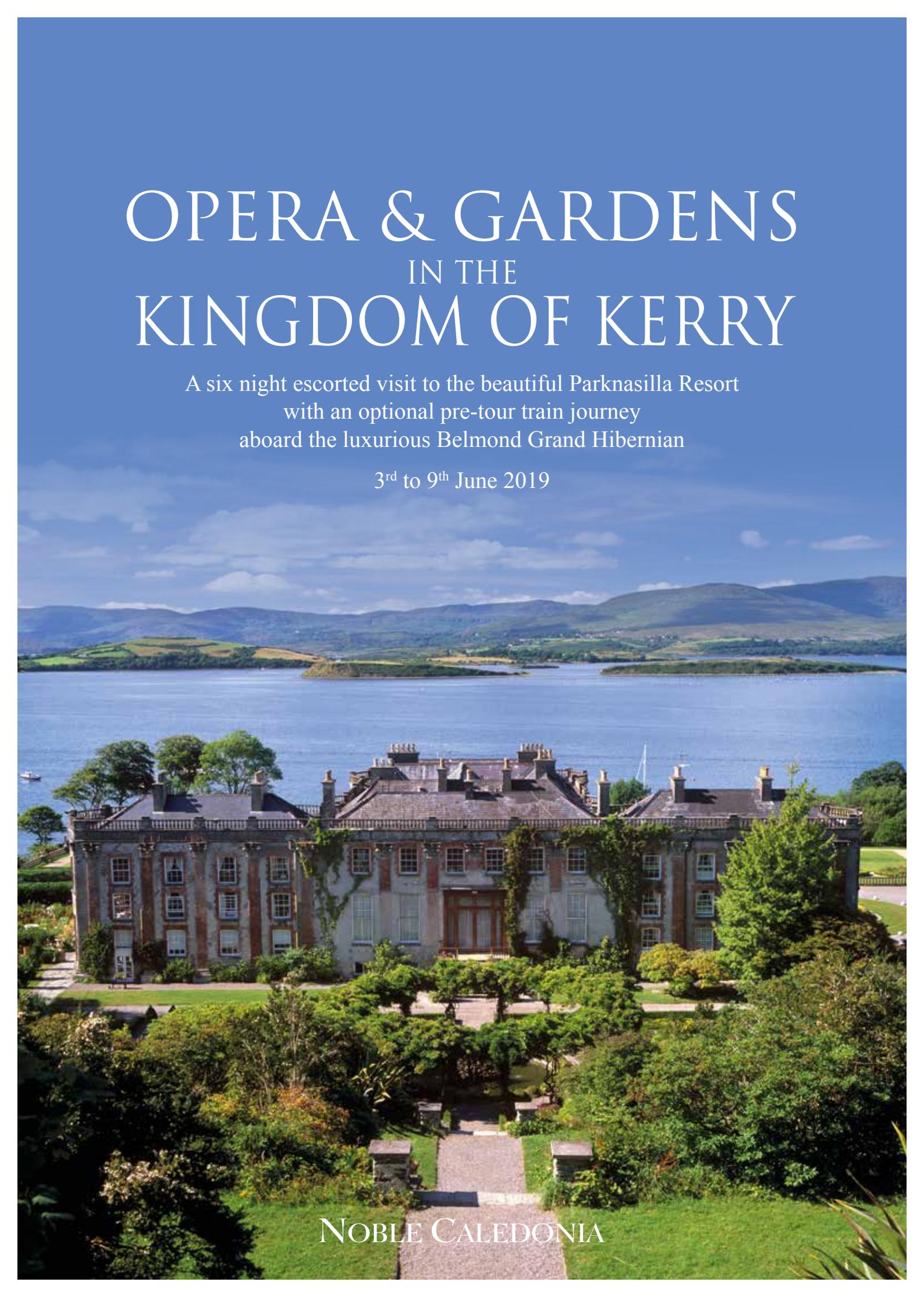


OPERA & GARDENS IN THE KINGDOM OF KERRY

A six night escorted visit to the beautiful Parknasilla Resort
with an optional pre-tour train journey
aboard the luxurious Belmond Grand Hibernian

3rd to 9th June 2019



NOBLE CALEDONIA



Inacullen Gardens, Garnish Island



Bantry Bay

Due to the popularity of this tour and the exceptional feedback we receive each year, we are once again returning to the beautiful Parknasilla Resort on the ‘Ring of Kerry’ for a week of marvellous scenery, splendid gardens and uplifting music. All the best ingredients are here; magical scenery, gardens at their early summer best, opera performances in stunning settings and warm Irish hospitality in one of Ireland’s most renowned hotels.

