

HISTORIC HOUSES & GARDENS OF KERRY

A five night escorted visit to the beautiful Parknasilla Resort

2nd to 7th June 2025



NOBLE CALEDONIA

Ireland's spectacular south west offers dramatic uplands and seascapes that form one of the most stunning coastlines in the world. All the best ingredients are here for a relaxing and enjoyable break, from magical scenery and historic houses in stunning settings to lush gardens at their early summer best and our tour of the region promises to be five nights of absolute bliss. For our stay we will be based at the wonderful Parknasilla Resort on the 'Ring of Kerry' and when not exploring there will be free time to relax and enjoy the warm Irish hospitality in one of Ireland's most renowned hotels.

Our programme will include guided trips to Kerry's and West Cork's most splendid gardens as well as to some of the region's highlights. We will explore the 'Ring of Kerry' and drive over the mountains to Bantry House and Gardens for a guided tour of the gardens. Other visits will include Garnish Island in West Cork, a spectacular garden of almost sub-tropical splendour, Muckross House by the Lakes of Killarney, and Kells Bay House and Gardens, winner of a Gold Medal at the 2023 Chelsea Flower Show. In the main the tours will be limited to half days in order that you may enjoy the Parknasilla Resort and its breathtakingly beautiful position.





The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Cork, Ireland. Fly by scheduled flight. Upon arrival transfer to the Parknasilla Resort and enjoy welcome drinks and dinner this evening. (D)

Day 2 Derreen Gardens & Beara Peninsula. After breakfast depart on a morning drive to Derreen Gardens. Designed and planted by the fifth Marquis of Lansdowne in the 1870s, it is now owned and managed by his great-grandson, David Bigham, and his wife Anthea. Derreen is famous for its tree ferns as well as azaleas and rhododendrons. Admire the magnificent views across Kilmackilloge Harbour to the Caha Mountains before we return to the hotel to relax and enjoy an afternoon tea. (B, T, D)

Day 3 Kells Bay Gardens & Dingle Bay. Today we will drive to the other side of the Iveragh Peninsula to Kells Bay House and Gardens overlooking Dingle Bay. Winner of a Gold Medal at the 2023 Chelsea Flower Show, the gardens are home to a large collection of rare sub-tropical plants that thrive in the unique microclimate created by the Gulf Stream. We will explore the Primeval Forest with its collection of ferns brought over from Australia in the mid 19th century, the Ladies Walled Garden, home to tender exotics and new species, and admire the spectacular backdrop of Dingle Bay. After a local lunch, we will return to the hotel later this afternoon. (B, L, D)



Day 4 Lakes of Killarney & Muckross House. Enjoy a morning excursion to the Killarney National Park and Muckross House and gardens. We will take a tour of the house, which was once owned by the Herbert family who entertained Queen Victoria here in 1861, and the gardens. The setting by the lake shore with its mountain backdrop is stunning. Return to the hotel for an afternoon at leisure. (B, D)

Day 5 Garnish Island & Bantry House. Drive over the mountains to Bantry Bay on a full day excursion that will include a morning visit to Garnish Island and the beautiful Innacullin Gardens. Local boats will take us to these remarkable gardens that owe their existence to the creative partnership some seventy years ago of Anna Bryce, then owner of the island, and Harold Peto, architect and garden designer. The sheltered position and Gulf Stream is favourable to the growth of ornamental plants, many normally only found in sub-tropical or Mediterranean climates. Following lunch in Glengarriff, we will continue to Bantry House, overlooking Bantry Bay. We will explore the house, one of the finest historic houses in Ireland along with the gardens. Return to the Parknasilla Resort later this afternoon. (B, L, D)

Day 6 Cork to London. Transfer to the airport for your return scheduled flight to London. (B)

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

| Location | Room type | Price |
|------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| West Wing | Superior Double/Twin | £2795 |
| Main House | Manor Sea View Double/Twin | £2995 |
| Main House | Superior Manor Sea View Double | £3095 |
| Main House | Manor Suite | £3295 |
| West Wing | Balcony Suite | £3495 |
| West Wing | Parknasilla Suite with Balcony | £3495 |
| Main House | Princess Grace Suite | £3695 |
| West Wing | Standard Single | £3395 |
| West Wing | Small Parknasilla Superior Single | £3595 |

