



Burren Way Walking Holiday — 7 Days (Moderate)

A full week on the Wild Atlantic Way — Cliffs, Aran, Burren and the Aillwee Caves

Google Maps

DURATION

7 days

WALKING DAYS

3

TOTAL DISTANCE

49.2 km

GRADE

Moderate

From

€985

per person

Book or enquire at

walkingholidayireland.com/walking-tours

[See website for current rates](#)

About This Tour

A full week on the Burren Way: Cliffs of Moher, a flexible rest day in Doolin (Aran Islands optional), the Burren limestone plateau, Black Head and Galway Bay, and a final loop walk from Ballyvaughan to the Aillwee Caves. Four walking days, hand-picked B&Bs throughout.

Tour Highlights

- **A Full Week — Time for Everything**

Four walking days, one proper rest day, two travel days. Long enough to walk the whole route at a relaxed pace and to fit the Aran Islands and the Aillwee Cave into the same trip — without anything feeling rushed.

- **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.

- **Doolin, Aran and the Burren Plateau**

Two nights in Doolin with a full flexible rest day, a walk across the Burren's otherworldly limestone, and a beach finish at Fanore. The most varied stretch of the Wild Atlantic Way on foot.

- **The Aillwee Cave Loop**

Day 6 takes you on a circular walking day from Ballyvaughan up to the Aillwee Cave — a deep prehistoric cave system with the only known brown-bear bones in Ireland — and back through limestone country to your accommodation.

Who Is It For?

Walkers who want the full Wild Atlantic Way Burren experience.

Four walking days at 8–19 km on a well-marked trail, plus a flexible rest day, plus the Aillwee loop. Every important Burren highlight covered, with no day feeling rushed.

Couples and friends planning a proper week away.

Seven days lets you arrive without rushing, walk four real days, take the Aran ferry, do the Aillwee Cave, and have a leisurely departure morning at the end. There's breathing room in the schedule that the shorter trips don't allow.

People who want variety in their week.

Cliffs of Moher, traditional music, Aran Islands (optional), Burren limestone, Galway Bay, Aillwee Caves — six distinct experiences in seven days.

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.

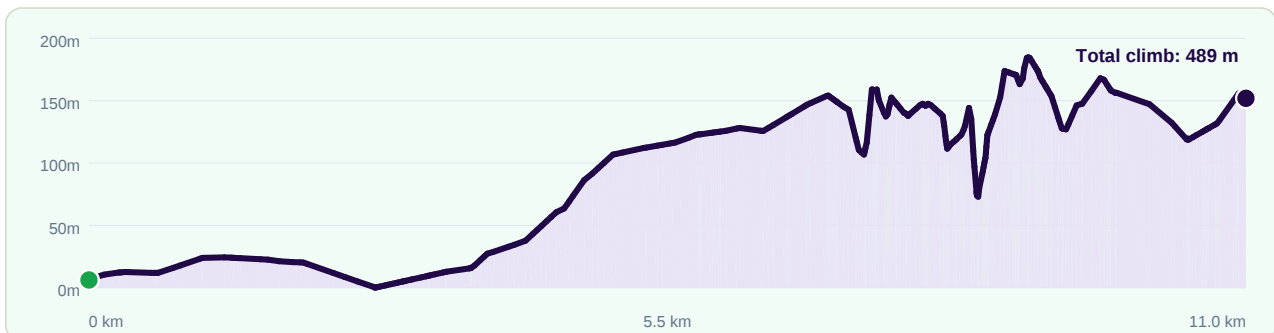
Tonight, rest. Tomorrow is big.