Together with our good friends at London Festival Opera we can offer seven days of absolute bliss. There will be time to relax and enjoy the hotel’s excellent facilities as well as guided trips to some of Kerry’s and West Cork’s famous gardens. We will explore the ‘Ring of Kerry’ and drive over the mountains to Bantry House and Gardens. Here, after a guided tour of the gardens, we will enjoy a performance by London Festival Opera in the grand setting of Bantry House. Other highlights will include a visit to Garnish Island in West Cork, a spectacular garden of almost sub-tropical splendour and Muckross House by the Lakes of Killarney. In the main the tours will be limited to half days in order that you may enjoy the Parknasilla Resort and its breathtaking beautiful position.

OUR VIEW

The impressive Parknasilla Hotel is one of the most charming accommodations in the area offering a high quality of cuisine, excellent service and sumptuous afternoon teas. The large pool and first class wellness centre are perfect for those moments of relaxation and the many walkways overlooking the water offer stunning views close to the hotel. All this is combined with scenic excursions visiting a variety of gardens and guided tours of two heritage houses. Enjoy performances by London Festival Opera both at the hotel and an outstanding gala performance in the family library at ‘Bantry House’.

LONDON FESTIVAL OPERA

For our stay in Kerry we are delighted that we will be joined by members of London Festival Opera who will perform both at the hotel and in some wonderful locations such as Bantry House in Ireland. Bringing together artists from the major Opera companies including the Royal Opera House, London Festival Opera have achieved a considerable reputation for presenting opera in some of the world’s leading venues.





Bantry House Gardens



Cottages in Kenmare



Muckross House & Gardens

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Cork, Ireland. Fly by scheduled flight. Drive to the Parknasilla Resort. Welcome drinks and dinner this evening.

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. Enjoy the magnificent views across Kilmackilloge Harbour to the Cahal Mountains before we return to the hotel for a few hours of relaxation. In the late afternoon there will be a performance by London Festival Opera followed by afternoon tea.

Day 3 Derrynane House & Kenmare. This morning visit Derrynane House, the ancestral home of Daniel O'Connell. The house is a museum commemorating one of Ireland's leading historical figures. In the afternoon a bus transfer will be provided to the local town of Kenmare for time to explore and shop at leisure.

Day 4 Lakes of Killarney & Muckross House. Morning excursion to the Killarney National Park



Garden, Garnish Island

and the house and gardens of Muckross House. Tour the gardens and house which was once owned by the Herbert family who entertained Queen Victoria here in 1861. The setting by the lake shore with its mountain backdrop is stunning. Afternoon at leisure. In the late afternoon London Festival Opera will perform for us followed by afternoon tea.

Day 5 Parknasilla Resort. It would be unforgivable to come to such a place as this and not have a complete day to enjoy the hotel and its extensive grounds. For the energetic there will be a choice of a guided short or long walk through the grounds and along the coast. Otherwise, relax with a good book in one of the many vantage points scattered throughout the grounds.

Day 6 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. These remarkable gardens 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. Continue to Bantry House, overlooking Bantry Bay. We will explore the house, one of the finest historic houses in Ireland along with the gardens. After a light lunch, London Festival Opera will perform their farewell concert in one of the grand rooms. Return to the Parknasilla Resort later this afternoon.