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • Five nights accommodation at the Parknasilla Resort • Meals as indicated (B – Full Irish breakfast, L – Lunch, T – Afternoon tea, D – Dinner) • Guided excursions • Noble Caledonia Tour Manager • Gratuities • Transfers • Airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

PARKNASILLA RESORT



The hotel and gardens



Pygmalion Restaurant



Doolittle Bar



Manor Suite - Main House



Superior Double with Sea View - West Wing

For generations this very special place has captured the imagination of many including such literary luminaries as George Bernard Shaw. Pictures can only do limited justice to its location where water, islands and mountains create something spellbinding. Situated in 500 acres, Parknasilla Resort is in the middle of some of Kerry's finest scenery. Here you will find interesting walks and tiny sandy coves for those who wish to swim in the sea.

Your Space

Once a grand house, Parknasilla has grown gracefully into her life as a hotel. The ground floor of the original main house is where you will find a number of delightful sitting rooms, all offering wonderful views, and the Pygmalion Restaurant. The health spa with a magnificent swimming pool and the views from the pool across the sea have to be seen to be believed. Ultimately, what makes a great hotel is its staff and here all are dedicated to making your stay in Kerry a most memorable and joyful experience.

Your Dining

The delightful Pygmalion Restaurant is decorated in an elegant Victorian style with high ceilings, impressive paintings and chandeliers and the bay windows provide a majestic view over Kenmare Bay. Begin your day with an Irish breakfast or continental style options. The dinner menu boasts imaginative cuisine highlighting the best of modern Irish cooking. Afternoon tea is served in the Doolittle Bar which has a casual atmosphere and offers Irish beers and stouts.

Your Accommodation

All rooms offer crisp white sheets and duvet, selection of soft fluffy towels, bathrobe and slippers, luxury bath products, multi-channel TV, tea & coffee making facilities, mineral water, direct dial telephones and Wi-Fi. The double rooms all feature a king size bed and en-suite bathroom with shower with some room types also benefiting from a bathtub. The single rooms offer a double bed and en-suite bathroom with shower with those in the West Wing also benefiting from a bathtub. *Please note that hotel rooms in the West Wing are only accessible by stairway.*

Superior Double/Twin – West Wing. Spacious and bright these rooms enjoy the lovely sea view which is synonymous with Parknasilla or look on to the majestic Kerry Mountains.

Manor Sea View – Main House. Rooms are designed in keeping with the period when Parknasilla was built with restored mahogany and walnut furniture.

With breathtaking views of the Kenmare Bay, Parknasilla's lush grounds and the Kerry Mountains beyond, each room has their own character and style.

Superior Manor Sea View – Main House. Rooms are beautifully spacious and open plan in design with a large sleeping area and relaxation space with awe inspiring views of Kenmare Bay and Kerry Mountains.

Manor Suite – Main House. This suite is designed with breathtaking views of the Kenmare Bay, Parknasilla's lush grounds and the Kerry Mountains beyond. Bathrooms with stucco lustro painted walls and elegant Thomas Crapper and Co Victorian/Edwardian fittings.

Balcony Suite – West Wing. Indulge your taste for contemporary luxury in the Balcony Suite with a large bedroom and separate sitting room. The Balcony Suite contains floor-to-ceiling windows leading on to a large balcony to ensure that the serene views of Kenmare Bay or the Kerry Mountains are truly memorable.

Parknasilla Suite with Balcony – West Wing. Situated in the newest part of the West Wing, the Parknasilla Suite with Balcony rooms are open plan with soft couches and lavish furnishings. They feature floor to ceiling windows leading on to a large balcony with views of Kenmare Bay or the Kerry Mountains.

Princess Grace Suite – Main House. Parknasilla's most famous suite is the Princess Grace Suite and is made up of a large living area, double bedroom, spacious bathroom and separate toilet. The wonderful sea views and large wrap around balcony make the suite extra special.

SINGLE ROOMS – WEST WING

Small Parknasilla Superior Single – West Wing. These rooms are designed in a contemporary style and located in the newest part of the West Wing.

Standard Single – West Wing. These rooms are smaller than the Superior Singles.



NOBLE CALEDONIA

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Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.
Cover image: Ilnacullin Gardens.