience, the people, the places, and the scenery.

- Debs M. - 2026

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

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Web:walkingholidayireland.com

This tour:walkingholidayireland.com/walking-tours/burren-way-SWA-BU-6M

FROM

€785

per person

See website for current rates