Day 7 Cork to London. Transfer to the airport for your return scheduled flight to London.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Location	Room type	
West Wing	Standard Double/Twin	£2055
West Wing	Superior Double/Twin	£2105
Main House	Manor Sea View Double/Twin	£2295
Main House	Superior Manor Sea View Double/Twin	£2395
Main House	Manor Suite	£2595
West Wing	Balcony Suite	£2695
West Wing	Parknasilla Suite with Balcony	£2695
Main House	Princess Grace Suite	£2995
West Wing	Standard Single	£2295
West Wing	Small Parknasilla Superior Single	£2495

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class return scheduled air travel • Six nights at the Parknasilla Resort with full Irish breakfast and dinner from a la carte menu daily • Two afternoon teas at Parknasilla Resort • Guided excursions • Performances by London Festival Opera • Tour Manager • Gratuities • Transfers • Airport taxes.
Not Included: Travel insurance, lunches.

BELMOND GRAND HIBERNIAN PRE-TOUR EXTENSION

1st to 3rd June 2019

If you are wishing to experience Ireland in a unique way, this fascinating two night train journey takes you north to Belfast and the award-winning Titanic Experience and then to the historic Viking port of Waterford. You will traverse dramatic countryside and experience the enchanting heritage and vibrant modernity of Ireland from the luxury of the train which accommodates just 40 guests.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Dublin to Belfast. Fly from London to Dublin by scheduled flight and transfer to Dublin Heuston Station. Lunch will be served on board as the train travels north through the verdant Irish countryside. On arrival in Belfast, we embark on the famous Black Taxi Tour, which takes in both the Republican Falls Road and the Loyalist Shankill, separated by a Peace Wall. Learn what life was really like during the Troubles, admire the colourful murals and discover how vibrant Belfast has become today. Afterwards, we delve further back in time at the award-winning Titanic Experience, which brings to life, through special effects, full-scale reconstructions and interactive features, the history of the celebrated but ill-fated liner. Back on board, a leisurely dinner will be served, which is followed by vibrant evening entertainment. The train stops overnight in Dundalk.

Day 2 Belfast to Waterford. This morning, the train journeys south to the historic Viking port of Waterford. We will disembark to visit Curraghmore House, home to generations of the Waterford family, where you enjoy an exclusive tour and afternoon tea. The magnificent mansion boasts some of the finest neoclassical rooms in Ireland, while its expansive formal gardens include an intriguing shell house built by Catherine, Countess of Tyrone, in 1754. You are then escorted to the House of Waterford Crystal for a fascinating factory tour, which reveals how master craftsmen still create sparkling pieces by hand. Return to the train for a sumptuous dinner, which is rounded off with a performance by traditional local musicians in the Observation Car. The train stops overnight in Bagenalstown, also known locally as Muine Bheag, on County Carlow's River Barrow.

Day 3 Dublin to Kerry. A leisurely breakfast is served as the train travels north and returns to Dublin Heuston Station. We disembark the train and transfer to Kerry to join Day 1 of Opera & Gardens in the Kingdom of Kerry.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: £2895

Prices for sole use on request.

Price Includes: Two nights aboard the Belmond Grand Hibernian, dinner on day 1, full board on day 2, breakfast on day 3, all drinks, excursions, services of an onboard host, transfers from Dublin airport and to the Parknasilla Resort.

Not Included: Gratuities, Travel insurance.



Curraghmore House



The Wexford Restaurant



Twin Cabin



Observation Car

Belmond Grand Hibernian

Belmond Grand Hibernian joins an iconic rail collection, among such legends as the Eastern & Oriental Express and Venice Simplon-Orient-Express. Step aboard to enter a shimmering world of indulgence – contemporary carriages inspired by Dublin's architecture, fine cuisine enhanced with local delicacies and an ever-changing backdrop of Ireland's celebrated landscapes. Belmond Grand Hibernian boasts accommodation for up to 40 guests in elegant, private en-suite cabins. Design draws inspiration from Dublin's classic Georgian architecture, blended with elements of ancient folklore and tradition. The result proudly reflects the country's cultural heritage with an indulgent, contemporary twist.

YOUR ACCOMMODATION

Rich with an authentic Irish atmosphere, the train's beautiful cabins mix modern luxury with traditional design to sumptuous effect. The train offers 16 twin and four double cabins for a truly indulgent train ride. All cabins are en-suite, with additional features including a wardrobe, writing desk and chair. Large windows let you admire the verdant landscape as it unfolds. Befitting one of the most luxurious overnight trains in Europe, the cabins are fresh, light and contemporary yet steeped in heritage. Each carriage is named after an Irish county with cabins decorated to match their county's traditional tartan.

