



Along the trail — Connemara, County Ga

Connemara Walking Holiday — 7 Days

Western Way, Diamond Hill and Killary Fjord — Oughterard to Clifden

DURATION

7 days

WALKING DAYS

5

TOTAL DISTANCE

86 km

GRADE

Moderate

From

€1,115

per person

Book or enquire at

walkingholidayireland.com/walking-tours

[See website for current rates](#)

About This Tour

Five walking days across Connemara from Oughterard to Clifden, with Diamond Hill, Kylemore Abbey and the Killary Fjord Green Road included. 86km of bog, mountain and Ireland's only fjord.

Tour Highlights

- **Diamond Hill summit**

Day 5 climbs the stone-path loop to Diamond Hill's 442m summit in Connemara National Park — the whole of Connemara in one panorama: Twelve Bens, Killary Fjord, Inishbofin, and the long sweep of the Atlantic coast.

- **Kylemore Abbey**

Walk to the Victorian neo-Gothic castle on the shore of Kylemore Lough from Diamond Hill — one of the most photographed buildings in Ireland, arriving on foot gives you a completely different experience to arriving by car.

- **Killary Fjord Green Road**

Ireland's only true fjord — a 15km glacial inlet cut between the Mweelrea Mountains and the Maamturks. The Green Road follows the southern shore at water level, past mussel rafts and under the steep slopes of Connacht's highest mountain.

- **Lough Inagh Lodge**

Overnight in a Victorian fishing lodge on the lakeshore surrounded by the Twelve Bens — the most remote and atmospheric accommodation on the route.

- **The Inagh Valley**

A glacial corridor between the Maamturks and the Twelve Bens, walked almost entirely alone on the old coach road — one of the grand inland experiences of Connemara.

Who Is It For?

The 7-day Connemara tour is right for walkers who want Connemara in proper depth — the core Western Way route plus the two experiences that make it complete: Diamond Hill and Killary Fjord.

Five consecutive walking days of 14–20km on bog roads, mountain tracks and open moorland. The Diamond Hill day involves ~350m of ascent on a well-maintained path. The Killary day is 18km of essentially flat walking along the fjord shore — long and exposed but not technically demanding.

Works well for solo walkers, couples and small groups who want variety within a single holiday — mountains, bog, coast and fjord, all within a week. Maximum eight walkers per group.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

DAY

1

Arrival in Oughterard

Overnight: Oughterard

Tomorrow the walking begins. Tonight, settle in.

Arrive in Oughterard, the gateway town on the eastern shore of Lough Corrib. From Galway it's about 45 minutes by car or bus. We send detailed public-transport instructions in your pre-departure pack. If you'd prefer a private transfer, we can arrange one as an optional extra.

Collect your route notes, GPS files and maps from reception. Dinner in town.

DAY

2

Oughterard to Maam

Overnight: Maam

The Western Way leaves Oughterard along the Lough Corrib shoreline, then climbs onto open moorland under the Maamturk Mountains. Blanket bog, Connemara ponies, black-faced sheep. The trail drops into the quiet Maam Valley. Keane's pub at Maam Cross for the evening.

Distance: 18km. Ascent: ~200m.

DAY

3

Maam to the Inagh Valley

Overnight: Recess / Lough Inagh Lodge

The longest and finest walking day. The trail climbs from Maam onto the shoulder of the Maamturks, then descends into the Inagh Valley — a long glacial corridor with the Twelve Bens rising sheer to the left and the Maamturks continuing on the right. You walk the old coach road its full length, almost entirely alone.

Overnight at Lough Inagh Lodge in Recess — a Victorian fishing lodge on the lakeshore surrounded by the Twelve Bens, with a serious kitchen. The setting at dusk is worth the stage on its own.

Distance: 20km. Ascent: ~250m.

DAY

4

Inagh Valley to Clifden

Overnight: Clifden

The final Western Way stage follows the route of the old Galway–Clifden railway line across open blanket bog — a gentle, perfectly graded track with the Atlantic glinting in the distance. The first sight of the sea comes around midday. You walk into Clifden in the early afternoon, with two more days ahead.

EJ King's for a pint; Mitchell's for dinner.

Distance: 14km. Ascent: ~100m.

DAY

5

Diamond Hill and Kylemore Abbey

Overnight: Clifden

Morning transfer from Clifden to Connemara National Park at Letterfrack. The Diamond Hill loop climbs a well-made stone path to the quartzite summit at 442m. From the top: the full sweep of the Twelve Bens, Killary Fjord to the north — which you'll walk tomorrow — and the Atlantic islands to the west. The descent follows the mountain's western flank through open bog.

A 5km walk from the summit brings you to Kylemore Abbey on the shore of Kylemore Lough — a Victorian neo-Gothic castle now run by a Benedictine community, with a restored walled Victorian garden on the lakeshore. Lunch at Veldon's Seafarer in Letterfrack, then transfer back to Clifden.

Distance: 16km. Ascent: ~350m.

DAY

6

Killary Fjord — the Green Road

Overnight: Clifden

Transfer from Clifden to the southern shore of Killary Harbour — Ireland's only true fjord, a 15km glacial inlet cut between the Mweelrea Mountains to the north and the Maamturks to the south. The Green Road follows an old drove road along the fjord shore at water level, past mussel rafts floating in the still fjord water, with the steep mountain slopes rising sheer on the far bank.

At the head of the fjord, Leenaun sits at the water's edge. Dinner at the Leenaun Hotel — Killary mussels farmed in the fjord directly below, served with soda bread. An evening in Gaynor's pub, then transfer back to Clifden for your final night.

Distance: 18km. Ascent: minimal — the Green Road follows the fjord shore at water level.

DAY

7

Departure day — transfer to Galway

Last breakfast in Clifden, then your scheduled transfer back to Galway (approximately 1h 30m). If you'd like to add the Sky Road and a day at Roundstone, the 8-day tour is the complete version.



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)



Connemara, County Galway

Get in touch

Email: info@walkingholidayireland.com

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This tour: walkingholidayireland.com/walking-tours/connemara-7-days-moderate

FROM

€1,115

per person

See website for current rates