



# Cork & Southwest Ireland

# THE SOUTHWEST CONTAINS SOME OF IRELAND'S MOST ICONIC SCENERY:

crenulated coastlines, green fields crisscrossed by tumbledown stone walls, and mistshrouded mountain peaks and bogs.

This idyllic area claims the country's top three peninsula drives – the Ring of Kerry, Dingle Peninsula and Ring of Beara – as well as a shoal of charming fishing towns and villages that have helped establish the southwest as a gourmet heartland, fanning out from the country's spirited second-largest city, Cork.

The region's exquisite beauty makes it one of Ireland's most popular tourist destinations, but there's always an isolated cove or untrodden trail to discover along its roads.

Cobh St Colman's Cathedral overlooking the town's coloured houses (Trip 16) CONNIE COLEMAN/GETTY IMAGES ©



### Ballymoe • MAYO Roscommon Dunmore Cork & Mask N61 Ballymahon Athleague • Cong • Tuam Southwest Ree Maam Mount ROSCOMMON N17 Cross Athlone **Ireland** Bellew-Lough GALWAY Ballinasloe N62 Shannonbridge Galway o M6 Aughrim Cloghar Laurencetowr N18 Killimor 6 New Quay • Banagher OFFAL) Inishmór Portumna o Aran Gort Islands Inisheer Lough Carron o Borrisokane Derg (N52) Roscrea Corofin Whitegate o Liscannor Inagh Nenagh CLARE N62 Ennis 9 Ballina Templemore • ODoonbeg N68 TIPPERARY Shannon o Bunratty Kilkee Thurles o Kilrush Labasheeda R487 Limerick Carrigaholt Foynes N69 0 Kilbaha N21 Adare Ballybunion Glin Rathkeale Cashel the Shannon LIMERICK Bansha Listower Kilmallock N20 O Abbeyfeale Cahir O N24 Maharees Tralee Banna Chârleville KERRY N21 Islands Bay Clonmel Tralee Cloghane o Newmarket Buttevant • Castleisland Dingle Castlemaine Peninsula Parranfore N73 Castletownroche Dunquin 15 Kanturk 9 Mallow o N72 Fermoy WATERFORD Dingle N72 Millstreet Rathcormack Blasket Kells R582 N20 Killarney Cahercivee CORK Gap (N71) Youghal National N22 Midleton Cork Bark Macroom Youghal Sneem N70 Kenmare N22 Cobh Lauragh Glengarriff Caherdanie Dunmanway N71 Bandon Scariff Eyeries Adrigole R572 Bantry Kinsale Durrus o N71 Drimoleague Allihies 18 Timoleague Dursey Island Beara Peninsula Peninsula Ballydehob Clonakilty 17 Rosscarbery Skibbereen Baltimore

ATLANTICOCEAN



Mizen Head Peninsula

Goleen

Clear





Weave your way past jaw-dropping scenery as you circumnavigate the Iveragh Peninsula. (p163)

Dingle Peninsula 3–4 Days

Dingle's ancient landscape is ringed by quaint fishing villages and spectacular beaches. (p175)

Classic Trip
Southwest Blitz 4 Days

Blitz the best of southwest Ireland's coast, countryside and cosmopolitan city life. (p185)

Southwestern Pantry 5 Days

Sample some of the country's finest seafood, artisan produce and sociable markets. (p199)

West Cork Villages 7 Days

Colourful villages burst with life in West Cork, including its picturesque peninsulas. (p207)

Shannon River Route 4 Days

Meander alongside Ireland's mightiest river and get out on the water too. (p215)

The Holy Glen 2–3 Days

Awe-inspiring mountain vistas and sacred sites including the extraordinary Rock of Cashel. (p223)



### **Hunt Museum**

Limerick's true treasure hunt – open drawers and poke around its collections on Trip

### Garinish (Ilnacullin) Island

Sail from Glengarriff past islands and seal colonies to Garinish's subtropical gardens on Trip 18

### Killarney Jaunting Cars

Clip-clop in a traditional horse-drawn jaunting car on Trips 14 15 16

### Cork City Gaol

Models of suffering prisoners bring home the harshness of the 19th-century penal system on Trip

## **Rough Point Diving**

Dive crystal-clear waters and spot whales and dolphins on Trip 15

### Durrus Farmhouse Cheese

Taste Durrus' famous cheese at its farm on Trip 17