YOUR DINING

With cuisine rivalling the best restaurants in Dublin, dining aboard the Belmond Grand Hibernian is a true taste sensation. From wonderful artisan cheeses and superb smoked fish to the freshest seasonal vegetables, the onboard menus feature the finest ingredients from the regions the train travels through. The chef and his team serve breakfast, lunch and dinner in two air-conditioned dining carriages named after Irish counties.

YOUR SPACE

The Observation Car brims with the warm atmosphere and elegance of a Dublin saloon. It is the perfect place to mingle with fellow travellers, listen to live musicians and animated storytellers or participate in craft sessions. Take a seat, with a glass of fine Irish whiskey or a pint of local stout, and watch the enchanting scenery from the many large windows.



The hotel and gardens

PARKNASILLA RESORT

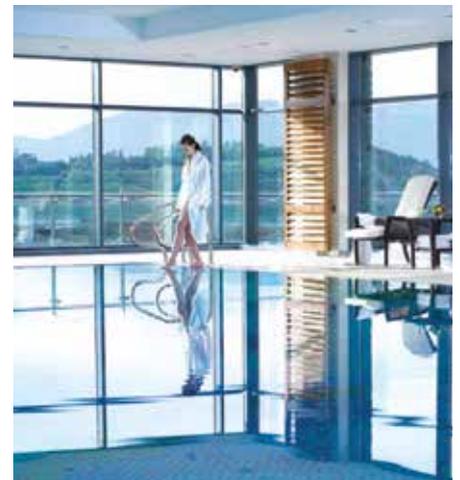
For generations this very special place has captured the imagination of many including such literary luminaries as George Bernard Shaw. Pictures can only do limited justice to its location where water, islands and mountains create something spellbinding. Being the West Coast of Ireland, we cannot promise you long sunny days for your entire stay. In fact you are likely to experience the full spectrum of weather in one day, but it is this maritime climate and warming Atlantic influences that create the almost sub-tropical landscape. Situated in 500 acres, Parknasilla Resort is situated 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. Here also is the Pygmalion dining room where gourmet food is provided using many locally sourced fine meats and fish. 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. Here, you will find some of the best in the world all dedicated to making your stay in Kerry a most memorable and joyful experience.

Your Dining

Our stay at Parknasilla Resort & Spa includes breakfast and dinner daily in addition to two afternoon teas. 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.



Indoor Pool



Pygmalion Restaurant



Doolittle Bar



Princess Grace Living Room - Main House



Manor Suite - Main House



Balcony Suite - West Wing



Superior Double with Sea View - West Wing

Your Accommodation

All rooms offer crisp white sheets and duvet, en-suite bathroom, hairdryer, 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. *Please note that hotel rooms in the West Wing are only accessible by stairway.*

Standard Double/Twin – West Wing. Rooms are decorated in soft colours with a view of Kerry Mountains and feature a large double bed, spacious seating area, chaise longue, writing desk and en-suite with bath and shower.

Superior Double/Twin – West Wing. Spacious and bright these rooms have recently been refurbished. Some enjoy the lovely sea view which is synonymous with Parknasilla and others look on to the majestic Kerry Mountains. All have king beds, relaxing reading area and stunning new bathrooms with bath/shower or shower only.

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. These rooms feature a king size bed and en-suite with shower only.

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. These rooms feature a king size bed and en-suite with shower only.

Manor Suite – Main House. This suite exudes the air of understated elegance of a bygone era. Individually 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. Rooms feature a king size bed with bath and shower.

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. Rooms feature a king size bed with bath and shower.

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 to ensure that the stunning views of Kenmare Bay or the Kerry Mountains are truly memorable.

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. This suite features a king size bed with bath and shower.

SINGLE ROOMS – WEST WING

Small Parknasilla Superior Single. These rooms are designed in a contemporary style and located in the newest part of the West Wing with a double bed, en-suite bathroom with shower.

Standard Single – West Wing. These rooms are smaller than the Superior Singles and offer a double bed with en-suite bathroom with bath and shower.

NOBLE CALEDONIA

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All special offers are subject to availability. Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.

Cover image: Bantry House.