DAY
2

Cliffs of Moher to Doolin

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

ROUTE 11 km · 489 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:

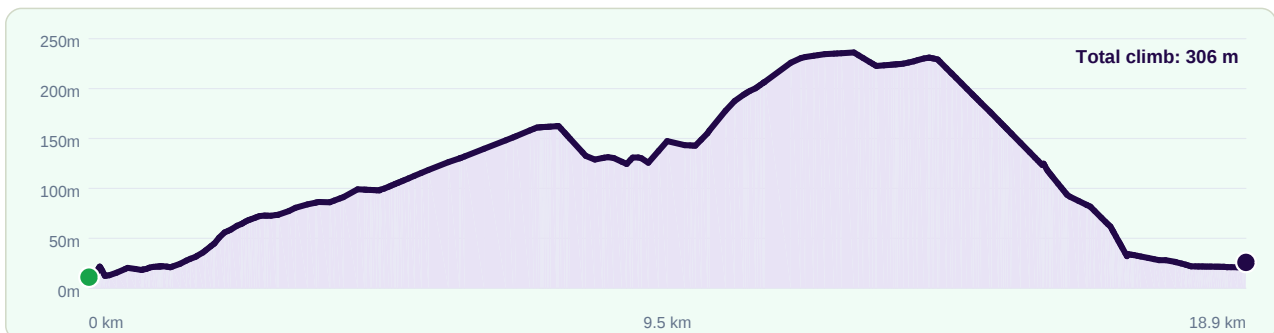
1. Ferry to the Aran Islands. Doolin Pier is a fifteen-minute walk from the village. The morning ferry runs across to Inisheer (the smallest island, around 30 minutes) or Inishmore (the largest, around 45 minutes), with several return crossings each afternoon. Both islands offer a different world — ancient 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 · 306 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.

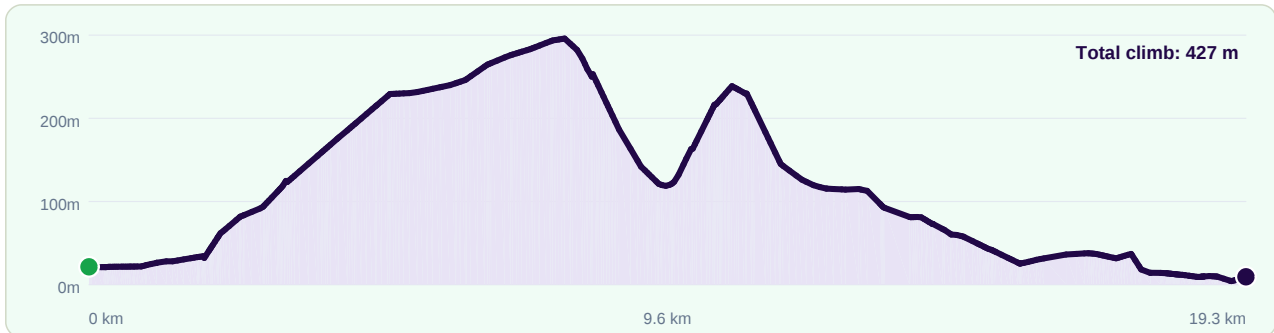
DAY

5

Fanore to Ballyvaughan

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

ROUTE 19.3 km · 427 m ascent · Moderate · Fanore to Ballyvaughan



The showpiece walking day. 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.

DAY

6

Ballyvaughan Loop & Aillwee Cave

Overnight: Ballyvaughan

A circular walking day from Ballyvaughan up into the high Burren, taking in the dramatic Aillwee Cave and a quiet loop through limestone country before returning to your Ballyvaughan accommodation. Roughly 12 km, with no luggage and no rush.

The route follows old green roads up onto the limestone plateau, with sweeping views back across Galway Bay. The Aillwee Cave sits about halfway round — a deep network of underground passages with the only known prehistoric brown-bear bones in Ireland. There's an excellent visitor centre with a café and a Birds of Prey display, and the underground tour is well worth doing if you have an hour. Tickets are not included so you can decide on the day.

Back in Ballyvaughan for the final evening — your bag is already in your room, the village pubs are five minutes' walk away, and you've earned the dinner.

DAY

7

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

The sandstone of the Burren offers a perfect window into 5000 years of history. The Cliffs of Moher well loved by many but the more northern areas are equally scenic with far less tourists!

- Ross - 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

Email: info@walkingholidayireland.com

Web: walkingholidayireland.com

This tour: walkingholidayireland.com/walking-tours/burren-way-SWA-BU-7M

FROM

€985

per person

See website for current rates